



# UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL GEODETIC CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

## MODERNISING GEOSPATIAL REFERENCE SYSTEM CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

### Governance

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**UN-GGCE**

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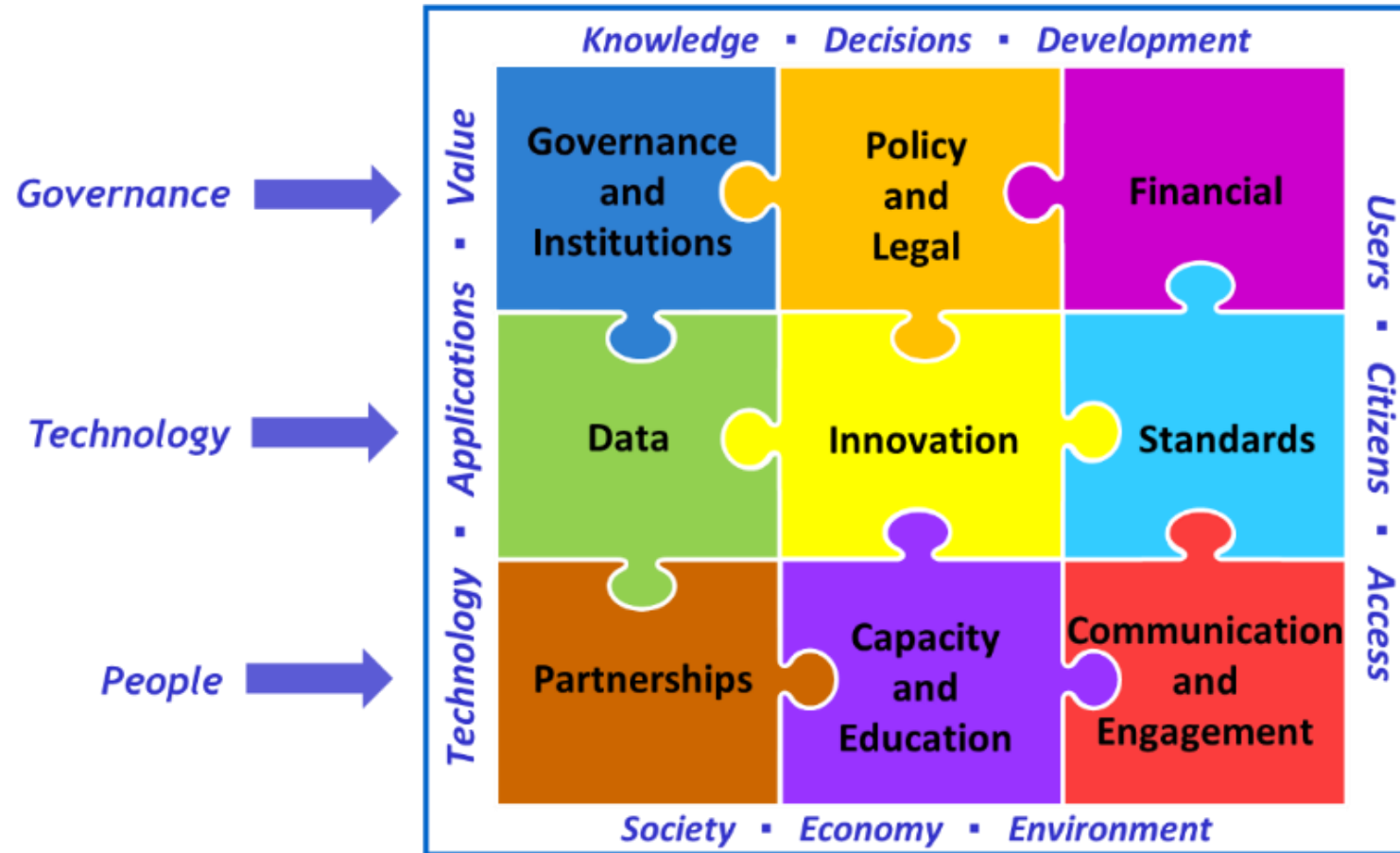
# Overview

Governance and institutional arrangements present a clear division of **roles and responsibilities** among organizations involved in geospatial information management, and the **formal and informal structures of cooperation and collaboration** between and among organizations.



