

Dear colleagues and friends,

Outlined below are the most significant updates, events, progress, and, at the very end, a summary of important upcoming events and our planning.

Summary of important events

- Publication of the IYGU books as open Access publication by Springer are on the way. The volume on Eating/Drinking//Surviving edited by Peter Jackson, Farhana Sultana and Walter Spiess is already in production and will be available for the International Geographical Congress in Beijing, August xy-xy. The volume on Working/Housing//Urbanizing by Allen Scott, Peter Taylor and Jennifer Robinson as well as the one by Margaret Robertson on xy/xy//xy are close completion and will go in production in the next days or weeks.
- Cooperation with Glastonbury Festival, biggest festival of music and performing arts, attendance 150-170.000 peoples: Jährlich 150.000–170.000 Zuschauer
- Kooperation mit Green Futures
- ***'2016 is also the International Year of Global Understanding. The Green Fields is the perfect arena for highlighting this as we continue to promote and elevate awareness of how the local impacts the global. You will find many practical examples of how we as individuals can make a difference to the whole.'***
- Cooperation with 10.000 UNESCO schools
- Drawing competitions Mellingen, Montessori Schools India
- Cooperation with the movie "Tomorrow" Cesar best documentary film, along the core ideas of IYGU
- Ethnografilm with link
- Story ;Map completion
- ESRI user conferences: presentation (education) and booths (20.000 participants)
- Booth at Beijing and two session -. Including the presentation of the IYGU books
- Launch of a call to action to unite artists around the world in order to demonstrate the involvement and contribution of the arts in society by the newly established Global IYGU Action Center for Arts in Paris in cooperation with le Conseil International de la Philosophie et des Sciences Humaines (CIPSH), Most-Unesco & Mémoire de l'Avenir (MDA)
- Hundreds of activities by all the RAC's around the world

- The IYGU panel session during the American Association of Geographers annual meeting in San Francisco, 29 March – 2 April included the participation of the executive director of AAG, Doug Richardson, the director of National

Geographic xy, past president of IGU, Ronald Abler, the iYGU patron and CEO of ESRI, Jack Dangermond etc.

- Presentation of IYGU at the UNESCO Inception Symposium on Broadening the Application of the Sustainability Science Approach in support of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, held at the Paris UNESCO Headquarters 5–6 April 2016. The broadening of sustainability research is referring to the stronger inclusion of the social and human sciences, exactly in the way as IYGU is proposing it.
- Presentation of the IYGU at the Geographical Association Annual Conference, at the University of Manchester from 7-9 April leading to new co-operations.
- Participation of the IYGU The Fourth Annual Conference of Taihu World Cultural Forum with a presentation at the Plenary session. It was attended by high ranked representatives of the Chinese government.
- A national wide conference took place in Poland, "Asking about Future - Global and Local Problems in Human Life", on 18th March 2016.
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- In Saudi Arabia, a symposium titled "The Importance of Global Understanding and the Kingdom's Role in the Related Processes" was held on 19th of April, 2016.
- Festival of the university in Genoa
- Events in China (?)
- CNI conference with the participation of Eliezer Batisat, Klaus Töpfer, Gordon McBean and BW (short description -> out of invitation letter)
- 1st Euro-Mediterranean and Exhibition Conference on "Smart Urban Development and Blue Growth Opportunities for Cities, Communities and Islands in the Mediterranean Basin", was held in Limassol, Cyprus, from April 14-16, and organized by NTUA and the University of Cyprus.

Regional Action Centers (RACs)

- Since the last newsletter, many exciting developments have taken place. Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) have been signed with Ibadan, Nigeria; Hiroshima, Japan; Teheran, Iran; Genoa, Italy; Lueneburg, Germany; Santiago de Compostela, Spain, and Taipei, Taiwan;
- Over the past three months numerous RACs have had their official opening ceremonies: Beijing, China; Washington, USA; New Dehli, India; Santiago de Compostela, Spain; Geona, Italy, and Taipei, Taiwan. Belgrade, Serbia, Vilnius, Lithuania, and Tunis, Tunisia, Buenos Aires, Argentina, Hamilton, New Zealand and Melbourne, Australia have started their activities in the last weeks.

