

# Determination of global fundamental geospatial data themes

Agenda Item 4  
Fourth Session of the Committee of Experts  
6 August 2014



UN-GGIM

United Nations Initiative on  
Global Geospatial Information Management

*Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges*

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# Context

## Second session of Committee of Experts

Inventory of Issues. Key issues included “agreement to and implementation of core global reference datasets by specific themes”. A continuing gap in the successful unification of a national, regional and global geospatial information management capability is the lack of an agreed set of readily available and authoritative global reference datasets by specific themes

## 2<sup>nd</sup> High Level Forum on GGIM - Doha Declaration

Participants resolved to affirm the importance of an agreed set of authoritative core global reference datasets that are needed to support global sustainable development activities and to work jointly towards the preparation, improvement and maintenance of these core global reference datasets



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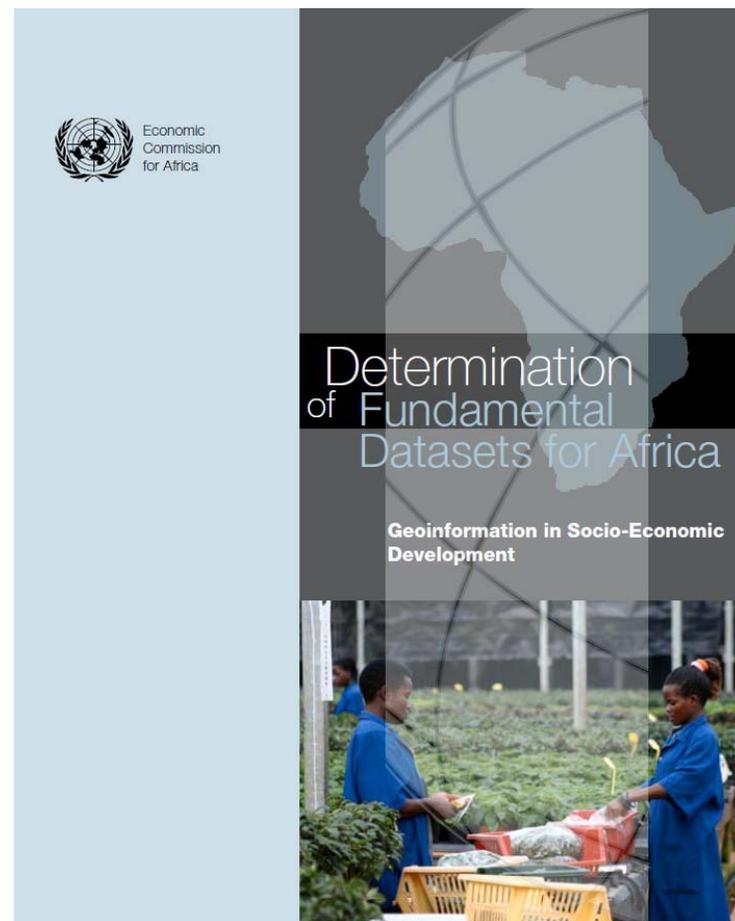
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# Global fundamental geospatial data themes

- Provide a means of organizing and managing fundamental geospatial datasets
- Should be a reference frame, foundation, or base for the development and integration of geospatial datasets
- Would constitute the building blocks of spatial data infrastructures (SDIs)

UN Economic Commission for Africa:

“the minimum primary sets of data that cannot be derived from other data sets, and that are required to spatially represent phenomena, objects, or themes important for the realization of economic, social, and environmental benefits consistently across Africa at the local, national, sub-regional and regional levels”



[http://www.uneca.org/sites/default/files/publications/geoinformation\\_socio\\_economic\\_dev-en.pdf](http://www.uneca.org/sites/default/files/publications/geoinformation_socio_economic_dev-en.pdf)



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# National and regional examples

- Africa: 10 fundamental data themes: Geodetic control network; Imagery; Hypsography; Hydrography; Boundaries; Geographic names; Land management units/areas; Transportation; Utilities and services; and Natural environment.
- INSPIRE: 9 core reference geographies: Coordinate reference systems; Geographical grid systems; Geographical names; Administrative units; Addresses; Cadastral parcels; Transport networks; Hydrography; and Protected sites.
- ANZ: 10 agreed foundation spatial data themes: Geocoded addressing; Administrative boundaries; Positioning; Place names; Land parcel and property; Imagery; Transport; Water; Elevation and depth; and Land cover.