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# Governance in the IGF



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# Importance of governance

Good governance is crucial for the development of a country's Geospatial Reference System (GRS) because it ensures that the GRS is accurate, sustainable, widely adopted, and effectively managed. Governance related issues to be considered include:

- **Strategy, Policy and Legal Framework:** Policies, standards, and regulations that define its use, data sharing, and integration with other national systems. Examples include:
  - 2020 – Australia – The Spatial Information Council for Australia and New Zealand announced that member agencies in Australian states and territories will be ready to deliver and receive foundation spatial data on the Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA2020) datum. This is recognised in the Australian National Measurement (Recognized-Value Standard of Measurement of Position) Determination 2017.
  - 2021 - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia - the General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information (GEOSA) Board of Directors, approved the widespread adoption of Saudi Arabia National Spatial Reference System (SANSRS) for surveying operations and geospatial data management. This decision underscores the importance of a unified geospatial framework for national projects.
- **Compliance with international standards:** Good governance promotes data policies, making geospatial data widely available for businesses, researchers, and policymakers. This drives economic growth, innovation, and informed decision-making.
- **International Collaboration and Compliance:** A country GRS should align with global standards and this requires coordination with international bodies for data sharing and interoperability. Governance structures often include mechanisms for engaging in international forums and adopting relevant international agreements, such as those provided by the United Nations Initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM).



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# Importance of governance

- **Coordination and collaboration:** The implementation or modernisation of a GRS involves multiple stakeholders, including government agencies (e.g., land management, transportation, defence, environmental agencies), private sector, indigenous groups and academia. Well-designed governance structures enable coordination and collaboration among these stakeholders, preventing data duplication and ensuring interoperability.
- **Funding and sustainability:** Developing and maintaining a GRS requires funding for initial implementation, and ongoing funding for sustainability. Good governance ensures decision makers understand the need for ongoing funding, sustainable investment, transparent budgeting, and accountability.
- **Awareness across government:** A robust GRS supports disaster response, urban planning, infrastructure development, and national security. Governance ensures awareness of the importance of the GRS across government and engagement with communities who rely the GRS.
- **Risk management:** Programs of this size, with broad and complex stakeholder engagement have inherent risk. Good governance is required to ensure risks are known and mitigated effectively.



# Groups to consider

The **national geodetic or geospatial authority or agency is often the lead agency** responsible for overseeing the development, maintenance, and implementation of the national GRS. The lead national geodetic or geospatial authority or agency should collaborate and communicate with:

- **Land management authorities:** Engaging land management authorities ensures alignment with existing regulations, land use policies, and legal frameworks. Their expertise helps improve data accuracy, resource planning, and infrastructure development by integrating official cadastral and land tenure information. Collaboration also enhances system interoperability, reduces conflicts over land boundaries, and supports sustainable land governance.
- **Water authorities:** Engaging water authorities ensures accurate mapping of water resources, infrastructure, and hydrological systems for effective management. Their input helps in monitoring water quality, flood risk, and watershed boundaries, supporting sustainable water use and disaster resilience. Collaboration also improves data integration for regulatory compliance, resource allocation, and long-term water security planning.



