

UN-GGIM-AP and Working Group on Geodetic Reference Frame

Basara Miyahara, Chair, UN-GGIM-AP Working Group on Geodetic Reference Frame,
Geospatial Information Authority of Japan

The Working Group 1 for “Geodetic Reference Frame” (WG1) is one of the working groups of Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP). The WG1 is the longest working group and has been working on development, maintenance, densification and capacity building on geodetic reference frame in the region for long time. In order to continue its work for enhancing geodetic infrastructure and capacity in the region, WG1 updated its work plan for 2018 to 2021 and UN-GGIM-AP adopted it in the seventh plenary meeting at Deqing, China on November 2018. The work plan contains four main items, 1) enhancement of collaboration with global geodetic initiative, the United Nations Subcommittee on Geodesy (UN SCoG), 2) densification and improvement of access to regional geodetic reference frame, 3) unification of height systems, and 4) development of geodetic capacity in the region. For the densification of regional frame, WG1 have worked on two projects, Asia Pacific Reference Frame (APREF) and Asia Pacific Regional Geodetic Project (APRGP). APREF is continuous GNSS CORS observation in the region and realization of regional geodetic reference frame with the CORS data. APRGP is GNSS campaign observation once a year to densify the regional reference frame. Both provide us easier access to geodetic reference frame which is consistent to global frame, ITRF. The third project is Asia-Pacific Regional Height System Unification (APRHSU). WG1 conducted a questionnaire and is analyzing current situation of height systems of member countries. Under Asia-Pacific Geodetic Capacity Building (APGCB) Project, several seminars and workshops are held in collaboration with FIG Asia Pacific Capacity Development Network, International Association of Geodesy, UN SCoG and etc. This special session is also a part of APGCB project. In 2019, WG1 is also planning to have an event for capacity development in conjunction with UN-GGIM-AP eighth Plenary. WG1 will continue these projects and contribute to development, maintenance, densification and capacity building on geodetic reference frame in the Asia-Pacific region.