



Geology *for* Global Development

"Using our knowledge of the Earth to fight poverty"

Annual Report and Review 2016



*Registered Charity
Number: 1165663*

-- Report and Financial Statements --

Geology for Global Development

Registered Charity: 1165663

Trustees (during reporting period):

Joel Gill

Nicholas Bilham

Julia Hall

Charity Principal Address:

Loughborough, UK

OVERVIEW

Geology for Global Development, established in 2011, is a registered charity working to mobilise and equip the geology community to prevent and relieve poverty. Much of our work to date has been with early-career geologists, providing them with the skills, information and opportunities they need to make a long-term, effective and sustainable contribution to international development.

Since 2011 we have established *Geology for Global Development* as an organisation with national and international influence on matters relating to geology and international development. We are building a positive reputation through a series of successful conferences and workshops, a growing University Group network, and practical initiatives to support sustainable development. While there remains much to be done, we believe we are helping to reshape the culture of geology (education and practice) to ensure sustainable development is firmly integrated into the discipline. This is fundamental to ensuring that geology is utilised to best effect to support the delivery of sustainable development.

In 2015, we started a process of engagement with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), continuing through 2016. The SDGs provide the geology community with an exciting opportunity to apply our science to help solve some of the world's most important development challenges and maximise development opportunities. Access to clean water and clean affordable energy, food security, sustainable urban areas, climate action, economic growth, and resilient infrastructure all depend on an understanding of geological processes and materials.

In 2015, we organised the first major gathering of geologists anywhere in the world to explore the role of geology in the SDGs, with our annual conference in 2016 continuing this theme. Our pioneering leadership on geology and the SDGs has been recognised internationally, with a leading US university capturing this in their description of our 2015 conference as one 'of and for the future'. We have since organised related workshops at events in Europe and Africa, and published the first detailed examination of Geology and the SDGs in the *International Union of Geological Sciences*' journal *Episodes*.

Geology for Global Development values working in partnership with other organisations. We have greatly benefitted from the experience, expertise and resources made available to us from our colleagues and friends at the *Geological Society of London*. They have hosted, subsidised, and advised on each of our Annual Conferences (2013–2016). In 2015/6, they awarded us a grant of £2000 to support the development and expansion of our work. We have also partnered with the *European Geosciences Union*, as a member of their blog network. Their commitment to facilitating science communication has enabled us to have a free and appealing portal to communicate our work. The organisers of the 35th *International Geological Congress* and *International Association for Promoting Geoethics* have also provided us with valuable opportunities to talk about geology and the SDGs during 2016.

As part of our commitment to professionalism and excellence, in 2015 we began the process of registering with the *Charity Commission for England and Wales*, and establishing a Board of Trustees. This facilitates the growth of *Geology for Global Development*, expanding and enhancing our work. In February 2016, we received the news that our application had been successful and *Geology for Global Development* was to become a registered charity (Charity Number: 1165663).

This is, therefore, our first Annual Report as a registered charity, and an important opportunity to share information about our charitable objectives (**Section A**). We proceed to give a report on activities through 2016 (**Section B**), our governance and management (**Section C**) and present an overview of our finances (**Section D**). We then look to the future, with details of events and opportunities in 2017 (**Section E**), and list ways in which you can stay in touch (**Section F**).

Dr Joel C. Gill

Executive Director/Trustee, Geology for Global Development

A. CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES

Geology for Global Development, established in 2011, is a registered charity working to mobilise and equip the geology community to prevent and relieve poverty. As stated in our Governing Constitution, *Geology for Global Development* provides public benefit (nationally and internationally) through the following charitable objectives:

- i. **Educational advancement** of the public in general, and particularly amongst geologists, in subjects relating to geology and sustainable development (defined below), in any part of the world. This will be done (in particular, but not exclusively) by means of relevant communications, educational material, training courses, placement opportunities, and by promoting research in all aspects of that subject and publishing the useful results.
- ii. **Poverty prevention and relief**, in any part of the world, by providing grants, equipment and services (in particular but not exclusively education and training in geology) to individuals in need, other charitable organisations, and/or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.

In this context, we note sustainable development to mean ‘*development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs*’ as defined in the Brundtland Report (1987).

