Education, Training and Capacity Building Efforts in support of the GGRF Roadmap Implementation Plan

Progress on the Proposed Five-Year Education, Training, and Capacity Building Implementation Plan

Mikael Lilje (Sweden), Focus Group Lead
Augustin Bamouni (Burkina Faso), Graeme Blick (New Zealand),
Allison Craddock (United States), Paul Cruddace (United Kingdom),
Basara Miyahara (Japan), Maria Cristina Pacino (International Association of Geodesy),
Dan Roman (United States), Robert Sarib (Australia),
Sharafat Gadimova (UNOOSA International Committee on GNSS)

Nov 2018
Overview

• ETCB Focus Group Mission
• ETCB Objectives
• Recent Activities: Capacity Building Survey
• Looking Forward with the Roadmap Implementation Plan
• From Idea to Action: First Steps with the Roadmap
GGRF Roadmap Recommendations Highlights

• Actions must be taken to maintain and upgrade current national infrastructure and secure all Member States accurate access to the Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF)

• Member States are urged to support efforts to develop geodetic standards, and more openly share their data, standardized operating procedures, expertise, and technology

• **Actions must be taken to raise geodetic competence and skills, as a lack of geodetic capability currently limits utilization of the GGRF in many countries; and hinders their achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It also threatens the development and sustainability of the GGRF**

• Actions must be taken to raise the general awareness around the value proposition of the GGRF

• Actions must be taken to improve the GGRF governance mechanism, as this is needed to ensure the sustainability and improvement of the GGRF
Five years from now there will be:

- A higher level of geodetic technical capability, particularly among developing nations
- A developed capacity building programme that focuses at the regional level and emphasizes supporting efforts in developing nations
- Recognized certification and achievement documentation programs, supported by regular technical training courses and material that is openly available to all nations
- A permanent working group for UN Geodesy Education, Training, and Capacity Building established and operating under the auspices of the UN GGIM Subcommittee on Geodesy
- Documented evidence of geodetic education, training, and capacity building in support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
Objectives of the UN GGRF Education, Training, and Capability Building working group (1..3)

Development of Strategic Implementation Plan

- Develop a series of *measurable goals and objectives*.
- Establish a permanent ETCB working group, under the auspices of UN GGIM Subcommittee on Geodesy, to implement and measure progress against the strategy using these metrics.
- Develop a programme that ensures *balanced regional representation*.
- Prepare and implement an *annual openly available training programme* that includes workshops and the provision of technical material.
- Provide a regional mechanism to *develop and disseminate technical material*.
- Monitor the capacity training programme and its effectiveness through aforementioned metrics.

Funding

- Establish a *Geodesy Education and Capacity Building Fund* to support individual attendance at training schools, and access to online-based educational resources.
Objectives of the UN GGRF Education, Training, and Capability Building working group (2..3)

Educational Needs Assessment

• Using GGRF-wide and approved metrics, assess the geodesy training needs (and abundances) of each member state or region, particularly focused on providing resources to developing countries

• Establish a priority list of short- and long-term training needs, their objectives, and required resources for achievement

Geodetic Organizational Support, and Advocacy

• Maintain close contact with national and international agencies and organizations, including IAG, IAG Services (such as IGS), and FIG, who may provide funding, advocacy, or other technical support for training and capacity building
Objectives of the UN GGRF Education, Training, and Capability Building working group (3..3)

**NGO Collaboration**
- Work with the IAG and FIG (possibly also GEO and others) to establish and run technical workshops in, and with a focus on, developing countries

**University, Research Institute, and other Academic Collaboration**
- Work with geodesy technical and research institutes to develop and enhance geodesy training

**Support Progress Toward UN SDGs and Sendai Framework**
- Address the applicability of geodesy within the UN SDG target and indicator framework, and align the engagement of the SCG with the work of other SDG stakeholders.
**Vision**

Member States have the capability to develop, access, and maintain Global Geodetic Reference Frame

**Mission**

The UNCCIM Working Group on Geodesy sub-committee on capacity building will coordinate and facilitate capacity building with a particular focus on regional needs and Member States with less capacity.

**Goals**

- Development organisations invest in national and regional geodetic capacity building to ensure efficient access to, and utilisation of, the GGRF in developing countries
- Member States, in cooperation with the IAG, FIG, and other organisations, establish a global geodetic technical assistance program.
- Member States, which have the capacity, assist Member States with less capacity to build sufficient geodetic capacity to efficiently and accurately access and utilise the GGRF
- Member States take actions to ensure educational and research institutions recognised the importance of geodetic science, as well as increase the number and availability of geodetic courses in other associated degrees
- Member States openly share all geodetic skills.

