Call for Participation

Workshop: Archean Shallow-water Environments: Moodies Group, Barberton Greenstone Belt, South Africa

October 5 – 10, 2017; Barberton, South Africa

We invite applications for participation in a field workshop to develop a full proposal for drilling and recovering core from sedimentary and (sub-)volcanic strata of the Moodies Group.

The Moodies Group of the BGB (~ 3.22 Ga) represents one the world’s oldest well-preserved shallow-water strata. Its mostly quartzose siliciclastics and minor volcanics, up to 3.5 km thick and deposited within a few Ma, allow the detailed analysis and interpretation of Archean surface processes in a regional and temporal context. Its dominantly coastal, tidal-deltaic and fluvial facies, including BIFs, microbial mats, and paleosols, are ideal to combine information from adjacent terrestrial and marine settings. All strata are lower-greenschist facies (ca. 320-380°C) and dip subvertically.

The workshop will visit potential drill sites in the BGB that combine a variety of lithologies and facies ranging from alluvial to prodelta, discuss the drilling objectives, identify and prioritize sites and develop the rationale and scientific basis for a full drilling proposal, followed by science proposals to funding entities.

We invite researchers from the international scientific community and representing a very broad range of disciplines, including but not limited to sedimentology/stratigraphy, geomicrobiology, isotope and sedimentary geochemistry, geochronology, volcanology, sedimentary and low-grade metamorphic petrology, paleobiology, -climatology, -pedology, and -magnetism, and structural geology/tectonics to participate in the workshop. ICDP will support travel and expenses for selected participants.

Please submit a brief application with contact details, 2-page CV, and a 2-page summary of relevant expertise and intended contributions to the workshop to Christoph Heubeck (christoph.heubeck@uni-jena.de) prior to July 27, 2017.

Participants will be selected by a steering committee and invited on the basis of their relevance to the aims of the project and the need for a balanced representation of expertise and disciplines. Preference will be given to scientists from ICDP member countries.

For more information, see https://cms.rz.uni-jena.de/igwahg/Arbeitsgruppe/Moodies.html