In meeting these objectives, we provide public benefit through advancing education, at all levels, of the role of geology in supporting sustainable development, as well as using geological science to prevent and relieve poverty. In setting our aims for the year and preparing this review, the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

B. ACTIVITIES

In seeking to fulfil our objectives and provide broad public benefit, we have undertaken the following charitable activities:

UNIVERSITY GROUPS: *Geology for Global Development* (GfGD) groups, run by student volunteers, endeavour to engage students with our national work, arrange seminars and discussion groups, and promote the vital role of geology within development. Highlights from 2016 include:

- **Talks from Academics and Industry:** For example, our group at the University of Exeter held a talk on the environmental impacts of mining in the Ural Mountains of Russia, and Imperial College London heard about the water sector in overseas development contexts from Mott MacDonald.
- **Mapathons:** The Bristol University Group had a collaborative mapping event, responding to the immediate needs of humanitarian organisations. Groups at Camborne School of Mines and Leeds have begun to get involved in a Missing Maps project fighting female genital mutilation (FGM) in Tanzania.
- **Trips:** Our group at Imperial College visited The Crystal London, a sustainable cities initiative.
- **Raising Awareness:** University College London and Cambridge groups have been raising the profile of *Geology for Global Development* at important careers events in their universities.
- **Coastal Hydrogeological Aid Projects:** The Bristol University Group have developed an ongoing project investigating borehole failure in Rakhine State, Myanmar, in conjunction with Ground Water Relief and funded by the University of Bristol Cabot Institute. Groups from Southampton, Leeds and Imperial have got involved and are helping to crowd source the development of a borehole log database, transferring data from paper logs.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS:

- **GfGD Blog:** Our blog (blogs.egu.eu/gfgd), hosted by the *European Geosciences Union*, provides a forum for exploring issues relating to geology and development. It also gives students an opportunity to develop skills in science communication through writing guest blogs.
- **Geology and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** In February 2016, the scientific journal *Episodes* accepted our manuscript outlining the role of **geology in the UN SDGs**. This open-access paper offers the first comprehensive overview of how Earth science can help to deliver the 17 SDGs, and facilitates a discussion on how the geology community can make an effective and positive contribution.

- **Geology for the Public Good and Global Development:** This book ([available through the GSA store](#)) includes a chapter supported by GfGD on ‘Building Good Foundations: Skills for International Development’.

INTERNAL CONFERENCES AND EVENTS:

- **4th GfGD Annual Conference:** In November 2016, we organised our 4th Annual Conference, hosted and supported by the *Geological Society of London*. This event examined the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and what good practice means in the context of geoscience engagement. We explored the skills and topical understanding required to deliver high quality, high-impact development projects, with themes such as communication, ethics, human rights, and community engagement all discussed. Sessions also examined the role of the extractives industry, risk communication, and practical projects and opportunities that delegates could get involved in.

EXTERNAL CONFERENCES AND EVENTS:

- **UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) Science and Technology Conference:** In January 2016, we were an official partner organisation for a major gathering of scientists at a UNISDR meeting exploring our role in supporting the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.
- **European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly:** In April 2016, we worked with ParsQuake to coordinate a splinter meeting on the UN Sustainable Development Goals at the EGU General Assembly in Vienna. This event gathered early career researchers and senior professionals from diverse geoscience backgrounds.
- **Sustainable Earth Conference (Plymouth):** In June 2016, we presented work on the role of geology in the UN Sustainable Development Goals at the Sustainable Earth Conference at the University of Plymouth.
- **35th International Geological Congress (IGC), South Africa:** In late August 2016, GfGD was invited to attend the 35th IGC in Cape Town. Here we presented work on the UN Sustainable Development Goals and skills for international development. We also delivered a workshop on geoscience and international development with representatives from ~7 countries.

OTHER PROGRAMMES:

- **Young Scientists Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction:** In January 2016, we worked with several other organisations (including the UN Major Group for Children and Youth) to launch a Young Scientists Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). This platform provides a formal space for early-career scientists to support the delivery, monitoring and evaluation of the UNISDR Sendai Framework for DRR.
- **Fundraising (Guatemala Volcanic Monitoring/Education):** We have been fundraising since 2014 to help strengthen resilience to volcanic hazards in Guatemala. Our University Groups have supported this work through 2016 with a range of fundraising activities, such as cake sales and quizzes. Since starting we have raised over £1500, and we will be working through 2017/18 to ensure that this money has a tangible impact on the lives of vulnerable communities.
- **Earthquake Education Videos:** GfGD has offered practical assistance to the Parsquake earthquake education video project, helping to connect them with geology students in the UK (particularly the GfGD Cambridge University Group) who have featured in the videos. These videos are currently being placed on the ParsQuake Project YouTube Channel. In 2017, GfGD will help to promote these as a teaching tool, supporting Priority 4 of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response).

