



THE 1st INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GEOHERITAGE

4-7 June 2015, Huanjiang, Guangxi, China

FIRST CIRCULAR

South China Karst (SCK) is a serial world natural heritage site nominated and submitted by Chinese Government to the World Heritage Committee, UNESCO. The Phase I property, inscribed on the World Heritage List on the 31st session of the World Heritage Committee, comprises three internationally acclaimed areas such as Shilin Karst in Yunnan, Libo Karst in Guizhou and Wulong Karst in Chongqing. The additionally nominated sites for the Phase II includes specifically selected areas comprising Guilin Karst in Guangxi, Shibing Karst in Guizhou, Jinfoshan Karst in Chongqing, and Huanjiang Karst in Guangxi, all of which were inscribed in 2014. Fantastic natural conditions of humid subtropical karst together with rich biodiversity make the Huanjiang Karst so vital and active that it has been considered to possess an outstanding universal values from both scientific (geological / geomorphic) and aesthetic points of view. The Huanjiang site is a direct extension of the Libo Karst Property of the SCK Phase I, and displays various types of numerous cone karst (Fengsong and Fenglin) shown by its pristine condition and valued as one of the outstanding representative SCK sites. Contrary to serious rock desertification in other karst parts in China, the geoheritage values of the Huanjiang Karst become more obvious and its management for proper protection becomes necessary and required. Traditional relationship with minority people is an important part of Huanjiang, and the relationship between natural karst and the culture and tradition of minority people have gained growing recognition and respect among local communities. It is believed that the Huanjiang Karst not only belongs to Guangxi and to China, but also to the world. We believe that our responsibility to conserve, educate and utilize this wonderful geoheritage site as well as other geoheritage sites in other protected areas in the world will be thoroughly communicated by this First International Conference on Geoheritage. All the geoheritage experts from all over the world will be welcomed and will share with us the beautiful karst landscape.

Invitation

In order to understand various geoheritage activities in the world, to strengthen geoheritage-related activities in IUCN WCPA, and to promote the geoheritage and cultural values of the Huanjiang Karst site internationally, IUCN WCPA Geoheritage Specialist Group (GSG), and State Engineering Technology Institute for Karst Desertification Control (SETIKDC) with the cooperative assistance from World Natural Heritage Management Bureau of Huanjiang Maonan Autonomous County and Geographical Society of Guizhou Province will host the 1st International Conference on Geoheritage. The conference will take place in Huanjiang Maonan Autonomous County, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, China, from 4 June to 7 June 2015. The conference comprises

presentation and discussion on geoheritages for two days, one day visit to the Huanjiang Karst Site in SCK Phase II, and one day post-conference fieldtrip to the Guilin Karst Site. This conference is the first international conference, organized by IUCN WCPA GSG, on geoheritage protection, management and sustainable development in protected areas such as world heritage sites, geoparks and other protected areas. It will be a good opportunity to share insights and experiences with colleagues in the area of geological heritage. As a result, the Organizing Committee, on behalf of GSG, and SETIKDC, sincerely would like to invite you, your colleagues and others who have been involved in all aspects of geoheritages to participate in this conference.

Hosts

IUCN WCPA Geoheritage Specialist Group
State Engineering Technology Institute for Karst Desertification Control

Organizers

World Natural Heritage Management Bureau of Huanjiang Maonan Autonomous County
Geographical Society of Guizhou Province

Co-organizers

Conservation and Management Coordination Committee for South China Karst World Natural Heritage
IAG Redbed and Danxia Geomorphology Working Group
Institute of Karst Geology, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences
Institute of South China Karst, Guizhou Normal University
Committee on Speleology, Geological Society of China
Institute of Subtropical Agricultural Ecology, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Organizing Committee

Co-Chairs

Woo, K.S., Chair of IUCN WCPA Geoheritage Specialist Group (GSG), President of International Union of Speleology (IUS), Advisory Committee of Asia-Pacific Geoparks Network (APGN), WH, Geopark & Geoheritage Expert, Professor of Department of Geology, Kangwon National University of Korea

