Background

Geospatial information and enabling technologies, the ‘data ecosystem and related architectures’, have evolved and progressed at considerable pace. Geospatial information is able to be presented in many forms and mediums, providing the digital connection between a place, its people and their activities, and to illustrate what is happening – where, how and why. It is also used to model and portray the impact of the past, the present and likely future scenarios. Technological enablers such as the Internet, Cloud computing, analytics, Big Data, mobile devices, smart sensors, unmanned data collection systems, and the rapid explosion of location-based services, which bring everyone directly into contact with location information every day, have ensured that people the world over, are beginning to appreciate the need for geospatial information in their consumption of data.

This has also significantly motivated the global geospatial industry to be more innovative, solutions orientated, and to embrace an emerging information economy and the ‘digital transformation’ opportunities that we have today; where the expectations for growing global interconnectivity and information societies are being underpinned by both digital disruption and digital transformation – enabling e-commerce and a modern information economy to prosper. But with more data and technology available than ever before, many developing countries have yet to have the ‘opportunity’ to interact with these rapidly emerging capabilities, as the democratization of geospatial information and the data ecosystem must be shared.

Geospatial Information reflects the physical world (both natural and built) in which all human, economic and environmental activities take place, and provides the digital version of our world - without which digital economy and smarter society are not possible. Geospatial information describes the physical location of geographic and as-built features and their relationship to other features and associated information and provides the integrative platform for all digital data that has a location dimension to it. All countries and all sectors need geospatial information for national development, policy and decision-making. There is a new and emerging “data ecosystem” for sustainable development in which collaborative information systems, that are comprehensive and coordinated, able to provide evidence on the state of a place, people, events and activities, and to deliver timely information necessary for citizens, organizations and governments to build accountable actions and make informed and evidenced-based decisions.

Enhancing and sustaining the data ecosystem for sustainable development that exploits new data needs, information systems, analytics and associated enabling and integrative technologies, processes and tools will be instrumental in delivering reliable, timely and quality information for evidence-based policies, decisions and programmes nationally and sub-nationally, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and leaving no one behind.
Provisional Annotated Agenda

Monday, 21 October 2019

08:00 a.m. – 09:00 a.m.
Arrival and registration of participants

09:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Official Opening Session
The official opening session of the Deqing International Workshop and Seminar on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management with the theme “The Data Ecosystem for Sustainable Development” and the launch of the Deqing SDGs Data Hub.

Moderator:
Mr. Stefan Schweinfest
Director, United Nations Statistics Division

Welcome remarks
Dr. Wang Qian
Deputy Director General, Department of International Cooperation,
Ministry of Natural Resources, P.R. China

Official opening statement
Mr. Liu Zhenmin
Under-Secretary-General, Economic and Social Affairs
United Nations

The China (Deqing) Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Service System
Ms. Wang Qinying
Secretary, Deqing County Party Committee
(The Deqing SDGs Profile and the launch of the Deqing Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Service System – federating information and leveraging geospatial technologies as a nexus for delivering evidence-based information for sustainable development in Deqing and Zhejiang Province)

10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Group Photograph and Break

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Session #1 “Integrative geospatial technologies and processes”
Digital transformation of the society and economy is truly underway and is disrupting conventional and ‘business-as-usual’ practices for the better. Location-enabled reliable, timely and quality information is leading the way in this transformation and many of the innovative applications, such as ride-hailing applications, is changing the facet of our society and economy. Given that “every business in the future will use geospatial information”¹, this session will discuss the integrative abilities and potential of geospatial information, technologies and processes for the benefit of society, economy and environment. (Each presentation will be of no more than 25 minutes duration allowing some time for moderated discussion)

¹ Mr. Daniel Zhang, Chief Executive Officer Alibaba Group, Deqing, China (November 2018)
Moderator:
Mr. Greg Scott
UN Secretariat, Global Geospatial Information Management

Presentations
- Reaping the digital dividends for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
  Mr. Stefan Schweinfest, United Nations Statistics Division
- The geospatial cloud – federating data and information for sustainability, wellbeing, peace and prosperity
  Mr. Dean Angelides, Esri International
- Collaborative and coordinated integrative cloud services for sustainable development
  Mr. Du Lei, Huawei Cloud GIS Service

Moderated Discussion

12:15 p.m. – 14:00 p.m.
Break

14:00 p.m. – 15:30 p.m.
Session #2 “The Deqing SDGs Data Hub”
The Deqing SDGs Data Hub leverages up-to-date geospatial and cloud technologies and processes and a system-of-systems approach to collaborate and federate data and information from multiple sources, collected for differing purposes as a nexus for delivering timely information necessary for citizens, organizations and governments to build accountable actions. Make informed and evidenced-based decisions for sustainable development. This session discusses the drivers that led to the development of the Deqing SDGs Profile and the Deqing SDGs Data Hub, and the benefits arising from this initiative for sustainability, wellbeing and prosperity in Deqing and Zhejiang Province.

