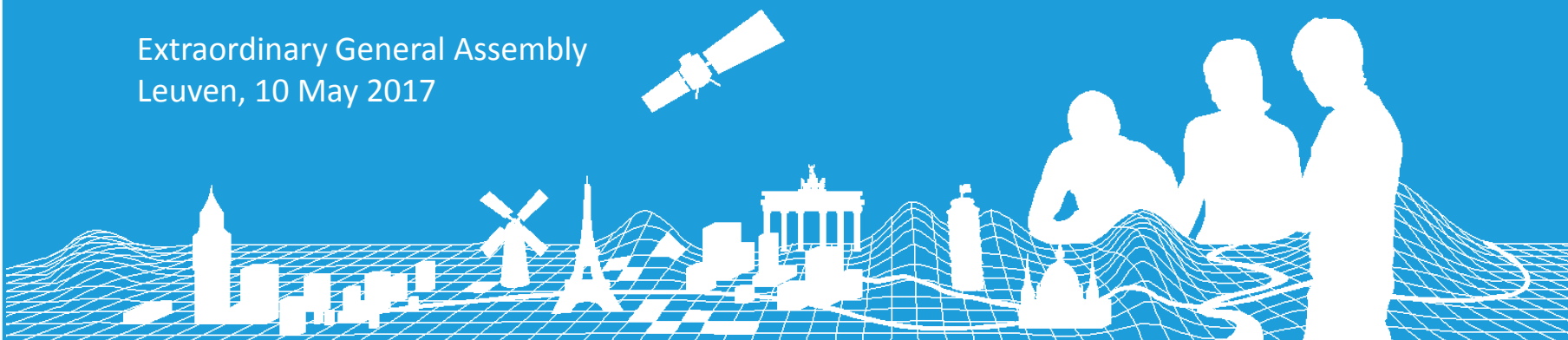


KEN Review

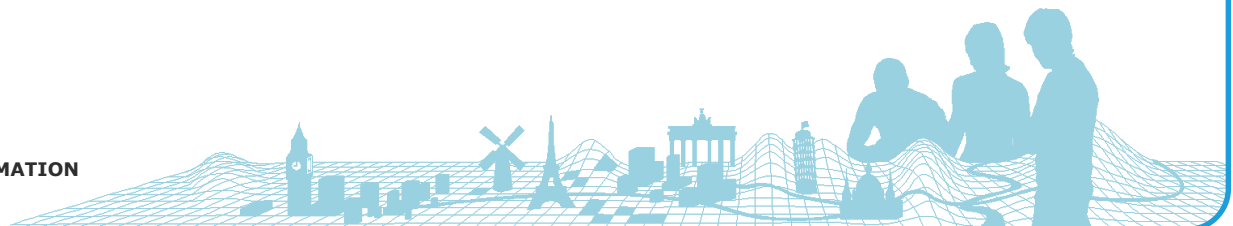
Carol Agius, UN-GGIM: Europe Administrator and KEN Coordinator

Extraordinary General Assembly
Leuven, 10 May 2017



KEN Review

- Knowledge Exchange Networks (KENs) have always been considered a key benefit of EuroGeographics membership.
- Aim of the review was to:
 - assess and identify what is currently working
 - what needs to be improved
 - where the gaps are
 - If new approaches to collaboration should be introduced



KEN Review

- Started in October 2016 at the GA and is concluding at this ExGA in May 2017
- It has address the four stakeholder groups of the Association that engage with the KENs:
 - Directors and Heads of member organisations – *roundtable discussions at the GA in Budapest*
 - EuroGeographics member organisations – *membership questionnaire*
 - KEN chairs – *online questionnaire*
 - EuroGeographics head office team - *online questionnaire*



Current status

- 8 active KENs
- During 2016 EuroGeographics and the KENs held 18 events, these included KEN plenary meetings (7), webinars (7), joint meetings with other entities (3), and a special topic workshop (1) which collectively drew together over 500 participants.

