



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
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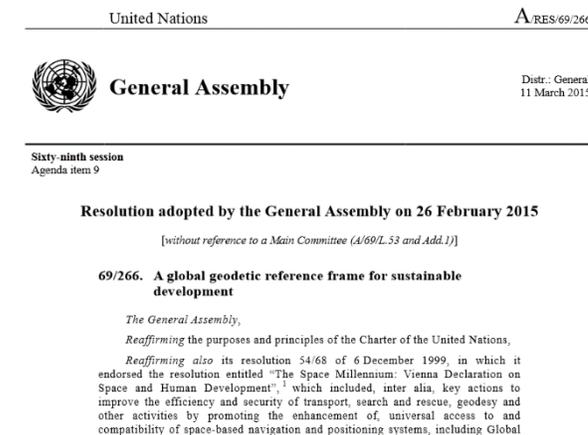


Content

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

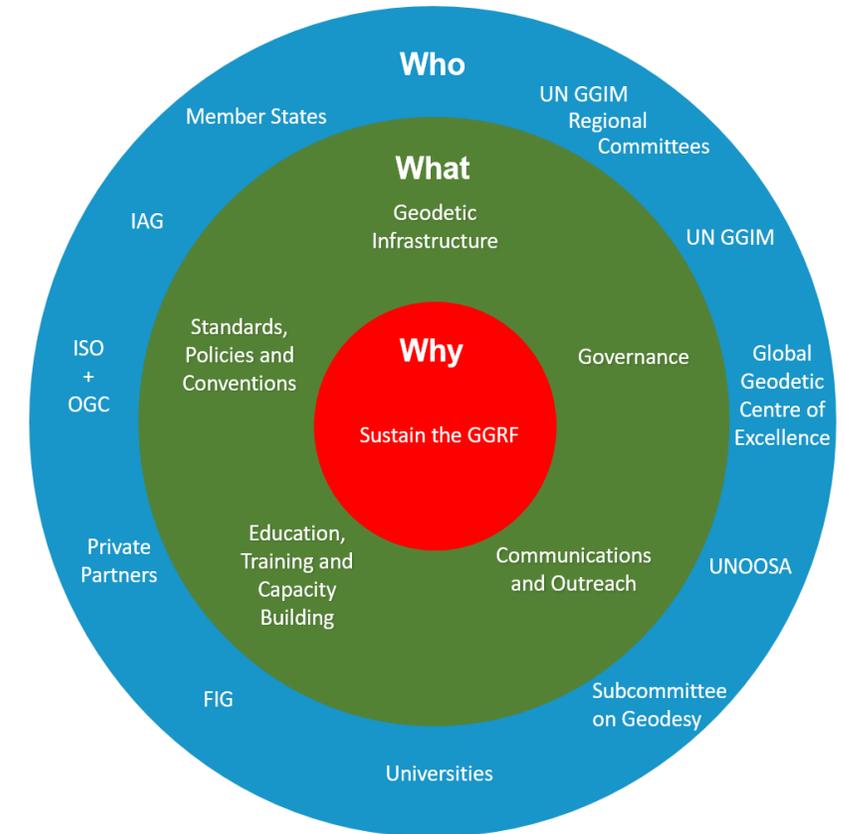


Many players involved in the Global Geodetic Reference Frame

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

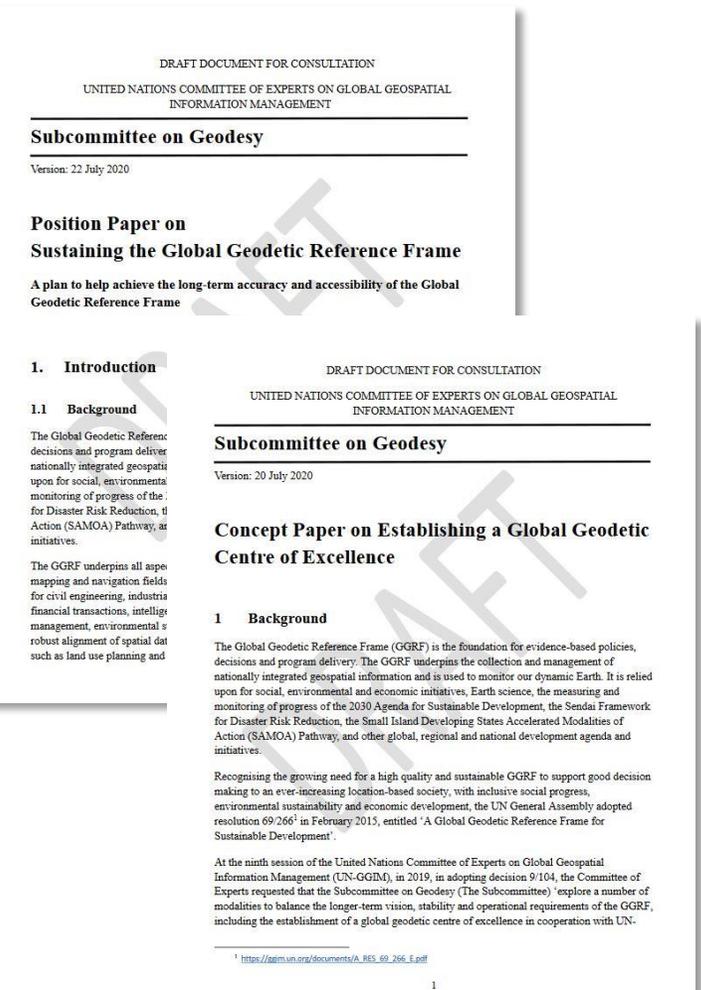
GGRF - Challenges

- 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

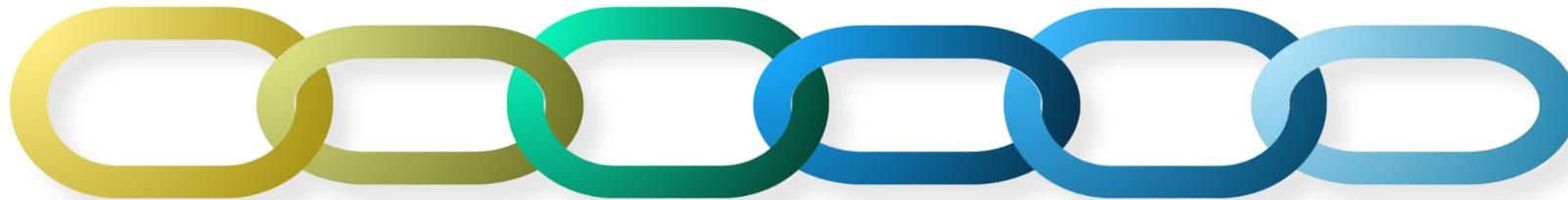
- **Position Paper** on “Sustaining the GGRF”
