







INTERNATIONAL GEOSCIENCE PROGRAMME (IGCP) SUBCOMMISSION ON ORDOVICIAN STRATIGRAPHY (SOS)



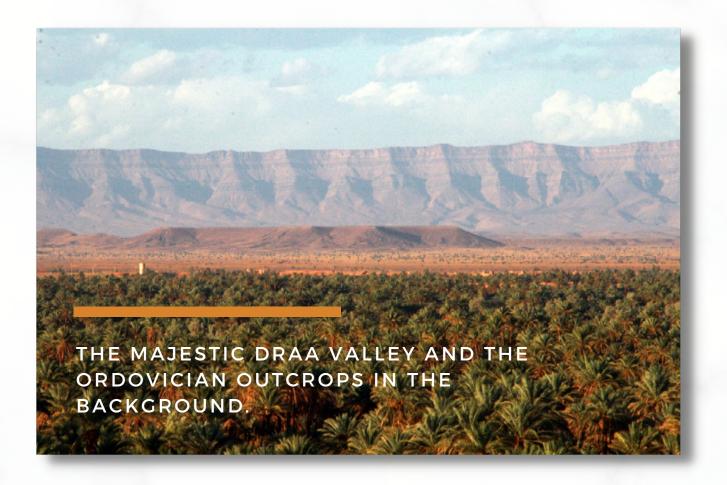




Annual Meeting of IGCP 735 'Rocks and the Rise of Ordovician Life' ('Rocks n'ROL')

Filling knowledge gaps in the Early Palaeozoic Biodiversification and Promoting Geological Heritage

1st CIRCULAR



The new project of the International Geoscience Programme IGCP 735 'Rocks and the Rise of Ordovician Life' ('Rocks n'ROL') is the successor of IGCP 653 'The onset of the Great Ordovician Biodiversification Event' (2016-2020).

IGCP 735 is bringing together researchers from all over the world, focussing on the most significant marine radiation in the history of the Earth (the so-called GOBE).

We are happy to announce the main topics of the Marrakesh 2022 Annual Meeting:

Filling knowledge gaps in the Early Palaeozoic Biodiversification and « Promoting Geological Heritage »

GENERAL INFORMATION

The International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) serves as a knowledge hub of UNESCO to facilitate international scientific cooperation in the geosciences. The IGCP mission includes promoting sustainable use of natural resources, advancing new initiatives related to geo-diversity, geo-heritage and geohazards risk mitigation.

https://youtu.be/0Esw4SQrs9k

Since 1972, the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) has worked in partnership with the IUGS to bring together thousands of Earth scientists from around the world and allowed them to benefit from the cooperative spirit generated under the umbrella of UNESCO.

Deciphering the complex interactions between climate change, biodiversity and ecosystem structuration is a major societal issue for future generations. The geological record offers the unique opportunity to document the impact of environmental changes in the biosphere in the past, and thus to provide some clues for the future. In this context, the Early Palaeozoic is probably one of the most critical intervals to document such interactions between biotas and the Earth system.

This interval embraces major evolutionary events such as the Cambrian Explosion and the Great Ordovician Biodiversification Event, but also major shifts in climate with a dramatic impact on the biosphere. Recently, the development of large-scale collaborative palaeontological databases promoted high-resolution analyses of biodiversity patterns, which could be compared with different environmental proxies. However, most available data are so far strongly biased towards some geographic areas (Europe, North America) and time intervals (lower-middle Cambrian, Middle-Upper Ordovician).

Through a multidisciplinary approach, and in close collaboration with the International Sub-commission on Ordovician Stratigraphy, the project aims at filling the numerous knowledge gaps in most regions of the world (e.g. Africa, Asia and South America), with a special focus on less-documented time intervals (e.g. late Cambrian to Early Ordovician).

The 2022 Marrakesh Annual Meeting 'Filling knowledge gaps in the Early Palaeozoic Biodiversification and « Promoting Geological Heritage » will attempt to fill some of the gaps in the currently available datasets. In collaboration with the Subcommission on Ordovician Stratigraphy (SOS), it is planned to provide the most complete picture of Ordovician data from all regions of the world, and for all fossil groups.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Oct. 19 (Wednesday), 2022: Registration, Opening, Oral and poster presentations.

