

Building Bridges in Geoscience: EuroGeoSurveys in Fostering International Resource Collaboration

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The quest for resources to drive the energy transition requires robust international collaboration in geoscience. Europe aims to strengthen its access to critical minerals – domestically and through strategic international partnerships – through initiatives such as the Critical Raw Materials Act and, more broadly, the Clean Industrial Deal.

EuroGeoSurveys – a not-for-profit association representing the Geological Surveys of Europe – actively supports these efforts through initiatives that address resource challenges at both European and global scales. EuroGeoSurveys flagship project is the Geological Service for Europe project, which is delivering pan-European harmonized geological data through the European Geological Data Infrastructure. This project supports informed decision-making on resource management and sustainable development at European scale. EuroGeoSurveys is also active internationally, engaging with organizations worldwide to share best practices, harmonize data standards, and promote responsible resource governance. This includes delivering geoscience support to a number of EU bilateral strategic international partnerships, including the EU-Australia partnership. In Africa specifically, the work of EuroGeoSurveys has – for the past 8 years – been central to building the PanAfGeo project, which focuses on enhancing geoscientific capacity across Africa through training of geologists from the African geological surveys, in partnership with the Organisation of African Geological Surveys. This capacity-building initiative has not only enhanced Africa's ability to sustainably manage its geological resources but has also built a vibrant, engaged geoscience community spanning two continents, with institutional impacts at national and continental scale. This paves the way for a much expanded and minerals-focused programme – PanAfGeo+ – which launched this year. These and other EuroGeoSurveys collaborative activities, projects, and initiatives highlight that while harmonised data, knowledge sharing, and collaborative projects are vital, collaboration itself has inherent value. As a very human endeavor, collaboration can deliver fundamental rewards that extend well beyond finite project goals.