

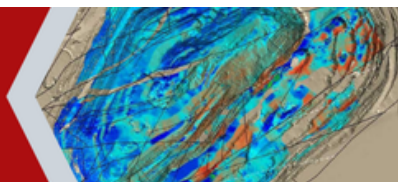


NEWSLETTER

Promoting the study and advancement of Earth Sciences since 1895

3D GEOMODELLING

10 April 2026 | ONLINE ZOOM



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BOOK SALE

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9 APRIL 2026

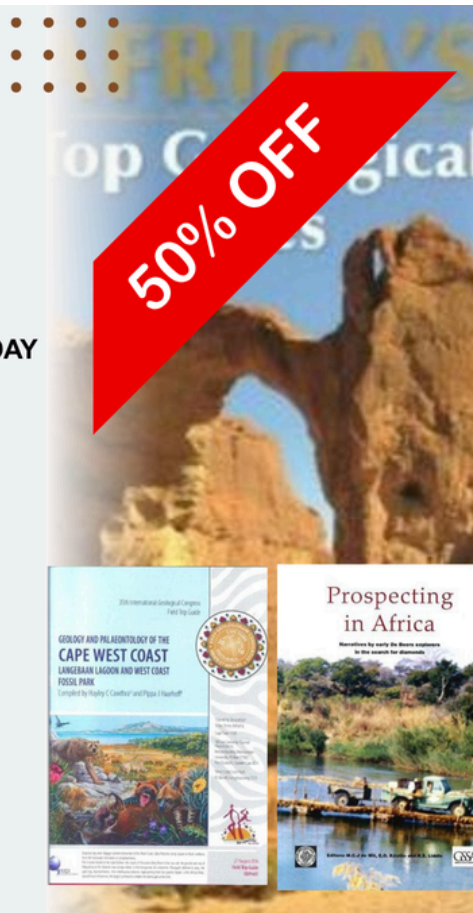
SALE ENDS - 17 April 2026

CLEARANCE SALE

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 3D Geomodelling - Last Chance
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- Geode - MINSAs
- UCT - Job Advert
- LIP IDC Conference Kenya

[BOOK LIST AND ORDER FORM](#)

Call for Contributions

We would love to feature your contributions - If you have news, updates, insights or articles you would like to share with the Geological community please submit your content to lully.govender@gssa.org.za - Your contributions will be reviewed and if approved will be included in the newsletter.



info@gssa.org.za



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NOLEEN PAULS

GSSA PRESIDENT

MARCH IN REVIEW

March was another full month for the GSSA, with a good mix of technical learning, industry engagement, and member development.

FINANCIAL LITERACY FOR GEOSCIENTISTS COURSE

One of the highlights was the GSSA's first Financial Literacy for Geoscientists course at the Johannesburg Country Club, introducing members to the financial side of the mining industry. Presented by Tim Raymond of Raymex, the course gave geoscientists a practical introduction to concepts such as discount rates, DCF models, NPV, IRR and how to read company financial statements. More about this further on in the newsletter.



COACHING FOR CAREER GROWTH

We also kicked off the 2026 GSSA coaching series as part of our commitment to supporting members beyond their technical expertise. The first session, presented by professional coach Petro du Pisani, explored career strategy, navigating the workplace, and building a sustainable long-term career. It was a great reminder that being a successful geoscientist is about more than technical knowledge alone. You can watch the first session on the GSSA YouTube channel and register for the next one [here](#).

GOLD SERIES 2026 RETURNS

March and April also saw the return of the popular Gold Series 2026, hosted by the Overberg Geoscientists Group together with the Melbourne and Stellenbosch University Geology Departments. These talks followed the successful 2022 and 2025 Gold Series presentations. The latest talks covered a range of systems—from Witwatersrand-style paleoplacers to orogenic and intrusion-related deposits, with a strong emphasis on understanding the processes that control gold formation, distribution, and economic potential. These webinars bring together geologists both local and international, across industry and academia, creating a valuable platform for knowledge sharing and practical insights relevant to exploration and mining in a South African and international context.

They have been well attended on-line, and subsequent YouTube statistics indicate good follow-up from those unable geoscientists unable to attend the live presentations. They have also been beneficial in highlighting the Gold-27 Conference to be held in South Africa from 13 - 15 March, 2027.



