

Transforming our world -
The 2030 Agenda for
Sustainable Development



Third Plenary Meeting of the Subcommittee on Geodesy
29 – 31 March 2023
Conference Room LE 2312, 23rd Floor, Langer Eugen Building
UN Campus, Platz der Vereinten Nationen 1, 53113 Bonn, Germany

ECOSOC Resolution 2022/24 and the Objectives and Functions of UN-GGIM
Report from the Secretariat



UN-GGIM

United Nations Committee of Experts on
Global Geospatial Information Management

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
GEODESY

THIRD PLENARY MEETING
29 - 31 MARCH 2023, BONN, GERMANY

Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges

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UN-GGIM Bureau:

Co-Chairs: Belgium, Ethiopia, Mexico

Rapporteur: Morocco

UN-GGIM Regional Committees & Chairs:

- Africa: South Africa
- Americas: Chile
- Arab States: Saudi Arabia
- Asia and the Pacific: Indonesia
- Europe: Slovenia

UN-GGIM Thematic Networks:

- Academic Network
- Private Sector Network
- Geospatial Societies
- United Nations Geospatial Network

International Standards Development Organizations



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



The Committee of Experts, a subsidiary expert body of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, is the peak intergovernmental body to liaise and coordinate among Member States, and between Member States, international organizations and stakeholders, to foster better coordination and coherence in geospatial information management



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ECOSOC Resolution 2022/24, 34th Plenary meeting of ECOSOC, 22 July 2022



13 preambular paragraphs, including -

Affirming the importance of General Assembly resolution 69/266 of 26 February 2015, entitled “A global geodetic reference frame for sustainable development”, in which the Assembly called for greater international and multilateral cooperation on geodesy, including the open sharing of geospatial data, further capacity-building in developing countries, the creation of international standards and conventions, on a voluntary basis, and contributions to the global reference frame and regional densifications through relevant national mechanisms and regional, international and intergovernmental cooperation,

Recognizing the sustained efforts of the Committee of Experts to establish the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre in Deqing, China, and the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence at the United Nations campus in Bonn, Germany, each of which will, in an open, inclusive, participatory and transparent manner, provide opportunities to develop and expand global geospatial capacity, competence and capability, and to strengthen geospatial information management arrangements in countries, especially developing countries,





8 operational paragraphs, including -

4. 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;

5. Recognizes that, as the global role and relevance of the Committee of Experts continues to grow and expand, implementing and sustaining the mandate of the Committee without adequate, predictable and sustainable funding and support limits the potential of the full value of the Committee's normative and implementation work;

6. Decides to enhance the institutional arrangements of the Committee of Experts as a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council 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 Resolution 2022/24, 34th Plenary meeting of ECOSOC, 22 July 2022

Terms of reference as annexed to the resolution



Objectives and functions (*some*):

- Provide leadership to ensure that geospatial information and resources are coordinated, maintained, accessible and able to be leveraged by Member States and society to find sustainable solutions for social, economic and environmental development
- Provide a forum for coordination and dialogue with and among Member States, the regional committees and thematic networks of the Committee, and relevant international organizations, on enhanced cooperation in the field of global geospatial information management, and to make joint decisions and set directions
- Provide a platform for the development of effective strategies on how to build and strengthen national capacity concerning geospatial information, especially in developing countries
- Ensure interdisciplinary collaboration with other national and international communities such as statisticians in measuring and describing the society, economy and the environment

*geospatial information management and its many interrelated fields

Geospatial sciences, geomatics, surveying, geography, land administration, geodesy, cartography and mapping, remote sensing, hydrography and oceanography, land/sea and geographic information systems and environmental sciences



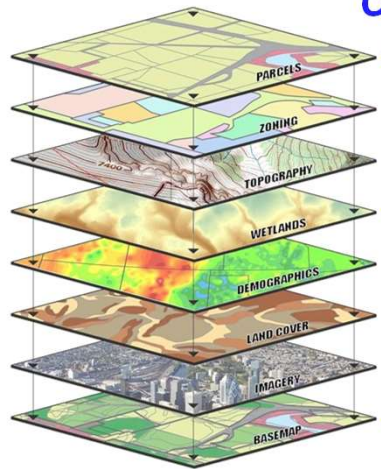
Programme of Work of UN-GGIM

- ✓ Coordination and coherence
- ✓ Normative and implementation
- ✓ Operations focused on SDGs and UN-IGIF (E/RES/2022/24)
- ✓ Convene global forums and promote comprehensive dialogue
- ✓ Annual sessions



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INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Objectives and functions



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- ✓ Provide a forum for coordination and dialogue with and among Member States, the regional committees and thematic networks of the Committee, and relevant international organizations, on enhanced cooperation in the field of global geospatial information management, and to make joint decisions and set directions
- ✓ Provide a platform for the development of effective strategies on how to build and strengthen national capacity concerning geospatial information

Leadership

Purpose

Relevance

Impact



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Twelfth Session of UN-GGIM, 3 - 5 August 2022



At its 1st meeting, on 3 August 2022, the Committee of Experts elected the following officers by acclamation:

Co-Chairs:

Ms. Ingrid Vanden Berghe (Belgium)

Mr. Tulu Besha Bedada (Ethiopia)

Ms. Paloma Merodio Gómez (Mexico)

Rapporteur:

