



United Nations



United Nations
Global Geodetic
Centre of Excellence

Africa Geodesy Capacity Development Workshop Modernizing your Country Geospatial Reference System

19 to 23 May 2025

Nairobi, Kenya

United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence
Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Detailed Agenda

Monday, 19 May	Location: UN Nairobi Complex, Conference Building, Rooftop, Conference Room 9
8:30 – 9:00 am	Arrival and entry to the building
9:00 – 10:00 am	Welcome and overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE) Welcome from Ambassador Peter Thomson (video) Workshop agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE) Introduction to logistics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Walaa Allahham (UN-GGCE) Group photo and ice-breaking exercise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)
10:00 – 10:30 am	Morning Break
10:30 – 11:00 am	1.2.1 The Importance of a Geospatial Reference System <i>Including an introduction to “The Roadmap: Guidance on how to build a country’s Geospatial Reference System”</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)
11:00 – 11:30 am	1.2.2 Update on actions of the UN-GGCE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	1.2.3 Introduction to Geodetic Reference System infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)
12:00 – 2:00 pm	Lunch
2:00 – 2:30 pm	1.2.4 An Introduction to aligning national geodetic datums with the International Terrestrial Reference Frame <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)
2:30 – 3:00 pm	1.3.1 Regional Geodetic Collaborations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)
3:00 – 3:30 pm	Afternoon Break
3:30 – 4:15 pm	1.3.2 History of the African Reference Frame <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Aslam Parker (South Africa)
4:15 – 5:00 pm	1.4.1 Options for African countries to align their datums with ITRF (including worked example)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)
Tuesday, 20 May	Location: UN Nairobi Complex, Conference Building, Rooftop, Conference Room 9
8:30 – 9:00 am	Arrival and entry to the building
9:00 – 10:00 am	Activity: Geodesy Factbook (Where you start from) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Ryan Keenan (UN-GGCE Consultant)
10:00 – 10:30 am	Discussion on Geodesy Factbook <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Ryan Keenan (UN-GGCE Consultant)
10:30 – 11:00 am	Morning Break
11:00 – 11:30 am	2.2.1 National geodetic adjustments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	Discussion on national geodetic adjustments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE) <p><i>At this point we will have covered the International Terrestrial Reference Frame, African Reference Frame, undertaken a review of the current status of your country's GRS, and introduced national adjustments. This discussion is to address the remaining questions participants have on any of the above topics.</i></p>
12:00 – 2:00 pm	Lunch
2:00 – 2:30 pm	2.3.1 Introduction to data standardization, tools and registers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)
2:30 – 3:00 pm	Discussion on data standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)
3:00 – 3:30 pm	Afternoon Break
3:30 – 5:00 pm	Start working on your Roadmap (Where you're heading to) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)

Wednesday, 21 May		Location: UN Nairobi Complex, Conference Building, Rooftop, Conference Room 9
8:30 – 9:00 am	Arrival and entry to the building	
9:00 – 9:45 am	3.1.1 Development of transformation parameters, plate motion models and deformation models <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE) 	
9:45 – 10:30 am	3.1.2 Worked example: Transformation Parameters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE) 	
10:30 – 11:00 am	Morning Break	
11:00 – 12:00 pm	3.2.1 National geoid models and height datums <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE) 	
12:00 – 2:00 pm	Lunch	
2:00 – 2:30 pm	3.3.1 Capacity development needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Ryan Keenan (UN-GGCE Consultant) 	
2:30 – 3:00 pm	3.3.2 International geodesy initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Ryan Keenan (UN-GGCE Consultant) 	
3:00 – 3:30 pm	Afternoon Break	
3:30 – 4:00 pm	3.4.1 GGOS Africa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Aletha de Witt and Mr Jack Radcliffe 	
4:00 – 4:30 pm	3.4.2 Lantmäteriet's role in Africa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Christopher Byren 	
4:30 – 5:00 pm	3.4.3 Alumni of the workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Walaa Allahham (UN-GGCE) 	

Thursday, 22 May	Location: UN Nairobi Complex, Conference Building, Rooftop, Conference Room 9
8:30 – 9:00 am	Arrival and entry to the building
9:00 – 9:30 pm	3.4.3 Alumni of the workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Walaa Allahham (UN-GGCE)
9:30 – 10:00 am	4.1.1 Communicating geodesy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)
10:00 – 10:30 am	Group Activity: Communications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE) <p>Working in pairs, prepare and record a 30 second video explaining why updates to the GRS are needed to explain to policy makers.</p>
10:30 – 11:00 am	Morning Break
11:00 – 11:30 am	4.2.1 Developing Business Cases for increased investment in geodesy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Albert Momo (GeoDEV international)
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	Group Activity: Drafting persuasive business cases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Ryan Keenan (UN-GGCE Consultant)
12:00 – 2:00 pm	Lunch
2:00 – 3:00 pm	Geodesy country reports <p>Uganda; Senegal; Madagascar; Côte d'Ivoire, Zambia; South Sudan; Nigeria, Kenya; Ethiopia; Malawi; Mauritania; Morocco; Cameroon; Tanzania; Zimbabwe; Sierra Leon</p>
3:00 – 3:30 pm	Afternoon Break
3:30 – 5:00 pm	Geodesy country reports (cont ...) <p>Regional partner reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Rachel Gedion (RCMRD) Mr Lazarus Mustapha (AFRIGIST) Mr John Gitau (UN Habitat)

Friday, 23 May	Location: UN Nairobi Complex, Conference Building, Rooftop, Conference Room 9
8:30 – 9:00 am	Arrival and entry to the building

9:00 – 9:45 am	3.2.2 Joining Land and Sea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)
9:45 – 10:30 am	4.3.1 Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)
10:30 – 11:00 am	Morning Break
11:00 – 12:00 am	Group Activity: Working on your Roadmap <i>Participants will start working through The Roadmap.</i>
12:00 – 1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 – 2:30 pm	Parking Lot and Discussion on Roadmap <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE) <i>Following their work on their Roadmap, participants will discuss their plans once they return home and seek further guidance on components they need assistance with.</i>
2:30 pm	Closing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Nicholas Brown (Head of Office UN-GGCE)