

ASIAN GEOGRAPHICAL ASSOCIATION

E-NEWSLETTER 07

July 2023

Editor: Xuanzi Zhang, Secretary of the AGA



ASIA · GEOGRAPHY

This e-newsletter is circulated to more than 60 contact persons of the member societies of the Asian Geographical Association. Conference announcements, calls for participation in scientific events, information of programmes and projects are welcome. Please send them to Ms. Xuanzi Zhang acg2018@igsnrr.ac.cn

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1. Updates from *Asian Geographer*

***Asian Geographer*: Updates for first half of 2023**

Indexed in the Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI) and Scopus, *Asian Geographer* welcomes contributions from any field of physical or human geographical inquiries and methodologies which further our understanding about Asia and the Pacific Rim. Priority is given to contributions which move beyond the profiling of specific geographical sites to promote a wider theoretical and conceptual understanding. For details on the journal's submission requirements, please visit <https://www.tandfonline.com/journals/rage>.

If there is one word that can encapsulate *Asian Geographer*'s work in the first half of 2023, it is 'digitalisation'. Not only did we launch our Twitter account (@AsianGeoJournal) to promote our articles better, but our conference and publishing initiatives have also focused on digitisation as a key research theme.

In our second annual lecture at the American Association of Geographers (AAG) annual meeting, held in March 2023, Professor Ayona Datta from the Department of Geography, University College London enlightened us on the theme 'Territorial Politics in the Informational Periphery'. Based on her research work in India, she argued that the uneven, fragmented and disconnected nature of physical and digital infrastructures in the contemporary world has produced a far more fragmented and dispersed nature of the periphery. Her lecture, alongside a commentary on it, will be published in *Asian Geographer* in the near future.

Coinciding with Professor Datta's lecture, three young scholars from China, Dr Mengzhu Zhang (Peking University), Dr Yiyang Yang (Harbin Institute of Technology), and Dr Si Qiao (The University of Hong Kong), are leading the compilation of a special issue on 'Digitalisation and Datafication of Urban Transformation'. The call for abstracts had already closed in Jun 2023, and invited authors will submit their manuscripts in October 2023. If you would like to publish with *Asian Geographer* on the special issue's theme but missed the call for abstracts deadline, you can still submit your manuscript to us as a regular research article.

On a different note, Taylor & Francis, the publisher of *Asian Geographer*, has kindly agreed to grant time-limited free access to everyone selected articles of our journal from time to time. From now on until 30 September 2023, all readers can enjoy free access to our latest article, 'The relationality of geopolitical codes: the example of the Belt and Road Initiative', written by Professor Colin Flint, a world-leading geopolitics researcher, and Dr Hassan Noorali. Please read the article through this link: <https://doi.org/10.1080/10225706.2023.2227618>.

Do not miss other insightful works published in *Asian Geographer*'s latest issue, Volume 40.2, which consisted of five research articles contributed by scholars based in Bangladesh, Canada, China, Thailand, the United Kingdom, and the United States:

- A spatiotemporal analysis of lightning in the Bangkok Metropolitan Region
Mace L. Bentley, Jinda Sae-Jung, Sara Kaminski & Charlotte C. Terry
Pages: 99-120 | <https://doi.org/10.1080/10225706.2021.2010579>
- Landlessness as the key challenge to climate change adaptation of the rural poor in Bangladesh: an empirical study
Sheikh Shams Morsalin & Md Rafiqul Islam
Pages: 121-143 | <https://doi.org/10.1080/10225706.2021.2015694>
- Climate change, neoauthoritarianism, necropolitics, and state failure: the Duterte regime in the Philippines
William Holden
Pages: 145-167 | <https://doi.org/10.1080/10225706.2022.2029506>
- Inner-group and inter-group relations in Seoul participatory planning: revisiting the concept of social capital [OPEN ACCESS]
Hyunji Cho
Pages: 169-183 | <https://doi.org/10.1080/10225706.2022.2038221>
- Is smart city a slogan? Evidence from China
Yong Zhou, Fan Xiao & Weipeng Deng
Pages: 185-202 | <https://doi.org/10.1080/10225706.2022.2052734>

For our latest articles, please visit <https://www.tandfonline.com/journals/rage20> and follow our Twitter @AsianGeoJournal.