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# Groups to consider

- **Defence Department:** Engaging defence departments ensures national security considerations are integrated, preventing unauthorized access to sensitive geospatial data. Their expertise enhances system resilience, accuracy, and interoperability for defence operations, emergency response, and strategic planning. Collaboration also helps align the GRS with defence infrastructure, surveillance needs, and international security standards.
- **Air Services:** Engaging air services ensures accurate mapping of airspace, flight routes, and aviation infrastructure for safe and efficient air traffic management. Their expertise helps integrate aeronautical data, navigation aids, and regulatory requirements, reducing risks and improving situational awareness. Collaboration also enhances interoperability with global aviation systems, supports compliance with international standards, and facilitates seamless airspace coordination.
- **Maritime Services:** Engaging maritime services ensures accurate mapping of coastal areas, shipping routes, and maritime boundaries for safe and efficient navigation. Their expertise helps integrate hydrographic data, tidal information, and regulatory requirements to prevent maritime accidents and support sustainable ocean resource management. Collaboration also enhances interoperability with global navigation systems, ensures compliance with international maritime standards, and improves coastal resilience against environmental risks.



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# Groups to consider

- **Space agency:** Engaging the national space agency ensures the integration of high-precision satellite data for accurate mapping and monitoring of geographic features. Their expertise in remote sensing, satellite navigation, and geospatial technologies enhances system accuracy, scalability, and global compatibility. Collaboration also supports compliance with space regulations, fosters innovation in geospatial technologies, and strengthens national capabilities in space-based resource management.
- **Standards:** Engaging with standards bodies ensures compliance with internationally recognized protocols, facilitating data interoperability and consistency across systems. Their guidance helps establish best practices for data quality, metadata standards, and system integration, promoting seamless collaboration across sectors. Collaboration with standards bodies (including International Organization for Standardization (ISO) or the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)) also supports the long-term sustainability of the GRS by aligning it with evolving global geospatial standards and regulations.
- **Data Stewardship:** Data stewards ensure data quality, security, and availability, and they are responsible for metadata and data dissemination. Responsibility for specific datasets may be assigned to agencies or organizations best suited to manage them. For example, national mapping agencies might be the custodian of geodetic data, while environmental agencies handle data related to ecosystems or natural resources.



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# Groups to consider

- **Metrology:** Engaging with metrology agencies ensures the accuracy and precision of measurements, particularly in positioning and calibration of geospatial data. Their expertise is crucial in the legal determination of the datum, ensuring that it aligns with recognized national and international measurement standards. Collaboration with metrology agencies also supports reliable benchmarks, consistency, and traceability, enhancing the credibility and legal validity of the GRS.
- **Policy and regulatory:** Legal frameworks are crucial for establishing rights and obligations regarding geospatial data collection, use, and sharing. This includes ensuring compliance with data protection laws, intellectual property rights, and international agreements. Additionally, these frameworks help prevent misuse of data, including ensuring transparency and preventing corruption in data collection and use.
- **Funders and donors:** The establishment and sustainment of a GRS needs adequate financial and technical resources to be developed and maintained. Governance structures should define how funding is allocated for the development of infrastructure, research, and training related to GRS, ensuring long-term sustainability.



