



Ciencia y Tecnología
Secretaría de Ciencia, Humanidades, Tecnología e Innovación



FIELD INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON PALEOPEDOLOGY

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

Deciphering the ancient anthropic landscape transformation in the southern Maya lowlands in Mexico

Palenque, Mexico, **February 19 – February 25, 2026**



*Palenque archaeological site.
Photo courtesy: E. Solleiro*

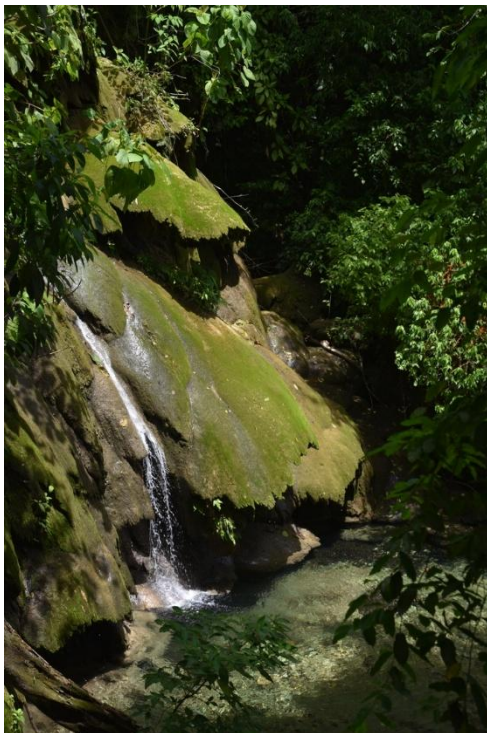
The Maya lowlands in the Mexican territory represent a region between the coastline of the Gulf of Mexico to the north, the Sierra de Chiapas to the south, and the Candelaria and Grijalva Rivers to the East and West, respectively. This unique cultural delimitation has been considered homogeneous; however, cultural diversity is vast both in space and time. This region played a key role in the development of ancient Mesoamerican cultures.

The objective of the workshop is to showcase the diverse landscapes occupied by the ancient Mayas, ranging from the northern alluvial plain of the Usumacinta River, where people primarily developed small and rural towns, to the highlands of the Sierra de Chiapas, where monumental and well-organized cities were constructed.

The workshop will consist of two-day conferences and five days of field excursions. The conference will be held in the modern city of Palenque, where a well-organized infrastructure provides excellent conditions for presentations and accommodation.

During the first two days of the workshop, oral and poster presentations will be conducted. The scientific topics include:

- Soil memory: a key guide for understanding past environmental and human impacts.
- Micromorphology of key pedogenetic processes. Linking microscopic observations and analytical data for differentiating anthropic and natural soil processes.
- Classification of soils in archaeological sites.
- Pedogenesis of anthropogenic soils and ecosystems.
- Novel methods, techniques, and quantitative approaches in paleosol studies.



Travertines of Palenque. Soil profile at the entrance of Palenque archaeological site. Photo courtesy: E. Solleiro

During the field excursion, visits to the following sites are planned:

February 18. Arrival in Palenque. Welcome reception at hotel Tren Maya Palenque (see instructions below).

February 19. Oral presentations at Palenque archaeological museum (from 9 to 18 h). Visit to the Museum.

February 20. Palenque archaeological site. Visit to the site and to Group IV structures to show the geoarchaeological results. Rio soil profile around the site.

February 21. Out-of-site profiles: Museo and Otulum. Poster presentations.

February 22. Natural soil profiles at the Tren Maya hotel: Slope and Hilltop.

In the afternoon, transfer to Budsilhá.

February 23. Budsilhá archeological site and natural soil profiles. Soil in a karstic pocket (Maria profile), soils with and without gypsum in the wetland.

February 24. Transfer to Usumacinta River. The soils of the Chaschoc-Seja: modern and ancient land use.

February 25. High river terrace profile. Transfer to Villahermosa. End of the excursion at the hotel La Venta Inn (this accommodation is not included in the registration fee).



Tren Maya hotel Profiles. Photos courtesy: D. Valera and E. Solleiro



Soil profile at the wetlands of Budsilhá. Photo courtesy: E. Solleiro

CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS:

International Union of Soil Science, Division 1. Soil in Space and Time,
Commission 1.6 - Paleopedology.

International Union for Quaternary Research, INQUA Paleopedology Working
Group.

Instituto de Geología, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM).

Instituto de Ecología A.C. (INECOL).

NATIONAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

- Instituto de Geología, UNAM

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ABSTRACTS

Contributors are invited to submit their papers electronically, to solleiro@geologia.unam.mx. Please prepare your abstract in English, using Times New Roman 12-point font and single spacing on one letter-size page. Include line drawings, tables, and other relevant elements, with 2 cm of free space on each margin.

Contributors will be informed about the acceptance of their presentation as either an oral or poster presentation within four weeks. All abstracts must be received by September 15, 2025, at the latest.

REGISTRATION FEE

The cost of the workshop is 1200 USD. This price includes:

Conference and field excursions.

Double room accommodation at the hotels in the different places of the excursion.

Refreshments during the conference.

All breakfasts and lunches during the field excursion.

Transportation to the sites.

In Budsilhá, dinners are also included (February 22-23).

In other places, dinner is not included in the price.

Payment information

For ACH delivery:

- Bank Routing Number: 111000614
- Account Number: 101693118
- Account Name: UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AUTONOMA DE MEXICO

For Wire Transfers:

- Bank Routing Number: 021000021
- SWIFT Code: CHASUS33
- General Bank Reference Address: JPMorgan Chase New York, NY 10017
- Account Number: 101693118
- Account Name: UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AUTONOMA DE MEXICO

If you have any issues with the payment, please don't hesitate to contact us.

If you are a Mexican researcher, please get in touch with us directly for further information.

The workshop is limited to 30 participants. If you are willing to participate, we ask that you register in advance.

PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS

Please, to verify if your country of citizenship requires a visa, follow the link to the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

http://www.inm.gob.mx/index.php/page/Paises_Visa/en.html

In case you need a visa to enter the country, please find the steps to get it here:

<http://www.sre.gob.mx/en/index.php/requirements-to-enter-mexico>

We will provide the invitation letter.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES	
June 30, 2025	2 nd announcement
September 15, 2025	Submission of registration form and abstract
September 30, 2025	Abstracts acceptance
October 15, 2025	Early bird registration deadline Notification about visa support
November 01, 2025	3 rd announcement
February 18, 2026	Arrival of participants
February 19-25, 2026	Workshop activities
February 26, 2026	Departure of participants

The conference language will be English; no translation will be available.

LOGISTICS:

All participants must arrive to the “[Hotel Tren Maya Palenque](#)”.



We recommend that you fly to **Aeropuerto Internacional Carlos Rovirosa Pérez**, located near **Villahermosa city**, and then take an [ADO bus](#) to **Palenque city**.

