

## eGY activities and their followup

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The eGY is the Electronic Geophysical Year, 2008-2008 and is one of the four international science years that mark the 50-year anniversary of the highly successful 1957-1958 International Geophysical Year (IGY). The eGY builds on the IGY legacy of providing open and ready access to data and information about the Earth and its space environment, but it does so in the context of modern information and communication technology capabilities.

The official launch of eGY took place on 7 July 2007 at the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) General Assembly in Perugia, Italy.

The four "IGY+50" programs -the IPY, the IYPE, the eGY, and the IHY- met in Tsukuba, Japan, on 10-13 November 2008. An outcome of the meeting was the "Tsukuba Declaration" that advocates continued cooperation among the global science community, national academies of sciences, research funding agencies, industry, national governments, and inter-governmental bodies so that society and its leaders will have at their disposal the best possible data and information to make the decisions necessary for a sustainable future for humankind. Participants recognized the unique value of conducting international science year programs and envisaged an IGY+75 or even an IGY+100 exercise.