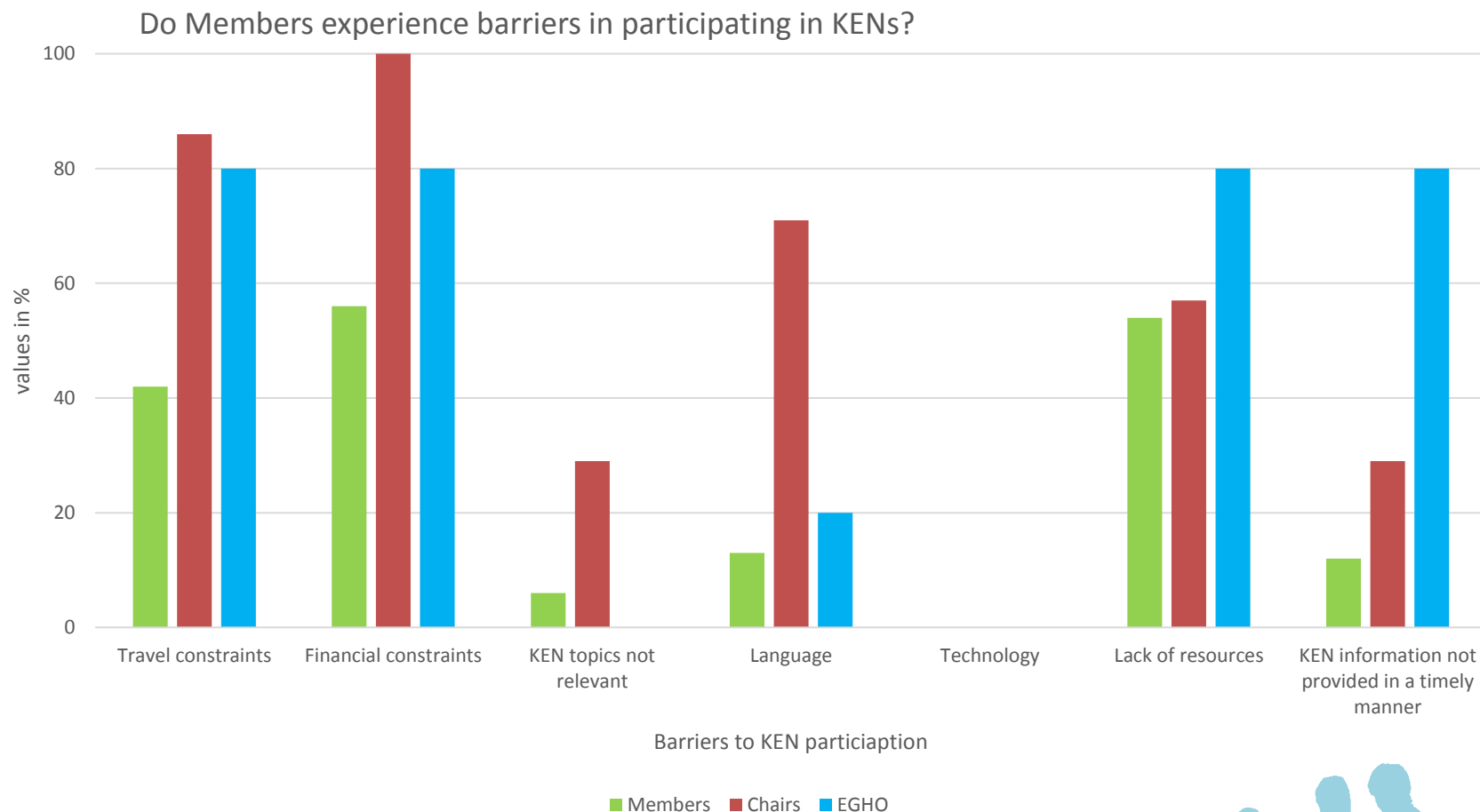


Participation in KENs

- All respondents were unanimous in stating that the top reason for participation was:
‘an opportunity to share knowledge and experience, learning from others’
- Members also highly rated *‘networking, and contact building in peer organisations around Europe’*
- *KENs provide a forum for:*
 - *sharing ideas and tackling issues and challenges with peers,*
 - *learning*
 - *discussing ideas and innovations*
 - *understanding how things can be implemented in their own organisations.*

