Development of a Knowledge Base for geospatial information Management

Agenda Item 11

Fourth Session of the Committee of Experts

8 August 2014

UN-GGIM | United Nations Initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management

Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges

ggim.un.org

Context

ECOSOC resolution 2011/24:

The ECOSOC resolution that established UN-GGIM in July 2011 has emphasized the importance of promoting national, regional and global efforts to foster the **exchange of knowledge and expertise**, and to assist developing countries in building and strengthening national capacities in this field

Terms of reference – one main function:

Compilation and dissemination of **best practices and experiences**

Round of consultations:

"Resources and Knowledge Base" as one of the **priority issues** for the Committee to address

Prototype

- It is based on this mandate that a proposal to develop a Knowledge Base has been adopted at the **second session of UN-GGIM**

- A **prototype** of the Knowledge Base has been presented last year to the **third session of the Committee** which invited the Member States to provide feedback to the Secretariat and requested the Secretariat to make the beta version of the UN-GGIM knowledge base portal operational

http://www.uneca.org/sites/default/files/publications/geoinformation_socio_economic_dev-en.pdf

Objectives

- Contribute to the value proposition and understanding of geospatial information;
- Promote the development of geospatial information infrastructures at national, regional and global levels;
- Increase partnerships and collaborative geospatial ventures; and
- Compile and disseminate best practices, particularly those related to legal instruments, management models and technical standards, in support of capacity development in geospatial information, particularly in developing countries.

Structure of the KB

- The structure of the knowledge base has been built around three levels of geospatial information management: global, regional and national.

  http://ggim.un.org/

- Each level is in turn broken down into categories, then eventually into sub-categories.
- This telescopic structure is built to be simple and intuitive, but also taking into account the functionalities and constraints of the software at disposal

Country Profile

- Such a profile would provide information on the organisation, data and standards, technical infrastructure and current programmes and projects. Annex V of the Report details the initial categories and data fields that are proposed for the Member States profile.

- Fact Book on Member Profile (see Annex V):
  - GENERAL
    - **Country Name**
    - **Region** Americas/Caribbean
    - **UN-GGIM Regional Body** UN-GGIM Americas
    - **Mapping/GGIM Organization:**
      - **Address**, **Contact Name**, **Position**, **E-mail**, **Telephone**, **Fax**
  - ORGANIZATIONAL FEATURES
  - DATA AND STANDARDS
  - TECHNICAL INFRASTRUCTURE
  - CURRENT PROGRAMME AND PROJECTS
  - ACHIEVEMENTS AND NEEDS

Sustainability of the KB

- The Knowledge Base is nearing the status of a final product.
- It is envisaged that the final product would be completed and presented to the Committee of Experts at its fifth session in 2015.
- The Knowledge Base sustainability relies on the **degree of involvement of and input from the Member States!**

The Committee of Experts

The Committee is invited to:

(a) Take note of the report and to express its views on the way forward for completing the knowledge base portal, including the additional functionalities to be incorporated;

(b) Encourage Member States to **contribute material and assist in the provision of relevant information at national level**;

(c) Consider the proposal to create a UN-GGIM fact book consisting of Member States profiles and to review the categories and data fields required, as well as to contribute to the creation of their member profiles, and whether the profiles should be made public information;

(d) Provide guidance on what **mechanisms will be put in place for the maintenance of the knowledge base**, and what other kinds of data/information the geospatial information community wish to **have access to**; and

(e) Provide guidance on the time frame within which a progress report should be submitted at a future meeting.