



Federal Agency for
Cartography and Geodesy



Germany's offer to host the Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence (GGCE) and Status of the establishment of the GGCE

Eight Plenary Meeting UN-GGIM: Europe | Side Event GGCE
14.10.2021

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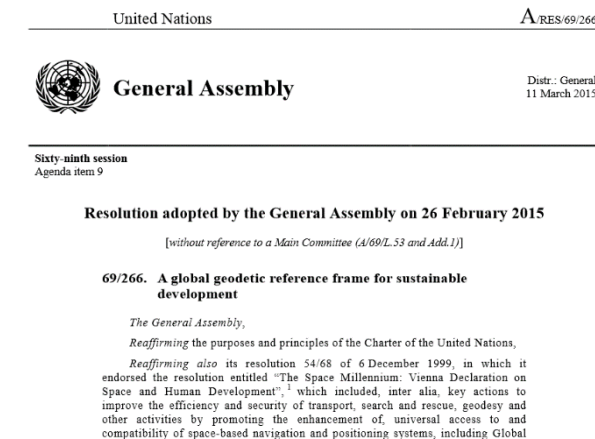


Content

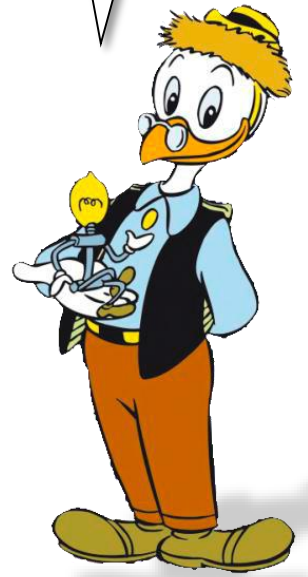
1. Implementation of the UN resolution Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF) – Motivation and basis for establishment of the Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence (GGCE)
2. German application for the GGCE - role and tasks
3. Status of the establishment of the GGCE

Global Geodetic Reference Frame - GGRF

- UN-GGIM resolution for a “Global Geodetic Reference Frame for Sustainable Development (GGRF)”
- Adopted on 26 February 2015 by the UN General Assembly
- Main GGRF goals:
 - Establish an authoritative, reliable, highly accurate, and global, geospatial referencing infrastructure
 - Support the collection, integration and utilization of all other geospatial data
 - Improve earth observation and positioning



GGRF –
a great idea!

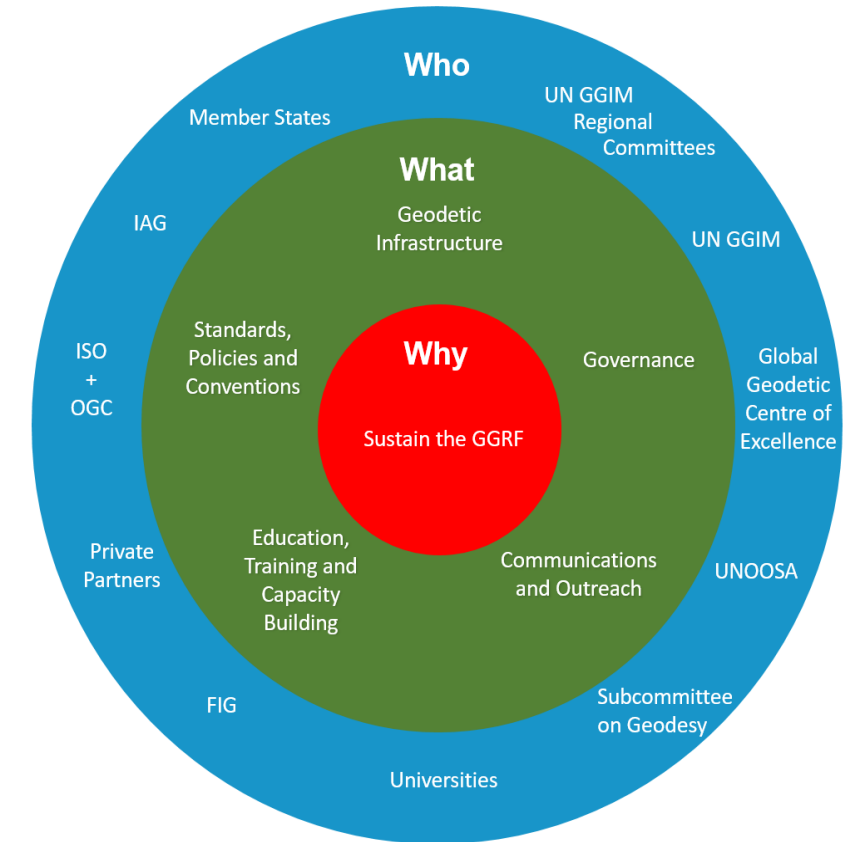


Many players involved in the Global Geodetic Reference Frame

To sustain the GGRF the support and cooperation of Member States and organisations are needed!

Global players, amongst others:

- Member States
 - Build and maintain the geodetic infrastructure
- International Association of Geodesy: IAG
 - operational services and product delivery
- International Federation of Surveyors: FIG
 - education, training and capacity development
- United Nations (Statistics Division)
 - works with and support Member States



Why we need to work together to sustain the GGRF, what needs to be done and who can help.