Oct. 20 (Thursday), 2022: Oral and poster presentations, workshop.

Oct. 21 (Friday), 2022: Mid-conference field trip (Marrakesh-Zagora).

Oct. 22 (Saturday), 2022: Workshop Zagora.

Oct. 23 (Sunday), 2022: Fezouata.

Oct. 24 (Monday), 2022: Zagora-M'Hamid.

Oct. 25 (Tuesday), 2022: Departure to Marrakesh.

The indoor sessions with keynote talks and regular lectures will take place in the new 'Cité de l'Innovation' of Cadi Ayyad University on the Campus. They are scheduled for Wednesday, October 19th and Thursday, October 20th.



A post-conference field trip to Zagora-M'Hamid, Anti-Atlas, Morocco, is scheduled from Friday to Tuesday, October 21th-25th. A special event is scheduled to take place in Zagora, which will host civil society, decision-makers and local representants from the city and Geoparks.

Social activities are varied with a conference dinner at « Club Chez Ali » that will be organised on Wednesday, October 19th. Very interesting visits are scheduled at the end of the second day of the indoor sessions, at the « majestic Jamaa El-Fna Place », ...by «calèche», the Museum of water Marrakesh, « Majorelle Gardens »...









EXCURSIONS

POST-CONFERENCE FIELD EXCURSION TO THE ORDOVICIAN OF THE CENTRAL ANTI-ATLAS

A post-conference excursion to several iconic sites of the project of future Bani Geopark, e.g. Ternata plain (Early Ordovician Fezouata Lagerstätte) and Foum Larjamme (Hirnantian glacial tunnels

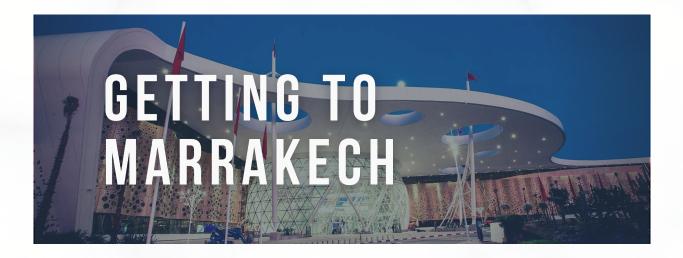
DURATION

4 days, including travel to Zagora-M'Hamid from Marrakesh.

ESTIMATED COSTS

490 € (including travel, Guide book, accomodation and food)





Marrakesh is the fourth largest city in the Kingdom of Morocco. It is one of the four Imperial cities of Morocco and is the capital of the Marrakesh-Safi region. The city is situated west of the foothills of the Atlas Mountains.

Marrakesh was founded in 1070 as the imperial capital of the Almoravid Empire. The Almoravids established the first major structures in the city and shaped its layout for centuries. The red walls of the city, and various buildings constructed with red sandstone afterwards, have given the city the nickname of the "Red City" or "Ochre City". This medina quarter is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Today it is one of the busiest cities in Africa and serves as a major economic center and tourist destination.

https://www.visitmorocco.com/fr/voyage/marrakech

Marrakesh is served by the Menara International Airport and by Marrakesh railway station, which connects the city to Casablanca and northern Morocco.



ESTIMATED REGISTRATION FEES

*Note that all the registration fees here are estimates, and the final registration fees and methods of payment will be posted in the Second Circular in March, 2022

The registration fee for the scientific sessions (covering ice breaker, coffee breaks, programme, lunch and visits by calèche), is estimated at 350 \in . Accommodations : 60-70 \in per double-room per day in the Hotel (5-star,

The registration fee for the post-conference field excursion in is estimated at 490 \in , and covers the field guide, hotels (three stars or higher), meals, and transportation.

The Annual Meeting 'Filling knowledge gaps in the Early Palaeozoic Biodiversification and « Promoting Geological Heritage' in Marrakesh 2022 is planned to be a meeting in the spirit of the UNESCO, with low registration costs, in particular for attendants from developing countries and students, including all receptions and lunches during the indoor sessions.