**Activities**

- Develop a capacity building programme that ensures balanced regional representation
  - Encourage regional participation on the UNCCIM sub-committee on Geodesy
  - Work with regional groups to determine training needs at regional levels
- Prepare and implement an annual openly available training programme
  - Complete and promote the annual training programme
  - Ensure training material from workshops is made readily and openly available
  - Implement a policy of open availability for all materials and recordings from training programs/classes
- Prepare and implement an annual openly available training programme that includes workshops and the provision of technical material
  - Complete and promote the annual training programme
  - Ensure training material from workshops is made readily and openly available
  - Implement a policy of open availability for all materials and recordings from training programs/classes
- Provide a mechanism to develop and disseminate technical material
  - Implement an ETCB web page as a sub-page of the GGIM Sub-committee on Geodesy
  - Work with the GGRF, IAG Outreach and Communications Focus Group to ensure optimal development and delivery of educational and advocacy materials
- Work with stakeholders to ensure optimal development and delivery of educational and advocacy materials
  - Maintain close contact with national and international agencies and organisations, who may provide funding, advocacy, or other technical support for training and capacity building
  - Work with stakeholders to ensure cooperation and benefits for the strategy
  - Establish centers of training expertise and capability
  - Work with national agencies and international organisations to develop internationally recognised certification programs

**Measures of Success**

- All Member States have appropriate geodetic capacity to underpin the realisation of the sustainable development goals
- Geodetic education, skills, and capabilities are continuously developed and available to all Member States sufficient to underpin both GGRF and Member State sustainability and development
- A global geodetic technical assistance program exists.
- Those Member States wishing to contribute to the GGRF are supported through the provision of technical assistance, educational programs, and coaching. Targeted capability development may be required to allow for continuity of skills through time.
- Continuous improvement of geodetic expertise in developing and developed Member States, through participation in, and open sharing of, geodetic skills through conferences, meetings, and educational programs.
- Capability transfer occurs between existing experts and those emerging in this area.
- Sufficient resources are allocated to research programs promoting and underpinning GGRF development.
Current State: a Needs Assessment that is Globally Focused, and Regionally Oriented

Development organisations invest in national and regional geodetic capacity building to ensure efficient access to, and utilisation of, the GGRF in developing countries.

Develop a capacity building programme that ensures balanced regional representation:
- Encourage regional participation on the UNGGIM sub-committee on Geodesy
- Work with regional groups to determine training needs at regional levels

Using GGRF-wide and approved metrics, assess the geodesy training needs and capacities to assist or contribute, of each member state:
- Carry out a training needs analysis for all member states.
- Assess any surplus or abundant resources, and the ability to share these
- Establish a priority list of short term and longer-term training needs.
Recent Initiatives and Next Steps

• Provide a framework for Member States to identify their ‘Level’ of competency requirements
• Maintain a register of Member States self-reported ‘Level’ of competency, and professional and technical requirements
• Identify training and educational gaps for Member States, working on a regional basis where appropriate
  • Provide training modules and assist with running specialized training courses to fill gaps
  • Encourage other agencies to run specialized training where gaps have been identified
• Maintain a register of courses and training opportunities
• Maintain a register of trainers and training institutions
• Identify SDG and Sendai Framework indicators that benefit from or require geodetic data
Self-evaluation questionnaire sent out

• First version has been available for participation since April 2018; will continue to accept responses until the UNWGIC.

