

NEWSLETTER

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ABOUT THE PROJECT

HES-GEO project aims to enhance existing research capacity and stimulate scientific excellence in the [Institute of Geography and Spatial Management \(IGSM\)](#), [Jagiellonian University](#), in studying **human-environmental systems (HES)** of the Anthropocene, along variety of urban-rural-marginal gradients, at various spatial and temporal scales and using **tools and data available through Earth observation (EO) and geospatial technologies**.



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PARTNERS



[Institute of Geography and Spatial Management \(IGSM\)](#)



[The Department of Geoinformatics – Z_GIS](#)



[The Geography Department](#)



[The Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences](#)

PROJECT PROGRESS - EVENTS



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Establishing a center of excellence
The Human-Environmental System Research Centre, the official name of the centre of excellence, is a result of the ongoing HES-GEO project that runs under the Coordination and support action funding scheme of Horizon 2020. More specifically, it is an answer to the main HES-GEO objective, which is to enhance the existing research capacity of the **Faculty of Geography and Geology, Jagiellonian University**.

Project stakeholders' meeting
In December 2022 **Human-Environment Systems Research Center**, created as part of the HES-GEO project within the Faculty of Geography and Geology at the Jagiellonian University, has organized an information and partnership meeting entitled **"What can the Jagiellonian University do for you? Research on human-environment relations in practice"**. The meeting took place at the Institute of Geography and Spatial Management (IGSM) of the Jagiellonian University at 7 Gronostajowa Street in Krakow.



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Training on Project Management
In December several employees of the Institute of Geography and Spatial Management took part in a Project Management training organized by the KU Leuven – one of the project partners. **Katia Van Belle** (Propellor Changing Projects, <https://www.propellor.be/>) gave us some advice how to start, plan, do and close projects. We were learning about doing the right things, gaining confidence and commitment, creating results that matter and finally making space for new beginnings, when the project is already in a closing phase.

Training on Science Communication and Outreach
Another training, this time on Science Communication and Outreach organized within the HES-GEO project by the project partner KU Leuven was intended for researchers and communication officers in the Institute of Geography and Spatial Management. **Toon Verlinden** (The Floor is Yours, thefloorisyours.be) shared with us his knowledge and practice in the field of science communication.



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HES-GEO helpful in obtaining the Biodiversa+ grant
The Research Team **"Land use and biodiversity"** obtained funding for research under the **European Partnership for Biodiversity (Biodiversa+)** competition. The award-winning project, **G4B: Grasslands for Biodiversity: supporting the protection of the biodiversity-rich grasslands and related management practices in the Alps and Carpathians**, will be conducted among others in cooperation with our project partner from Germany.

Centre of Excellence Talks: "Writing papers that get published – an editor's view"
Jasper van Vliet, a member of the editorial board of **Regional Environmental Change** and **Journal of Land Use Science**, was our first guest and shared some tips for academic writing with us, regarding in particular, the essential parts of the paper from the editor's perspective.



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RESEARCH TEAMS - SCIENTIFIC INTERSHIPS

In 2022, as part of the HES-GEO project, 14 trips of students, doctoral students and researchers of the Institute of Geography and Spatial Management were organized for scientific internships at project partner institutions lasting from 1 to 3 weeks. **The Catholic University of Leuven** was visited by: Anita Bernatek-Jakiel, PhD, Mateusz Stolarczyk, MSc, Dominik Kaim, PhD, Michał Jakiel, PhD, Anna Szwagierczak, Łukasz Musielok, PhD and Magdalena Gus-Stolarczyk, MSc. **The Paris-Lodron University in Salzburg** hosted Mahsa Shahbandeh, MSc, Rafał Madej, Anna Bartos, MSc, Piotr Szubert, MSc and Anastasiia Derii, MSc, while **the Humboldt University in Berlin** was the choice of Katarzyna Gorczyca, PhD, and Magdalena Miśkowiec, MSc. Below we present selected reports of participants.



SALZBURG

Mahsa Shahbandeh

"Shortly after explaining the problem, I jumped into **studying machine learning-based software** that could help me process the data I'm using in my project faster. I learned how to use **eCognition** software to process **CORONA** images and do a suitable segmentation and classification. Many thanks belong to professor **Dirk Tiede**, with whom I could consult my progress," comments Mahsa.

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BERLIN

Katarzyna Gorczyca, Magdalena Miśkowiec

The Social Processes and Urban Resilience Research Team visited the Humboldt University of Berlin from 1 – 24 June 2022. Magdalena Miśkowiec together with Katarzyna Gorczyca, the team members, participated in individual consultations, training courses and meetings with supervisors and research teams. Their supervisors of the visit were **Dagmar Haase** and **Tobia Lakes** from Humboldt University.

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LEUVEN

Magdalena Gus-Stolarczyk, Anna Szwagierczak, Dominik Kaim, Michał Jakiel

Dominik highlighted that for him, it was the **high position in innovative rankings and common research interest** with his scientific mentor at Leuven, **Prof. Anton Van Rompaey**, that played the most important reasons for going to Leuven. For Anna, **soft skills such as research work organization and networking** were the most important.

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SALZBURG

Anastasii Derii

"Starting part of my analysis is the creation of watersheds for later morphometric analysis. **Watershed creation** can be done manually. However, for 100000 watersheds, special program creation is in need. During the stay, I managed to **write the script** to allow me to create such watersheds," Anastasiia commented.

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