

# Working Group on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters

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International Forum on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters  
Session 1

Bridgetown, Barbados  
4-5 September 2016



UN-GGIM

United Nations Initiative on  
Global Geospatial Information Management

*Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges*

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# Establishment of the Working Group

- Created during the 5<sup>th</sup> Session of UN-GGIM in August 2015 at the UN Headquarters, New York
- A terms of reference (TOR) and a work plan for 2016 were formulated thereafter
- Co-chaired by the Philippines (Task Team 1) and Jamaica (Task Team 2)
- Composed of senior officials and technical experts from 50 Member States, as well as representatives from businesses, aid organizations and other related institutions





# Activities of the Working Group

- Task team 1, led by the Philippines, is tasked to develop a strategic framework on geospatial information and services for disasters.
- Task Team 2, led by Jamaica, is tasked to conduct a review of existing global, regional and national frameworks, laws, rules, policies and regulations among Member States for the provision of geospatial information and services during times of disasters



# Fact Finding Study and Review of Framework, Rules, Legislation and Policies on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters

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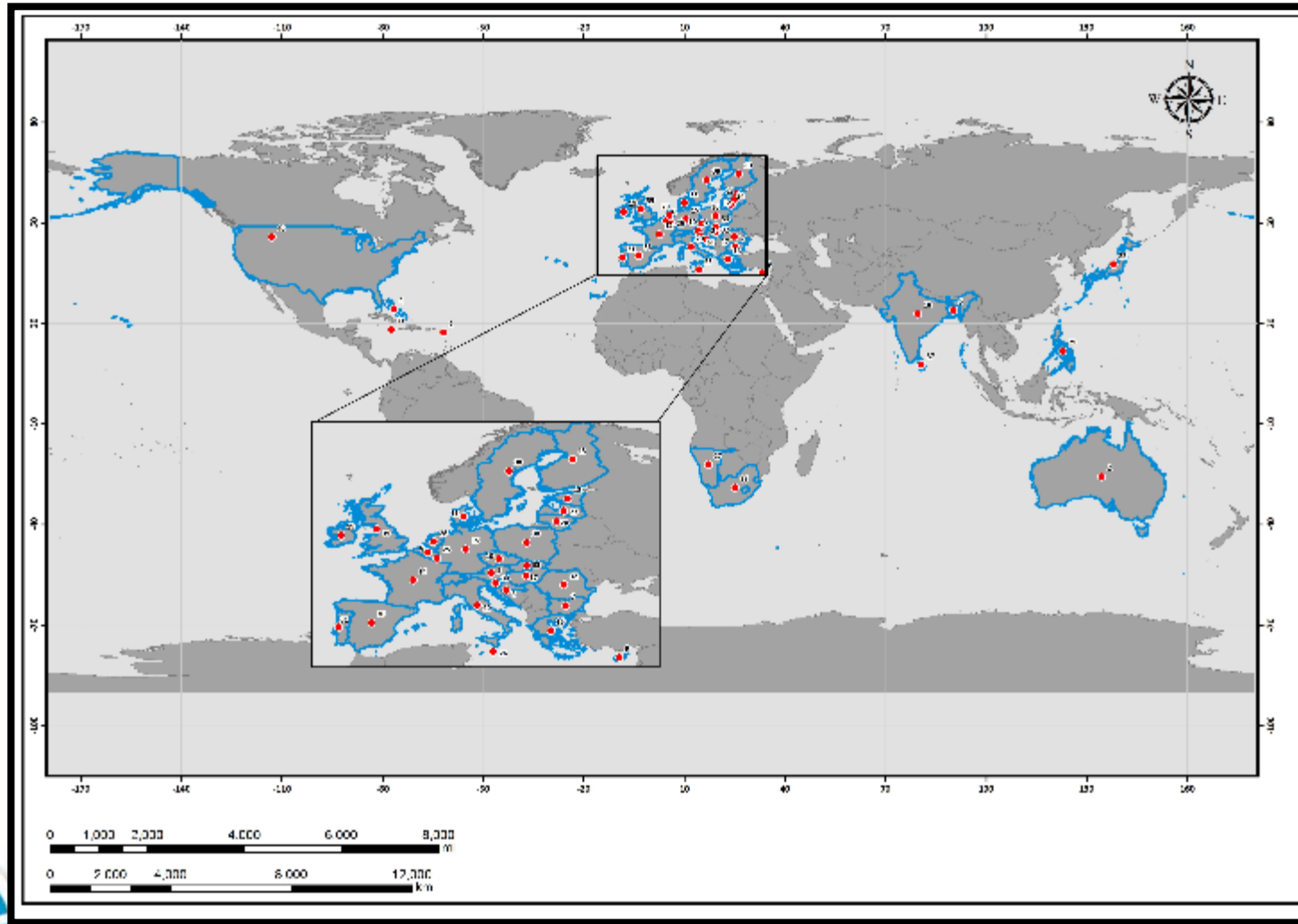
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# METHODOLOGY

- Review of relevant Global Frameworks, guidelines and relevant UN resolutions.
- Results of questionnaire from original scoping exercise.
- National SDI focal point contacted for copies of relevant frameworks
- The UNGGIM Knowledge base was also scoured to review existing SDI laws.
- NDOs contacted for contributions in order to review disaster legislation.
- 17 countries were selected for review with attempts made to capture member states from each UNGGIM region.



# MEMBER STATES



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# SUMMARY ANALYSIS

## Global Frameworks

- **UN General Assembly Resolution 59/212** encourages the sharing of geographical data among Governments, space agencies and relevant international humanitarian organizations... to mitigate the effects of natural disasters.
- **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030)** recognizes among its priorities for action the need to make non-sensitive hazard exposure and risk information freely available during disasters.



