

UN-GGIM: Europe - Community of Interest on the Geodetic Reference Frame

Terms of Reference

Mandate

At its Eighth Plenary Session in October 2021, the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management's Regional Committee for Europe (UN-GGIM: Europe) agreed and adopted its Revised Strategy 2022-2027. In adopting the Strategy UN-GGIM: Europe Plenary also agreed the Mission of UN-GGIM: Europe to *Maximise the use of geospatial information in Europe for a safer and more sustainable world. Through identifying opportunities and solving common challenges across the Europe Region. By collaborating with partners to enhance the use of geospatial data and its integration with statistics to inform and drive actions.*

Critical for the successful delivery of the Strategy is the [UN-GGIM: Europe Work Plan](#). At its Ninth Plenary Session in July 2022, the UN-GGIM: Europe agreed and adopted the 2022 Work Plan which covers five lines of work, which align with the Mission of UN-GGIM: Europe, support the three pillars of Sharing Knowledge; Raising Awareness; and Strategic Leadership, which are central to the Strategy. These Terms of Reference concern the Geodetic Reference Frame (GRF) line of work.

Objectives

The UN-GGIM: Europe Community of Interest on Geodetic Reference Frames – hereafter known as UN-GGIM: Europe CoI GRF – will:

- Provide support and actions that further the aims of the Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence which is established in Bonn, Europe;
- Align and support the UN-GGIM Subcommittee on Geodesy's priorities for the Global Geodetic Reference Frame, and to translate them into actions relevant for UN-GGIM: Europe;
- Act as a coordination body between technical and political level;
- Focus on growing and sustaining the geodesy profession;
- Provide support and input to the European Members States, as and when required.

Key Functions

Expected outputs include:

- Propose activities linked to the GGRF Position Paper and the objectives of the Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence;
- That the Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence has a wider pool of experts available to contribute to its work, and that European Members contribute where relevant;
- The avoidance of duplication of effort – making sure that activities at the regional level support the global activities, and the outputs are transferrable in to UN-GGIM: Europe;
- Development of a knowledge hub to support growing and sustaining the geodesy profession;
- Providing regional use cases and examples to promote geodesy.

Governance

The CoI GRF works under the auspices of UN-GGIM: Europe and will report directly to the Regional Plenary on at least an annual basis. UN-GGIM: Europe Executive Committee shall review the work of the Community of Interest and may revise these Terms of Reference based on the work completed and any new direction that the Executive Committee may like the Community of Interest to consider.

Membership and Composition

Membership of the Community of Interest is open to any Member State and Observer Organisation who is eligible to take part in UN-GGIM: Europe activities as set out in the [Articles of the Europe Region of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management](#).

Membership will be reviewed on an annual basis during the last meeting of the CoI of each calendar year; the review will be based on actual participation and contribution from the members.

Chairs

The CoI GRF will, in collaboration with the Executive Committee, elect a Chair from a Member State who shall provide leadership and coordination including the setting of priorities of the CoI GRF. The Chair will work closely with the ExCom lead who will provide guidance ensuring that activities remain aligned to the UN-GGIM: Europe Strategy.

Secretariat

The CoI GRF, under the leadership of the Chair, shall be expected to develop the agenda for Community of Interest meetings, maintain its documentation, and undertake relevant internal and external communications from the Group. The UN-GGIM: Europe Secretariat will be able to support the CoI GRF with guidance when appropriate and requested.

Methods of Work

The Community of Interest will:

- Meet regularly -about every three months unless not deemed necessary– subsets of the group can meet more frequently if needed;
- Use virtual meetings as much as possible;
- Aim for one in person event per year, held in conjunction with other events to minimise travel requirements/maximise participation;
- Use a document management store/repository to share documents and promote collaborative working.

Reporting

The Chair, with the support of the UN-GGIM: Europe ExCom lead, shall coordinate, monitor and report on activities of the CoI GRF to the UN-GGIM: Europe Executive Committee. The CoI GRF will also report to the annual Plenary Session of UN-GGIM: Europe providing written documentation and presentations as relevant.

Review of the Terms of Reference

The Community of Interest may, in consultation with the UN-GGIM: Europe Executive Committee review these terms of reference as the need arises, to ensure that the CoI GRF carries out its functions efficiently and effectively based on its mandate.