(Provided by Prof. Jiang Xu, Editor-in-Chief of *Asian Geographer*,
jiangxu@cuhk.edu.hk)

2. Activities of Working Groups

- **AGA Young Geographers Working Group (AGA-YGWWG):**

Initiated by the AGA-YGWWG, the Workshop of Asian Young Geographer is jointly organized by AGA-YGWWG, Young and Early Career Geographers Task Force of the International Geographical Union (IGU-YECG), Working Committee for Young Geographers of the Geographical Society of China (GSC-WCYG). The Third Workshop of Asian Young Geographers is scheduled to be held online on December 16th -17th, 2023. More details of the workshop will be announced soon.

- **AGA Working Group on Cultural Geography (AGA-WGCG):**

AGA-WGCG has submitted joint session proposals together with IGU Commission on Cultural Approaches in Geography to the organizing committee of the 35th International Geographical Congress, to be held from August 24th -30th, 2024 in Dublin, Ireland. The call for paper will open in October 2023. Congress website: <https://igc2024dublin.org/call-for-papers/>

3. News from Nepal Geographical Society (NGS)

Nepal Geographical Society Webinar Series

For the development of geography and geographical research, Nepal Geographical Society (NGS) has been conducting monthly webinar series on different crosscutting contemporary issues. The main purpose of the webinar series was to provide platform to share and disseminate geographical research being conducted in this region and across the world. By organizing 12th episode on 14 July 2023, the webinar series has successfully completed one year without interruption. The speakers were from different countries and shared their research findings, experience and knowledge. Out of 12 contributed speakers, 8 were from Nepal, 2 from India, 1 each from China and Bangladesh. Participants in the webinar were from across the world including Nepal, China, India, Bangladesh, Switzerland, Germany, UK, and USA. NGS will continue this event covering wide range of geographic themes for the promotion and development of geography discipline.

List of contributed speakers in NGS Webinar Series between August 2022 and July 2023:

SN	Month	Name of the Speaker	Country	Webinar Scheduled Date
1	August, 2022	Dr. Bhagawat Rimal	Nepal	8 Aug 2022
2	September, 2022	Dr. Til Prasad Pangali Sharma	Nepal	5 Sep 2022
3	October, 2022	Dr. Keshav Kumar Acharya	Nepal	9 Oct 2022
4	November, 2022	Dr. Chhabhi Lal Chidi	Nepal	7 Nov 2022
5	December, 2022	Dr. Prabuddh Kumar Mishra	India	5 Dec 2022
6	January, 2023	Dr. Debajit Datta	India	6 Jan 2023
7	February, 2023	Dr. Gopi Krishna Basyal	Nepal	27 Feb 2023
8	March, 2023	Dr. Rajesh Bahadur Thapa	Nepal	23 March 2023
9	April, 2023	Dr. Shicheng Li	China	6 April 2023
10	May, 2023	Dr. Bhola Nath Dhakal	Nepal	15 May 2023

11	June, 2023	Dr. Foyez Ahmed Prodhan	Bangladesh	24 June 2023
12	July, 2023	Dr. Moti Lal Ghimire	Nepal	14 July 2023

Approaches to Hazard Assessment and Identification
Vulnerable Settlements in the Chure Region

Motilal Ghimire, Ph.D.
Tribhuvan University,
Central Department of Geography

12th Webinar Presentation
Organized by
Nepal Geographical Society

Participants: Dil Kumar Rai, Dr. Bipin K. Acharya, Suraj Sonar, Dr. S. Sonar

Participants: Liladhar Sapkota, Buddhi Raj Shrestha, Akkal Bahadur, Manoj Marasini, Libarty, Sujata, Bikram Manandhar, NRKhanal, Binod Adhikari, Moina Goire, Krishna Prasad...

Flood hazard assessment

Review of existing flood hazard map

Time series satellite imagery
DEM
Topographic map
Field visit and community level information

Method

Geomorphic assessment:

River morphology
flood, river expansion, channel scrolls, crevasses splay, and avulsion, old channels, active flood plain and fans
Morphological indicators of channel stability/instability.
Local information

Legend

Settlements
Building footprints
Flood
Susceptibility
High
Moderate
Riverbed

Participants: sadikshya ghimire, Mahesh Pathak, MOHAN RAI, Binod Dhungel, Nirisha Adhikari, Pradeep Paudyal

Participants: Bhola Nath Dha, Liladhar Sapkota, KRISHNA KARK, Sharma, AP, Bhagawat Rimal

NGS Webinar Series

(Provided by Dr. Basanta Paudel, basantapaudel11@gmail.com)

4. News from Korean Geographical Society (KGS)

The Korean Geographical Society held its annual conference on the 23rd and 24th of June at the Chuncheon Campus of Kangwon National University. The slogan of the conference was "Regions in the Era of Great Transformation: Why Geography Matters Now." The conference was hosted and sponsored by Kangwon National University, Gangwon Special Self-Governing Province, Sangju City (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province), and about 20 other research institutions, universities, and enterprises.