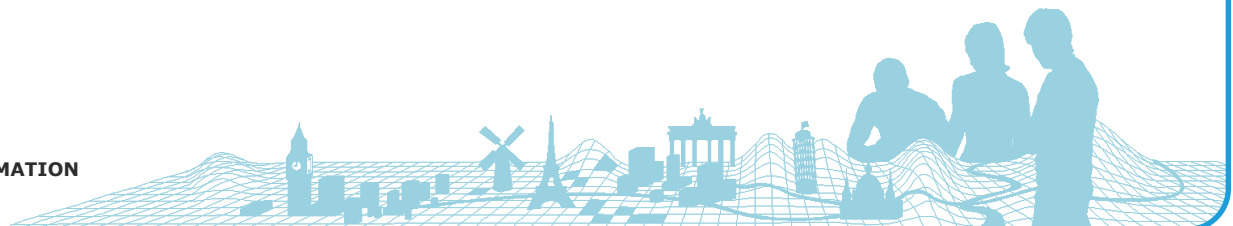


Barriers to Participation

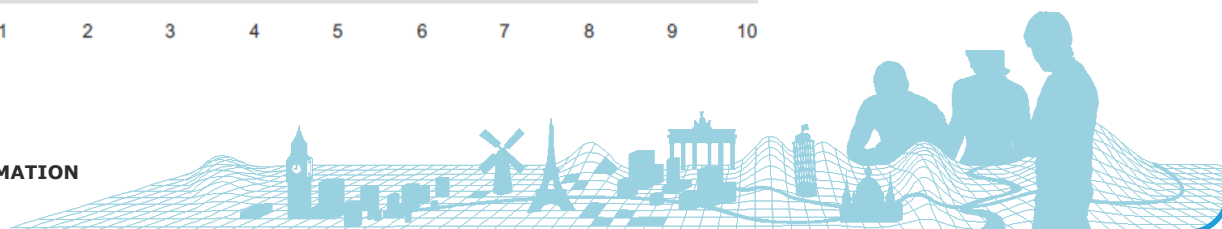
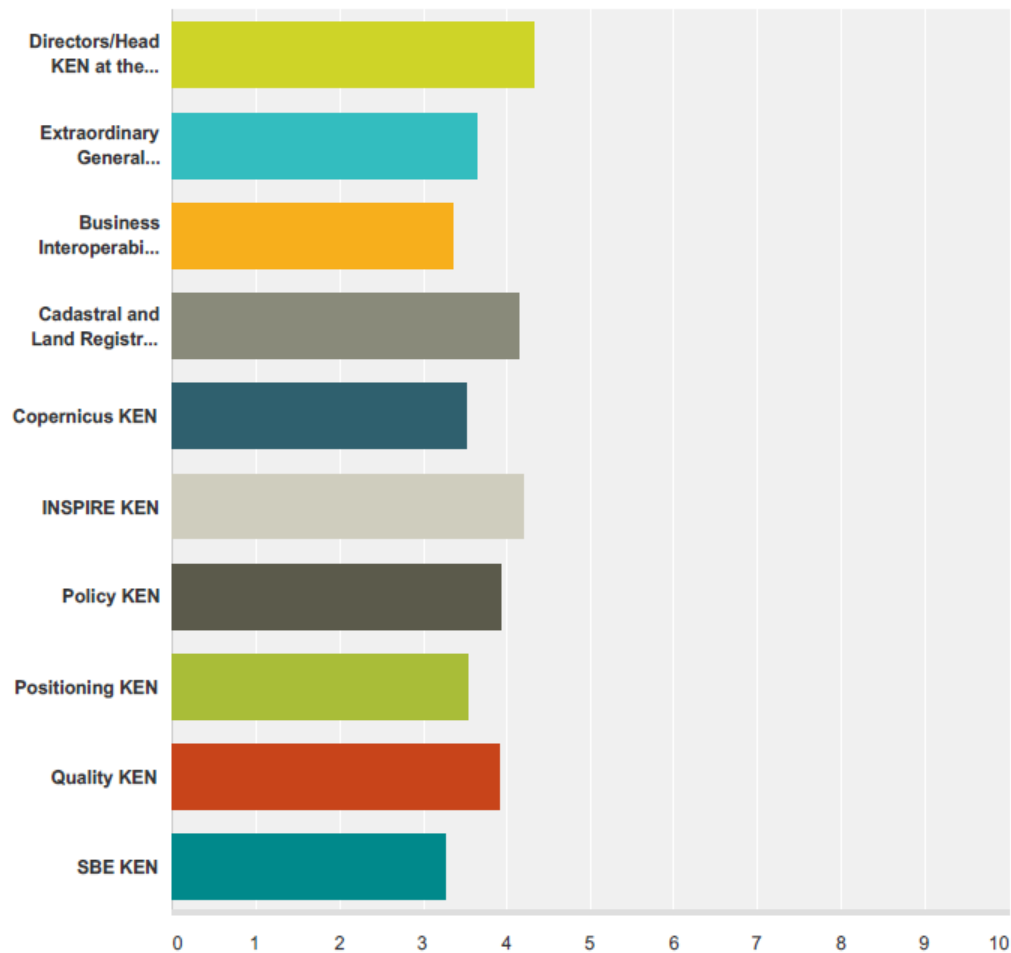


Barriers to Participation

- Financial contrasting is the standout barrier to participation
- Followed by lack of resources and travel constraints
- Interestingly members did not see technology or language as a barrier and no group rated non-relevance of KEN topics highly, from which we can infer members consider the current KEN topics to be relevant.
- There are more barriers for small organisations (below 700 employees)
- The main ways all groups felt EuroGeographics could help to overcome these barriers were:
 - Financial support
 - Help with travel costs
 - More webinars

