



International Association of Geomorphologists

**The Young Geomorphologist Training Program
at the SAAG 2023 Biennial Conference**

Hogsback, Eastern Cape of South Africa, 28–30 September 2023

Report

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Attending this conference was a valuable experience for me both professionally and personally. Firstly, the conference provided me with an opportunity to learn new things from experts in my field. I was able to attend various presentations and pre-excursion I learned a lot about wetlands and their importance, including how to identify peat, sample peat, and establish a hydrological network to measure water flows in and through a peatland. I also learned about the decomposition scale used in the South African soil classification system and how to make wells and piezometers using PVC pipe, a geotextile, cable ties, and duct tape.

These sessions were very informative and provided me with insights into the latest research and developments in these areas. The conference allowed me to network with other professionals in my field. I was able to meet and interact with other researchers and practitioners who share similar interests and challenges. This was a great opportunity for me to exchange ideas, share experiences and learn from others.

During the conference, I had the opportunity to present on the topic of "Using GIS to assess the river diversity and protection levels of Africa's rivers." In my presentation, I highlighted the importance of utilising Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to analyse and evaluate the river diversity as well as how it can be used to identify areas that require protection and how GIS methods can be used to report on the Global biodiversity framework of 2030 targets 1(degradation), 2(restoration) and 3 (protection). I was able to share my own work and receive feedback from others. This feedback will be very useful in improving my work. I was also fortunate to become one of the convenors at conference.



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I am grateful to the International Association of Geomorphologists for the funding that enabled me to attend this wonderful and valuable conference.

