



Cities of the Future...

Urbanization is not only an outcome of development, but a formidable engine to achieve development. Cities are key to tackling global challenges, such as poverty, social inequalities, and climate change. With more than 80% of global GDP generated in cities, urbanization, if managed well can contribute to sustainable and inclusive growth, in harmony with nature, by addressing inequalities, increasing productivity, and promoting job creation, social well-being, citizen participation, innovation and emerging ideas.

The battle for sustainable development will be won or lost in cities. By 2050, the urban population alone will be larger than the current total world population, posing massive sustainability challenges in terms of housing, infrastructure, basic services, and jobs among others. There is a need for a radical paradigm shift in the way cities and human settlements are planned, developed, governed and managed. The decisions we make today will shape our common urban future.





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Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges

A bit of history...rewinding the clock...

"I believe we need a 'Digital Earth' - a multi-resolution three-dimensional representation of the planet, into which we can embed vast quantities of geo-referenced data.

Imagine a young child going to a Digital Earth exhibit at a local museum. After donning a head-mounted display, she sees Earth as it appears from space. Using a data glove, she zooms in, using higher and higher levels of resolution, to see continents, then regions, countries, cities, and finally individual houses, trees, and other natural and man-made objects.

We have an unparalleled opportunity to turn a flood of raw data into understandable information about our society and our planet. This data will include not only high-resolution satellite imagery of the planet, digital maps, and economic, social, and demographic information. If we are successful, it will have broad societal and commercial benefits in areas such as education, decision-making for a sustainable future, land-use planning, agricultural, and crisis management; and to collaborate on the



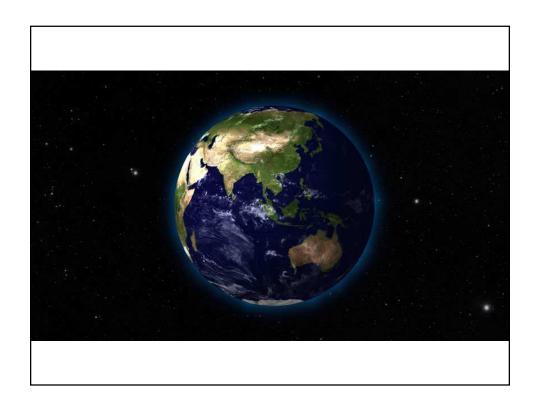
long-term environmental challenges we face."

Al Gore, 1998: The Digital Earth: Understanding our planet in the 21st Century

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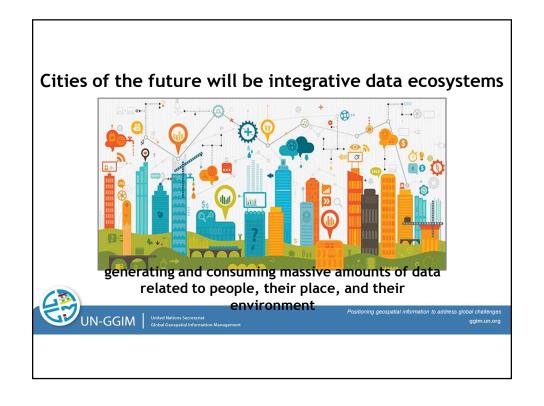
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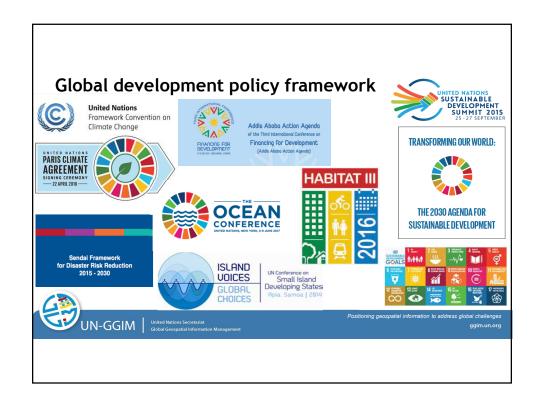
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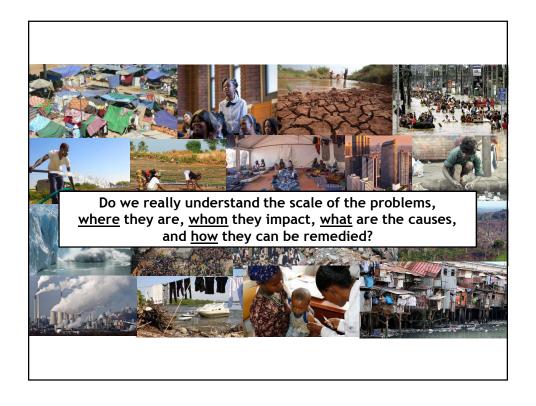


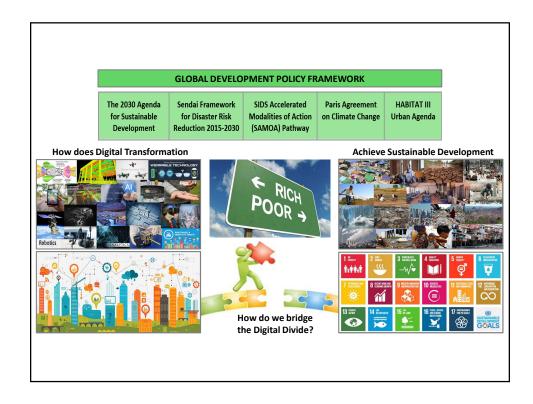












Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



Follow up and review:

76. We will support developing countries, particularly African countries, LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs, in strengthening the capacity of national statistical offices and <u>data systems to ensure access to high quality,</u> timely, reliable and disaggregated data.

We will promote transparent and accountable scaling-up of appropriate public-private cooperation to <u>exploit the contribution to be made by a wide range of data</u>, *including Earth observations and geospatial information*, while ensuring national ownership in supporting and tracking progress.

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Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



Data, monitoring and accountability:

17.18 By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, *geographic location* and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.



Habitat III - New Urban Agenda

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156. The use of digital platforms and tools, including *geospatial information* systems, will be encouraged to improve long-term integrated urban and territorial planning and design, *land administration and management*, and access to urban and metropolitan services.

159. We will support the role and enhanced capacity of national, sub-national, and local-governments in data collection, mapping, analysis, and dissemination, as well as in promoting evidence-based governance, building on a shared knowledge base using both globally comparable as well as locally generated data, including through censuses, household surveys, population registers, community-based monitoring processes and other relevant sources, *disaggregated* by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability, *geographic location*, and other characteristics relevant in national, sub-national, and local contexts.

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2030 Agenda: Goals, targets, indicators 17 SDGs 169 232 global indicators to Implementational planning processes, policies, Measusing agreementoring: Statistics geospatial information, Earth observations and other Big Data my personal information to address public challenges ggmun.org