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# Groups to consider

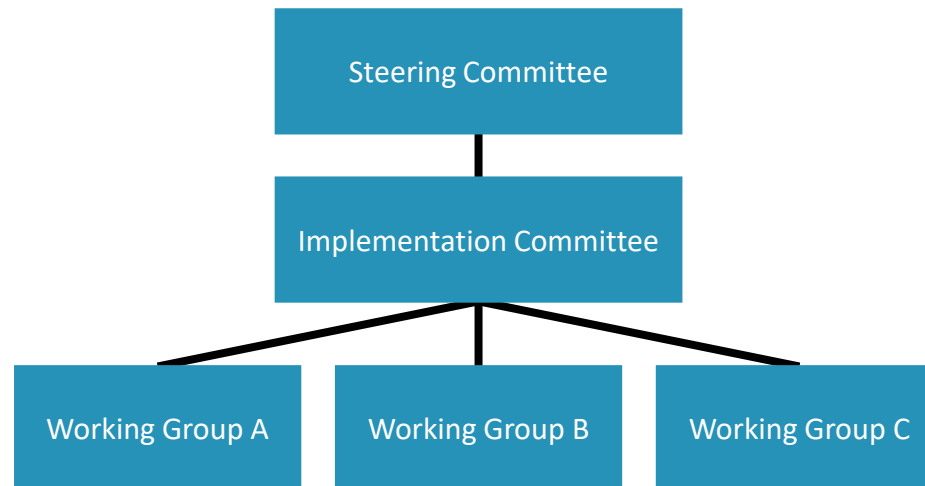
- **Capacity development and education:** Engaging with capacity development and education organizations ensures that stakeholders are trained in the system's use, fostering widespread adoption and technical expertise. Their involvement helps build long-term skills and knowledge, ensuring sustainability and effective implementation of the GRS across diverse sectors. Collaboration also supports the development of educational materials and training programs, ensuring that the GRS is accessible and usable by future generations of professionals.
- **Indigenous communities:** Engaging Indigenous communities ensures respect for their land rights, integrates valuable traditional knowledge, and enhances mapping accuracy. It also aligns with legal and ethical standards, supports data sovereignty, and prevents misuse of Indigenous land data. Meaningful collaboration fosters trust, promotes long-term partnerships, and leads to more inclusive and sustainable geospatial solutions.



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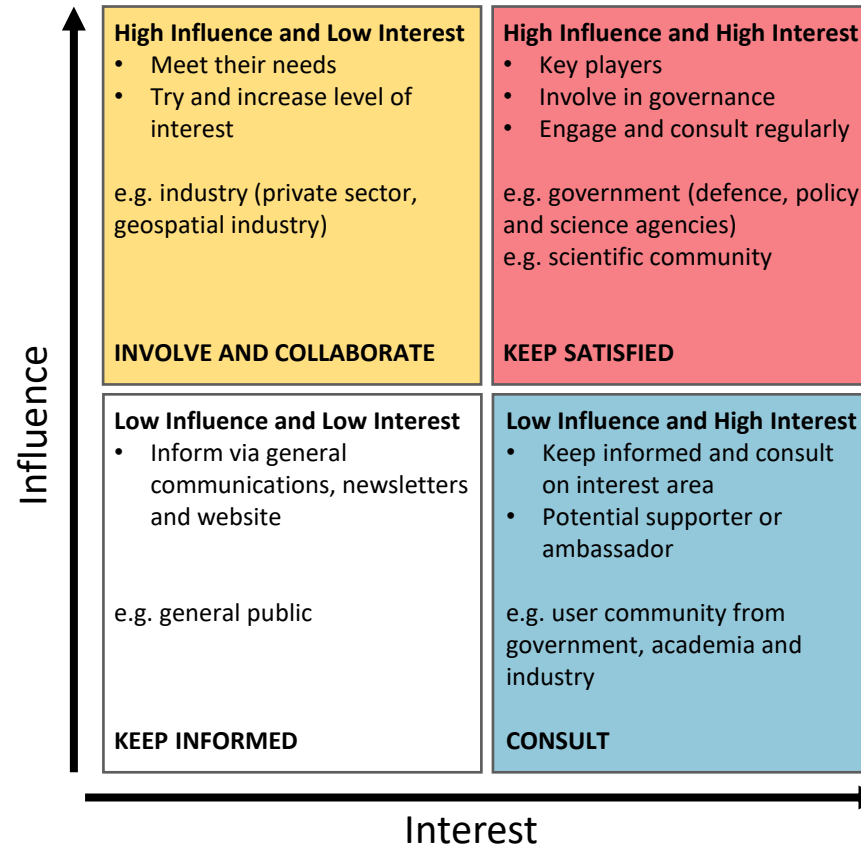
# Structure

Below is a sample governance structure for the establishment and operationalization of a country's GRS along with a brief description of the role of each committee (or subcommittee) in the structure. It is advisable that you consider the range of groups to determine who should participate in the committees and working groups.



