

The Global Geodetic Reference Frame: An International Association of Geodesy Perspective

Gary Johnston, Harold Schuh, Chris Rizos

The International Association of Geodesy (IAG) has a long history of coordinating the science community for the generation of global geodetic products including the reference frame. The IAG relies on contributions from research institutions, space agencies and national mapping agencies to undertake the observatory, data centre, analysis centre and product centre functions within its Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS). The products of GGOS will not only support scientific applications, but also contribute, in a number of ways, to improved geodesy outcomes for the wider community. One of the most important functions of modern geodesy is the definition and maintenance, and providing the means to connect to an international terrestrial reference system.

The IAG recognises the need for a more sustainable Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF), and in fact advocates for an enhancement to the GGRF, to meet the ever more stringent requirements of Earth System science. This sustainability and enhancement is contingent on greater involvement in geodesy by all nations. This presentation will highlight the role nations can play, as part of the geodetic observing system, in contributing to this outcome.