STRENGTHENING INDUSTRY CONNECTIONS

Industry collaboration remained an important theme throughout the month. I was honoured to attend the SAIMM annual banquet, where one of the highlights was listening to Prof Rosemary Falcon – a longtime role model and an inspiring reminder of the impact that strong leadership can have across the mining and geoscience sectors.

REACHING FUTURE GEOSCIENTISTS

We were also delighted to be included in the University of Pretoria’s GROUNDED First Year Experience programme. Joining remotely, past president, Sifiso Siwela, introduced students to who the GSSA is, while Lutendo Mavhungu gave them a glimpse of what to expect when they graduate and enter the industry.



GEOBULLETIN SPOTLIGHT: THE SKILLS GAP

The latest Geobulletin tackled one of the sector’s biggest challenges: the growing skills shortage in geology and mining. Alongside updates on ESG reporting frameworks and industry codes, the issue highlighted the urgent need to strengthen the talent pipeline through mentorship, early-career support, and better knowledge transfer across the profession.

March reflected the GSSA’s continued focus on both technical excellence and people development, concentrating on skills sustainability, collaboration, and the future of the profession.

FOLLOW THE MONEY

AN ARMY MIGHT MARCH ON ITS STOMACH, BUT PROFESSIONAL BODIES WORLDWIDE REQUIRE CASH TO SURVIVE.

Typically, revenue streams for a professional body include membership fees, sales of publications, bequests and dividends from investments, annual and event sponsorships and income (delegate fees) from events. In order to serve the interests of its members, the GSSA keeps its member fees as low as possible. Irrespective, membership fees only account for some 30% of our annual budget. Income derived from events provides almost 50% of the budget and our annual sponsors provide an additional 5% (the remaining 15% comes from a combination of sales of publications as well as interest, dividends on investments, etc).



These income streams support the day-to-day running of the GSSA. Big ticket expenses include the running of the office (including salaries, statutory payments, VAT, website maintenance, accounting fees, taxes and insurance), producing high-quality scientific & technical publications, and putting on events/meetings, including the sponsoring of up to six students to attend every event (in addition to sponsorship of mentees at selected events).

In addition to operating income, the GSSA also has a few small investments that may be used to supplement cashflow requirements as and when required. As with any investment, the returns vary dramatically, depending on global geopolitical and economic conditions.

The Research Education and Investment (REI) Fund is a completely separate, professionally managed portfolio that is used to fund geoscience projects, research and education (but excludes tuition fees and undergraduate studies). It is primarily funded through bequests, private Funds and Trusts (more about this next month). Moneys are disbursed according to the wishes of the specific Bequest/Fund/Trust. The monies in the REI Fund may not be used for GSSA operating expenses.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

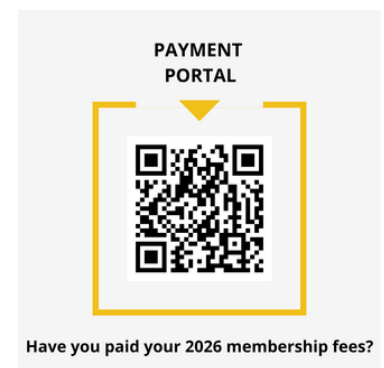
To help keep the GSSA moving forward financially, every member can:

ENSURE THAT YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE PAID TIMEOUSLY

Membership fees are payable by 31 January each year, whether paid by yourself or your company. Please follow up to ensure that you (or your company) have not forgotten your fees, given the chaos that usually reigns over the end of one year and the beginning of the next. Please contact accounts@gssa.org.za for information relating to your outstanding 2026 fees or you can pay online at <https://www.gssa.org.za/payment>

Scan the QR code to be taken directly to the GSSA online payment portal.

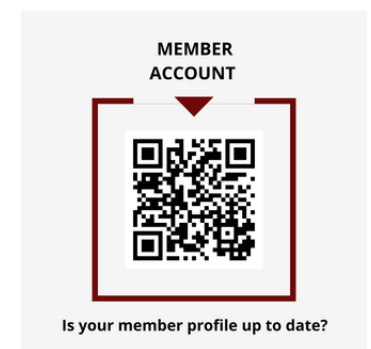
- If you are unable to pay your fees, please contact the office and let us see how we can help.
- If you no longer want to be a member for whatever reason, please let us know so that we can adjust our income expectations accordingly.