This annual conference consisted of 11 special sessions, 10 general sessions, and a workshop for young scholars. There were two keynote speeches, two special lectures, and a total of 131 presentations. A total of 374 scholars and students participated in the conference as presenters, session moderators, and panelists.

The eleven special sessions covered the following topics: "Geographical Evaluation of Gangwon Special Self-Governing Province," "New Regional Development Strategy to Overcome Local Extinction Crisis in Gangwon-do Province," "Dynamic Nature and Challenging Geographers," "The Path of Regional Industry-University Cooperation based on University Campuses," "Geography in Response to Population Extinction and Regional Extinction," "The Direction of Geography Education in Response to Climate Change," "Secondary Battery Industry Cluster in Sangju City, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province," "Territory and Territorial Waters," "Why Should the Day of Maps Be Enacted?," "Immigration Policy and Nurturing Regional Industrial Manpower," and "The New Prospect of Future-Oriented Geographical Research."

The general sessions covered a wide variety of topics in human geography, physical geography, GIS, and cartography. In addition to workshops, special lectures, and general sessions, 38 posters were presented at the annual conference.



(Provided by Dr. Suh-hee Choi, suhhee@khu.ac.kr)

5. News from Azerbaijan Geographical Society (AGS)

The Geographical Council of Turkic States

On May 8, 2023, the Geographical Council of Turkic States (GCTS) was established in the city of Dushanbe, with the signing of an agreement by the leaders of geographical societies from Azerbaijan, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey, and Uzbekistan.

The primary objective of the GCTS is to enhance cooperation among Turkic-speaking countries in various fields, including innovation, ecology, tourism, and cultural and humanitarian endeavors.

Representing Azerbaijan at the event were the President of the Azerbaijan Geographical Society (AGS), Mirnuh Ismayilov, and the Press Secretary and Director of International and Public Relations Department of AGS, Khanim Rzazade.

The Deputy Secretary-General of the Turkic Council, Mirvohid Azimov, and the head of the Uzbekistan Geographical Society, Oybek Norinbayev, welcomed the participants and emphasized that the main focus of the GCTS would be to organize joint initiatives related to geography, cartography, and other relevant sciences among Turkic-speaking countries. They also highlighted the importance of promoting scientific achievements in these fields, addressing ecological issues, and actively collaborating on these matters.

During his speech, M. Ismayilov stressed the long-overdue need for such a geographical council, given the shared roots, religion, and culture among Turkic-speaking nations. He expressed his belief in the positive impact the GCTS could bring to society, science, and economic development. He also acknowledged Dushanbe's significance as a center of Turkic culture and commended the choice of the city as the headquarters for the GCTS.

Other representatives from participating countries expressed their views on the GCTS, noting its potential to play a vital role in promoting the rich natural and cultural heritage of Turkic geography, fostering deeper connections among people, and facilitating the exchange of knowledge and experiences in areas such as education, innovation, and tourism.

Following the decisions made during the founding session, Oybek Norinbayev, the head of the Uzbekistan Geographical Society, was elected as the President of the Geographical Council of Turkic States for a term of three years.



6th International Geoinformatics Days (IGD) Conference

On June 13-14, 2023, the Azerbaijan Geographical Society, the Institute of Geography, and the University of Mersin in Turkey jointly organized the "6th International Geoinformatics Days (IGD)" conference.

The purpose of the event was to bring together researchers and experts from academic, scientific, industrial, and governmental institutions to explore, discuss, and advance cutting-edge principles and solutions in the field of geoinformatics.