SUMMARY

Together these achievements demonstrate the positive impact of *Geology for Global Development*, with respect to our two primary charitable objectives.

- **Educational Advancement:** Activities have promoted the role of geology in sustainable development to diverse audiences both in the UK and overseas. Our engagement at international conferences has ensured that the broad geological science community has a greater awareness of how to make a positive contribution to sustainable development. Our social media content, blogs and open-access publications help to raise public awareness of why geological science matters when considering sustainable development. Our activities help to train geologists to better serve the public, by improving professional practices relating to the application of geology to sustainable development.

- **Poverty Prevention and Relief.** Some of our University Groups have engaged in programmes aiming to enhance water provision and improve resilience to environmental shocks (earthquakes and volcanic eruptions). Both programmes will continue into 2017. Our support of a *Young Scientists Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction* will help to connect geological research with practitioner communities serving communities in the Global South. Our activities help to train geologists to better serve the public and reduce poverty, by improving professional practices relating to the application of geology to sustainable development.

C. GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

A Board of Trustees has been appointed to oversee and guide our work, in accordance with our Governing Document (based on the Charity Commission’s ‘Foundation’ model constitution for a Charitable Incorporated Organisation whose only voting members are its charity trustees).

The current Board of Trustees consists of three founding trustees, with provision for the appointment of further trustees set out in our Governing Document. The Board of Trustees consists of the following team:



JOEL GILL (INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT GEOSCIENTIST, BRITISH GEOLOGICAL SURVEY)

Joel has an interdisciplinary PhD in geography (natural hazards) from *King’s College London*. In November 2016, he joined the *British Geological Survey*, contributing to their overseas development work. Joel founded *Geology for Global Development* in 2011 and continues to coordinate its work (see below).



JULIA HALL (ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE, RISK MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS)

Julia is an Account Executive at *RMS* where she advises on the use of catastrophe modelling techniques and solutions. Based in Zurich, she has worked with many global (re)insurance companies and public and academic partners on disaster risk management.



NIC BILHAM (DIRECTOR OF POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS, THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY)

Nic has worked at the *Geological Society* for 20 years, and now leads delivery of its policy, education, media and wider communications. He also works with the Society’s Council/senior staff to coordinate strategic planning and reporting. Nic is European Continental Coordinator for the *International Association for Promoting Geoethics*.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Day-to-day responsibility for the running of the charity is delegated to a volunteer Executive Director of *Geology for Global Development*, working alongside a wider leadership team. This team currently consists of:



JOEL GILL (EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR)

Joel has overall responsibility for the leadership and management of *Geology for Global Development*, overseeing the implementation of our strategy and day-to-day operations. Core responsibilities include: external relations, internal team development, financial management, and project development.



EMILY WHITE (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR – UNIVERSITY GROUPS)

Emily has responsibility for the management and development of our network of University Groups, acting as the link between these groups and the *Geology for Global Development* leadership (Executive and Trustees). Core responsibilities include: external relations (universities), supporting *Geology for Global Development* Ambassadors, resourcing groups, and communicating their work to a wider audience.

In 2017, we will be expanding both teams, ensuring we have the skills required to expand and enhance our work.

D. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

As part of our charity registration in 2016, *Geology for Global Development* opened a bank account with the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF). The accounts below document financial activity (income and expenditure) that occurred in 2016. Future annual reports, will present financial activity from two consecutive years to allow for comparisons to be made.

Key observations include:

- **[Unrestricted Income]** £2788.16 is labelled unrestricted income. This was raised through *Geology for Global Development* conferences, personal donations, and a donation of funds collected prior to formal charity registration in 2016 (including a £2000 grant from the Geological Society of London). This money can be used to support the full portfolio of our work.
- **[Restricted Income]** £1026.19 is labelled restricted income. This is money raised as part of our efforts to strengthen resilience to volcanic hazards in Guatemala. This money is set aside solely for this ongoing project.
- **[Expenditure]** £495.08 is labelled as expenditure, using our unrestricted income. The greatest sources of expenditure were the GfGD Annual Conference, and the delivery of seminars and workshops at other events (e.g., Sustainable Earth Conference, International Geological Congress).

Expenditure was significantly below income, with a surplus of £2092.80. This was largely due to (i) time being devoted to establishing the charity governance and reporting tools needed to function effectively as a charity, and (ii) a significant one-off transfer of funds from activities prior to 2016. We anticipate generating a smaller surplus in 2017.