Please also keep your contact details up to date so that we can send invoices to the correct addresses. This is especially important if you have moved companies or retired; sending invoices to old/non-existent email addresses is an unnecessary expense that simply adds to the administrative burden. The easiest way to do this is via the website.

Scan the QR Code to be taken to your profile update page (or to the login page if you are not logged in already) - <https://www.gssa.org.za/account/identity>

Alternatively, please send an email to admin@gssa.org.za with your updated contact details.



ATTEND OUR EVENTS/MEETINGS

We try to provide a range of events (conferences, seminars, workshops, the odd fieldtrip, etc), both online and in-person, to cater for industry and academic professionals. All our meetings carry CPD credits, redeemable on both the GSSA and SACNASP portals. <https://www.gssa.org.za/calendar#events>

Here we need to thank our annual and event sponsors, without whom delegate fees would be significantly higher. If you think that our events offerings do not suit your requirements, please let us know and give us suggestions on what you would like to see (and whether you might be able to assist with managing it).

CONSIDER BEING AN ANNUAL OR EVENT SPONSOR

We would encourage members to discuss sponsorship/marketing opportunities with the relevant people in their organisations. The GSSA has a range of such opportunities for all size companies.

Income from annual sponsorship/marketing packages does not only apply towards event management, it also gets used to promote geoscience at schools and universities, to (partially) fund geoheritage projects and to empower activities at Branch and Division level.

<https://www.gssa.org.za/downloads/2026-Sponsorship.pdf>

DONATIONS /BEQUESTS

If you have money that you don't know what else to do with, you might also consider donations/bequests to the GSSA REI fund.

<https://www.cognitofirms.com/GeologicalSocietyOfSouthAfrica/DonationsAndBequests>

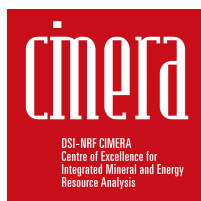
In this pivotal time for the GSSA, your support is more than a contribution – it is an investment in the future of South African geoscience. By standing with us, you help safeguard the Society's legacy, strengthen our ability to serve the profession, and ensure that the next generation of geoscientists inherits a vibrant, credible, and resilient organisation. Your commitment makes all the difference.

Tania Marshall

Executive Manager

2026 ANNUAL SPONSORS

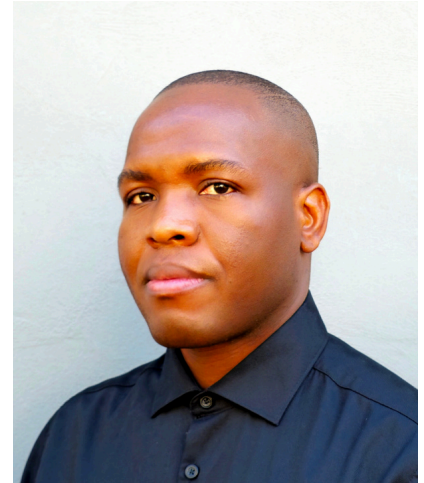
ACQUIRE



KHODANI MATSHUSA

CHAIR - GSSA GEOHERITAGE DIVISION

Khodani Matshusa is an NRF Rated Researcher at the University of South Africa. Khodani is a leading expert in geoheritage and geotourism, holding the first and only PhD in this field by a Black African. He has significantly impacted research, policy, and governance through his scholarly work. With over 15 years of experience in research, academia, mining, and consulting, he currently leads major national and international projects in Geoheritage (Geo-Mining Heritage), Geotourism, Mine Closure, and Resilience, fostering collaborations and mentoring students while promoting geoconservation, and social justice across sub-Saharan Africa.



We welcome Khodani in his new role as Chair of the GSSA Geoheritage Division.