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# UN-GGIM: Europe

- Provides views on the challenges in delivering pan-European harmonized geospatial core data to enable the implementation of public policies in a coherent and coordinated way
- Proposed to define core data as the authoritative data from UN Member States that satisfy minimal needs at cross-border, European and global level
- Acknowledges that “UN-GGIM could be a unique opportunity to address the issue of ‘core data’ and to persuade UN Member States to do things according to minimum requirements”



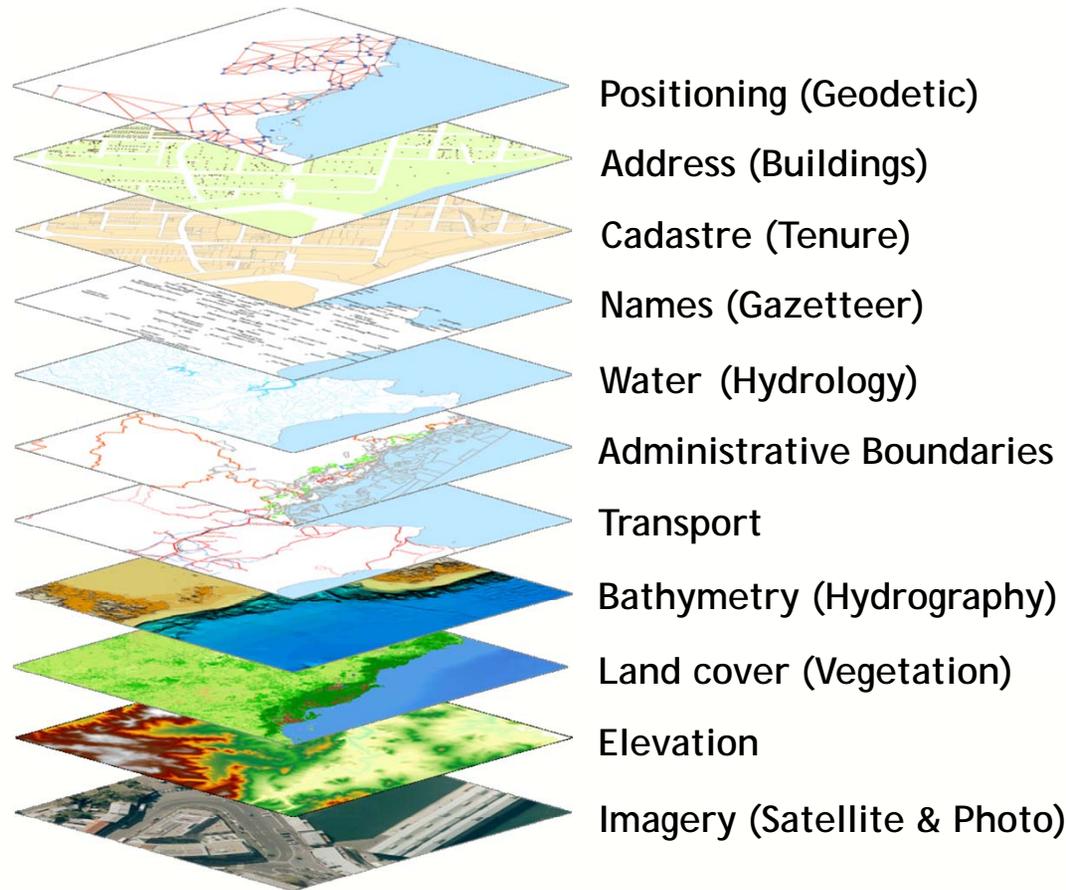
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# The Committee of Experts

The Committee is invited to:

- (a) Take note of the report and express its views on the way forward in addressing the issues relating to global fundamental geospatial data themes;
- (b) Consider establishing a working group to build upon this initial work, to determine an initial set of global fundamental geospatial data themes, and to report its findings back to the Committee at a future session;
- (c) Consider the continued contribution of authoritative information and data for activities such as SALB, and UNGEGN, which can provide important themes towards the global fundamental data themes.



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