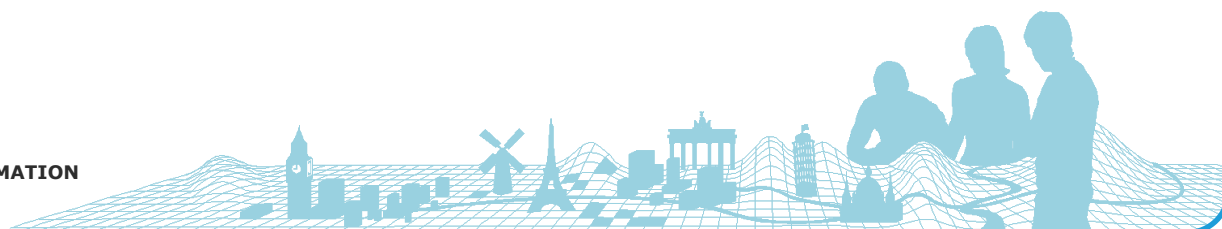


Current KEN Topics



KEN Topics

- The most important rated KEN is the General Assembly
- Followed by:
 - Cadastral and Land Registry
 - INSPIRE
 - Policy
 - Quality
- All member EEA or non-EEA countries rated Policy, INSPIRE, Copernicus highly, a further indication that as an Association we are tackling topics that are relevant to the majority of our members.

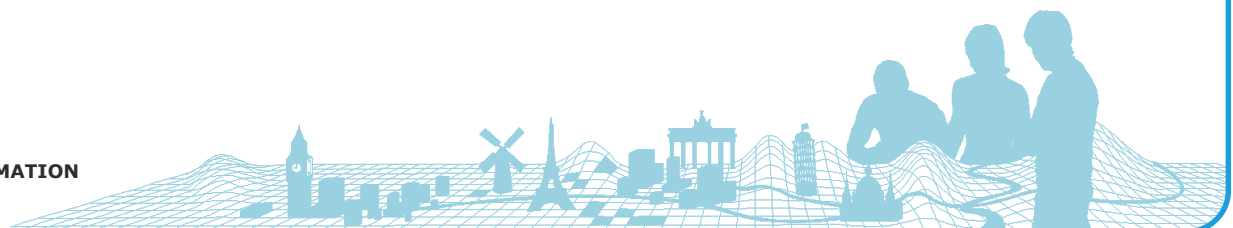


New KEN Topics



Improvements

- Additional to KENs, the most favoured option for other ways of exchanging knowledge was *'workshops or conferences focused on specific topics'*
- The four different groups commented on how KENS could be improved and their suggestions fell into a few broad categories:
 - Greater engagement with external stakeholders
 - Better cross-communication between the KENs
 - Improved communication of KEN activities
 - Ensuring outputs reach a wider audience
 - More webinars
 - Published annual plans for each KEN
 - Higher visibility of KENs at the General Assembly



Improvements

- In order to maintain relevance and motivation in KENs for the members KENS chairs and Head Office suggested:
 - *consulting and communicating with the KEN members on the topics of interest*
 - *Inviting external stakeholder to participate to give an external perspective*
 - *Organising joint events with external partners*
 - *Certificates for participation in KEN events*
 - *Providing a searchable database of information*
 - *Providing a continual professional development programme*



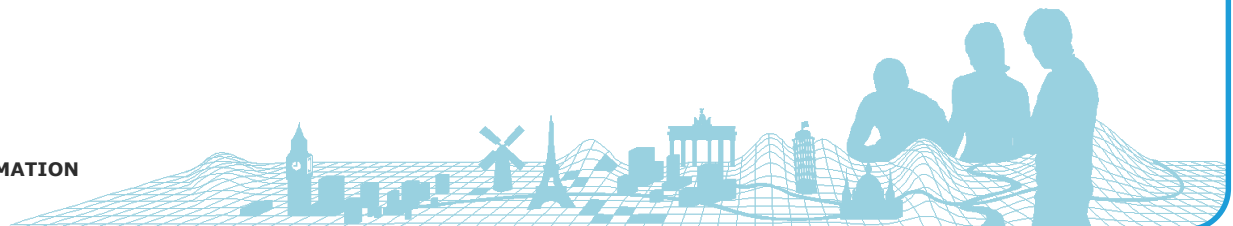
KEN management

- Main issue for KEN chairs is lack of time and resources on their co-ordinating committees
- Head Office also highlight there needs to be better cross KEN communication
- Two most useful tools for running KENs are the website and ability to run webinars
- Greater secretariat support required by KEN Chairs from Head Office
- KEN Chairs are motivated by a personal interest in the subject - very positive to know KENs are run by people who care about the subject area.



Conclusion

- KENs are seen as a priority activity for EuroGeographics
- The review has confirmed and strengthened our view that members do indeed find them very valuable and are an essential membership benefit
- By taking action and striving to improve the KENs EuroGeographics will ensure their relevance and value for members now and in the future.



“Apart from technical competence, the Chair and members develop good personal relationships amongst KEN members. A KEN is successful if its individuals enjoy and appreciate meeting colleagues, while returning real benefits back to their own NMCA.”

Respondent Comment, KEN Review 2017