Moderator:
Prof. Chen Jun
National Geomatics Center, China

Presentations
- The Deqing SDGs Profile and Deqing SDGs Data Hub – Rationale, drivers and leadership
  Mr. Peng Shu, National Geomatics Center, China and UN-GGIM-AP Working Group on Integrating Geospatial Information and Statistics
- The Deqing SDGs Data Hub – the integrative technologies and processes
  Dr. Chen Hao, Hunan University of Science and Technology, China
- The Deqing SDGs Data Hub – a live demonstration
  Dr. Cui Bingliang, Alpha (Guangzhou) Co., Ltd, China

Moderated Discussion
15:30 p.m. – 16:00 p.m.
Break

16:00 p.m. – 17:30 p.m.
Session #3 “Leveraging integrative technologies and processes”
Federating information and a system-of-systems approach to develop collaborative, comprehensive and coordinated national information delivery systems driven by geospatial information, technologies and process are benefiting national statistical and geospatial information systems to deliver timely information necessary for governments, enterprises, communities and citizens make informed decisions and actions. This is a panel discussion to consider the technologies and innovation for sustaining the data ecosystem for sustainable development.

Moderator and Presenter
Integrative technologies and processes for collaborative, comprehensive and coordinated national information delivery systems
Mr. Steven Sha, Esri China Technologies Ltd.

Panelists:
Mr. Peng Shu
National Geomatics Center, China

Mr. Tarendra Ojha
Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission

Mr. Peter Muthama
Kenya National Bureau of Statistics

Mr. Du Lei
Huawei Cloud GIS Service

Mr. Keran Wang
UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Moderated Discussion

Tuesday, 22 October 2019

08:30 a.m. –09:00 a.m.
Arrival of participants

09:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Session #4 “Nationally integrated geospatial information management”
Location enabled knowledge is shaping the future of humanity, driving rapid advances in machine learning, automation and artificial intelligence. Individuals, businesses, organizations and governments are improving efficiencies and making informed choices, facilitating scientific and medical research, making societies and economies more productive and efficient. This is a panel discussion to consider nationally integrated geospatial information management and discuss national strategic drivers, efforts, investments, and the leadership in realizing the integrative potential of geospatial information, technologies and processes, and the data ecosystem for sustainable development.
Moderator and Presenter
Towards nationally integrated geospatial information management for evidence-based policies and decisions
Mr. Greg Scott, UN Secretariat, Global Geospatial Information Management

Panelists:
Mr. Alejandro Jimenez
National Geographic Institute, Dominican Republic

Mr. Viliame Waqa
Ministry of Land and Mineral Resources, Fiji

Mr. Antonius Bambang Wijanarto
Geospatial Information Agency, Indonesia

Ms. Halalilika Etika
Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, Kingdom of Tonga

Mr. Dean Angelides
Esri International

Moderated Discussion

10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Break

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Session #5 “Towards nationally integrated geospatial information management”
Following from Session #4, this panel will discuss the importance of stakeholder engagement and partnerships to deliver the data ecosystem for sustainable development

Moderator and Presenter:
Effective partnerships towards realizing the data ecosystem for sustainable development
Mr. Keran Wang, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Panelists:
Ms. Zhu Yueqin
Department of Big Geo-data Research, China Geological Survey

Ms. Lucy Mburu
Department of Survey, Ministry of Lands and Physical Planning, Kenya

Mr. Azamat Karypov
State Agency of Water Resources Management, Kyrgyzstan

Mr. S.M.P.P. Sangakkara (tbc)
Survey Department, Sri Lanka

Mr. Charles Brigham
Esri International
Moderated Discussion

12: 30 p.m. – 14:00 p.m.
Break

14:00 p.m. – 15:30 p.m.
Session #6 “Towards nationally integrated geospatial information management”
Following from Session #4, this panel will discuss the importance of education and capacity development to deliver the data ecosystem for sustainable development

Moderator and Presenter:
*Capability development and education to sustain the data ecosystem for sustainable development*
Mr. Alvaro Monett, UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Panelists:
- Mr. Mohammad Muniruzzaman *(tbc)*
  *Survey of Bangladesh*
- Ms. Jiang Jie
  *Beijing University of Civil Engineering and Architecture, China*
- Ms. Myagmarjargal Mendbayar
  *Agency for Land Administration and Management, Geodesy and Cartography, Mongolia*
- Mr. Jean Claude Ntirenganya
  *Rwanda Land Management and Use Authority*

Moderated Discussion

15: 30 p.m. – 16:00 p.m.
Break

16:00 p.m. – 17:00 p.m.
Closing session

Closing remarks
- Mr. Greg Scott
  *United Nations Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs*