



UN-GGIM  
UNITED NATIONS  
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

## The United Nations Expert Group on Land Administration and Management

### Work plan for 2023 – 2025

#### Background

On 22 July 2022, following informal negotiations by Member States, the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) adopted Resolution [2022/24](#) entitled ‘Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements.’ The adoption of this critical resolution represents a significant endorsement of the Committee’s work and value over the past decade and “reiterates the importance of strengthening and enhancing the effectiveness of the Committee of Experts, particularly for the achievement of its operations focused on the Sustainable Development Goals and the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, to strengthen and ensure its continued effectiveness and benefits to all Member States”.

ECOSOC decided to enhance the institutional arrangements of the Committee of Experts, in charge of all matters related to geospatial information, geography, land administration and related topics, in accordance with the terms of reference annexed to the present resolution. ECOSOC further decided to strengthen the work of the Committee of Experts, and requested the Secretary-General, in the context of his next budget proposal, to identify options to do so, within existing resources, including the establishment of a secretariat for the Committee, dedicated to the Committee’s normative and implementation work on global geospatial information management.

United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), at its Twelfth Session, reaffirmed that, for land administration to be effective, it must be fit-for-purpose, appropriate and adequate, interoperable, sustainable, flexible and inclusive, and must have the capacity to accelerate efforts to document, record, recognize and monitor the relationships between people and land in all its forms.

The [establishment](#) of the Expert Group was endorsed by UN-GGIM at its Fifth Session in August 2015 with the following objectives:

- To play a leading role at the policy level by raising political awareness and highlighting the importance to decision makers of the need for timely and fit for purpose land administration and management and;
- To encourage the use of geospatial information tools and systems to improve the legal certainty of all citizens in the world with respect to the registration of the relation between people and land.

#### Introduction

At the Twelfth Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) from 3 to 5 August 2022, in its decision 12/109, UN-GGIM welcomed the report of the expert group on land administration and management, noted the work and progress of the expert group during the intersessional period and the leadership change. UN-GGIM appreciated the continuing efforts by Member States to utilize the Implementation Guide of the UN-IGIF as a reference resource when considering guidance to implement the Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA) at the country level and that national circumstances required further elaboration and adaptation of the guidance and recommended actions towards countries’ needs, and in that regard welcomed the understanding that land administration should be addressed within an “ecosystem” or “interconnected domains” to be effective.



UN-GGIM also noted that the Expert Group had begun consideration of an inventory of issues to be covered in its updated workplan and, while affirming a continuing focus on promoting and raising awareness of the merits and benefits of effective land administration, to include efforts to raise awareness of and advocate for the country-level implementation of the FELA together with the UN-IGIF, and the role that it could play within the area of climate change and the integration of the terrestrial, maritime and cadastral domains. UN-GGIM further noted efforts of the Expert Group in collaborating with other functional groups of the Committee of Experts, such as the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information and the Working Group on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information Management, and to continue to work closely with international organizations such as the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC), EuroSDR, and academia, as these collaborations further anchor the FELA in the broad programme of work of the Committee.

The Expert Group was encouraged to continue addressing issues including rights, restrictions and responsibilities associated with land; digital and mobile access to land information; the integration of the built environment and the cadastre; and the cybersecurity and data security mechanisms needed to protect vital land information; and noted that efforts to address those issues required integrated information on land tenure, land value, land development, land use and land use change to effectively administer and manage land.

### **Inventory of Issues**

The inventory of issues and thus the areas of focus for the Expert Group in its present three-year term are:

- i] Leadership, promoting and raising awareness of the merits and benefits of effective land administration through:
  - raise awareness of and advocate for the country-level implementation of the FELA together with the UN-IGIF;
  - role of effective land administration within the area of climate change and resilience, and sustainable development.
  
- ii] The implementation of the UN-IGIF and the FELA at the country-level:
  - leverage the Implementation Guide of the UN-IGIF as a reference resource when considering guidance to implement the FELA at the country level;
  - elaborate and align the UN-IGIF implementation guidance and recommended actions with national circumstances and needs;
  - address effective land administration within an “ecosystem” or “interconnected domains”.
  