- A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed for a Global Action Center with Mémoire de l'Avenir, Paris, France, and a Regional Action Program in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
- Plans to establish RACs in Praia, Cape Verde; Kigali, Rwanda; Dubai; Lima, Peru; Havana, Cuba; Bogota, Colombia; Hong Kong, China, and Seoul, South Korea, to name but a few, are underway.
- All in all 31 RAC's in action, with another 15 we are in negotiations

Focus RAC

- <http://www.entendimentoglobal.ipt.pt/>
- from the 13 – 19 January, 2016, the VIII International Youth Meeting of Scientists of the UNESCO Associated Schools was held in Santarém and attended by 60 primary and secondary school students and teachers, selected from a field of 400.

Web and Press

- The IYGU was mentioned by Luiz Oosterbeek in his contribution to the XVII UISPP Congress Proceedings Series Edition, published in the Quality Management of Cultural Heritage: problems and best practices. Proceedings of the XVII UISPP World Congress (1–7 September 2014, Burgos, Spain) Volume 8 / Session A13 Edited by Maurizio Quagliuolo and Davide Delfino
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- To be confirmed –
 - <http://correiodominho.com/noticias.php?id=94577>
 - <http://www.savonanews.it/2016/04/29/leggi-notizia/argomenti/eventi-spettacoli/articolo/a-savona-martedi-il-convegno-esperienze-illuminanti-abitare-il-futuro-2.html>
 - <http://www.torinoggi.it/2016/05/03/leggi-notizia/argomenti/economia-4/articolo/palumbo-legnami-di-cirie-tra-le-esperienze-illuminanti-2016-fare-architetture-innovative-nel-turi.html>
 - <http://www.shabiba.com/article/140459/-محليات/قسم-الجغرافيا-بجامعة-السلطان-قابوس-ينضم-ل-الاتحاد-الدولي>
 - <http://www.cast.org.cn/n17040442/n17136067/17159329.html>

Co-operation

- The IYGU has formed an exciting collaboration with Greens Futures at the Glastonbury Festival. The IYGU will be searching for Ambassadors to spread the word.
- Development Education Centre, BEACONS DEC

- Global Learning Programme
- UNESCO Chair
- The Green Office Week in South Africa
- KLASICA

Arts

- Mémoire de l'Avenir
 - Call to action finished, shortly disseminated
- Ethnografilm Festival in Paris (March 29–April 2) finished, found under <http://www.global-understanding.info/de/resources/pictures-and-videos/>.

Schools

- Results of the Feininger Gymnasium (Germany) postcard competition
- Planning for a Story Map competition – update
- Schools in the UK -
- Resulting from the April 16-17 - 15th National Meeting of the Network of UNESCO Associated Schools at Figueira da Foz - UNESCO ASP schools, e.g., Galice
- Global Understanding will be the theme of the International Innovation day hosted by the City Montessori School, India, the world's largest Montessori school. Local, national and international students are invited to participate.
- Shree P.K.Chaudhari mahila Arts College in India, an all girls school, will be hosting an International Seminar themed around Global understanding.
- The Lyceum School in Pakistan is running programs

Upcoming events, activities, and competitions

- Sommerfest-Shiller Tag??
- The 2016 IYGU International Geographical Congress will be held in Beijing.
 - Booth
 - Session – details and participants
 - The IYGU will have a booth at the ESRI Education and User Conferences, and during the ESRI Education Conference Benno Werlen will speak as a panel member during the panel discussion 'GIS in Classrooms Around the Globe' 01.07.16
- Olympic Games Brazil
- Opening Ceremony Brazil

Publications

- Three of the Springer briefs.
 - In time for the IGU conference
- The book “Enxofrar a Rimar” (Rhyming with Sulphur - free translated from the Portuguese) from Maria José Moreno will be provided to all the pupils attending the next Semi-finals of Chemistry Olympiad at the University of Coimbra, Portugal. This book is part of a project of the Regional Action Centre of Portugal for the International Year of Global Understanding. The edition was sponsored by Bayer-Portugal, with the institutional support of the Portuguese Society of Chemistry and the Portuguese Committee for the International Geoscience Programme.
- Edrees Publication (Arabic) local cultures and global thinking.
- BWs other publications?