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# Influence and Interest



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# International governance



- United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Committee of Experts
  - ECOSOC established the Committee of Experts as the apex intergovernmental mechanism for making joint decisions and setting directions with regard to the production, availability and use of geospatial information within national, regional and global policy frameworks. Led by United Nations Member States, UN-GGIM aims to address global challenges regarding the use of geospatial information, including in the development agendas, and to serve as a body for global policymaking in the field of geospatial information management.



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# International governance



## High-level Group

1. High-level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework

## Subcommittee

1. Subcommittee on Geodesy (formerly WG on Global Geodetic Reference Frame)

## Expert Groups

1. Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information
2. Expert Group on Land Administration and Management

## Working Groups

1. Working Group on Geospatial Information for Disaster Risk Management
2. Working Group on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information Management
3. Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information

## Task Teams

1. Task Team on Geospatial Information for Climate Resilience
2. Writing Team on the Future Geospatial Information Ecosystem

## Working Group of the IAEG-SDGs

Working Group on Geospatial Information

## Past Working Groups

1. Working Group on Development of a Statement of Shared Principles for the Management of Geospatial Information
2. Working Group on Trends in National Institutional Arrangements in Geospatial Information Management
3. Working Group on Global Fundamental Geospatial Data Themes



# Procedures for involvement in UN-GGIM



- How to be involved in UN-GGIM?
- <https://ggim.un.org/regional-entities/>



# International governance

- What are we missing?
  - Dedicated resources
  - Capital funding
  - Operating funding
  - Global work plan
  - Risk assessment
  - ...