Huang, R.B., General secretary of Huanjiang Maonan Autonomous County Party Committee of CPC, Guangxi, China

Xiong, K.N., Expert Member of World Heritage Committee of MOHURD, Director of State Engineering Technology Institute for Karst Desertification Control, WH and Karst Expert, Dean and Professor of Institute of South China Karst, Guizhou Normal University of China

Members

Al-Aawah, M., Steering Committee of IUCN WCPA Geoheritage Specialist Group, Reg delegate of Arabic countries, Earth Science and Ecology Programme Specialist, UNESCO Cairo Office

Anderson, J., Vice Chair of IUCN WCPA Geoheritage Specialist Group, Chair of IUCN WCPA Caves and Karst Speclist Group

Boon, J. Steering Committee of IUCN WCPA Geoheritage Specialist Group, Reg delegate of Canada, Joggins Fossil Institute, IUCN World Heritage Panel, Canadian National Committee for Geoparks, WH expert

Chen, H., Professor of Institute of South China Karst, Guizhou Normal University

Chen W.H., Director of Committee on Speleology of Geological Society of China, Researcher of Institute of Karst Geology, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences

Chen, W.M., Executive Chair of Conservation Coordination Committee for South China Karst World Natural Heritage, and Deputy Director, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development of Guizhou Province,

Crofts,R., Vice Chair of IUCN WCPA Geoheritage Specialist Group

Diaz-Martinez, E., Vice Chair of IUCN WCPA Geoheritage Specialist Group, Vice President of ProGEO, President of Spanish Commission on Geoheritage, Researcher of Geological Survey of Spain

Dingwall,P., Vice Chair of IUCN WCPA Geoheritage Specialist Group, Consultant on World Heritage

Ge, J.B., Director of World Natural Heritage Management Bureau of Huanjiang Maonan Autonomous County

Gordon, J., Vice Chair of IUCN WCPA Geoheritage Specialist Group, Professor of School of Geography & Geosciences, University of St Andrews, Scotland, UK

Hill,W., Secretary General of IUCN WCPA Geoheritage Specialist Group, WH and Geopark Expert

Huang, B.F., Governor of Huanjiang Maonan Autonomous County, Guangxi, China

Jiang, Z.C, Deputy Director & researcher of Institute of Karst Geology, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences

Komoo, I., Steering Committee of IUCN WCPA Geoheritage Specialist Group, GGN Bureau, Vice Chancellor of University Malaysia Terengganu

Leman, M.S.B., Steering Committee of IUCN WCPA Geoheritage Specialist Group, Reg delegate of Asia, Professor in Geology Programme, Faculty of Science and Technology, University Kebangsaan Malaysia, WH and Geopark Expert

Lu, Y.R., Academician of Chinese Engineering Academy, and Honor Chancellor of Guizhou Normal University, Director in General of Geographical Society of Guizhou Province

Peng, H., Chair of Redbed and Danxia Geomorphology Working Group of IAG, Professor of School of Geography and Planning, Sun Yat-sen University of China

Rong L., Professor of School of Geography and Environment Sciences, Guizhou Normal University

Wang, K.L., Director and researcher, Institute of Subtropical Agricultural Ecology, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Wang, M., President of Young Earth Scientist (YES), Geologist in Sedimentary Mines and Basin Analysis, China University of Geosciences, Beijing

Williams, P., Steering Committee of IUCN WCPA Geoheritage Specialist Group, Professor Emeritus, School of Environment, Auckland University, New Zealand, WH and Karst Expert

Worboys, G., Steering Committee of IUCN WCPA Geoheritage Specialist Group, WCPA Strategic Direction Co-Chair, WCPA Connectivity and Mountians Strategic Direction, WH expert

Xiao, S.Z., Expert Member and Deputy Secretary General of World Heritage Committee of MOHURD of China, Associated professor of Institute of South China Karst, Guizhou Normal University

Ying, B., Associated professor of Institute of South China Karst, Guizhou Normal University

Yuan D.X., Academician of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Researcher of Institute of Karst Geology, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences

Zouros, N., Steering Committee of IUCN WCPA Geoheritage Specialist Group, GGN Bureau

Invited Experts and Presentation

Name	Position	Specialities	Affiliation	Tentative title
Al-Aawah, M.	Steering Committee of GSG, Reg delegate of Arabic countries	Geoparks	Earth Science and Ecology Programme Specialist, UNESCO Cairo Office, 8 Abdelrahman Fahmey Street, Graden City, Cairo, Egypt	Geoheritage of the Arab region
Anderson, J.	Vice Chair of GSG Chair, IUCN WCPA Caves and Karst Speclst Group	Caves and Karst	IUCN WCPA Caves & Karst Specialist Group	Geoheritage values of caves and karst in the world
Boon, J.	Steering Committee of GSG, Reg delegate of Canada	WH	Joggins Fossil Institute, IUCN World Heritage Panel, Canadian National Committee for Geoparks	World Heritage Site Management and Realizing Benefits
Brocx, M.	National Convenor© Geological Heritage, Geological Society of Australia	Inventory based geoconservation using the Geoheritage Tool-kit, Coastal Geoheritage, and Geoheritage policy and legislation	Geological Society of Australia, Suite 61, 104 Bathurst St Sydney NSW, Australia 2000	The case for a Convention on the protection of geological heritage - an Australian perspective
Casadevall, T.J	Scientist Emeritus	Geological heritage, volcanic geology, and geology of mineral deposits	U.S. Geological Survey	The Management of Protected Volcanic Areas in the United States
Crofts, R.	Vice Chair of GSG	Geoheritage, management and communication	IUCN WCPA Emeritus, 6 Eskside West, Musselburgh, Scotland, UK EH21 6HZ	Geoheritage values
Diaz-Martinez, E.	Vice Chair of GSG, Vice President of ProGEO, President of Spanish Commission on Geoheritage	Geoheritage, geoconservation	Researcher, Geological Survey of Spain (IGME), Rios Rosas 23, Madrid 28003 Spain	International initiatives towards geoconservation
Dingwall, P.	Vice Chair of GSG	WH	Consultant on World Heritage	Protection of geoheritage in the World Heritage Network
Eavis, A.J.	Honary President of UIS, Chairman of the British Caving Association	Speleology Exploring caves, particularly in the tropics	Tides Reach, Redcliffe Road Hessle, HU13 0HA; and British Caving Association and Hull University	British Chinese Cooperation to explore the wonderful caves of South East Asia
Frey, M.L.	GGN Bureau, World Heritage Messel Pit non-profit ltd.	Geotourism, Geo-Education, Geoparks	Welterbe Grube Messel gGmbH, Rossoerferstr. 108, 64407 Messel, Germany	Messel Pit World Heritage - Centre for Geodiversity, Geo-Education and Geotourism
Hill, W.	Secretary General of GSG	WH, geoparks	IUCN WCPA Geoheritage Speicalist Group	Global Geopark Appliction Process and Essentials
Gray, M.	Steering Committee of GSG, Reg delegate of Europe, Reader Emeritus	Geodiversity and geoconseration	School of Geography, Queen Mary, Univ. of London, Mle End Road, London E1 4NS, UK	Geodiveristy as a basis for geoconservation, geoparks and geotourim
Gordon, J.	Vice Chair of GSG	Geoheritage	Scottish Geodiversity Forum, School of Geography &	Geoconservation: values, principles and practice