 - describes the current state and future requirements of the GGRF
 - introduces a range of work packages for each of the five focus areas
 - introduces the potential and role of a Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence
- **Concept Paper** on “Establishing 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

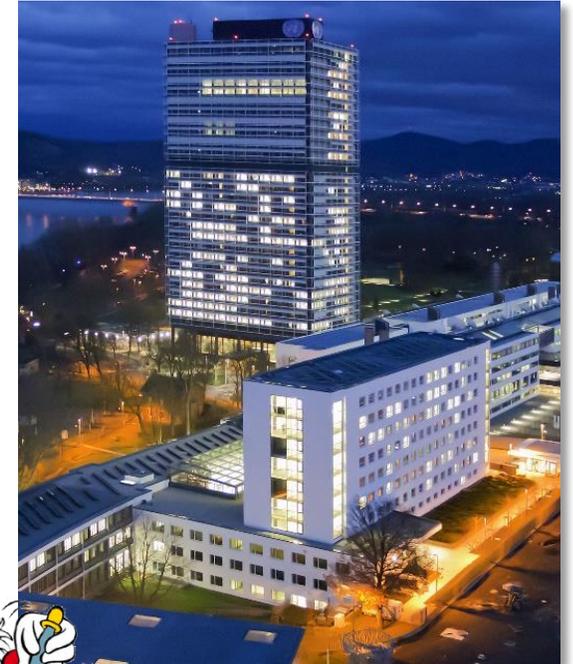
Offer of the German Federal Government was accepted and supported on 11.09.2020 at the 10th UN-GGIM Committee of Experts!

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