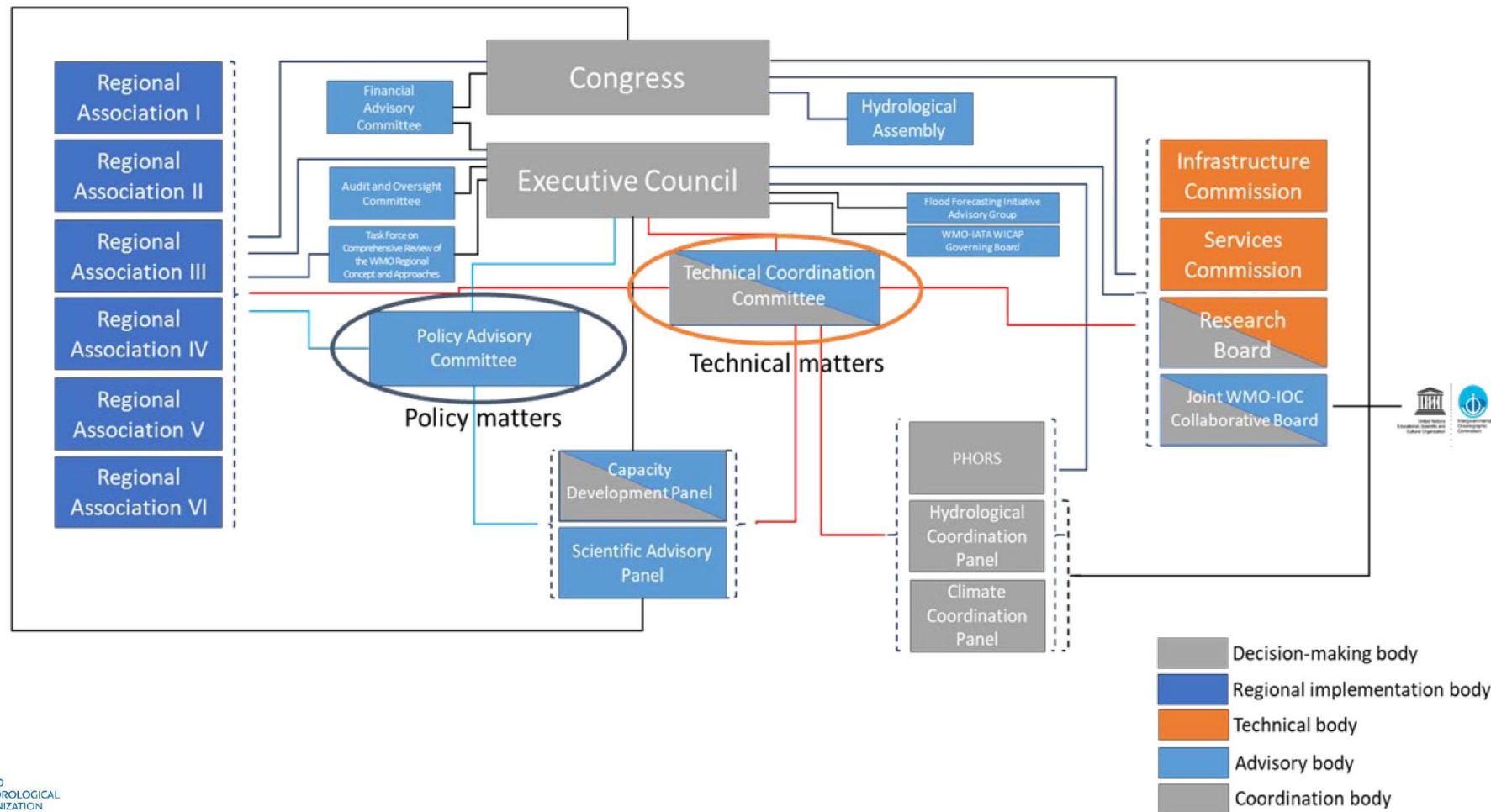


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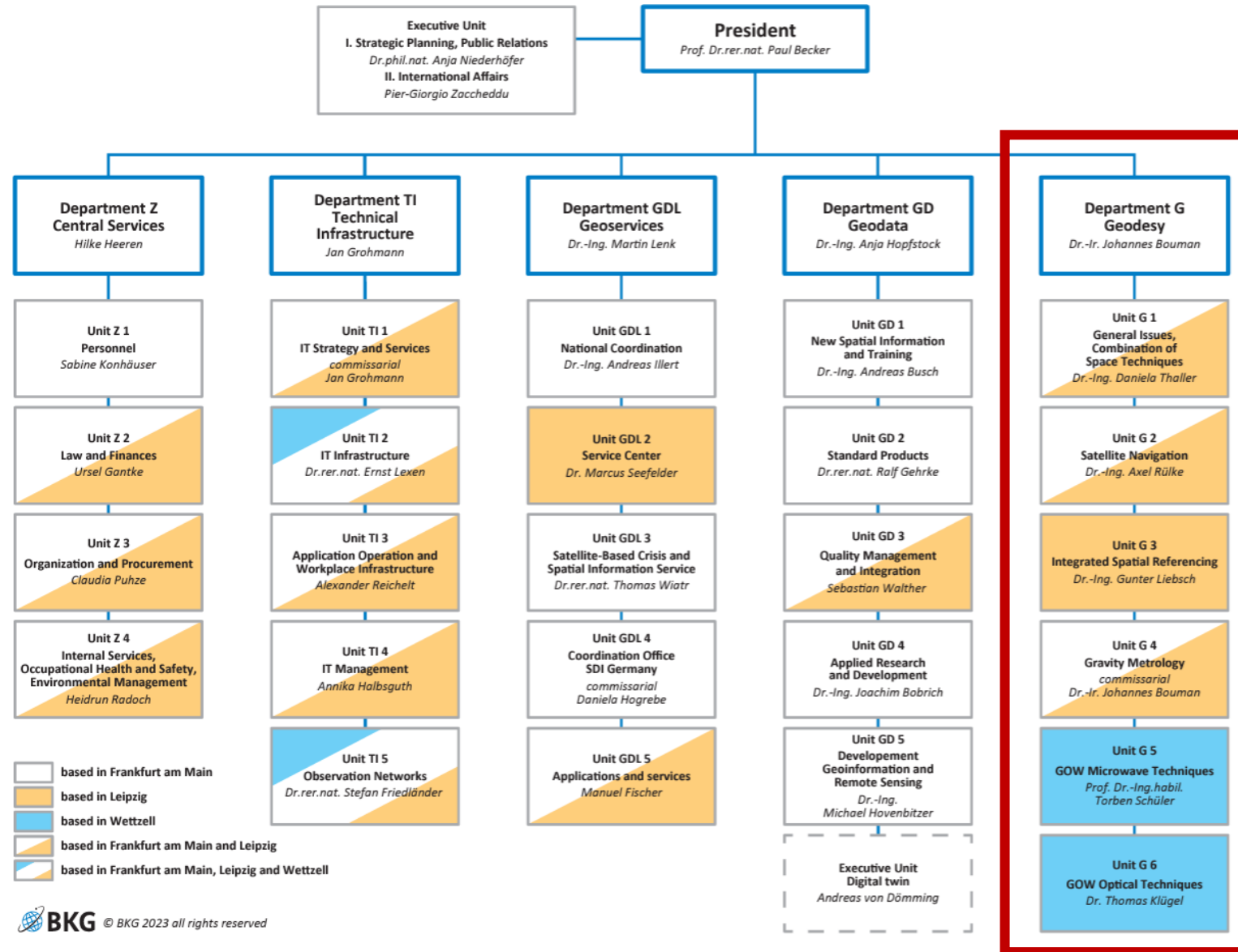
# Examples to copy

