



'Blue Surveying'

Seville Declaration

As prepared during the Conference and the CLGE General Assembly on 28th and 29th October 2022.

The Conference and General Assembly brought together surveyors, technical professionals, subject matter experts and academics to discuss the role of the geodetic surveying profession in ensuring that; the world's water resources are managed sustainably for the benefit of all life on earth and that we mitigate the effects of climate change. We term this important activity 'Blue Surveying'.

With due consideration to the following:

- Blue Surveying is the CLGE theme of the year 2022,
- Blue Surveying is concerned with every form of water resource on earth be that natural or artificial, and in Europe in particular,
- the work of the geodetic surveyor is crucial as they understand their environment, its resources, and its fragility, which they survey and manage,
- water is a precious good and we have a duty to preserve it, and to prevent or avoid pollution and waste,
- water is not only precious but it can also become a threat to life and livelihoods, both in the coastal zone and inland
- seas, oceans and their coasts as well as rivers, channels and other waterbodies are essential for human activities and rights, but also for biodiversity and the climate,
- all lifeforms on this planet needs water to survive,
- all nations and peoples of the world must be increasingly committed to implementing policies that respect the environment and sustainable development,
- we must all act, especially in those areas where rainfall is low or intermittent, with periods of dramatic drought,
- we must transition from problem to opportunity and channel our energies into the mitigation of and adaption to climate change in order to minimise suffering.

Members of the Council of European Geodetic Surveyors – *Comité de Liaison des Géomètres Européens*, together with the Official College of Engineering in Geomatics and Topography of Spain (COIGT) who gathered in Seville (ES), on 27th to 29th October 2022, during the VIII CLGE Conference of the European Surveyors 'Blue Surveying' and the CLGE Autumn General Assembly do hereby approve and proclaim the Seville Declaration on 'Blue Surveying' and our commitment to UN Sustainable Development Goals 2030 in order to preserve all water resources, mitigate the effects of climate change and sustain an earth habitable for humankind.



COIGT

We commit ourselves to:

- ✓ do all in our gift to combat climate change and its negative effects on water resources,
- ✓ ensure our profession at all levels is committed to sustainability so that we maintain a safe and habitable environment for future generations,
- ✓ ensure the environmental sustainability of our work from the outset of every project,
- ✓ adopt an ethical approach to avoid contributing to activities which degrade our environment,
- ✓ involve young people in pursuing the UN Sustainable Development Goals to design a better world for future generations,
- ✓ promote a 'circular economy' approach to economic development,
- ✓ encourage entrepreneurial activities while respecting the planet's resources and their limited availability,
- ✓ monitor, mitigate and adapt to the very serious effects of climate change already underway, including its negative impacts on the coastal zone, agriculture and populated areas,
- ✓ encourage Blue Surveying education at university level across allied professional domains such as Geology, Geography, Informatics, Civil Engineering,
- ✓ evolve our skills and education to meet the challenges of the impacts of climate change,
- ✓ argue for policies that reduce and mitigate the effects of the hydrological risks for the well-being of all European inhabitants.

Thanks to their education and experience, surveyors are able to manage multidisciplinary teams which must be involved in projects dealing with water resource management, climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as communicate with diverse sets of stakeholders. Nowadays, Blue Surveying is often considered as a specialism for surveyors, but all surveyors need to embrace this important work.

Our education and training should include specific content dealing with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 2030 and those which will follow. As part of this, the theme of water will take an important place.

CLGE will use its network including FIG (Commission 4), to identify Universities and other experts around Europe which currently provide water management training and CLGE will foster international exchanges during the professional traineeship period in general and with an emphasis water management in particular.

Our Continuous Professional Development must include specific Blue Surveying topics to maintain our high level of expertise.

The CLGE Blue Surveying Working Group will continue its work beyond 2022. We are at the start of this journey but from small streams, will flow great rivers.

the Undersigned

Vladimír Krupa
CLGE President

Enrico Rispoli
Chair of Working Group

Andrés Diez Galilea
COIGT President