

ANNEX A. THE CHARGE

1. Is RFG a concept worth developing?
2. Are the three areas (capacity building, enhanced applications of satellite technologies, geo-governance and education) where IUGS can bring influence important components of RFG and what else is important?
3. Is IUGS – as an apolitical, non-government union representing the international geoscience community – the right organization to take a lead in developing/coordinating/catalysing RFG as a substantial international program, given:
 - a. IUGS' formal contacts with some 120 member countries and associations with many geosurveys and societies internationally, and
 - b. IUGS activities, including support for geoscience training programs, geoscience standards, participation in Group on Earth Observations (GEO/GEOSS); etc?
4. What other groups should be involved, including details of potential contacts?
5. Who could be leaders /champions of RFG, including details of potential contacts?
6. What would be needed to attract geosurvey interest/support?
7. What would be needed to attract industry interest/support?
8. What would be needed to attract others including international funding agencies, researchers etc?
9. Are there likely to be sensitivities arising from having countries with different socio-economic philosophies, stages of development and resource requirements as active participants in RFG (e.g. China, Russia, India, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, US, Canada, Australia, Latin American countries, South Africa and developing nations in Africa and elsewhere) – and how could any such issues be dealt with?
10. What is the general approach and indicative timeline recommended to develop and implement RFG, given the Pardee Keynote Symposium on Resourcing Future Generations that IUGS is convening for the GSA meeting in late October 2013, and the proposed global summit on Resourcing the Future, to be hosted by China in mid-2014?
11. Would there be mutual benefits if IUGS (and partners) were to develop RFG under another over-arching initiative(s) such as the well-funded and broadly-based Future Earth (<http://www.icsu.org/future-earth> which is being implemented by an ICSU led alliance?)