The banner features a scenic landscape of a coastline at sunset on the left. In the center, there is a circular inset showing a laptop screen with a Zoom meeting grid. The GSSA logo (Geological Society of South Africa) is positioned to the left of the main text. The text includes 'SAVE THE DATE' in a dark blue box, 'GEOHERITAGE MEET AND GREET' in large yellow and blue letters, and 'Online Webinar, an opportunity to connect, engage and be part of the conversation' in a smaller font. At the bottom, a dark blue box contains the date '19 MAY 2026' and 'ONLINE ZOOM'.

2026 ALEX DU TOIT LECTURES
8 - 22 APRIL 2026



REGISTER NOW

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LECTURE SCHEDULE



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INVITATION

126TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, 16 July 2026

6pm

Jhb Country Club

Online Zoom

Entrance is free but registration is required for catering purposes

REGISTER NOW

[REGISTER NOW](#)

**2026
UPCOMING EVENTS**



REGISTER NOW

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS



GSSA Sponsorship Opportunities Are Evolving!

We're excited to announce new enhancements for our sponsors! The updated sponsorship document promotes Marketing opportunities, including a Digital Bag for every event (in-person, hybrid and online only). This offers a unique platform to engage attendees and showcase your brand.

Partnering with the GSSA through these opportunities gives companies a powerful marketing gateway into South Africa's geoscience, mining, and energy sectors. It offers high-impact brand visibility across conferences, technical events, publications, and digital platforms that reach industry leaders, decision-makers, and emerging professionals. Companies can showcase their expertise, promote services and technologies, and position themselves at the forefront of conversations shaping the future of critical minerals, exploration, and sustainable development. With targeted exposure and access to a specialised, influential audience, the GSSA becomes a strategic channel for strengthening brand recognition, building credibility, and expanding market reach within the broader geoscience ecosystem.

Please look at our Marketing & Sponsorship Brochure. If you don't find something that suits your needs, please contact our committee to discuss tailor made solutions (lonigallant@icloud.com or sponsorship@gssa.org.za).

SPONSORSHIP BROCHURE

Loni Gallant

VP Sponsorship & Marketing



Louise Coney

I'm the Chair of the Fellow's Committee when I am wearing my GSSA hat. When I'm not, I'm the Technical Manager of the De Beers' Indicator Mineral Laboratory, a role which has stretched me and given me the opportunity to learn skills well outside of my comfort zone! I'm based in Johannesburg, with my husband Angus and our fur-child Happy. Activities beyond the rocks include CrossFit, cooking, learning different languages and travel. As I have Cystic Fibrosis, spending quality time with friends and family is particularly important, and I try to seek the positive as much as one can (this is not always possible in the midst of a challenging workout!)

What's a small, everyday thing that reliably makes you happy?

The first cup of coffee that Angus makes for me in the morning.

Are you more of a planner or a figure-you-out as-you-go person?

Definitely a planner - if I know what I'll be having for dinner in the morning, then I know I'm onto a good day! I'm trying to be more relaxed as I get older though...

What's one thing that will always make you laugh:

Animal antics, even when the dog decides to roll in something I would not!



Natalie Brand

As VP Professional Affairs, my role focuses on strengthening the professional value that GSSA offers its members, including supporting continuing professional development, promoting industry engagement, and helping ensure geoscientists have access to relevant opportunities, networks, and resources that support career growth. When I'm not wearing my GSSA hat, I'm the Customer Success Manager | Geology at Micromine. I'm based in Johannesburg and live with my partner, Hendrik, my two newish kittens (Mac & Cheese) and a bunch of fish. The rest of my family is currently scattered around the Cape and Germany.

What's a small, everyday thing that reliably makes you happy?

I'm an early bird, so the quiet stillness of the morning makes me happy!

What does being part of Geological Society of South Africa mean to you personally?

It means being connected to a community that shares both technical passion and a commitment to growing the profession. There's value in learning from people across generations and disciplines.

What gives you a strong sense of purpose, even on hard days?

Knowing that even small contributions can create momentum for others, whether through sharing knowledge, helping someone develop, or making something clearer.



Loni Gallant

I'm the VP of Marketing & Sponsorship for GSSA and an Exploration Geologist with 22 years' experience, currently working in the Amazon jungle of Suriname, South America. I love traveling worldwide for work and leisure, chasing beautiful views while enjoying a beer at sunset. I also cherish time with my friends, parents, siblings, nieces and connecting with my industry peers.

