

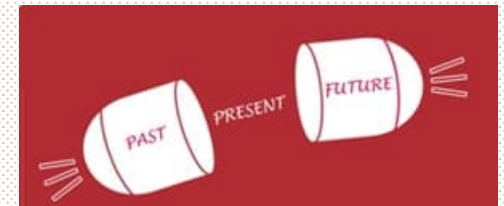
# South America region HTC Activity Update Report

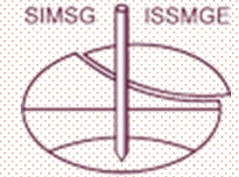
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Authorised by:

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# Disclaimer

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1. This HTC activity update report has been prepared for reference and use by the HTC teams in their work and is shared on the HTC website for general information. This report should not be taken as accurate or complete, but an indication of status of the HTC work.
2. Each region's HTC team started work at differing times, and has focussed on specific areas, and therefore there will be gaps in the reports, which are to a set template. These gaps may be addressed at a later stage.
3. Each HTC regional team welcomes individual members of the ISSMGE who wish to provide help in the HTC work. Contact can be made via details provided at the end of this report.
4. Comments, suggestions, and notification of any errors or omissions can be made to the HTC team via the contact tab on the HTC website.



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# Vision and desired end point

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Collaboration among Member Societies

leading to

development of profession, increased industry-academia collaboration  
and stronger ISSMGE brand in South America



# Objectives

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In the South America region

1. Increase in communication and sharing within Member Societies
2. Increase participation in global initiatives
3. Address critical regional issues.

# Strategy

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- To hold HTC sessions in a number of Member Societies, and regional events, and use these events to build a collective understanding of ISSMGE in the South America region, and to act to strengthen the ISSMGE brand in South America



# HTC South America

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## Team representatives

- André P Assis, VP South America region, Advisor
- Hugo E Acosta-Martinez, HTC Lead South America and North America
- Daniella Pollak Aguiló, ISSMGE Board Member and Co-Chair of 17PCSMGE Organising Committee (OC)
- Gonzalo Montalva, Advisor and Co-Chair of 17PCSMGE OC
  
- In discussions with representatives from region to increase number of core group members.

# Work completed and reporting

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1. General: An HTC session is being planned for the Pan-American conference to be held in La Serena, Chile, in November 2024.
2. Establishing contacts for HTC project at each member society in the region
3. Publications
  - A report from the Pan-American session will be prepared for the ISSMGE Bulletin.



# Challenges

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- i. The South America region covers a large geographical area and diverse population, extending to Central America and the Caribbean. The main two languages are Spanish and Portuguese.
- ii. The ISSMGE and the role it plays in the advancement of geotechnical engineering may not be well communicated or understood across the region. Historically the contributions and interactions from Member Societies in the region have been limited, with a few exceptions of more active countries (e.g. Brazil).
- iii. The concept of HTC and the role it can play in bringing about stronger collaboration among Member Societies may also not be well communicated or understood, as well as the support that the wider ISSMGE can provide to the region

# Time line

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2024 – Planned HTC session at 17<sup>th</sup> Pan-American Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, La Serena, Chile

2025 and 2026 – Further potential sessions to be discussed with regional VP in GeoShanghai 2024. This may include COBRAMSEG 2026 (Brasilia, Brazil) and other regular conferences in the region.



# Supporting Discoverers

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- i. Working with YMPG team
- ii. Young Engineers conferences
- iii. Social Media (including posts in languages other than English)

# Next Steps

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- i. Formalise an HTC team for the South America region
- ii. Start regular and scheduled regional team meetings, beyond the session planning for the Pan-American event (Chile, Nov 2024).
- iii. Identify potential events hosted by Member Societies and regional events to hold further HTC sessions, and act to hold these sessions
- iv. Encourage increase in Discoverer numbers in the region



# How you can get involved

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- Contact
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