

UN-GGIM: Europe Year in Review



UN-GGIM
EUROPE

UNITED NATIONS
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- *Tomaž Petek, Chair UN-GGIM: Europe*
- 8th Session of the Committee of Experts
- 1st August 2018



Main outcomes from the Fifth Plenary UN GGIM Europe Meeting were:

- Relationship between the statistical and geospatial communities now well established,
- we should now focus on strengthening collaboration and coordination: (working together smarter and coordinate efforts to avoid duplication to better deliver on priority areas)
- Agreed that UN-GGIM: Europe and UNECE to continue with their good collaboration in sharing knowledge and expertise, including through supporting the geo-spatial needs of the SDGs, continuing to relevant capacity development workshops, and convening a joint workshop on data integration in 2019
- Approved the update to the UN-GGIM: Europe Work Plan 2018 – 2021.



<http://un-ggim-europe.org/content/fifth-plenary-meeting-un-ggim-europe>



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Governance of UN-GGIM: Europe

- UN-GGIM: Europe is coordinated and managed by an Executive Committee of nine: one chair, two vice-chairs and six members nominated and approved at Regional Plenary Meetings
- Changes to ExCom at the Fifth Plenary Meeting:
 - Bengt Kjellson, Sweden stepped down as Chair of UN-GGIM: Europe
 - New Chair is Tomaž Petek, Slovenia
 - New Committee Member is David Henderson, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- The Executive Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe is assisted in carrying out its functions by a Secretariat. The Netherlands is responsible for providing the secretariat to UN-GGIM: Europe. The function of the Secretariat of UN-GGIM: Europe is carried out and funded by EuroGeographics through a Service Level Agreement with Kadaster Netherlands



UN-GGIM: Europe – Regional Working Groups

- [Working Group on Core Data](#) is focusing on increasing data interoperability and harmonisation by proposing core geospatial data which meets essential user needs.
- [Working Group Data Integration](#) works to ensure that the regional entity focuses on how geospatial data can enhance sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda in Europe. The working group was also set up with the intention that it will interact with the IAEG-SDG Working Group on Geospatial Information.
- [Working Group on Geodetic Reference Frame - Europe](#) has a close connection to the various geodesy-related organisations in Europe, and actively contributes to the work of the global GGRF Working Group, which was elevated to a permanent Sub-Committee on Geodesy (SCoG) by the Committee of Experts at its meeting in August 2017.



Regional Activities: Workshop on Integrating Geospatial and Statistical Standards

- Joint UNECE/UNGGIM: Europe Workshop held in Stockholm, Sweden, 6-8 November, 2017
- Participation from 31 Member States and seven observers, including research institutes, standards organisations, universities and private sector also attended the workshop.
- The workshop was aimed at experts on statistical and geospatial metadata or technical standards relevant to the modernisation of statistics, in addition to experts from national mapping, cadastral or environmental agencies.
- The participants discussed recommendations for future work. Details of workshop and discussion can be found at UN GGIM Europe web page.



Regional Activities: Annual meeting with NMCAs & NSIs

- Continuing what has now become a tradition, representatives from European Statistical and Mapping Authorities congregated in Luxembourg. The fourth edition of the meeting was this year also organised together with UNECE.
- The Fourth Joint UN-GGIM: Europe - ESS - UNECE Meeting was hosted by Eurostat in Luxembourg on the 18th March 2018.
- Focus was on capacity development in the statistical and geospatial communities.



<http://un-ggim-europe.org/content/joint-un-ggim-europe---ess-unece-meeting-integration-statistical-and-geospatial-information>



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Regional Activities: Active participation at events

- INSPIRE Conference, September 2017, Strasbourg/Kehl
- European Forum for Geography and Statistics Conference November 2017, Dublin
- International Conference "NSDI: TOWARDS DATA SOCIETY,, Kiev, Ukrain, 22. February 2018
- Participation of UN-GGIM: Europe ExCom in the UNECE High-level Seminar on Strategic Partnerships in Official Statistics Geneva, April 2018
- XI. Regional conference on cadastre and spatial data infrastructure, 29. -30. May 2018, Budva, Montenegro



Contribution to UN-GGIM - Fundamental Data

The Experts Committee mandated UN-GGIM: Europe to establish and lead a Global Working Group to draw together current projects from different UN-GGIM regional bodies to determine global fundamental geospatial data themes. In the past twelve months this Working Group had continued with its work, and has successfully fulfilled its mandate and terms of reference. A report on work of the UN-GGIM WG on Fundamental Data is being submitted to the Committee of Experts at this Eight Session.



Global Geodetic Reference Frame



Geographical Names



Addresses



Functional Areas



Buildings and Settlements



Land Parcels / Properties



Transport Networks



Elevation and Depth



Population Distribution



Land Cover and Use



Geology and Soils



Physical Infrastructure/ Service Points



Water



Imagery



Contribution to UN-GGIM – IAEG-SDG WGGI

UN-GGIM: Europe continues with its active participation and contribution to Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals Indicator (IAEG-SDGs) Working Group on Geospatial Information. Participating in the meetings and aligning the work of the regional Working Group on Data Integration to provide European input to the Expert Group.



Contribution to UN-GGIM – cont.

