



International Association of Geomorphologists

IAG Regional Conference on Geomorphology

“Geoheritage and Geodiversity”

Cappadocia, Türkiye, 12–14 September 2023

IAG Intensive Course for Young Geomorphologists

“High Resolution Mapping and Cosmogenic Dating of Fluvial Landforms”

Cappadocia, Türkiye, 15–16 September 2023

Report

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I had an enriching experience attending the *Regional Conference on Geomorphology, 2023*, held in the picturesque setting of Cappadocia, Türkiye, which was generously supported by an International Association of Geomorphology grant. Hosted by Nevşehir Hacı Bektaş Veli University and organized by the Turkish Society for Geomorphology, this conference was a unique opportunity to delve into the world of geomorphology, surrounded by the stunning landscapes of Cappadocia. Before the conference began, I participated in an exceptional field trip starting in İstanbul. This journey allowed us to explore the historical and natural wonders of Türkiye, from the majestic Bosphorus to the intriguing earthquake ruptures along the North Anatolian Fault Zone. We ventured through uplifted fluvial and marine terraces along the beautiful Black Sea coast and reached the northernmost point of the country in Sinop. This pre-conference experience was a perfect introduction to the diverse geomorphological features that Türkiye has to offer.

During the conference in an engaging session dedicated to "*Sustainability in Geomorphology*," I delivered a presentation that delved into the fascinating subject of terraces in the Mediterranean and their pivotal role in fostering sustainable agricultural environments. The reception from the audience was exceptionally positive, with attendees expressing genuine interest and enthusiasm for my research findings. One of the standout benefits of participating in this conference was the invaluable



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chance to network with scholars and experts hailing from various corners of the globe. This global gathering provided a fertile ground for in-depth discussions, constructive feedback, and the exploration of potential avenues for collaboration. The cross-pollination of ideas and the exchange of perspectives during these interactions greatly enriched my understanding of the field and opened doors to exciting possibilities for future joint research ventures.



In the days that followed, I had the privilege of immersing ourselves in the geodiversity of Cappadocia. From the iconic fairy chimneys to the Maar Lakes, the striking rhyolitic domes to the sinkholes, and the intricate river terraces to the remnants of volcanic lava flows, the venue truly served as an open-air laboratory of geomorphology like no other. One of the highlights of the conference was the opportunity for researchers, especially those in the early stages of their careers, to participate in intensive courses. Renowned experts provided valuable insights into the science of precise dating of landforms and deposits using dating techniques. These courses were not only informative but also included practical field applications, enhancing our skills and knowledge.

To sum up, drawing from my own experiences, I wholeheartedly encourage early career researchers to not only attend such regional conferences but also consider applying for grants from the IAG to facilitate their participation in upcoming IAG programs.