Geology for Global Development currently does not have a formal reserves policy. This will be determined in 2017 as part of our evaluation of financial cycles and procedures.

Our attendance and engagement at the UNISDR Science and Technology Conference (Switzerland) and EGU General Assembly 2016 (Austria) were made possible through GfGD leadership attending in other professional capacities. Our attendance and engagement at the International Geological Congress (South Africa) was made possible through GfGD leadership winning personal travel scholarships. GfGD activities were delivered entirely through the dedication of a team of volunteers. We are grateful to all those who have given their time in 2016 to help realise our charitable objectives.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016)

	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Total 2016 (£)
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies ¹	2052.01	1026.19	3078.20
Charitable activities	736.15	0	736.15
Other trading activities	0	0	0
Investment income	--	--	--
Total Income	2788.16	1026.19	3814.35
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	0	0	0
Charitable activities	(495.08)	0	(495.08)
Total Expenditure	(495.08)	0	(495.08)
Surplus/(Deficit) of income over expenditure	2293.08	1026.19	3319.27
Net gains/(losses) on investments	--	--	--
Net income/(expenditure)	2293.08	1026.19	3319.27
Transfers between funds	--	--	--
Net movement in funds	2293.08	1026.19	3319.27
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward	--	--	--
Total funds carried forward	2293.08	1026.19	3319.27

¹ These figures were derived by totalling (i) donations and legacies income from 2016, and (ii) the net of the income and expenditure relating to activity in 2015, prior to formal registration of *Geology for Global Development* as a charity. The latter is treated as a single donation received in 2016, as it was brought into the charity upon formal registration.

Donations and legacies are hence calculated as:

	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Total 2016 (£)
Donations and legacies (in year)	43.05	348.93	391.98
Net funds from 2015 activity	2008.96	677.26	2686.22
Donations and Legacies <i>(Total, used in Statement of Financial Activities)</i>	2052.01	1026.19	3078.20

BALANCE SHEET (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016)

	2016 ² (£)
Fixed Assets	
Tangible Assets	0.00
Investments	0.00
Total Fixed Assets	0.00
Current Assets	
Debtors: Due in one year	0.00
Debtors: Due after one year	0.00
Cash at Bank and in hand	3319.27
Total Current Assets	3319.27
Current Liabilities	
Creditors due within one year ³	(200.28)
Net current assets	3118.99
Total assets less current liabilities	3118.99
Funds (CAF Bank)	
Unrestricted Funds	2092.80
Restricted Funds	1026.19
Total Funds	3118.99

² In future years, both the current and previous year details will be shown.

³ Unclaimed expenses. These will be claimed in early 2017.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016)

	2016 (£)
Cash flows from operating activities:	
Net cash provided by operating activities	3319.27
Cash flows from investing activities:	
Net cash provided by investing activities	--
Cash flows from financing activities:	
Net cash provided by financing activities	--
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	3319.27
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	--
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements	--
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	3319.27

E. LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Building on our work over the past five years, we'd like to highlight some key milestones and priorities for 2017 and beyond. These will be reported on in our 2017 Annual Report (published in early 2018). Live updates will be made available on our website and social media.

- **Strategy (2017–2021).** In June 2017, we will publish a strategy to outline our purpose, vision, and objectives. This strategy will guide our activities over the next five years, with future Annual Reports giving feedback on progress towards these strategic objectives.
- **5th GfGD Annual Conference (3rd November 2017).** We'll be celebrating our 5th Annual Conference in 2017, hosted and supported by the Geological Society of London. The theme of this event will be 'Cities: Opportunities and Challenges for Sustainable Development'. Registration will open in the summer of 2017, with further details to be posted on our website and social media.
- **Strengthening Resilience to Volcanic Hazards in Guatemala.** We have established a working group to help advise us on how best to use the income generated for this project. We hope to share their recommendations in 2017, and begin to implement these, using the generated income to help vulnerable communities in Guatemala.
- **Leadership Team Development.** In summer 2017, we hope to expand both our trustees and executive team. These are unpaid, voluntary opportunities that will allow you to shape the future of *Geology for Global Development* and help implement our strategy. Individuals who meet the person specification (to be defined) are encouraged to apply. We welcome applications from qualified people at all stages of their career (students and professionals).

F. FURTHER INFORMATION

Find the latest GfGD news, events, and opportunities to get involved on our website (www.gfgd.org), Facebook (www.facebook.com/gfgd.org), and Twitter (www.twitter.com/Geo_Dev).

Download this Annual Report and Review from our website (www.gfgd.org/annual-reports).