What gives you a strong sense of purpose, even on hard days?

As an exploration geologist, the thrill of discovery drives me at work; in my personal life, I enjoy showing others that pursuing extreme ventures can be exciting, rewarding, and deeply fulfilling.

What does being part of GSSA mean to you personally?

It's an enjoyable, positive and impactful way to engage in geoscience, socially and academically, and to help cultivate the next generation.

What's one thing that will always make you laugh?

What never fails to make me laugh is how my life path accidentally ended up in me becoming a geologist.



Tshego Majane

As the VP for meetings portfolio, my role is focused on planning and executing the events for the GSSA which cannot be done without the support of the meetings committee. Our team comprises of geoscience professionals who share the same passion - to strengthen our geoscience community through knowledge sharing and collaboration leveraging the events and members who share their expertise during the GSSA events.

My GSSA role syncs well with my daily responsibilities as a Customer Success Manager for EMEA at Seequent and the Regional New Business Lead for South and East Africa, I help Seequent customers unlock value and find a better way to solve complex geoscience challenges in the mining industry.

I live in the West Rand with my wife Prisca and 2 kids Remi and Remo, we enjoy travelling, exercise, reading, and music.

What gives you a strong sense of purpose, even on hard days?

Knowing that what I do can contribute towards a better sustainable future for the next generations, helping a fellow geologist find the next mineral deposit, optimise their operation, learn something new gives me a strong purpose to continue.

What keeps you grounded when life gets busy?

Taking a moment in nature, the silence of the mornings, walks along the river help me understand that I am a small part of something greater.

Are you more of a planner or a "figure-it-out-as-you-go" person?

A enjoy working under pressure, that is usually because I figure it out as I go. I plan once and improvise as I go.

GSSA EVENTS

MARCH 2026



FINANCIAL LITERACY FOR GEOSCIENTISTS **10 MARCH 2026 | JOHANNESBURG COUNTRY CLUB**

The Financial Literacy for Geoscientists workshop, hosted by the Geological Society of South Africa (GSSA) on 10 March 2026, provided a highly engaging and interdisciplinary platform for geoscientists to deepen their understanding of the financial and decision-making frameworks that underpin the minerals industry. Presented by industry expert Tim Raymond, the course successfully bridged the domains of geology, economics, and strategic project evaluation, offering value to both early-career professionals and experienced practitioners.

The day began with a focus on the role of geology in reporting and decision-making within the mineral industry. A key takeaway was the centrality of geological data in shaping investment confidence and project viability. Participants explored how geological models, resource classifications, and reporting standards form the technical backbone of decision-making processes, ultimately influencing whether projects progress from exploration to development. Importantly, the session emphasised that geological reporting is not an isolated technical exercise, but a critical input into broader financial and strategic considerations.

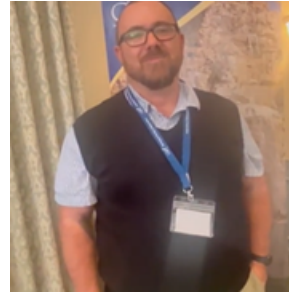
Building on this, discussions moved into the logical drivers of decision-making in geological projects. Here, the workshop unpacked how uncertainty, risk, and data quality influence project pathways. Attendees were encouraged to think beyond purely technical outputs and consider how decisions are made in practice. This segment was particularly valuable in highlighting the iterative nature of decision-making, where geological understanding and financial reasoning continuously inform one another.

A core component of the workshop was an introduction to financial systems and project evaluation in the mineral industry. This session demystified key concepts such as discounted cash flow (DCF) analysis, net present value (NPV), internal rate of return (IRR), and return on investment (ROI). Participants also gained insight into the structure of financial statements and the role of discount rates, including considerations of risk and the time value of money. Through interactive discussion, participants reflected on how geoscientists can more effectively engage with multidisciplinary teams, including finance professionals, engineers, and executives. The workshop underscored the importance of developing a shared language across disciplines to ensure that geological insights are accurately represented and appropriately weighted in project evaluations.

