



## I EFG Members

### *Overview*

Increasing public awareness and obtaining political support for geological practice implies developing a close relationship with all the NAs, to maximise the synergy that could arise from events, either planned or not, or from natural or political sources with national or transnational impact. To build that relation it is critical to establish routine procedures to share information among EFG and its member bodies. A first step is to share information about Board activities. The dissemination of the outcome of the monthly Board meetings with EFG Council delegates has already been implemented and is a contribution to reinforce EFG's membership network in the hope that it will contribute to experience sharing among NAs, fostering a structured process of benchmarking best practices.

A second step is to work proactively with the European Commission General Directorates to increase EFG visibility and to obtain support for EFG's activities (this specific theme is set out under Strategic Action Plan II European Network). Success in that endeavour will strengthen the bond between the NAs and EFG, and enhance EFG's capability to attract new members. An expanded network is a characteristic that is highly valued by the European Commission. From that perspective, the process of increasing EFG advocacy capabilities is closely related with the process of increasing EFG's membership.

### *Objectives and drivers*

1. Improving engagement of NAs in EFG activities makes a stronger Federation and mobilises time and talents beyond just the Board, Officials and permanent staff to deliver EFG's aims and programme;
2. Sharing of best practice and benchmarking among professional geologists in Europe, contributes to mobility, recognition by governments and European institutions of geologists and the work that they do, and provides opportunities for continuing professional development to individual geologists;
3. Retaining members protects EFG's core budget;
4. Recruiting additional members will either bring in more revenue allowing the annual budget to be met and with more contributions, fees can be reduced.

### *Outcomes*

1. Developing a more cohesive Federation with shared objectives and a strong sense of mutual support;
2. Sharing the work involved in delivering the EFG strategic plan beyond just the Board, Officials and permanent staff – doing more by mobilising more resources from member associations;
3. Providing central services to member associations that lack resources to develop for themselves;
4. Facilitating mutual support between groups of member associations to pool resources or learn from each other.