• 80 Responses as of September 2018

• Using the results from the questionnaire, we hope to present an implementation plan for the subcommittee to consider at its next meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Competency Requirements</th>
<th>Training provided by</th>
<th>Countries that might have one CORs and maintain a traditional geodetic network of reference marks – e.g. small Pacific Island Nations?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Basic understanding of:</td>
<td>Educational institutions – universities and polytechnic institutes, Government mapping agency, Private companies</td>
<td>Countries with small CORs network and those who adopt global Reference frames for their nation reference frames – e.g. Fiji?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The above plus knowledge of:</td>
<td>Educational institutions – universities and polytechs, UN-GGIM Geodesy Capacity Group, FIG, Government mapping agency, Private companies</td>
<td>Countries with a more extensive CORS and developing their own specialized national and vertical datum – e.g. New Zealand and Sweden?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The above plus high knowledge of:</td>
<td>Specialized courses – e.g. geoid school, UN-GGIM Geodesy Capacity Group, IAG and FIG, Government mapping agency, Private companies</td>
<td>Countries engaged in Global Reference frame determination and Geodesy Science - e.g. US, Australia and Germany?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>The above plus expert knowledge of:</td>
<td>IAG, Specialist training courses run by NASA/JPL – e.g. on VLBI or SLR, Private companies, Specialized software training courses – e.g. Bernese</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level</td>
<td>Competency Requirements</td>
<td>Training provided by</td>
<td>Countries that might have one CORs and maintain a traditional geodetic network of reference marks – e.g. small Pacific Island Nations?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Basic understanding of:</td>
<td>• Educational</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• GNSS</td>
<td>institutions –</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Reference frames,</td>
<td>universities and</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>including geoid models,</td>
<td>polytechnic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>vertical and horizontal</td>
<td>institutes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>datums</td>
<td>• Government</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>mapping agency</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Private companies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level</td>
<td>Competency Requirements</td>
<td>Training provided by</td>
<td>Countries with small CORs network and those who adopt global Reference frames for their nation reference frames – e.g. Fiji?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The above plus knowledge of:</td>
<td>• Educational institutions – universities and polytechs&lt;br&gt;• UN-GGIM Geodesy Capacity Group&lt;br&gt;• FIG&lt;br&gt;• Government mapping agency&lt;br&gt;• Private companies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Constructing, building and running a small CORs network&lt;br&gt;• GNSS processing using standard software - e.g. Trimble, Compass Solution (ComNav), LGO(Leica),....&lt;br&gt;• Least squares processing and provision of datum access&lt;br&gt;• Geoids models, precision, determinations and basic implementation&lt;br&gt;• Implementation of a vertical datum including use of geoid models</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level</td>
<td>Competency Requirements</td>
<td>Training provided by</td>
<td>Countries with a more extensive CORS and developing their own specialized national and vertical datum – e.g. New Zealand and Sweden?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The above plus high knowledge of:</td>
<td>• Specialized courses – e.g. geoid school</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Implementing and running large CORs networks</td>
<td>• UN-GGIM Geodesy Capacity Group</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• High end GNSS processing and datum access</td>
<td>• IAG and FIG</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Geoid model computation and implementation into a vertical datums</td>
<td>• Government mapping agency</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Monitoring earth dynamics and including in datum realization</td>
<td>• Private companies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Geodetic database management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level</td>
<td>Competency Requirements</td>
<td>Training provided by</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 4     | The above plus expert knowledge of:  
|       | - Reference frame determination and computation  
|       | - High end GNSS analysis and processing  
|       | - SLR including analysis and processing  
|       | - VLBI including analysis and processing  
|       | - Gravity collection, processing and geoid determination  
|       | - Analysis centre – combining various geodetic techniques to determine reference frame parameters  
|       | - Use of other potential geodetic techniques – e.g. DORIS and InSAR | IAG  
|       |       | Specialist training courses run by NASA/JPL – e.g. on VLBI or SLR  
|       |       | Private companies  
|       |       | Specialized software training courses – e.g. Bernese | Countries engaged in Global Reference frame determination and Geodesy Science - e.g. US, Australia and Germany? |
Countries that have responded. Currently 52 countries and 80 responses
Some preliminary results...

Based upon the table, what is your Member States current competency level?
Based upon the table, what is your Member States future required competency level
Does your Member State or Organization offer Reference Frame training or education?

79 responses

- 48.1% Yes
- 35.4% No
- 5.9% I do not know.
- 3.7% Not formally, but LINZ does provide ad-hoc webinars and conference sessions.
- 2.5% at basic level
- 2.5% Supports in regular basis the regional organization which conducts Africa3D.
- 2.5% at some Universities and geodetic institutions.
- 2.5% some courses from the universities...
Does your Member State or Organization offer Geodesy-related training or education?

78 responses

- Yes: 48.7%
- No: 41%
- I do not know: 5.7%
- Regular study of geodesy at the University of Ljubljana: 2.6%
- Not formally, but LINZ does provide ad-hoc webinars and conference sessions: 2.6%
- Offers short term basic and introductory courses: 2.6%
- At some Universities and geodetic institutions: 2.6%
- In Argentina some courses from the University of Buenos Aires: 2.6%
What barriers prevent you from achieving your desired level of competency?

70 responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barriers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funding; adequate high level expertise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time and money. Lack of understanding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to training, Funding allocation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of observatories and observation data, human resource and funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Few people and a small budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>time to dedicate only to this</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Políticas de estado, Recursos (presupuesto, infraestructura tecnológica, personal permanente calificado).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of training opportunities and lack of money to facilitate attendance of trainings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget constraints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge, materiel and moneys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All developments are only possible with a corresponding budget, which may not be assigned (due to government and research budget limitations).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What do you feel is needed to overcome the barriers to reaching your desired competency level?

68 responses

- Require hardware and software, training in terms of survey equipment and data handling, processing and analysis.
- Political will
- Political decision and commitment.
- Technical expertise and funding.
- Training in international level
- Improved interaction between geodesist and GIS experts, Improved interaction between geodesist and InSAR experts
- Need to have better funds, resources and training.
- Proper training to achieve relevant qualification
- Training and specialized courses, e.g. geoid school and SLR course in data processing and analysis
- More coordination on the international/global level and more support from geodetic community to be included (participate) in different projects.
Communications

What is your preferred UN language for announcements, information, and communications?

