UNESCO Global Geoparks are single, unified geographical areas where sites and landscapes of international geological significance are managed with a holistic concept of protection, education and sustainable development. Their bottom-up approach of combining conservation with sustainable development while involving local communities is becoming increasingly popular. Today, 140 Geoparks UNESCO Global Geoparks in 38 countries are dedicated to boost the local community and pursuing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Among their goals, UNESCO Global Geoparks work with academic institutions to engage in active scientific research in the Earth Sciences, and other disciplines as appropriate, to advance our knowledge about the Earth and its processes. In particular, the International Geoscience and Geoparks Program for Latin American and Caribbean is keen on promoting the involvement of the younger scientists generations to enhance awareness and understanding of key issues facing society, such as using our earth’s resources sustainably, mitigating the effects of climate change and reducing natural disasters-related risks.

The YES Network (http://www.networkyes.org) is an international association of young and early career Earth scientists who are primarily under the age of 35 or are within ten years after graduating form their PhD, and are from universities, geosciences organizations and companies from across the world. The YES Network was formed as a result of the International Year of Planet Earth in 2007. Previous YES Congresses were organized in 2009 in China, 2012 in Australia, 2014 in Tanzania, 2017 in Iran. The Congresses generally focus on climate, environmental and geoscience challenges facing today’s society, as well as career and academic pathway challenges faced by early career geoscientists.

This workshop, organized jointly with the Young Earth Scientists (YES) Network, will explore possible synergies between UNESCO World Geoparks and young professionals and academics in the field of Geosciences in Latin America and the Caribbean. Its goal is to help the identification of potential fields and priorities for cooperation. To this end, all young and not-that-young professionals and academics interested in the links of Geosciences with sustainable development are invited.

 Speakers:
+ Ms. Denise GORFINKIEL, International Geoscience and Geoparks Program, IGGP - UNESCO Montevideo
+ Mr. Jianan E, International Geoscience and Geoparks Program, IGGP - UNESCO Montevideo
+ Ms. Helga CHULEPIN, Latin American and Caribbean Geoparks Network, GeoLAC (via Skype)
+ Mr. Meng WANG, YES Network (China)
+ Mr. Carlos CÓNSOLE-GONELLA, YES Network (Argentina)

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Access registration form