- iii] The integration of the terrestrial, maritime, built and cadastral domains; and additional issues related to:
  - rights, restrictions and responsibilities associated with land;
  - digital and mobile access to land information;
  - cybersecurity and data security mechanisms needed to protect vital land information;
  - integrated information on land tenure, land value, land development, land use and land use change.
  
- iv] Collaborating with other UN-GGIM functional groups and to work closely with relevant international organizations to further anchor the FELA in the broad programme of work of UN-GGIM.



## Work plan for 2023 - 2025

For the period 2023 – 2025, the work plan of the Expert Group will focus on:

Focus	Scope	Plans/Activities
<b>Leadership and advocacy</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote and raise awareness of the merits and benefits of effective land administration</li> <li>Encourage, promote and develop guidance for Member States to implement FELA at country level</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report to the annual sessions of UN-GGIM in 2023, 2024 and 2025</li> <li>Convene side events on effective land administration on the margins of the annual sessions of UN-GGIM in 2023, 2024 and 2025</li> <li>Convene virtual and in-person meetings of the Expert Group to advance the objectives, functions and work plan of the Expert Group</li> <li>Convene a third and fourth edition of the International Seminar on Effective Land Administration alongside in-person meetings of the Expert Group</li> </ul>
<b>Promote and encourage the implementation of the FELA at the country-level</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review, elaborate and adapt the UN-IGIF Implementation Guide and related implementation resources to further guide and support the implementation of FELA according to national circumstances and needs</li> <li>Encourage volunteered translation of the FELA into languages other than English to support raising of awareness and promote better understanding.</li> <li>Facilitate sharing and exchange of knowledge, information, experiences, and practices, including relevant use cases and implementation examples.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint activities with EuroSDR and FIG Commission 7</li> <li>Joint outcome reports</li> <li>Joint publications with FIG Commission 7</li> </ul>
<b>Integration of terrestrial, maritime, built and cadastral domains</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gain better understanding through cooperative project and activities</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The integration of height and chart datums (with the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information and the IHO-Singapore Innovation and Technology Laboratory)</li> <li>Authoritative data, data sharing and integration (with the Working Group on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information Management)</li> <li>Understand the role of open standards, keep abreast with and support the development of ISO 19152 LADM and relevant IHO and OGC standards</li> <li>Develop a brief or paper to elaborate key considerations in the integration of terrestrial, maritime, built and cadastral domains</li> </ul>



<p><b>Innovation in land administration and management to strengthen resilience and sustainability</b></p>	<p>7. Promote effective land administration within an ‘ecosystem’ or ‘interconnected domains’</p> <p>8. Address rights, restrictions and responsibilities associated with land;</p> <p>9. Address digital and mobile access to land information including cybersecurity and data security mechanisms to protect vital land information;</p> <p>10. Address the integration of information related to land tenure, land value, land development, land use and land use change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Discuss and consider Scope #7 - #10 during virtual and in-person meetings of the Expert Group</li> <li>▪ Report on outcomes of considerations to UN-GGIM at its annual sessions in 2023, 2024 and 2025 (an issue at a time)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Engagement and collaboration including to further anchor the FELA in the UN-GGIM programme of work</b></p>	<p>11. Identify, agree and work on cooperative projects including with UN-GGIM regional committees, functional groups, thematic networks and relevant stakeholders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To continue on-going research project with EuroSDR</li> <li>▪ To organize a seminar on FELA with WG2 of UN-GGIM-AP at GeoConnect 2023 (14 March 2023)</li> <li>▪ Cooperation with the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) Commission 7 including to organize joint sessions/workshops/seminar at FIG Working Weeks<sup>1</sup> and Commission 7 Annual Meetings<sup>2</sup> aiming at effective land administration and the implementation of FELA at the country-level</li> <li>▪ To organize two (2) in-person expert meetings and international seminar – (4Q2023/1Q2024, host to be decided), and 2Q2025, SLA, Singapore).</li> </ul>

*Thirteenth virtual meeting,  
21 February 2023*

<sup>1</sup> May 2023 (Orlando, United States of America); May 2024 (Accra, Ghana); May 2025 (Brisbane, Australia)  
<sup>2</sup> September/October 2023 (Netherlands)