## WMO Structure



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# Country governance (BKG)



# Legislation and regulations



## National Measurement (Recognized-Value Standard of Measurement of Position) Determination 2017

I, Dr R. Bruce Warrington, Chief Metrologist, National Measurement Institute, make the following determination.

Dated 11 October 2017



### 1 Name

This instrument is the *National Measurement (Recognized-Value Standard of Measurement of Position) Determination 2017*.

### 2 Commencement

This instrument commences the day after registration.

### 3 Authority

This instrument is made under section 8A(1) of the *National Measurement Act 1960*.

### 4 Definitions

Note: *Recognized-value standard of measurement* is defined in the Act.

In this instrument:

*Act* means the *National Measurement Act 1960*.

*Reference Ellipsoid* means the Geodetic Reference System 1980 (GRS80) ellipsoid with a semi-major axis (a) of 6 378 137 metres exactly and an inverse flattening (1/f) of 298.257 222 101.

Note: The Geodetic Reference System 1980 could in 2017 be viewed on the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) website (<http://www.iugg.org>).

*Reference Epoch* means 2020.0.

*Reference Frame* means the Geocentric Datum of Australia 2020 (GDA2020) realised by the coordinates of the Australian Fiducial Network (AFN) geodetic stations, referred to in Schedule 1 of this instrument, in the International Terrestrial Reference Frame 2014 (ITRF2014) at the Reference Epoch.

Note 1: The Geocentric Datum of Australia 2020 could in 2017 be viewed on the Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying and Mapping's website (<http://www.icsm.gov.au>).

Note 2: The International Terrestrial Reference Frame 2014 (ITRF2014) could in 2017 be viewed on the International Earth Rotation and Reference Systems Service's (IERS) website (<https://www.iers.org>).

# Legislation and regulations



## National Measurement (Recognized-Value Standard of Measurement of Position) Determination 2017

I, Dr R. Bruce Warrington, Chief Metrologist, National Measurement Institute, make the following determination.

Dated 11 October 2017

## 6 Recognized-value standards of measurement in the Australian Fiducial Network

- (1) The positions listed in Schedule 1 and in the stated Reference Ellipsoid and Reference Frame are recognized-value standards of measurement of the physical quantity position for geodetic stations in the Australian Fiducial Network (AFN).
- (2) Uncertainties listed in Schedule 1 are such that  $X \pm u(X)$  represents a 95% confidence interval, and similarly for the other quantities.
- (3) For conversion from global Cartesian coordinates to latitude, longitude and ellipsoidal height the Reference Ellipsoid must be used.