78 responses

- English: 74.4%
- French: 16.7%
- Spanish: 9%

Languages not specified in the chart are: Arabic, Russian, Chinese.
Looking Forward: The Roadmap Implementation Plan in Action

Organized and Centralized Access to Training

Member States, in cooperation with the IAG, FIG and other organisations, establish a global geodetic technical assistance program.

**Work with the IAG and FIG to establish and run technical workshops in, and with a focus on, developing countries**
- Develop a programme of training workshops
- Develop a standing scientific organizing committee
- Provide a centralised list of technical workshops and training activities
- Provide access to training material
- Establish training agreements with key stakeholders

Prepare and implement an annual openly available training programme that includes workshops and the provision of technical material
- Compile and promote the annual training programme
- Ensure training material from workshops is made readily and openly available
- Implement a policy of open-availability for all materials and recordings from training programs/classes

Member States, which have the capacity, assist Member States with less capacity to build sufficient geodetic capacity to efficiently and accurately access and utilise the GGRF

Prepare and implement an annual openly available training programme
- Compile and promote the annual training programme
- Ensure training material from workshops is made readily and openly available
- Implement a policy of open-availability for all materials and recordings from training programs/classes
Pilot Capacity Building Regional Workshop:

*Workshop on Implementing the GGRF in Latin America*

- Organized by IUGG
- Partnering with IAG/GGOS/FIG
- Potential for collaboration with UN International Committee on GNSS (UNOOSA) Working Group C for GNSS capacity building and training
- Inviting contributions from Earth Observations stakeholder organizations, including:
  - Group on Earth Observations (GEO)
  - International GNSS Service (IGS)
Pilot Initiative: Identification of Existing Capacity Building Resources and Enabling Discoverability

- Identify and leverage existing ETCB resources
- Develop a system of tagging for discoverability and categorization:
  - Questionnaire Level 1/2/3/4
  - Standardized Keywords
- Establish a central point of information on UN GGIM SCoG website
  - A “referral service” linking to external resources maintained by universities, societies, NGOs, and others
  - Lower the barrier to entry by identifying and explaining first steps to geodetic capacity
Pilot Initiative:

**Drafting Standardized Capacity Building and Development Frameworks**

- How to empower organizations to take ownership of relevant capacity building efforts/initiatives by providing a clear, easy to understand framework with standards and references?
  - Addressing different aspects of the GGRF Implementation Plan
  - Tailor to individual member state or region needs and circumstances
  - Increasing capacity capability
  - Organized facilitation of knowledge transfer
- Identify existing standards, frameworks, checklists, and other “how to” resources
- Work in conjunction with ISO?
Looking Forward: The Roadmap Implementation Plan in Action

Broad Information Availability and Task Training Standardization

Member States take actions to ensure educational and research institutions recognise the importance of geodetic science, as well as increase the number and availability of geodetic courses in other associated degrees.

Provide a mechanism to develop and disseminate technical material
- Implement an ETCB web page as a sub-page of the GGIM Sub-committee on Geodesy
- Work with the GGRF WG Outreach and Communications Focus Group to ensure optimal development and delivery of educational and advocacy materials,

Work with geodesy technical and research institutes to develop and enhance geodesy training
- Establish minimum training needs for a set of standardized tasks, spanning infrastructure, academic, and long-term sustainability.
- Established training resources and centres of expertise
Member States openly share all geodetic skills.

Encourage stakeholder and member state participation in capacity building
- Promote the capacity building programme through geodesy conferences and meetings, and the UN GGIM web site
- Incentivize stakeholder participation and sponsorship

Maintain close contact with national and international agencies and organizations, who may provide funding, advocacy, or other technical support for training and capacity building
- Work with stakeholders to ensure cooperation and benefits for the strategy
- Establish centers of training expertise and capability
- Work with national agencies and international organizations to develop internationally-recognized certification programs
Looking Forward: Future activities (coming year?) (For discussion)

- **Report on the questionnaire**;
  - Regional based reporting and discussion. What are the barriers in each region?

- **Building a knowledge database**
  - Find recourse to compile existing material available online
  - Update FIG publication on “Reference Frame in practise”

- **Potential new questionnaire**
  - In-deep questions regarding the barriers

- **Funding**
  - Explore opportunities for long-term funding.
For discussion

• Regarding Education, Training and Capacity Building and our proposed action for coming year(s), do you agree?

• The importance of the regions, how can we engage them and have them taking more ownership of training and capacity building

• The questionnaire notice impediments regarding funding, resources as well as political will. How can we as Subcommittee on Geodesy together work on these issues?

• What is the role of industry sector in training