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In 1981, the Gazetteer Federal Republic of Germany was issued by the Institut für Angewandte Geodäsie (IfAG). It had been compiled at IfAG with the aid of the "Ständiger Ausschuß für geographische Namen (StAGN)" (Permanent Committee on Geographical Names) in accordance with the specific recommendations of the United Nations.

In the wake of the unification of Germany in 1990 the necessity arose to compile a supplementary volume for the 5 new Länder (federal states) and the eastern part of Berlin.

This task was assumed by IfAG and work started in April 1991.

As to form and contents, this supplementary volume corresponds essentially to the specifications given in the introduction to the Gazetteer Federal Republic of Germany as reported in Document No. E/Conf. 74/L 10, 9 June 1982, on the occasion of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, Geneva (24.08.-14.09.1982).

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