



Earth Science Europe “Is Earth Science Europe an interesting and useful construct?”

John Ludden

Chair Earth Sciences Europe & Executive Director, British Geological Survey, Nottingham, United Kingdom
(jludden@bgs.ac.uk)

In 2014 we managed to have a group of earth scientists from across the spectrum: from academic, survey, industry and government, pull together to create the first output for Earth Science Europe

<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/earthScienceEurope/downloads/EarthScienceEuropeBrochure.pdf>

In this document we stated that Earth scientists need a united, authoritative voice to enhance the status and impact of Earth science across Europe. The feeling was that there were many diverse infrastructure and research initiatives spanning the terrestrial and oceanic realms and science ranged from historical geology to active dynamics on Earth, and that a level of coordination and mutual knowledge sharing was necessary. In addition to a better understanding of the Earth in general, we thought there was a need to have Earth Science Europe develop a strategic research capacity in geohazards, georesources and environmental earth sciences, through a roadmap addressing fundamental and societal challenges. This would involve a robust research infrastructure to deliver strategic goals, enabling inspirational research and promoting solutions to societal challenges.

In this talk I will propose some next steps and discuss what this “authoritative voice” could look like and ask the question - “is Earth Science Europe an interesting and useful concept?”