



International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), Initiative on Forensic Geology (IFG)

Monthly Update and Information for IUGS E-Bulletin, August 2022

World Congress of Soil Science (WCSS), Glasgow, Scotland,

On 3 August 2022, IUGS-IFG ran a session called, *'The application of soil science in the criminal justice system'*, which included; 'The Role of physical evidence in the investigation/detection of major crime in Scotland', 'Trace evidence between soil on footwear and reference site locations: applications to a murder investigation', 'Geology and civil protection: when foreseeable hydrological disasters cause victims', 'Forensic fingerprinting (provenance determination) in the predictive geolocation of the global trade in illicit minerals and metals', and 'Soil material evidence in two crime investigations both primary and secondary transferences of soil materials'. <https://22wcss.org/>

Training in Search and Geological Evidence Recovery, Police Scotland

Training in search for burials and geological evidence recovery for approximately 20 police officers and forensic scientists. This included the provision of worksheets and IUGS-IFG commissioned professional training video for Police Scotland.



IUGS-IFG training in search and geological evidence recovery, Police Scotland, (Prof Alastair Ruffell, Prof Robert Fitzpatrick, Dr Laurance Donnelly, Commander Mark Harrison, Prof Duncan Pirrie, Prof Lorna Dawson).

Public lecture on Forensic Geology, Chiba City Museum of Science, Japan

On 2 July 2022, a IUGS-IFG public lecture on forensic geology was a part of lecture series called, *'Science class for adults'*, which is regularly held at Chiba museum in Japan, inviting guest scientists to give public lectures.

Geoforensic Workshop, Rio Claro, Brazil

An IUGS-IFG Student Chapter geoforensic workshop takes place on 17-18 August 2022. The event will be online with a live broadcast on YouTube. <https://geoforenses.com/>

Isotopes used for solving crime, South America

Isotopes and forensic geology are used to investigate crimes against human life, ballistics, environmental crimes, fires, identification of illicit drugs, drug counterfeiting and tracking minerals commodities.

<https://geoforenses.com/2022/04/isotopos-como-ferramentas-para-resolucao-de-crimes/>

Forensic geology and the illegal trade in Museum artefacts

The link below provides information and case examples on the applications of geoforensics and the illegal trade of museum artefacts. <https://geoforenses.com/2022/07/comercio-ilegal-e-monopolio-de-artefatos-museologicos/>

Geoforensics helps Brazilian police discover the origin and routes of cocaine

The Institute of Geosciences (IGC) at the University of São Paulo (USP), Brazil, is collaborating with the Federal Police (PF) to identify the origin and routes of cocaine trafficking from production in Andean countries. <https://geoforenses.com/#calendario>

<https://geoforenses.com/2022/04/dialogo-america-ciencia-ajuda-a-policia-brasileira-a-descobrir-a-origem-e-as-rotas-da-cocaina/>

[Science helps Brazilian police discover the origin and routes of cocaine – Dialogo Americas](https://geoforenses.com/2022/04/dialogo-america-ciencia-ajuda-a-policia-brasileira-a-descobrir-a-origem-e-as-rotas-da-cocaina/)

Gold smuggling, Australia

Illegal gold smuggling and money laundering has been investigated by the Australian Federal Police.

<https://www.afp.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/sydney-man-and-woman-charged-money-laundering>