			Geosciences, University of St Andrews, Scotland, UK	
Jiang, Z.C.	Deputy director and researcher	Karst rocky desertification	Institute of Karst Geology, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences	Investigations of hydrogeology and environmental geology in the karst of China
Komoo, I.B.	Steering Committee of GSG GGN Bureau Vice Chancellor	Geopark, Engineering Geology, Environmental Geosciences and Sustainability Science	Vice Chancellor's Office, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu, 21030 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu Malaysia	Geoheritage and geosites development in the Asia Pacific Geoparks
Leman, M.S.B.	Steering Committee of GSG, Reg delegate of Asia, Professor	Geoparks, WH/Paleontology	Geology programme, Faculty of Science and Eechnology, University Kebangsaan Malaysia, 43600 Bangi, Selangor, Malaysia	Geoheritage activities in southeast Asia
Lu, Y.R.	Academician of Chinese Engineering Academy Honor Chancellor	Karst and cave, Geopark	Institute of Geohydrology, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences Guizhou Normal University	Integrate appreciation of conservation and utilization of natural landscapes on the earth
Peng, H.	Leader and Professor	Redbed and Danxia Geomorphology, WH	Redbed and Danxia Geomorphology working Group of IAG, School of Geography and Planning, Zhongshan University of China	Geoconservation of China Danxia
Semeniuk, V.	Executive Council of Wetland Research Association; Director of V & C Semeniuk Research Group	Inventory based geoconservation using the Geoheritage Tool-kit, Coastal Geoheritage, and Geoheritage policy and legislation; Coastal sedimentology; Wetlands	Wetlands Research Association, 12 Monger St., Perth, WA 6000, Australia; V & C Semeniuk Research Group, 21 Glenmere Rd., Warwick, WA, 6024, Australia	The Heritage values of Western Australian tidal flats
Spate, A.	Director	Caves and Karst	Optimal Karst Management	Best practice management of show caves.
Wang, K.L.	Director and researcher	Karst rocky desertification	Institute of Subtropical Agricultural Ecology, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Technology and demonstration of ecological restoration for the Huanjiang Karst
Wang, M.	President of Young Earth Scientist (YES)	Geologist in Sedimentary Mines and Basin Analysis	China University of Geosciences, Beijing	Silk Road Earth Science Program- Geoheritage
Williams, P.W.	Steering Committee of GSG	Caves and Karst, WH	Professor Emeritus, School of Environment, Auckland University, New Zealand	Outstanding Universal Values of South China Karst
Woo, K.S.	Chair of GSG, Professor	WH, geoparks/ carbonate sedimentology, marine geology, speleology, paleoclimatology	Dept. of Geology, Kangwon National University, Korea President, International Union of Speleology	World heritage, global geoparks and other geoheritages in the world: Their relationship with GSG activities
Worboys, G.	Steering Committee of GSG,	Protected area management of geoheritage; WH	WCPA Strategic Direction Co-Chair, WCPA, Connectivity and Mountians Strategic Direction	Arkaroola, Australia: From mining lease to geoheritage protected area
Xiong, K.N	Director and Professor, World Heritage Steering Committee of MOHURD of China	Karst and Caves, WH, Rocky desertification Control	Institute of South China Karst, Guizhou Normal University, State Key Engineering Technology Research Center for Karst Rocky Desertification Rehabilitation of China	South China Karst World Heritage and its rocky desertification control
Yuan, D.X.	Academician of Chinese Academy of Sciences	Karst and caves Karst rocky desertification	Institute of Karst Geology, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences	Development and evolution of the fenglin karst in Guilin area

Main Topics

1. Geology and geomorphology of geoheritage site
2. Protection, management, Geotourism and sustainable development of geoheritage site including regional activities in the world
3. Geology, geomorphology of South China Karst World Natural Heritage Sites
4. Protection, management, geotourism and sustainable development of the South China Karst World Natural Heritage Sites
5. Protection and management of caves and karst in the world
6. The environment, rocky desertification and ecological restoration of Huanjiang Karst

Program of Main Conference and Other Activities

- 08:30--24:00 Wednesday 3 June: Pick up in Guilin Airport or Hechi Airport (via Shanghai) and 328 km or 80 km driving to Huanjiang County respectively, and arrival and registration at Huanjiang Hotel. The full papers in electronic version are encouraged to present at registration.
- 08:30--12:00 Thursday 4 June: Opening ceremony and oral presentation
- 14:30--18:00 Thursday 4 June: Oral presentation (with the spouse program to visit the Huanjiang Museum)
- 08:30--12:00 Friday 5 June: Oral presentation (with the spouse program to visit to the minority show)
- 14:30--18:00 Friday 5 June: Oral presentation
- 14:30--18:00 Friday 5 June: An official meeting of the IUCN WCPA GSG Steering Committee
- 19:30--21:30 Friday 5 June: Evaluation for poster presentation
- 08:30--18:00 Saturday 6 June: Conference Fieldtrip to the Huanjiang Karst World Natural Heritage Site
- 18:00--21:00 Saturday 6 June: Closing ceremony with *Huanjiang Declaration* and Poster Awards, and Farewell Banquet and more...

