At its fifth session in August 2015 the Committee of Experts on UN-GGIM agreed that there is an urgent need for a set of global fundamental geospatial data themes that can be harmonized in order to enable the measurement, monitoring and management of sustainable development in a consistent way over time and to facilitate evidence-based decision-making and policymaking.

Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe to establish and lead a working group to liaise with other regional committees of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management to bring together information on the consideration of fundamental geospatial data themes and to lead discussions between interested Member States and observers, with a view to developing an agreed minimum set of global fundamental geospatial data themes.

UN-GGIM: Europe was given a mandate to establish and lead a working group to liaise with other regional committees of UN-GGIM to bring together information on the consideration of fundamental geospatial data themes and to lead discussions between interested Member States and observers, with a view to developing an agreed minimum set of global fundamental geospatial data themes. This Workshop will start to address the issues around the work.

By attending you will learn about the terms of reference and scope of the work of the Working Group and its future work programme. It is the intention of the Working Group to draw on existing work in this field, so other initiatives around the world will be presented. You will then have the opportunity to contribute to the early description of what we mean by ‘fundamental’ and what the global themes will be.