Support from IGCP and ISOS will be distributed primarily to attendants from developing countries and students. Such support is available for 2022. Please contact the organisers for details.

CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

A publication of the presentations is planned to in the « Bulletin Institut Scientifique, Rabat » or in the « Journal of the Academy of Sciences and Technics Hassan II »

A guide book of the excursion will be distributed to the participants of the excursion.

PRELIMINARY INTEREST FORM

Please register your interests by filling the form below :

https://forms.gle/sypEsuWNwkPkq4wU6

including breakfast).

USEFUL INFORMATION

ACCOMODATION

Each participant is responsible for his or her own hotel accommodation. Marrakech has a very wide range of hotels and other types of accommodation such as youth hostels and guest houses. We advise you to make your booking through recognised websites such as www.booking.com. It is strongly recommended to choose an accommodation close to the event location.

We suggest the following hotels:

Imperial Plaza: located at about 250 m from the Faculty of Science and Technology of Marrakech. Hotel's website.

Le Sémiramis : located at about 850 m from the Faculty of Science and Technology of Marrakech. <u>Hotel's website</u>.

Grand Mogador Menara: located at about 2,5 km from the Faculty of Science and Technology of Marrakech. Hotel's website.



DOCUMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER MOROCCO

Each visitor to Morocco must have a valid passport and a visa, if required. Foreign participants whose countries are subject to visa requirements should contact the Moroccan Embassy or Consulate in their country. Be sure to allow sufficient time to apply for your visa before your departure date.

Here is the list of countries whose nationals are exempted from the visa to enter Morocco on this <u>link</u>.

Due to the current sanitary conditions related to COVID-19, travelers have access to The Moroccan territory, under certain conditions, if they have a vaccination pass or a negative PCR test at least 48 hours before the date of entry into Morocco. The conditions of access to the Moroccan territory change according to the country of origin. We recommend that you check with the Moroccan embassy in your country before traveling. It should also be noted that the conditions of access to Morocco may be updated regularly and at very short notice.

The directory of Moroccan embassies in the world can be found on this <u>link</u>. Airlines may require additional formalities, we also recommend that you check the conditions of travel on their flights, directly on the website of each carrier.

YOUR ARRIVAL TO MARRAKECH

Participants can take direct flights from their home countries to Marrakech-Menara Airport or make a stop-over at Mohammed V International Airport in Casablanca.

The Marrakech-Menara airport is located approximately 6 km south of the city centre. To get to the hotel you can take bus 19 to the city centre and then take a cab to your hotel. You can also take a cab directly from the airport to your hotel.

Do not hesitate to contact your hotel, they may offer free shuttle services or at negotiated rates.

It is recommended to have a small amount of cash (500 MAD) with you upon arrival, or to have Euros or Dollars. Cabs and buses do not accept credit cards.

It should be noted that the current pandemic situation makes it mandatory to wear a mask at the airport and on public transportation.

SANITARY MEASURES

Wearing a mask remains mandatory throughout the Kingdom of Morocco. The vaccination certificate is required for access to all enclosed areas : hotels, cafes and restaurants, movie theaters,

Everyone is required to comply with the mandatory measures provided for under the state of emergency, under penalty of sanctions provided for in the penal code. It is advisable to respect the instructions of the Moroccan authorities.

MONEY

The local currency is the Moroccan dirham (MAD): **1 USD = 9 MAD** and **1 Euro = 11MAD** (approximately).

