

Activities of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (ICG): Promoting the Use of Global Navigation Satellite Systems as Tools for Scientific Applications

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Key words: Capacity building; GNSS/GPS; Reference frames

SUMMARY

The Office for Outer Space Affairs is organizing regional workshops, training courses and international meetings focusing on capacity-building in the use of global navigation satellite systems (GNSS)-related technologies in various rapidly growing fields of science and industry. Those activities bring together a large number of experts every year, including experts from developing countries, to discuss and act on issues that are also of great relevance to the International Committee on GNSS (ICG).

In recognition of a number of ongoing projects and initiatives to establish regional reference frame networks that meet the growing needs of industries, science programmes and the general public using positioning applications, such as the African Geodetic Reference Frame project, the European Position Determination System, the International Association of Geodesy Reference Frame Sub-Commission for Europe, the Asia-Pacific Reference Frame and the Geocentric Reference System for the Americas, cooperation between GNSS providers and the regional reference frames has been established. This cooperation should enhance applications in fields such as geodesy, mapping, surveying, geoinformation, natural hazard mitigation, and Earth sciences. Facilitated through the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated to the United Nations, this cooperation would also be a major springboard for the transfer and enhancement of skills and knowledge in GNSS and its applications.

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FIG Working Week 2020
Smart surveyors for land and water management
Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 10–14 May 2020