# SUMMARY ANALYSIS

## National Frameworks

- Only a limited number of countries examined have specific laws, rules or regulations in place to facilitate the provision of geospatial data and services to other stakeholders and partners during a crisis.
- Some countries with established SDI laws or policies, have sought to include specific provisions to ensure that geospatial data is effectively shared during times of disasters.
- Generally, there is quite a bit of fragmentation of laws in Member States when it comes to comprehensive GI for disaster response legislation, whether in the framework legislation itself or in the defined role and responsibility.





# SUMMARY ANALYSIS

## Philippines Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act, 2010



- multi-stakeholder participation in the development, updating, sharing of and access to information for policy and planning and decision making before during and after disasters.
- establishes clear institutional responsibility (S10-12)
- standards and protocols development, SOPs (S9)
- Communication
- Capacity Building



# SUMMARY ANALYSIS

## Cabinet Decision 25/10 Jamaica



- Establishes a National Emergency Response Geographical Information Systems Team (NERGIST).
- Specifies guidelines governing the operations of the emergency response teams pre, during and post disaster events.
- Speaks to the provision of data and sharing resources
- Addresses capacity building and communication.



# SUMMARY ANALYSIS

- Some jurisdictions have integrated provisions for the sharing of spatial data within their disaster management framework legislation. Reference here the Republic of South Africa, Namibia, EU States such as Hungary.
- Several of the disaster management policies and legislation follow a **post responsive** approach to disasters and the legislative and institutional models in place do not integrate GI across the emergency management framework.



# RECOMMENDATIONS

- Ideally, the laws should speak to data being made available free of charge for all phases of the disaster cycle (prior, during and post).
- National legislation should explicitly outline the institutional framework for coordination as well as outline a monitoring and evaluation regime.
- Regulations should be developed around frameworks requiring the pooling of resources to include organized groups of GIS professionals for data collection, analysis, interpretation etc. to effectively respond to disasters.
- Provisions in relation to international partnerships/alliances for DRM could be established into specific national frameworks to also include data, human resources or technical capacity.





# Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters

2016-2030

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# ABOUT THE FRAMEWORK

- List of Acronyms
- Preamble
- Expected Outcome and Goal
- Guiding Principles
- Priorities for Action
- Role of Stakeholders
- Implementation
- Definition of Terms
- References



A participatory approach was employed by the Working Group on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters (WG-GISD) in the formulation process





# Expected Outcome and Goal

- **Expected Outcome**

The human, economic and environmental risks and impacts of disasters are prevented and reduced through the use of geospatial information and services

- **Goal**

Quality geospatial information and services are available and accessible in a timely and coordinated way to support decision-making and operations within and across all sectors and phases of the emergency cycle





# Guiding Principles

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

UN General Assembly resolution on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters

UN General Assembly Resolution 59/12

Global Geospatial Statistical Framework

Open Data

National Data  
Infrastructure

UN-GGIM's Statement of  
Shared Principles for the  
Management of Geospatial  
Information







Governance and Policies



Awareness Raising and Capacity Building



Data Management

# Priorities for Action

LOCAL  
NATIONAL

REGIONAL  
GLOBAL



Common Infrastructure and Services



Resource Mobilization



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## Governance and Policies

- refers to the framing, implementing and monitoring decisions to make available and accessible all quality geospatial information and services across all phases of the emergency cycle
- specific activities:
  - Assessment and Planning;
  - Institutional Arrangements, Collaboration and Coordination; *and*
  - Monitoring and Evaluation





## Awareness Raising and Capacity Building

- refers to the improved understanding and appreciation of geospatial data and information as a vital element of DRRM





## Data Management

- refers to the comprehensive methods of collecting and managing geospatial data and information
- specific activities:
  - Data Development;
  - Data Standards and Protocols; *and*
  - Data Use Guidelines.





## Common Infrastructure and Services

- refers to the hardware, software, network and manpower capacities needed to process and further improve geospatial information and services, as well as the common operations center to be established by national governments
- focused on interoperability of systems and processes to allow geospatial data and information sharing among all actors





## Resource Mobilization

- refers to human resources, as well as technical, financial and other forms of logistical and administrative support required for the creation, improvement and maintenance of all geospatial information and services in order to sustain all DRRM activities.





# Role of Stakeholders

- Member States should be in the position to generate, maintain and provide quality geospatial information and services across all phases of the emergency cycle.
- Specific roles and responsibilities for:
  - Civil Society Groups, Volunteer Organizations and other Community-Based Organizations
  - Private Sector
  - Academe, Scientific and Research Entities and Networks
  - Media
- Support from International Organizations, including UN-GGIM, UN Agencies and international funding institutions





# Implementation

- **Means of Implementation**

- To solicit the commitment of Member States and other key partners in implementing the priorities for action;
- To encourage the Member States and other key partners to improve their current capacities in providing geospatial information and services across all phases of DRRM; *and*
- To encourage the Member States and other key partners to actively promote the goals of the five priorities of action, and translate the same into national implementation plans.







# FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

- The strategic framework shall be presented in the following events to solicit comments and recommendations:
  - 5<sup>th</sup> UN:GGIM Asia Pacific Plenary Meeting (October 2016) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
  - International Forum on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters (2017) in Kunming, China
- Once all inputs are integrated, a resolution will be prepared for the framework's endorsement to the ECOSOC.





# CALL FOR ACTION



The UN-GGIM Working Group on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters is calling all governments and DRRM organizations to support the adoption of the **Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters**.

Let us collaborate to make available and accessible all quality geospatial information and services across all phases of the emergency cycle.



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