The opening speeches were delivered by the Director of the Geographical Institute, Zakir Eminov, and the Director of the Geomatics Department at the University of Mersin, Murat Yakar. The conference's chairperson, the Head of the Institute's department and a Doctor of Geographic Sciences, Saeid Safarov, provided an overview of the conference to the participants. He mentioned that a total of 105 presentations were delivered, with 48 from Turkey, 29 from Azerbaijan, 13 from the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the rest from various countries around the world. The presentations covered topics in geodesy, remote sensing, photogrammetry, land management, cartography, GIS, and geodesy, including advanced experiences and new research.

The conference proceeded with 21 sessions, focusing on 5 main themes. Presentations in English covered topics such as Geographic Information Systems and cartography, 2D-3D-4D GIS, spatial data creation, mobile mapping, spatial applications for smart cities and smart rural infrastructure, building information modeling, photogrammetry, and remote sensing, as well as discussions on INSPIRE, LPIS, TUCBS, and other related subjects.

The conference provided ample opportunities for exchange of ideas and discussions among geomatics professionals, as well as other researchers and experts studying geographic space, offering wide-ranging didactic and collaborative possibilities.



(Provided by Dr. Emil Jabrayilov, emil.jabrayilov@gmail.com)

6. News from National Association of Geographers, India (NAGI)

International Conference on “Management of Natural Resources and Sustainable Livelihood through Integrated Watershed Management for North-East India: Evidences, Gap and Future Strategies”

A two days international conference was organized by the Department of Geography, Pachhunga University College (A Constituent College of Mizoram Central University) from 4th & 5th May 2023. About 100 participants attended the conference. Prof. V.P. Sati, Department of Geography, Mizoram University gave the keynote speech in the inaugural session. Prof. Suresh C. Rai, Department of Geography, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, Prof. Lakshminarayan Satpati, Director, UGC-Human Resource Development Centre, University of Calcutta, Prof. Shahnawaz, Department of Geoinformatics, University of Salzburg, Austria, Prof. Sunil Kumar De, Department of Geography, North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong, Prof. S.K. Patnaik, Department of Geography, Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh, and Dr. Deepak Kumar, Research Scientist, Centre of Excellence in weather & Climate Analytics, Atmospheric Science Centre (ASRC), State University of New York at Albany, New York- 12226, United States of America were invited speaker of the conference. The conference was very successful.



Prof. Suresh C. Rai delivered an invited lecture during the inaugural session



Prof. Suresh C. Rai and Prof. S.K. Patnaik handed over the certificate to the participants during the valedictory session

(Provided by Prof. Suresh Chand Rai, raisc1958@rediffmail.com)

7. News from Geographical Society of China (GSC)

2023 GSC Spring Annual Conference Held in Dongguan, Guangdong Province

Co-organized by the Geographical Society of China and Guangzhou University, 2023 Spring Annual Conference of the Geographical Society of China & China Conference on Geography Editing and Publishing was held during 26th - 28th May, 2023 in Dongguan City, Guangdong Province. The theme of the Conference was “Strengthening Basic Research in Geographic Science, Promoting Sharing and Transformation of Scientific Research Achievements”. About 1600 scholars, students, editors, representatives from agencies and enterprises nationwide, and 12 overseas scholars participated in the Conference.

The opening ceremony kicked off on the morning of 27th. GSC President Prof. Fahu Chen gave a welcome speech. It was followed by speeches by invited guests Mr. Chunyang Zhang, President of Dongguan Association for Science and Technology, Ms. Svetlana Vorobieva from Russian Geographical Society. The awarding ceremony including GSC Publishing Outstanding Contribution Award and GSC Journals Excellent Papers Award was held as conclusion of the opening ceremony.

The keynote lectures were arranged after the opening ceremony. 7 reputable scientists were invited to deliver talks entitled "Opportunities and challenges for Hong Kong in the Guangdong–Hong Kong–Macao Greater Bay Area", "Geographical Research in the Era of Open Science", "Preliminary Research on the First National Comprehensive Risk Assessment on Natural Disasters Incorporated into National Land Spatial Planning", "Mutual Responses between NSFC and Geographers", "Introduction to the Third Law of Geography", "10 Major Scientific Issues in China's North-South Transition Zone" and "Key Belt of Man-Earth Interaction: Concepts and Exploratory Research Framework".

Two keynote speakers Ms. Na Ma from National Science Library, Chinese Academy of Sciences, and Mr. Qi Gu from Elsevier talked on the current situation and development of geography and geographical journals in the perspective of journal citation data. Then 4 young scholars, CAST Young Elite Scientists Sponsorship Program awardees (recommended and sponsored by GSC), presented their latest research respectively during the plenary sessions.