Upcoming Events – **to be updated!**

Leipzig	Dates to be decided: The department of geography and the Leibniz Institute of Regional Research will be hosting a semester lecture series on the IYGU
Somerset	June 22-26: Green Futures Field at Glastonbury Festival
Jena	June 24: Sommer-Gartenfest at the Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena with a focus on IYGU (Building Bridges)
San Diego	June 25–28: ESRI Educational GIS User Conference
San Diego	June 27–July 1: ESRI International User Conference
Adelaide	June 29–July 1: Annual Conference of the Institute of Australian Geographers (IAG) Conference with a strong IYGU focus

July–August

Rio de Janeiro (t.b.c.)	August 5-21: Olympic Games: IYGU side events *
Seoul	August 14-17: IGU Commission Cultural Approach with IYGU events for Southeast Asia
Beijing	August 21-25: IGU International Geographical Congress with multiple sessions dedicated to the IYGU
Erfurt	August 26-28: Weiterbildungen zur ReferentIn für Globales Lernen 2016 – Einführungsseminar Sommer 2016 in Erfurt
Lüneburg	August 28 – September 6: Transdisciplinary Summer School 2016 – Leuphana University Lüneburg, Germany

September–October

Jena	September 8-18: Summer-School on 'Global Understanding' in collaboration with the University of Buenos Aires, the University of Chile at Santiago de Chile and the RAC's for Argentina and Chile
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Quebec	September 21-23: Colloque "Baie-Saint-Paul: inspirer le monde" (organized by the Ville de Baie-Saint-Paul, in collaboration with the département de géographie at l'Université Laval and the CIRODD).
Rio de Janeiro	September 22: Brazilian Chamber of Industry (CNI) will host an IYGU Opening Ceremony for Brazil
Malaga	September 29-30: EUROGEO 2016 in Malaga – Story Map competition launch
Belo Horizonte	October 4-7: American Regional Conference of the Humanities for Global Understanding (organized by CIPSH)
Kyoto	October 2-4: Science and Technology in Society Forum at the Kyoto International Conference Center Takaragaike, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto , Japan
Seoul	October 17-19: 2nd APELA, Asia Pacific Environment Landscape Architecture Forum
Geona	October 27-November 6: Festival della Scienza
St. Dié de Vogues (t.b.c.)	October date to be decided: Festival International de Géographie
Nürnberg Erlangen (t.b.c.)	Date to be decided: The geography department at the University will be hosting lectures that focus on Global Understanding during the winter semester 2016/17

November-December

San Pedro de Atacama	November 8-11: 2nd Latin-american Congress on Political Ecology
Zagreb	November 16: GIS Day, Department of Geography, Zagreb University
Gujarat	November 28: Global Impacts of Everyday Local Activities Related to Culture at the The Shree P.K.Chaudhari Mahila Arts College

Moscow (t.b.c.)	November date to be decided: IYGU and the Geographical Imagination of the Future
Quebec	November date to be decided: Atelier “Le développement durable et ses avatars dans les approches pédagogiques” At the département de géographie at l’Université Laval.
Bamako	Date to be decided – African Regional Conference of the Humanities for Global Understanding (CIPSH)
Byblos/Lebanon (t.b.c.)	Date to be decided – Middle East Regional Conference of the Humanities for Global Understanding (CIPSH)
N.N.	December date to be decided: Closing Ceremony – Results and Outreach activities in 2017 and later

* Activities at the OLYMPIC GAMES can’t be made public until the Memorandum of Understanding has been signed.