Role of the UN-GGIM Subcommittee of Geodesy

- In 2017, the UN-GGIM Committee of Experts established a permanent “Subcommittee on Geodesy” (SCoG)
- Main tasks of the SCoG:
 - Sustaining realisation of and access to geodetic infrastructure
 - Support and collaborate with Member States and organisations



Source: INEGI

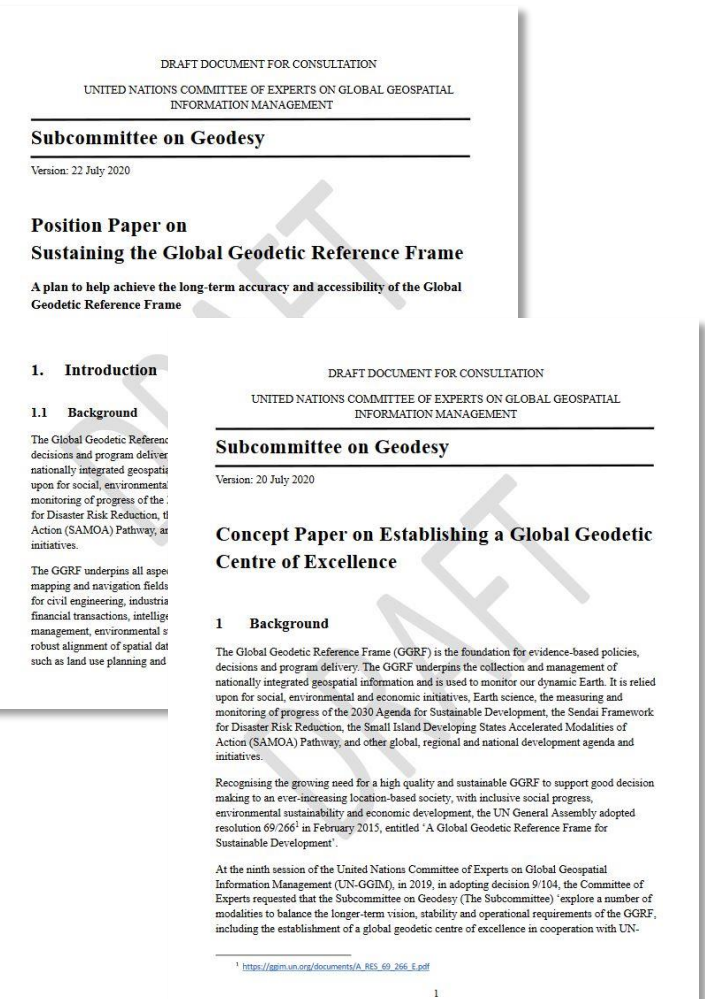
GGRF - Challenges

- Biggest European challenges related to the GGRF [European Geodesy Forum, 23.06.2021, Slido poll]
 - insufficient collaboration and coordination
 - insufficient funding
 - reliance on in kind contribution
 - lack of capacity and capability
 - lack of redundancy

A new player is born: Global Geodetic Center of Excellence - GGCE

The Subcommittee on Geodesy was tasked to develop a

- **Position Paper** on “Sustaining the GGRF”
 - describes the current state and future requirements of the GGRF
 - introduces a range of work packages for each of the five focus areas
 - introduces the potential and role of a Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence
- **Concept Paper** on “Establishing a Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence” (GGCE)
 - describes the potential and envisaged tasks of the GGCE
- Both reference documents were adopted by UN-GGIM-11 in 2021!



Tasks of the Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence – GGCE

Tasks of the GGCE are tailored to five focus areas:

- Enhance global cooperation and coordination
- Strengthen geodetic infrastructure
- Assist Member States in line with standards, policies and conventions
- Support education, training and capacity building
- Improve communication and raise awareness



Establishment of the GGCE in Germany

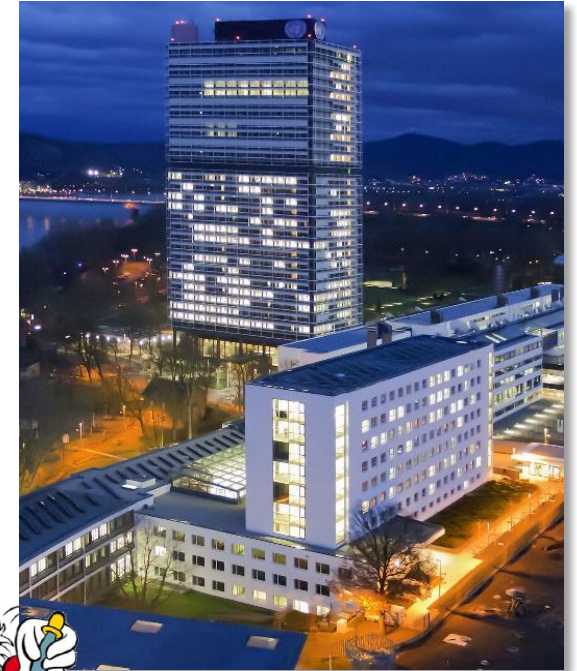
Offer of the German Federal Government was accepted and supported on 11.09.2020 at the 10th UN-GGIM Committee of Experts!

Main objectives of the GGCE

- become the Central ‚Point of Contact‘ of the UN for the
 - Coordination of the development of a worldwide, state-approved geodetic infrastructure
 - Bundling the global activities of the UN member states
 - contribute to the improvement of earth observation and positioning

The GGCE in Germany

- will be located at the UN Campus Bonn
- will be financed and supported by BKG
- will be supported with virtual secondment by Norway



UN Campus Bonn; Source: Press office of the city of Bonn



What's next?

Next Steps

- Negotiations on a
 - 'Agreement' (streamline the tasks for the GGCE Bonn)
 - 'Verbal Notes' (infrastructure on the UN campus)
- Negotiations between the German Federal Government and the United Nations began in autumn 2020
- Establishment of the GGCE in 2021?!
- Develop participation of other European partners in the GGCE
 - Financial (trust fund)
 - In-kind contributions
 - Letter of collaboration
 - Work Plan



President Prof. Dr. Paul Becker at the 10th session of the UN-GGIM Expert Committee