

International Geographical Union

Task Force for Young and Early Career Geographers

TASK FORCE ANNUAL REPORT 2020

The IGU Task Force for Young and Early Career Geographers' (IGU-YECCG) was launched on the 22nd August 2016 at the 33rd International Geographical Congress in Beijing, China with a vision of empowering and nurturing future leaders in Geography. The primary aims of the Task Force are to promote career development for early career Geographers through mentoring, training and sharing; stimulate interdisciplinary, international and inter-generational research conversations between Geographers and acknowledge and elevate the achievements of early career geographers in the Global North and South.

A. Membership

Steering Committee

Chair

Dr. Komali Yenneti

School of Architecture and Built Environment, University of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom

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Secretary and Treasurer

Dr. Gaurav Sikka

University P.G. Department of Geography, L.N. Mithila University, Bihar (India)

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Full Members

- **Dr. Gabriela Adina** Morosanu, Institute of Geography of the Romanian Academy/University of Bucharest, Bucharest Romania.
- **Dr. Fernando Barragán Ochoa**, Institute for Higher National Studies, Ecuador
- **Dr. Melgris José Becerra Ruíz**, Working Group on Geographical Issues (GTAG-Venezuela), Universidade Federal do Pará (UFPA), Brazil
- **Ms. Sinenhlanhla Memela**, Rhodes University, South Africa
- **Mr. Rui Zhu**, Department of Geography, University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), USA

Task Force Membership

As a 'new' Task Force, efforts are in the direction to increase the number of corresponding members. The Task Force has launched its listserv at geo-iguyecg@listserv.wvu.edu to update geographers about our activities and circulating relevant information. The total members of the Task Force are 189 (as of 15th January 2021).

B. Meetings

a. Meetings organized with basic details

- I. XIV IGU-India International Conference on Agriculture, Food, Water, Biodiversity and Health in Changing Climate

Date: 6-8 March 2020
Place: Burdwan, West Bengal, India
Host: University of Burdwan, West Bengal, India

b. Brief Summary of the Meetings

XIV IGU-India International Conference on Agriculture, Food, Water, Biodiversity and Health in Changing Climate

Date: 6-8 March 2020, Place: Burdwan, West Bengal, India

IGU Task Force for Young and Early Career Geographers (IGU-YECG) organized a paper session for **IGU-YECG Late Dr. Manju Singh Memorial Young Scientist Best Paper Award** on 8th March 2020. The award is instituted in the memory of Late Dr. Manju Singh, daughter of Prof. RB Singh (Secretary-General and Treasurer, International Geographical Union). Dr. Manju Singh, a young and dynamic academic did her M.Sc. from USA and PhD in nanotechnology from Italy. She left for her heavenly abode after a prolong illness on 9th December 2014. Prof. RB Singh has been generous enough to provide financial support for this award. Seven oral presentations were made in this competition. The jury for the award competition comprised of: Prof. J.K. Routray (Professor Emeritus, Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok), Prof. Anuradha Banerjee (CSRD, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi) and Prof. L.N. Satpati (University of Calcutta). Awardees were selected on the site by jury and award recipient were announced during the valedictory session of the conference. The award included a certificate of merit and monetary award of Rs 5100/-. The award was bagged by Soumen Ghosh, Department of Geography, University of Burdwan, West Bengal for his paper entitled “Future Implication on Estuarine Environment in Gosaba Island, Sunarban, India”.

Komali Yenneti (Chair, IGU-YECG) and Gaurav Sikka (Secretary and Treasurer, IGU-YECG) coordinated the event.

Glimpses of XIV IGU India International Conference 2020





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International Environment Week Seminar. Pestalozzi Institute.

Date: 22nd September 2020, Place: Sao Paulo, Brazil (Virtual google meet)

The event was themed as "The future of the Amazon depends on us." This event was co-organized by the IGU-YECG, Federal University of Pará and the Pestalozzi Institute, and it was aimed at young students of social sciences from the Pestalozzi Institute in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Its objective was to present the Amazon in its regional context and its importance for the regulation of the global climate, pointing out the threats and impacts generated as a result of anthropic activities.

Dissertation and discussion on "The Amazon in the 21st century, a complex scenario"

Date: 11th November 2020, Place: Bahía Blanca, Argentina (Virtual google meet)

This activity was organized by the Higher Institute of Teacher Training of the University of Bahía Blanca, Argentina and co-organized by IGU-YECG, CLACSO, GRIAM, GTAG. It was aimed at young students of the Geography and History faculty. Its objective was to present the complexities of the Amazon extending into different countries and the impacts that are generated in each scenario for the exploitation of its resources.

Relações Internacionais Pestalozzi

IGU | Young & Early Career Geographers Taskforce (YECG)

O futuro da Amazônia depende de nós...