Apart from keynote speeches, 57 scientific sessions and a forum for agencies and enterprises were organized on 28th May. This conference provided a platform for national geography researchers and teachers, geography related enterprises, and graduate students to exchange academic ideas, share scientific research achievements, and explore development issues. The topics of the sessions focused on the scientific issues of geography and national strategic needs, covering "geographical research paradigm", "comprehensive application of geography", "geography and its support to national strategy", "global change and sustainable development", "geographical education and research on educational excursion", "geographical technology application and enterprise practice", etc. A total of 650 experts, scholars and students

made oral presentations during the conference. To promote bilateral academic exchanges with GSC foreign partners including Russian Geographical Society and Association of Japanese Geographers, Sino-Russian Young Scholars Roundtable and Sino-Japanese Scholars Meeting were held during the annual conference.



(Provided by Xuanzi Zhang, igc2016@igsnr.ac.cn)

8. News from Pakistan Geographical Association (PGA)

Department of Geography and Geomatics, University of Peshawar

International Conference on “Implications of Climate Change on Water and Agriculture” Held on June 17-19, 2023

The Department of Geography and Geomatics, University of Peshawar, Pakistan has organized an international conference on “Implications of Climate Change on Water and Agriculture” from June 17-19, 2023 at Baragali Summer Campus, University of Peshawar. The conference convener was Prof. Dr. Atta-ur-Rahman (Chairman Dept of Geography and Geomatics), whereas Dr. Samiullahn acted as a conference Secretary and Mr. Saifullah Khan (Lecturer) as a conference coordinator worked hard in materializing this important international event.

The conference was organized under the auspices of University of Peshawar and in collaboration with UNDP project, International Rescue Committee, Islamic Relief Pakistan and Red Cross-Red Crescent Pakistan.



The conference was inaugurated by Meritorious Professor Jamil Hassan Kazmi from University of Karachi. It is pertinent to mention that a total of 130 abstracts were reviewed and the selected abstracts were recommended for oral presentation in the technical/ plenary sessions. The technical parallel sessions were held in Hall A and Hall B. The conference was attended by over 230 participants representing all the four

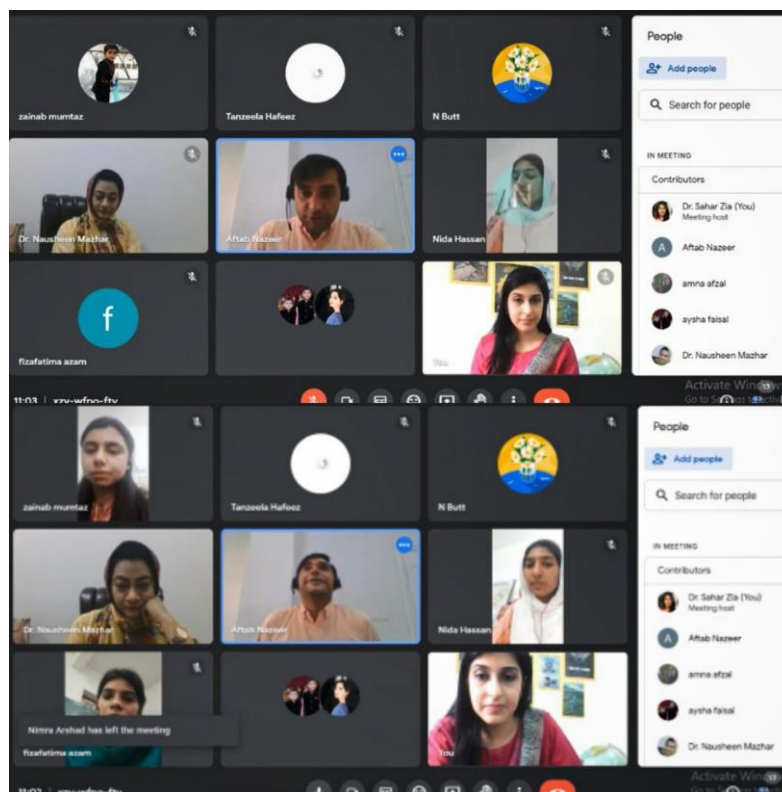
provinces and capital city Islamabad.

