

Implementation of the United Nations' Resolution on the Global Geodetic Reference Frame (UN-GGRF) for Sustainable Development in Latin America

The UN Resolution on the Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF) for Sustainable Development released in February 2015 opens a wide range of opportunities to capture the attention of policy makers (particularly at the political level) in geodetic and geophysical matters. If decision makers understand the value of investing in geodetic and geophysical infrastructure (observation stations, education and capacity building, analysis centres, data availability, etc.), they will prioritise investments in these disciplines, and science and society will benefit. Thanks to the support of IUGG and its Associations during the last decades, several geodetic and geophysical initiatives have successfully implemented many research projects in the region. However, the participation of the Latin American countries in these initiatives has not been homogeneous and the sparseness of infrastructure, technical expertise, and scientific competence and skills is still evident. The main objective of this proposal is a capacity building activity oriented to the implementation of the GGRF in Latin America, following the scientific definition released by the International Association of Geodesy (IAG). The main idea is to provide the Latin American colleagues responsible for the national geodetic reference frames with scientific arguments and practical tools to convince policy makers about the necessity of investing in geodetic and geophysical infrastructure in their countries. Based on the existing IAG and IASPEI Latin American (Sub-) Commissions, we aim at bringing together colleagues working on GNSS positioning, gravity field modelling and geophysical surface deformation modelling to formulate joint research projects not only among the different disciplines, but also beyond national borders. This regional initiative should become a Latin American contribution to the implementation of the GGRF worldwide.