## 7 Calculation of global Cartesian coordinates at an epoch $t$ years

Global Cartesian coordinates of the AFN can be expressed at an epoch  $t$  (years) through the application of the following linear model using the coordinates  $(X, Y, Z)$  and velocities  $(V_X, V_Y, V_Z)$  listed in Schedule 1:

$$\begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{bmatrix}_t = \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{bmatrix}_{2020} + (t - 2020) \begin{bmatrix} V_X \\ V_Y \\ V_Z \end{bmatrix}$$

This model is valid for 15 years either side of the Reference Epoch:

$$|t - 2020| \leq 15$$



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# Legislation and regulations

## Schedule 1—Recognized-value standards of measurement in the Australian Fiducial Network

### Schedule 1—Recognized-value standards of measurement in the Australian Fiducial Network

Note: See sections 6 and 7.

Site	Coordinates (m) at 2020.0			Coordinate Uncertainty (m)			Velocity (m / year)			Velocity Uncertainty (m / year)		
	<i>X</i>	<i>Y</i>	<i>Z</i>	<i>u</i> ( <i>X</i> )	<i>u</i> ( <i>Y</i> )	<i>u</i> ( <i>Z</i> )	<i>V<sub>X</sub></i>	<i>V<sub>Y</sub></i>	<i>V<sub>Z</sub></i>	<i>u</i> ( <i>V<sub>X</sub></i> )	<i>u</i> ( <i>V<sub>Y</sub></i> )	<i>u</i> ( <i>V<sub>Z</sub></i> )
Ceduna (SA)	-3753473.1960	3912741.0310	-3347959.6998	0.0244	0.0249	0.0229	-0.0421	0.0024	0.0501	0.0002	0.0002	0.0002
Manton Dam (NT)	-4091359.6096	4684606.4258	-1408579.1371	0.0098	0.0105	0.0072	-0.0355	-0.0137	0.0576	0.0002	0.0001	0.0002
Mt Stromlo (ACT)	-4467103.2062	2683039.4818	-3666948.7613	0.0100	0.0080	0.0090	-0.0367	0.0006	0.0452	0.0002	0.0002	0.0002
Sydney (NSW)	-4648240.8666	2560636.4510	-3526317.7982	0.0107	0.0082	0.0093	-0.0352	-0.0015	0.0453	0.0002	0.0002	0.0002
Tidbinbilla (ACT)	-4460996.9609	2682557.0875	-3674442.6411	0.0104	0.0082	0.0093	-0.0368	0.0007	0.0452	0.0002	0.0002	0.0002
Hobart (TAS)	-3950072.2586	2522415.3710	-4311637.4095	0.0094	0.0079	0.0098	-0.0395	0.0083	0.0411	0.0002	0.0002	0.0002
Melbourne (VIC)	-4130636.7623	2894953.1442	-3890530.2534	0.0098	0.0083	0.0094	-0.0393	0.0042	0.0448	0.0002	0.0002	0.0002
Parkes (NSW)	-4554255.2088	2816652.4429	-3454059.6981	0.0107	0.0085	0.0093	-0.0363	-0.0015	0.0467	0.0002	0.0002	0.0002
Hillarys (WA)	-2355572.1203	4886093.2099	-3343993.6599	0.0081	0.0112	0.0091	-0.0478	0.0106	0.0491	0.0002	0.0001	0.0002
Bundaberg (QLD)	-5125977.5335	2688801.2479	-2669890.2146	0.0113	0.0082	0.0082	-0.0311	-0.0105	0.0490	0.0002	0.0002	0.0002



## Summary, Do they have something in common?

- International level: strategic
- Country-level: implementation
- Technical working groups



# Moderated Discussion

- Tell me about your country's governance structure
- What is similar?
- What is different?
- What benefits and disadvantages do you see?