The Conference was concluded by Prof Dr Muhammad Idrees Khan, Vice Chancellor University of Peshawar / Patron of the conference and awarded souvenirs, certificates and cash awards (to best young presenters) and presenters.

Lahore College for Women University, Lahore (LCWU)

Webinar on “Hydro-climatic Modelling Projections for Future” Held on 15th June, 2023

Geography Department conducts a webinar on Hydro-climatic Modelling Projections for future by Dr. Aftab Nazeer. Dr. Sahar Zia moderate the session where many MS and PhD students joined to get the basic knowledge about climatic modeling. Session highlighted the importance of Hydro-Climatic Modelling Projections for future. It was an honor to have Dr. Aftab Nazeer, Assistant Professor at the Department of Agri. Engineering, BZ University, Multan, Pakistan, on board with us to deliver this important session to the young minds for the betterment of upcoming generations. Dr. Nausheen Mazhar- Chairperson appreciated the research-visioned focus to have further collaboration with BZU in climatic domain.



International Seminar on "Climate Resilient Development: Insights from Dry lands, Highlands, and Islands" Held on 19th July, 2023

The Geography Department of LCWU successfully organized a one-day Seminar on "Climate Resilient Development: Insights from Drylands, Highlands, and Islands," presented by Prof. Dr. Lindsay Stringer from the Department of Geography and Environment at the University of York, Heslington, UK. During the seminar, Prof. Lindsay shared her valuable experiences in advancing climate resilient development pathways, drawing from her work in the IPCC's 6th assessment report, where she compared Climate Resilient Development and Sustainable Development Goals.

The seminar was graced by esteemed guests, including Prof. Dr. Safdar Ali Shirazi, Director, Institute of Geography from Punjab University, Dr. Shakeel Mahmood, Chairperson Geography Department from GCUL, Dr. Ambreena Mubashir, Head of Geography Department from Kinnaird College for Women University, Dr. Arham Shabbir, Director QEC LCWU and Dr. Arifa Tahir, HOD Environmental Science of LCWU. Following the seminar, the faculty of the Geography Department, along with Prof. Dr. Lindsay, visited the Vice Chancellor's office.

The Vice Chancellor emphasized the importance of fostering future collaborations between LCWU and the University of York. Prof. Dr. Shagufta Naz, the Vice Chancellor of Lahore College for Women University, presented a token of appreciation to Prof. Lindsay for her dedicated visit to LCWU, Pakistan. Dr. Nausheen Mazhar extended her thanks to Prof. Lindsay Stringer for her visit to LCWU and interaction with students and faculty. Dr. Nausheen Mazhar further remarked that this visit promises mutual benefits for both institutions. This seminar holds significance as it marks one of the first instances where the Geography Department hosted an international speaker in-person.



(Provided by Prof. Safdar Ali Shirazi, shirazi.geog@pu.edu.pk)

9. Forthcoming Events

- **The 3rd Istanbul International Geography Congress** will be held from June 14-17, 2023 in Istanbul, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Republic of TÜRKİYE. Website: www.iuck.istanbul
- **The International Conference on Clean Water, Good Health, Sustainable Cities and Communities** will be held in Phagwara, Punjab, India during 18-19 October, 2023.
- **The 15th Korea-China-Japan Joint Conference on Geography (KCJJCG)** is to be held on October 20-23, 2023 in Seoul, Korea. Website: <https://2023kcj.org/>
- **The 3rd International Conference on Geography and Geoinformatics (3rd IGCCS)** will be held during 30 November - 2 December, 2023 in Can Tho, Vietnam. Website: <https://www.conftool.net/icggs2023/index.php?page=index?>
- **The 3rd Workshop of Asian Young Geographers** will be held online from December 16-17, 2023. More details on the workshop will be provided soon.
- **The Second Central Asian DUSt Conference (CADUC-2)** is scheduled to be held during 14-21 April, 2024 at the Karakalpak State University, Nukus, Uzbekistan. Website: <https://www.tropos.de/institut/abteilungen/fernerkundung-atmosphaerischer-prozesse-neu/ag-bodengebundene-fernerkundung/second-central-asian-dust-conference-caduc-2>
- **The 35th International Geographical Congress (IGC2024)** will be held from August 24-30, 2024 in Dublin, Ireland. Website: <http://igc2024dublin.org/>