

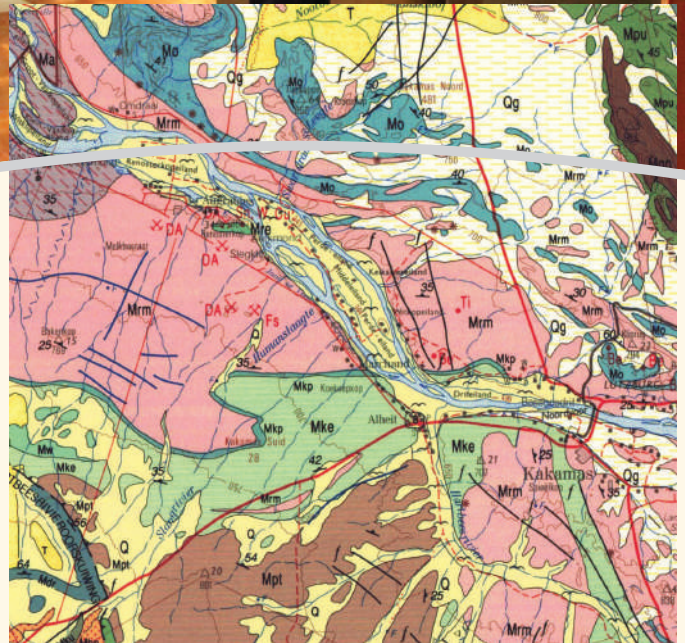


**Council for Geoscience**

# **COUNCIL FOR GEOSCIENCE**

**CORPORATE PROFILE**





# OVERVIEW

The Council for Geoscience (CGS) is one of the national science councils of South Africa. The CGS is the legal successor of the Geological Survey of South Africa, which was formed in 1912 by the amalgamation of three former surveys, the oldest of which — the Geological Commission of the Cape of Good Hope — was founded in 1895. The Geoscience Act, Act 100 of 1993, as amended, established the CGS in its present form. The CGS is listed as a Schedule 3A Public Entity in terms of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) (Act No. 1 of 1999). The CGS is a multidisciplinary institution empowered by diverse and highly skilled researchers who conduct world-class geoscientific research in order to contribute to:

- Mineral and Energy Development
- Water Security
- Efficient Land Use
- Infrastructure Development
- Geo-hazards Mapping (Community Safety)
- Innovation
- Geoscience Diplomacy.

The CGS employs a number of geoscientific mapping tools and technologies to understand the nature of the geology for the benefit of South Africa and the world.

- The CGS hosts and operates a number of key scientific assets that enable the development and dissemination of geoscientific data and knowledge. These include:
- Analytical services which host a number of laboratories.
- The National Core Library which hosts hundreds of kilometres of borehole core.
- National Geoscience Museum which has the largest fossil collection in Africa.
- The national seismic network which monitors local and global seismic activity.



## **GEOHAZARDS, INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE**

The CGS provides up-to-date disaster susceptibility information and risk analysis to assist in the formulation of risk management plans. Through focussed research on, inter alia, landslides, seismicity, dolomite-linked subsidence, mine seismicity and problem soils, the CGS aims to reduce the impacts of geo-hazards across the nation.

## **WATER AND ENVIRONMENT**

The functionality of the CGS is supported by a Laboratory that performs a wide range of analytical services such as; Petrography, Geochemistry, Petrophysics, Coal Science and Hydrochemistry. The CGS also expands geoscience education through its Museum and Library and houses an extensive core record at its Core Repository. The CGS strives to constantly upgrade these facilities in line with global innovative trends.

# **PRODUCTS, SERVICES AND FOCUS AREAS**

## **GEOSCIENCE MAPPING**

This is the core function of the CGS and forms the basis from which geoscientific products are derived, both onshore and offshore. Several disciplines and mapping techniques are employed, including, but not limited to, geology, geophysics, geochemistry, geochronology, geotechnical studies, marine surveys, palaeontology, spectral geology and sedimentology.

## **MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES**

The CGS collects and generates information and knowledge on mineral and energy resource potential in South Africa. This pre-competitive geoscience information is used to identify mineral provinces on a regional scale.

The CGS also advises the South African government on mining-related issues to inform science-backed policy decisions on the sustainable development of mineral resources.



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*The CGS invests in building human capital through education and training, which it supports through its bursary and internship programmes.*

## **PRODUCTS, SERVICES AND FOCUS AREAS** (Continued)

### **SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

With Safety, Health and Environment being one of the core values of the organisation, the CGS strives to conduct all its geoscientific activities in a manner which does not harm people and the environment.

The CGS carries out its work in accordance with the applicable organisational and national policies, aligned with international best practice.

### **BLACK ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT AND TRANSFORMATION**

The CGS complies with the requirements of South Africa's BBBEE legislative framework.

### **GEOSCIENCE COMMUNICATION AND CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

The CGS disseminates geoscientific data and reports through a dedicated data portal (<https://maps.geoscience.org.za/portal/apps/sites/#/interactivewebmap>).

The CGS invests in building human capital through education and training, which it supports through its bursary and internship programmes.

### **GEOGRAPHIC FOOTPRINT**

The CGS has a national footprint in South Africa, with its headquarters situated in Silverton in the City of Tshwane. It has regional offices in five other provinces, namely the Western Cape, the Northern Cape, Limpopo, KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape. The CGS has undertaken several projects in many African countries, particularly the SADC region. The CGS also carries out geoscientific projects globally.



## CGS AT WORK

Some of the critical milestones that the CGS has achieved:

Regional soil geochemical sampling and local follow-up investigations, particularly in the Northern Cape and Mpumalanga Provinces. The results of these surveys will be used to characterise potential mineralising systems and to contribute towards accelerating sustainable mineral development in these regions.

A multidisciplinary baseline investigation in the southern Karoo. This study aims to characterise the natural environmental baseline conditions in the southern Karoo, prior to mineral development. Significant, and previously undefined, groundwater aquifers were identified during this research. The work resulted in the provision of groundwater to the drought-stricken southern Karoo community of Beaufort West.

Research into geothermal energy and carbon capture, utilisation and storage. This initiative aims to contribute to the production of renewable energy and to decrease the carbon footprint of South Africa.



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## CONTACT DETAILS

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