

Report to the 40th General Assembly
FIG Working Week 2017, Helsinki, Finland

FIG Asia Pacific Capacity Development Network (AP CDN)

Report of Activities 2016

1. General

FIG, primarily through Commissions 3, 4, 5 and 7, have been involved in assisting countries in Asia and the Pacific to develop the *geospatial and survey* capacity of surveyors for a number of years. More recently the focus of many countries in the region has been modernizing geospatial reference systems and developing the capacity to sustain this enabling infrastructure. To facilitate and support this activity the FIG Asia Pacific Capacity Development Network (AP CDN) was established and was formalized by the General Assembly at the 2016 Working Week in Christchurch.

The mission of this network is to enable an environment of land, marine and “space” professionals to effectively provide innovative, reliable and best practice solutions to address the regional social, economic, environmental and technological challenges associated with global geospatial trends, our rapidly changing and complex world. To accomplish this mission, FIG’s networking partner is the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Asia Pacific (UN GGIM AP), in particular Working Group 1 Geodetic Reference Frames, chaired by Dr. John Dawson. Website - <http://www.un-ggim-ap.org/>

The AP CDN work plan, objectives and activities of this network can be found at website - https://www.fig.net/organisation/networks/capacity_development/asia_pacific/index.asp

2. Steering Committee and the Network

The Steering Committee and network of professionals comprises of individuals and agencies from various non-government, government and scientific organizations. Presently there is representation or involvement from FIG Commission 5, UN GGIM AP Working Group 1, Geoscience Australia, Land Information New Zealand, International Association of Geodesy (IAG), ASEAN Flag, Pacific Community – Geoscience Division and the Pacific Geospatial Surveying Council (PGSC).

3. Cooperation

From a technical and scientific perspective FIG has used expertise from our Commissions and have also been co-operating with existing sister organizations such as the UN GGIM AP Working Group 1 – Geodetic Reference Frame and the IAG. Administratively and logistically this network has had ongoing support from the FIG Office, Australian Government agencies and their regional programs, Pacific Community Secretariat, New Zealand Foreign Affairs and Trade, New Zealand Institute of Surveyors, and the more recently JUPEM (Department of Survey and Mapping, Malaysia).

4. Events and Communications

The FIG AP CDN in conjunction with the UN GGIM AP have convened two workshops in 2016 –

- Geospatial and GNSS CORS Infrastructure and Systems – this forum was held at the Park Royal, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on the 16 - 17 October, and comprised of 6 sessions, 22 presentations and attracted over 150 registrants
- Pacific Heights Datum Workshop – this was held at Pacific Community “Pasifika Conference Room”, Lotus Building in Nabua – Suva on the 26 November, included 4 invited presentations, and it attracted 30 registered participants.



UN GGIM AP Working Group 1 / FIG AP CDN Workshop in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia October 2016

The FIG AP CDN also participated in the following regional meetings and events in 2016 –

- FIG Working Week and SIDS Workshop in Christchurch - New Zealand, May
- PGSC meeting in Christchurch - New Zealand, May and also in Suva – Fiji, November
- UN GGIM AP Plenary Meeting and forum / workshop on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information Management in KL – Malaysia, October
- Pacific GIS / RS Users Conference in Suva – Fiji, December



PGSC meeting in Suva, Fiji November 2016

For detailed information about the activities and outcomes of the FIG AP CDN please refer to the website – https://www.fig.net/organisation/networks/capacity_development/asia_pacific/index.asp

5. Accomplishments and Challenges

From a work plan perspective, to date the FIG AP CDN has achieved the following –

- Formed the network of geospatial and surveying professionals to assist countries with modernizing geospatial reference systems and developing the capacity to sustain this enabling infrastructure.

- Created and implemented a FIG AP CDN capacity development business plan for the Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs).
- Developing a FIG AP CDN work plan / guide to modernizing geospatial reference systems in Asia.
- With the support and assistance of the FIG Office created and maintained a relevant AP CDN website
- Provided advocacy and support to Asia and the Pacific through workshops, technical and professional advice, and active attendance to meetings or events in the regions.
- Promoted the benefits and opportunities for countries who implement modernized reference frames, and contribute to the regional Asia Pacific Reference Frame (APREF website <http://www.ga.gov.au/scientific-topics/positioning-navigation/geodesy/asia-pacific-reference-frame>) as a key components of geospatial infrastructure that underpins land and marine datasets and systems.

The challenges for 2017 are –

- Ongoing advocacy of the value of geospatial and surveying information to decision and policy makers.
- To maintain momentum and building of the FIG AP CDN.
- To ensure technical workshops have active FIG representation, technical input and content relevant to the needs of the geospatial and surveying professions in Asia and the Pacific region. Possible workshops locations in 2017 are –
 - FIG Working Week May / June 2017
 - Kobe, Japan, 29-30 July 2017 in conjunction with the IAG-IASPEI Joint Scientific Assembly;
 - Kamamoto, Japan in conjunction with the UN-GGIM-AP Plenary Meeting, October 2017;
 - China, September 2017
 - Suva, Fiji November / December 2017
- To collaborate with other FIG Commissions and Networks to achieve the FIG AP CDN mission and objectives.
- To generate opportunities so as to gain more support and involvement from FIG Corporate entities to achieve the FIG AP CDN mission and objectives.