Overall, the workshop was a highly valuable experience for attendees across all levels of expertise. For those new to financial concepts, it provided a clear and accessible foundation, while more experienced geoscientists benefited from a structured opportunity to refine and contextualise their understanding. By emphasising the integration of geology with financial and strategic thinking, the course highlighted a critical skill set for modern geoscientists and reinforced the importance of holistic, informed decision-making in the mineral industry.

Thank you Megan Smith for the write up and Fatima Chitanglo for the videos. Megan and Fatima are two of our GSSA student members who got to attend the course for free. If you're a student, you can [apply for free attendance](#) at many of our events.

DELEGATE VIDEOS BELOW



GEOTECH FOR GEOLOGISTS | 18 MARCH 2026 | ONLINE ZOOM

The Geotech for Geologists event was conceived to highlight the geotechnical dimension of the geosciences and to demonstrate how expanding traditional geological exploration through multidisciplinary input can significantly enhance project value. The strong turnout and high level of engagement throughout the day clearly reflected the relevance of this topic to the broader geological community, with attendees actively contributing through thoughtful questions and value-adding discussions.

The day commenced with a comprehensive presentation by Heather Davis, who provided a solid foundation on geotechnical investigations and the tools of the trade. This opening session framed the role of geotechnical investigations within multidisciplinary studies and set the scene for the practical, application-focused presentations that followed.

Building on this baseline, subsequent speakers explored how geotechnical, rock engineering, and civil engineering disciplines intersect with geology in the context of mining and infrastructure projects. Presentations covered the use of field data in geotechnical design, core-derived geotechnical workflows, in-stope support practices, and MOSH leading practices, highlighting how geological inputs directly influence safe and efficient mine design and operation. The programme concluded with forward-looking discussions on tailings dam safety and emerging monitoring technologies, including drone-based SAR applications for pit slopes and tailings facilities.

Overall, Geotech for Geologists successfully showcased the critical role geologists play within geotechnical and rock engineering teams, reinforcing the message that multidisciplinary collaboration is not optional, but essential, for managing mining projects responsibly and effectively.

the Geode
the Geode



gemstones;
not just pretty
to look at



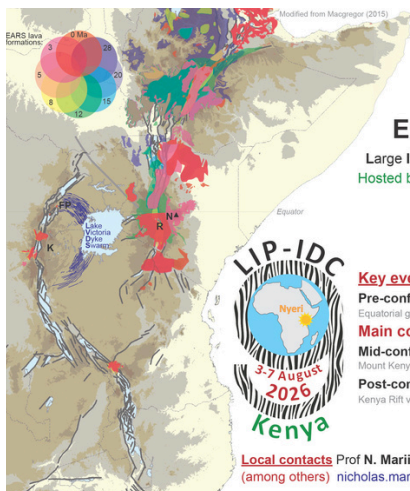
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NGAP LECTURER: CRITICAL MINERALS AND SUSTAINABILITY
DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES
FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Under the auspices of the New Generation of Academics Programme (nGAP) funded by the Department of Higher Education (DHET), the Department of Geological Sciences is seeking to appoint a Lecturer for a full-time permanent position in the field of Critical Minerals and Sustainability. In this context, “critical minerals” pertains to minerals and elements (and the deposits from which they are sourced) essential for non-fossil-fuel-based energy systems, carbon dioxide sequestration and/or high-technology applications, with the goal of supporting the just transition to a sustainable economy based on renewable energy.

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<https://lipidc9.sciencesconf.org/>



**Ancient to Recent
Source to Resource
Exploring LIPs and Dyke Swarms**

Large Igneous Provinces (LIPs 9) - International Dyke Conference (IDC 9)
Hosted by **Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT)** in Nyeri, Kenya



Key events:

- Pre-conference field trip (26 July - 1 August)**
Equatorial geotour from Kigali, through Uganda, to Nyeri (K-FP-N on map)
- Main conference at DeKUT (3-7 August, 2026)**
- Mid-conference field trip (5 August)**
Mount Kenya (K on map)
- Post-conference field trip (8-11 August)**
Kenya Rift valley geotourism and safari (R on map)

Local contacts Prof N. Marita (DeKUT); Dr M.B. Klausen (RSA)
(among others) nicholas.marita@dkut.ac.ke; klausen@sun.ac.za



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