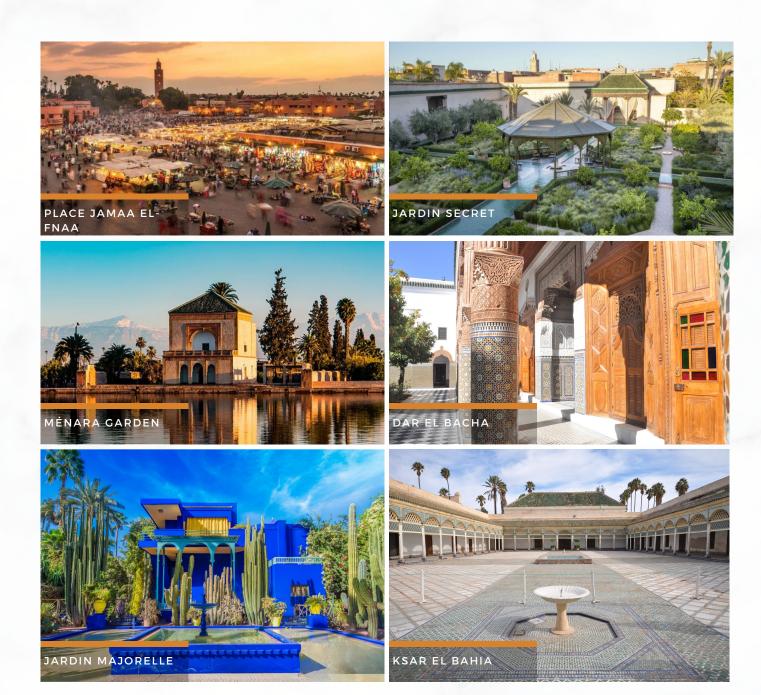
You can find the current exchange rate on websites such as :

https://countryeconomy.com/currencies/morocco https://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/convert/?Amount=10&From=USD&To=MAD

OTHER DETAILS

- The electrical outlets used in Morocco are two-pin and operate on 220V/55Hz. Adapters are hard to find, so it is best to bring your own.
- October in Marrakech is mostly sunny. Average rainfall is 21 mm, with 29 days without rain. Minimum temperatures average 17°C and maximums 28°C. Temperatures are generally cool in the morning and evening and warmer during the day.
- The average temperature in October in Zagora is 20°C and the average rainfall is 13 mm. At night, temperatures drop to 13°C and during the day they can reach 27°C.
- It is recommended that participants to the excursion bring all the necessary equipment for a field trip (shoes, hammer, magnifying glass, ...).
- Participants are also asked to inform the organisers in advance of any medical or dietary problems they may have.

PLACES TO BE VISITED



SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE



CANDELA, YVES (EDIMBOURG, ROYAUME-UNI)



DALEY ALLISON (LAUSANNE, SUISSE)



HARPER DAVID (DURHAM, ROYAUME-UNI)



EL ALBANI, ABDERRAZAK (POITIERS, FRANCE)



EL HARIRI, KHADIJA (MARRAKECH, MAROC)



GHIENNE, JEAN-FRANÇOIS (STRASBOURG,



GHOBADI POUR, MANSOUREH (GORGAN, IRAN)



GUTIERREZ-MARCO, JUAN CARLOS (MADRID, ESPAGNE)



LEFEBVRE, BERTRAND (LYON, FRANCE)



ORTEGA HERNANDEZ, JAVIER (CAMBRIDGE, ETATS-UNIS)



RAEVSKAYA, ELENA (SAINT-PETERSBOURG, RUSSIE)



SERVAIS, THOMAS (LILLE, FRANCE)



TINN, OIVE (TARTU, ESTONIE)



WAISFELD, BEATRIZ (CORDOBA, ARGENTINE)



WANG, WENHUI CHANGSHA, CHINE)

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE



AZIZI,
ABDELFATTAH
(MARRAKECH,
MAROC)



BENNANI, OUMAIMA (MARRAKECH, MAROC)



BELAQZIZ, MOHAMMED (MARRAKECH,



BOUGADIR, BELAID (MARRAKECH, MAROC)



CANDELA, YVES (EDIMBOURG, ROYAUME-UNI)



CHAYEB, FATIHA (MARRAKECH, MAROC)



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GHIENNE, JEAN-FRANÇOIS (STRASBOURG, FRANCE)



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HACHAD, NADIA (MARRAKECH, MAROC)



LEFEBVRE, BERTRAND (LYON, FRANCE)



SOULAIMANI, ABDERRAHMANE (MARRAKECH, MAROC)



TAOURIRTE MOHA (MARRAKECH, MAROC)



WITAM, OMAR (MARRAKECH, MAROC)



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DECEMBER 2021