Call for Abstracts, 37th IGC, South Korea
The ‘37th International Geological Congress’, 25-31 August 2024, Busan, South Korea includes an IUGS-IFG session on forensic geology. The deadline for abstract submission is 15 February 2024. Potential attendees are encouraged to contact IUGS-IFG (Dr Laurance Donnelly, Prof Duncan Pirrie, Prof Robert Fitzpatrick and Dr Alastair Ruffell).

laurance.donnelly@ahlgroup.com | dpirrie@helfordgeoscience.co.uk | Rob.Fitzpatrick@csiro.au | a.ruffell@qub.ac.uk

https://www.igc2024korea.org/

https://www.igc2024korea.org/auth/login

Federal Forensic Magazine, Clean Gold Programme Brazil

Forensic Geology in Sweden
On 15 December 2023, Prof Anna Landberger (Co-chair, IUGS Commission on Global Geochemical Baselines, CGGB) and Dr Laurance Donnelly (IUGS-IFG Chair), arranged for Prof Duncan Pirrie (IUGS-IFG Secretary), to visit the Geological Survey of Sweden (SGU) in Uppsala, Sweden, to give a lecture on the applications of geological methods in crime investigations. Duncan used operational cases to illustrate the various methods used in forensic geology investigations with a focus on geological trace evidence, geolocation technologies and provenance determination. He also presented the current IUGS-IFG ‘Special Project’ on illegal mining and associated minerals and metals crimes. The lecture was very well attended, both in person and online by more than 30 participants, including forensic doctors and researchers as well as the chair of the International Medical Geology Association Prof Chaosheng Zhang from the University of Galway. The plan is to establish the Swedish network for the forensic geology initiative, and progressively move to other CGGB member countries in Europe and other continents.

https://geoforense.com/2024/01/the-iugs-initiative-on-forensic-geology-visits-sweden/

Forensic Geology in Chile
Kristian Agurto-Velásquez (IUGS-IFG, Geoforensic International Network), forensic geology PhD student, attended the 16th Chilean Geological Congress and gave a paper on forensic geology, to assist with the development of forensic geology in Chile.

Questionnaires on Geophysical Methods Applied in Criminal Investigation
The FBI Laboratory conducted a web-based questionnaire to gather information on the use of metal detectors and advanced geophysical methods (such as ground penetrating radar and electrical resistivity) to search for hidden or buried targets (clandestine graves, weapons, etc.) in criminal investigations. The intent of these questionnaires was to better understand how geophysical methods are deployed for law enforcement investigations and how effective the method was under case specific conditions. The questionnaires are anonymized and providing personal information is optional.

Geophysical Service Providers in Support of Law Enforcement: https://govsurvey.us/survey/808748715106959361
Law Enforcement use of Geophysical Methods: https://govsurvey.us/survey/806500985499025409
Metal Detectors use in Crime Scene Investigations: https://govsurvey.us/survey/809910645015576577