

## Top level comment

This forward look is a grass-roots process and has not been asked for by funding agencies/GSL/ govt etc..

The outputs are expected to inform and influence stakeholders on the importance of research in the Earth Sciences sector.

## Who's involved

We have a management/editorial team - Jon Davidson CHUGD, Lynne Frostick GSL; John Ludden BGS, Marge Wilson Univ. Leeds

They are aided by Vicky Hards BGS, Liz Fellman NERC, Georgina Worrall GSL

We have 3 experts who will act as PEER advisors - Alan Green ETH, Mike Bickle Univ. Cambridge, Garth Earls, GSNI

**Yourselves and the entire Earth Science community**

## Some background

- We have ~ 100 people together here today (18<sup>th</sup> January 2010)
- We have a good selection of participants but there are sub-disciplines, sectors, regions... that are not represented
- This is the first step in an open process that will involve further consultation
- The process will end with a publication of the results by the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2010
- You have all been assigned to Breakout groups
- Each group has a lead, core participants and a rapporteur.
- The lead and core participants 2-3 per group will be responsible for writing up, linking with other groups, the electronic forum and keeping their themes alive until the end. They will stay on to the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

## The context

Where are earth scientists now in the UK science agenda? — Achievements, funding levels, National capability and infrastructure, student enrolment etc.

How well is earth science integrated into the current NERC strategy? — Are our strengths and is our influence being applied to NERC strategy. Should we be redirecting resources? Can we contribute more?

What is the long-term outlook for earth science? — Changing planet, requirements for observations and modelling, infrastructure, jobs and skill requirements

How can earth science be better structured within NERC and UK and also within European and international networks?



# 21 Earth Sciences

## Breakout groups The questions

What are our (three) most important scientific contributions?

What will the next (three) important scientific contribution be?

What do we as a sector need to accomplish them?

# 21 Earth Sciences



Guideline sub-sectors for the breakout groups.

*Please make suggestions as to how to make the sub-discipline descriptors more inclusive*

BG1. Applied Geoscience to Serve Society

*Encompassing Engineering Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology, Carbon Capture and Storage, Radioactive Waste Disposal, Contaminated Land, and Environmental Pollution and Health.*

BG2. Natural Resources and Energy

*Encompassing Minerals, Post Peak Oil and Consequences for Resource Development, Dwindling Mineral Resources and Security of Supply.*

BG3. Natural Hazards

*Encompassing the challenges for Earth Science in Understanding, Prediction and Mitigation of the effects of Earthquakes, Volcanic Activity, Tsunamis and Landslides.*

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Guideline sub-sectors for the breakout groups.

*Please make suggestions as to how to make the sub-discipline descriptors more inclusive*

BG4. Putting the Earth into Earth System Science

*Encompassing Earth History and Palaeontology, Structural Geology and Tectonics/Geodynamics.*

BG5. Earth Surface - Critical Zone and Shallow Marine Processes

*Encompassing the Earth as a driver for Climate Change (is the past the key to the future), Soft-rock Geology and, and Implications for Biodiversity.*

BG6. Deep Earth

*Encompassing the crust to the core; Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology and Deep Earth Geophysics: Seismology, and Geomagnetism.*



# 21 Earth Sciences

## Breakout groups The questions again

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What will the next (three) important scientific contribution be?

What do we as a sector need to accomplish them?