- Actively participated in the Fifth UN-GGIM HLF held in November 2017 in Mexico City. Regional members also participated in the inaugural meeting of the UN-GGIM sub-Committee on Geodesy held in the fringes of the forum.
- Contributed to the Expanded Bureau Meeting, December 2017.
- UN-GGIM: Europe contributed to the 5th Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Arab States in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman in February 2018, sharing experiences and knowledge with the Regional Committee of Arab States.
- UN-GGIM: Europe, through EuroGeographics, facilitated the presentation and consultative opportunity of the initial draft of an 'Integrated Geospatial Framework' by the World Bank to European Member States. This was part of a wider work shop in May 2018.



Strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management

- UN-GGIM: Europe and the UNECE Secretariat recognize the mutual benefits of working together. In particular in terms of improving outreach and raising awareness of the respective work programmes, as well as strengthening capacity building activities and learning from each other.
- Drafted: [Proposal for greater collaboration between the UNECE and the UN-GGIM: Europe](#)
- The UNECE Secretariat and the Executive Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe have agreed to pursue the following collaboration activities in the period 2018-2020:
 - Geospatial information for sustainable development
 - Building networks and promoting communication
 - Integration of geospatial, statistical and other information
 - Capacity building
 - Involvement of other UNECE work programmes
 - Cross-representation in the activities of the other body
 - Reporting on progress / work accomplished



Collaborating with observer organisations

Engaging with the wider geospatial and statistical communities in Europe:

- Encourage a high level of active participation from the wider geospatial community
- Raise interest from observing bodies, relevant professional, research and academic organizations and associations
- Engage with the observer organisations to integrate their participation in UN-GGIM: Europe activities



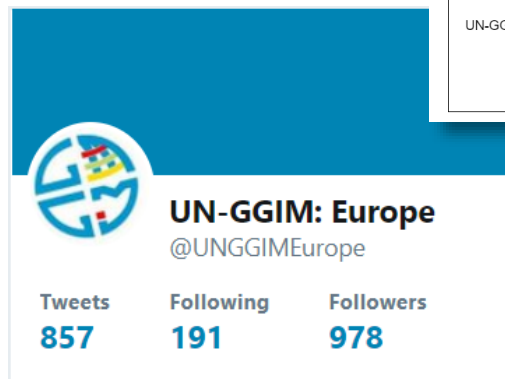
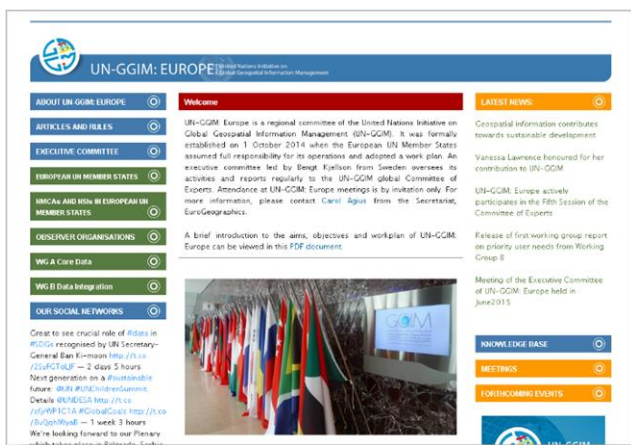
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Media and communication

- Press releases publicising regional and global UN-GGIM activities and achievements
- [UN-GGIM: Europe Newsletter](#)
- Website: <http://un-ggim-europe.org/>
- Twitter account: @UNGGIMEurope



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Newsletter 01-18

Taking our tradition of collaboration a step further

Europe's long-standing tradition of regional cooperation is key to the success of UN-GGIM: Europe.

We know that the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) present many challenges for our community. However, they also create great opportunities to build on this reputation for establishing mutually-beneficial working relationships, particularly with organisations that share our interest in using geospatial information to integrate data from a wide range of sources.

Our well-established partnership with Eurostat is one such example, whilst more recently our collaboration with UNECE strengthens our links with colleagues working to promote pan-European capacity building. This cooperation was not only seen in our recent joint meeting with Eurostat, to which UNECE also contributed, but also in our participation in the UNECE High Level Seminar on Partnerships.

In addition to new relationships, delivering the SDGs will also require new sources of information and new methods to manage and analyse them. The geospatial and statistical communities certainly have much to learn from one another but need a common vision and top-level support to deliver it. Ireland's approach is a good example of what can be achieved when we work together in this way.

The clock is ticking and the countdown has begun, so we cannot risk duplicating our efforts or resources. Collaboration and cooperation remain key – whether through existing or new partnerships, working together at national, regional and global level, or helping to promote the benefit of integrated geospatial and statistical information beyond our immediate network.

UN-GGIM: Europe needs you!

Bengt Kjellson
Chair, UN-GGIM: Europe

#Powerofwhere



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Looking forward - Activities 2018/2019

UN-GGIM: Europe is planning to organise/actively participate in the following future events in the next twelve months:

- European Forum for Geography and Statistics Conference, October 2018, Helsinki, Finland
- UN World Data Forum 2018, 22 to 24 October 2018
- First United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress, November, Deqing, China
- Fifth Joint UN-GGIM: Europe-ESS-UNECE Meeting, Spring 2019, Luxembourg
- Sixth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe, June 2019, Brussels, Belgium
- UN-GGIM - UNECE Joint Workshop on Data Integration, March 2019, Luxembourg
- Joint UN-GGIM: Europe – UNECE workshop on data integration, 2019 (date and venue TBC)



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Priority Issues and Challenges

The Executive Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe consider that some of the priority issues for the coming period include:

- The Sustainable Development Goals
- Improved collaboration between the statistical and geospatial communities
- Capacity Development
- The continuation of the work on Fundamental Geospatial Data Themes
- The Integrated Global Geospatial Framework



Thank you!



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