No dia 22 de setembro, às 11h:05, você não pode perder José Bocerra Ruiz, aluno de mestrado da Universidade Federal do Pará, com experiência de trabalho de campo com povos indígenas em temas como demarcação e gestão territorial em atividades extrativistas (mineração legal e ilegal) na Amazônia, especialista em percepção das mudanças climáticas, faz parte da União Geográfica Internacional.

c. Planned Meetings for 2021

I. **34th International Geographical Congress (Postponed) 2021**

Date: 17-20 August 2021 Host: Istanbul University, Turkey

IGU-YECG is organizing following events:

- Academic Writing Workshop
- Young and Early Career Geographers Paper Sessions and Award Competition: Jointly sponsored and organized by IGU-YECG and International Association of Young Geographers (IAYG). Two student paper awards of USD 200 each.
- IGU-YECG Master Class- Finding Funding and Grant Proposal Writing
- IGU-YECG Meeting and Networking Event

II. **Society of South African Geographers(SSAG) conference,**

Date: 6-10 September 2021 Host: Rhodes University (6-10 September), South Africa. IGU-YECG is organizing Young Scholar Best Paper Prize.

III. **Young Geographers Career Workshop**

Co-organized with Spatial Studies Center at UCSB and the International Association of Young Geographers (IAYG)

Location: Virtual or Santa Barbara (depending on the situation of the pandemic)

Dates: August, 2021 (specific date to be assigned)

IV. **IGU-YECG Online Symposium at EGEA Conference**

Date: September 2021 Location: Netherlands

V. **1st Annual IGU-YECG Conference**

Date: Not final Place: Sri Lanka/ Bangladesh

C. Networking

As part of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in 2017 between the US based International Association of Young Geographers and IGU-YECG, a new domain for the website has been made available for IGU-YECG.

Collaborated with EUGEO and AGEI (Italian Association of Geographers) to organize 'Night of Geography' festival in Italy.

IGU-YECG has developed an understanding with IGU Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity and IGU-YECG is continuously shown as an important link at their official website <http://www.igubiogeography.com/page10.html> Discussions are also on with IGU Gender Commission and IGU-AGLE to organize events together and introduce collaborative internships and field trips. IGU-YECG and IGU Commission on Geography for Future Earth are bringing out special issue with *Geography and Sustainability* journal.

D. Publications

a. A **special IGU-YECG issue** is ongoing with *Geography, Environment and Sustainability*, the official journal of Russian Geographical Society. Guest editors for the issue are Gaurav Sikka, Komali Yenneti, R.B. Singh and V. Tikunov.

b. The vision of the task force is empowering and nurturing future leaders in Geography, therefore, the list of the articles and volumes published by the IGU-YECG steering committee members in English are presented here:

- (2020, ongoing) Golubchikov, O. and **Yenneti, K.** (ed.) *Smart Cities, Energy and Sustainability: Governing Cities to a Low-Carbon Future*, Wiley-Blackwell
- (2020, ongoing) **Sikka, G., Yenneti, K.,** Singh, R.B., Tikunov, V. *Special Issue – Geospatiality and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*. *Geography, Environment and Sustainability (Official Journal of Russian Geographical Society)*
- 2020: **Yenneti, K.,** Golubchikov, O., and Lamberts, R. *Special Issue - The Varieties of Energy Poverty: A Global Perspective, Energy and Buildings*
- 2020: **Yenneti, K.,** Ulpiani, G., Santamouris, M., Ding, L., Paolini, R., Haddad, S. and Prasad, D. *Urban overheating and cooling potential in Australia: An-evidence based review*. *Climate*, 8(11),126
- 2020: Tripathi, S., and **Yenneti, K.,** *Measurement of Multidimensional Poverty in India: A State-level Analysis*. *Indian Journal of Human Development*, 14 (2), 257-274
- 2020: Kantamaneni, K., Rice, L., **Yenneti, K.,** Campos, L., *Assessing the Vulnerability of Agriculture Systems to Climate Change in Coastal Areas: A Novel Index*. *Sustainability*, 12(11), 4771
- 2020: Santamouris, M., Paolini, R., Haddad, S., Synnefa, A., Garshasbi, S., Hatvani-Kovacs, G., Gobakis, K., **Yenneti, K.,** Vasilakopoulou, K., Feng, J., Gao, K., Papangelis, G., Dandou, A., Methymaki, G., Portalakis, P., and Tombrou, M. *Heat Mitigation Technologies can Improve Sustainability in Cities An Holistic Experimental and Numerical Impact Assessment of Urban Overheating and Related Heat Mitigation Strategies on Energy Consumption, Indoor Comfort, Vulnerability and Heat-Related Mortality and Morbidity in Cities* *Energy and Buildings*, 217 (110002)
- 2020: **Yenneti, K.** *Measurement of Poverty In: Leal Filho W., Azul A., Brandli L., Lange Salvia A., Özuyar P., Wall T. (eds) No Poverty. Encyclopedia of the UN Sustainable Development Goals*. Springer, Cham
- 2020: **Yenneti, K.** *Genesis and Measurement of Multidimensional Poverty Index*. In: Leal Filho W., Azul A., Brandli L., Lange Salvia A., Özuyar P., Wall T. (eds) *No Poverty. Encyclopedia of the UN Sustainable Development Goals*. Springer, Cham
- 2020: **Sikka, G.** *Moving Beyond Economic Analysis: Assessing The Socio-Cultural Impacts of Displacement and Resettlement by Sardar Sarovar Project, India in Geography, Environment, Sustainability, Vol.13, No.3, pp. 90-101, Russian Geographical Society*, <https://doi.org/10.24057/2071-9388-2019-165>
- 2020: **Sikka, G.** (Co-authored) *A Survey dataset to evaluate the changes in mobility and transportation due to COVID-19 travel restrictions in Australia, Brazil, China, Ghana, India, Iran, Italy, Norway, South Africa, United States, Data in Brief, Volume 33, pp 106459* , <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2020.106459>
- 2020: **Sikka, G.** (Co-authored) [Survey Data Regarding Perceived Air Quality In Australia, Brazil, China, Ghana, India, Iran, Italy, Norway, South Africa, United States Before And During Covid-19 Restrictions](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2020.106169), *Data in Brief, Vol.32, pp. 106169* DOI : <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2020.106169>
- 2020: Patra, P., Devi, R. and **Sikka, G.,** *Smart Agriculture- Ancient Wisdom and Modern Technology*, Rawat Publications, India
- 2020: Sharma, M. & **Sikka, G.** (February 2020) “Taking a Path Less Traveled” in *Teacher Plus*, can be accessed at <http://www.teacherplus.org/taking-a-path-less-travelled/>

- 2020: **Sikka, G.** as a Contributor in “Covid is a Feminist Issue” (May, 2020) Royal Geographical Society Gender and Feminist Geographies Research Group Blog Post accessed at <https://gfgrg.co.uk/covid-is-a-feminist-issue>
- 2020: Irvine, P. M., **Memela, S.**, Dlongolo, Z.N. and Kepe, Navigating Community and Place through Colloquial Street Names in Fingo Village, Makhanda (Grahamstown). Urban Forum
- 2020: **Moroşanu G.A.**, Zaharia, L., Ioana – Toroimac, G., (2020), An integrated methodology to estimate the contribution of environmental factors controlling the spatial variation of total dissolved solids. Application on Jiu River Basin (Romania). Conference paper in CEST2019 Springer Proceedings (in press).
- 2020: Zaharia, L., **Moroşanu, G.A.**, Toroimac, G., Inundațiile din orasul Tecuci: rolul factorilor naturali și antropici. In Hazard, vulnerabilitate și reziliența la inundații în România. Abordări la diferite scări spațiale (Bălțeanu D., Micu D., Chendeș V. - ed), Edit. Academiei Române, Bucharest.
- 2020: Zaharia, L., Grecu, F., Ioana - Toroimac, G., **Moroşanu, G.A.**, Repères des relations géographiques franco-roumaines en climatologie, géomorphologie et hydrologie à l'Université de Bucarest. Romanian Journal of Geography/ Revue roumaine de Géographie, Volume Papers of the Romanian-French Forum (2018) / Études et communications du Forum roumain-français (2018), 105 – 123
- 2020: Cai L., Janowicz K., Mai G., Yan B., and **Zhu, R.** Traffic transformer: capturing the continuity and periodicity of time series for traffic forecasting. Transactions in GIS, 24(3), 736-755.
- 2020: Mai G., Janowicz K., Cai L., **Zhu, R.**, Regalia B., Yan B., and Shi M. SE-KGE: A location-aware knowledge graph embedding model for geographic question answering and spatial semantic lifting. Transactions in GIS, 24(3), 623-655.
- 2020: Mai G., Janowicz K., Yan B., **Zhu, R.**, Cai L., and Lao N. Multi-scale representation learning for spatial feature distributions using grid cells. In: Proceedings of International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR 2020). April 26 - 30, 2020, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- 2020: **Becerra, M. J.**, Pimentel, M. A., De Souza, E. B., & Tovar, G. I. Geospatiality of climate change perceptions on coastal regions: A systematic bibliometric analysis. Geography and Sustainability, 1(3), 209-219. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geosus.2020.09.002>

c. The current (accurate) URL of the commission’s website.

<http://igu.younggeographers.org/>

It serves also as on-line archive of the Task Force with all meetings, conference alerts, job opportunities available, as well as photo galleries related to the Task Force activities. The website represents the major tool for exchange of information among the members of the Task Force and other young scholars.

<https://www.facebook.com/IGUYECG/>

IGU-YECG has expanded its online presence through running a fully fledged, active and updated Facebook page. Regular updates on IGU meetings, IGU-YECG events, young scholar competitions, members’ updates and other relevant information is uploaded on the page. A Facebook group is also in process to share academic resources useful for early career academics like Teaching materials, geography promotional material and new research.

E. Archival Contributions

All the reports of meetings were sent to IGU secretariat. We use our Task Force website as a kind of archive. It offers all available meeting reports, photo gallery representing our meetings.

F. Productive Use of previous IGU grant like supporting young scholars, publications and seminars from Low Income Countries.

No funds have been utilized due to ongoing Covid-19 crisis

This report is structured following the instructions of the IGU Executive Committee.