Program of Post-Conference Fieldtrip

- 08:30--18:00 Sunday 7 June: Post-conference fieldtrip to Guilin Karst World Natural Heritage Site. A boat tour along the Lijiang River from Guilin to Yangshuo will be provided.
- 08:30--18:00 Monday 8 June: Departure

Presentation of Scientific Communications

Oral presentations will be made by invited experts. Additional oral presentations may be available depending upon availability of presentation schedule. You have to make a special request for an oral presentation. Other participants are encouraged to make poster presentations (up to 3 posters per participant) in English or Chinese only. Abstracts for oral and poster presentations should be submitted to the Organizing Committee together with the Preliminary Registration Form, no later than 1 May 2015. Oral presentation will be allowed for 20-30 minutes depending upon the number of participants. The conference room will be equipped with multimedia beam projector. Space and facility for poster presentation will be provided. The poster size is suggested to be 84cm×119cm. The abstracts and papers for presentations will be printed in both Chinese and English for the

conference. The full papers with oral presentations and poster awards, if the author agrees, will be recommended to *Carsologica Sinica* or *International Journal of Geoheritage* for publication in English or Chinese afterwards.

Cost and Payment

The cost will cover registration, meal, accommodation and transportation for the delegates and accompanying persons while they are in Huanjiang and Guilin. It will be possible to register and pay fees on arrival at Huanjiang on 3 June 2015. This fee will also include the hotel on 7 June in Guilin.

Participants and accompanying person: US\$ 360 per person for the whole conference for 3 days.

US\$ 170 per person for one day fieldtrip to Guilin.

Children (under 16 years old): US\$ 300 per person for the whole conference for 3 days.

US\$ 150 per person for one day fieldtrip to Guilin.

OR

Participants and accompanying person: US\$ 120 per person per day.

US\$ 170 per person for one day fieldtrip to Guilin.

Children (under 16 years old): US\$ 100 per person per day.

US\$ 150 per person for one day fieldtrip to Guilin.

Visa to China

The organizing committee will send you an official invitation for visa when we get your preliminary registration form, but it would be much easier if you could get a travel visa to China.

Host County

Huanjiang with an area of 4572km², is the only county with the Maonan minority in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and even in China. With its countryside communities the Maonan Autonomous County has a population of 378200, in which Maolan, Zhuang, Miao and Yao minority groups are represented with 92.19% of the total county. Early August weather in the Province is warm to hot. Daily maximum temperatures may range from 24-28°C, falling to 16--19°C at night. Hot days are often humid. There may be thunderstorms or longer spells of frontal rain, but most days should be sunny. Pick-up and shuttle service will be available from the Guilin International Airport or the Hechi Airport nearby (via Shanghai). The Guilin and Hechi airports are about 328 km and 80 km from Huanjiang, respectively,

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PRELIMINARY REGISTRATION FORM

Family Name:	Given Name:	Sex:
Preferred Tile: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr. Prof. Non (check one)		
Nationality:	Passport No:	
Date and place of Birth:		
Affiliation:		
Full address:		
Mobile Phone:	E-mail:	
(Please check!) I would like to attend the conference _____, and also to join the field trip _____. I would like to make a poster presentation and will submit an abstract, titled as _____.		

Notes: Please type or print clearly; register one delegate per form. Photocopies of this form are acceptable. Send to Dr. Ying Bin, Institute of South China Karst, Guizhou Normal University, 116 Baoshan North Road, Guiyang 550001, Guizhou, P.R.China. Mobile phone:18508501461, E-mail: fighterbin@126.com