Mr. Kamal Outghouliast (Morocco)

The session was attended by 379 participants, including 268 representatives from 78 Member States. Also present were 111 representatives from organizations of the United Nations system and observers from intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations. The Committee of Experts welcomed the President of ECOSOC to its opening session together with the Deputy Permanent Representative of Fiji to the United Nations in New York. This is the first time the President of ECOSOC came to a session of the Committee



Twelfth Session of UN-GGIM, 3 - 5 August 2022



UN-GGIM, in its report on its Twelfth session, recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following:

The Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Takes note of the report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its twelfth session (E/2023/46);
- (b) Decides that the thirteenth session of the Committee of Experts shall be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 2 to 4 August 2023;
- (c) Approves the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirteenth session of the Committee of Experts

ECOSOC **adopted** the Report of UN-GGIM on its Twelfth Session at its 3rd plenary meeting on 31 October 2022 with its decision **2023/301**.



Twelfth Session of UN-GGIM, 3 - 5 August 2022



The Provisional Agenda for the Thirteenth Session of UN-GGIM, 2 - 4 August 2023

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements.
4. Contribution of regional committees to the global geospatial information agenda.
5. Contribution of thematic networks to the global geospatial information agenda.
6. The future geospatial information ecosystem.
7. Integrated Geospatial Information Framework.
8. **Global geodetic reference frame.**
9. Geospatial information for sustainable development and climate resilience.
10. Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information.
11. Application of geospatial information related to land administration and management.
12. Geospatial information and services for disasters.
13. Integrated marine geospatial information.
14. Policy and legal frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data.
15. Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community.
16. Collaboration with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.
17. Programme management report.
18. Provisional agenda and dates of the fourteenth session.
19. Report of the Committee of Experts on its thirteenth session



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Twelfth Session of UN-GGIM, 3 - 5 August 2022



Decision 12/101

Strengthening global geospatial information management arrangements

(f) Noted the progress and efforts made to finalize the modalities for the establishment of the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre in Deqing, China, and the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence in Bonn, Germany, appreciated the involvement of the International Advisory Committees throughout the set-up process, and encouraged them to remain engaged and to regularly share progress with the Committee of Experts as the Centres operationalize their activities;

(g) Emphasized the importance of improving and strengthening national geospatial information capacity and capability, especially in developing countries, and called for appropriate national investments in this context, and highlighted the critical need to mobilize extrabudgetary resources at the global level to support regional and national efforts to bridge the geospatial digital divide;



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Twelfth Session of UN-GGIM, 3 - 5 August 2022



Decision 12/106

Global geodetic reference frame

(c) Welcomed the progress made by the Government of Germany and the United Nations to host and establish the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence at the United Nations campus in Bonn, Germany, later in 2022, which would provide dedicated resources to address some of the immediate and ongoing challenges in sustaining the global geodetic reference frame, and invited Member States to actively contribute to the work of the Centre;

(d) Supported the Subcommittee's plans to contribute to the formation of an efficient and competent International Advisory Committee and governance model to support and guide the establishment and strategic operations of the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence and welcomed the offers by Member States and relevant geodetic stakeholders to contribute to the Centre and to foster greater planning and international coordination in pursuit of strengthening partnerships and opportunities enabled by geodesy;



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UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION CENTRE (UN-GGKIC), DEQING, CHINA



The Overarching Goal is to develop and promote the required innovation, leadership, coordination, and standards to strengthen the adoption of geospatial information to support the implementation of national development priorities and the SDGs.

Leveraging the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, Member States will have the ability to integrate and deliver national geospatial information policy, data, systems, services and capabilities into national government development policies, strategies, and arrangements.

An International Advisory Committee will provide the required guidance and advice on the development, implementation and review of the substantive annual programme of work of the Centre.



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"The benefits of more timely, detailed, and accessible data are many: Geospatial information can bridge gaps, provide a clearer picture of where and how we can do better, and deliver deeper insights and smarter decisions"

António Guterres
Secretary-General of the United Nations



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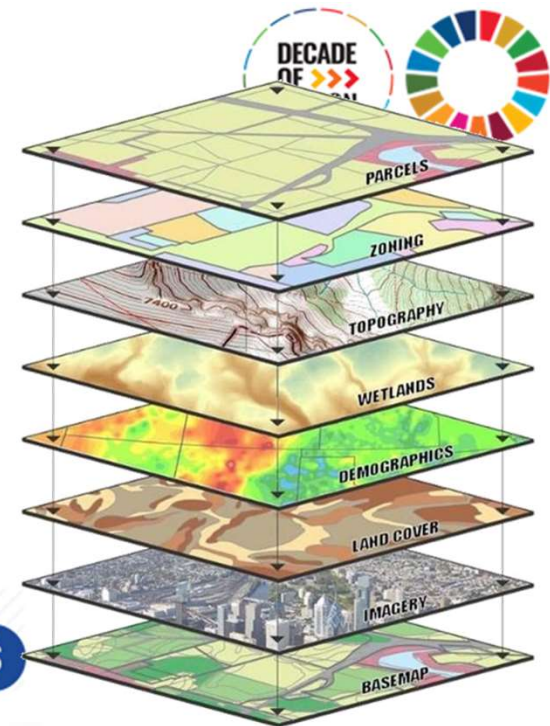
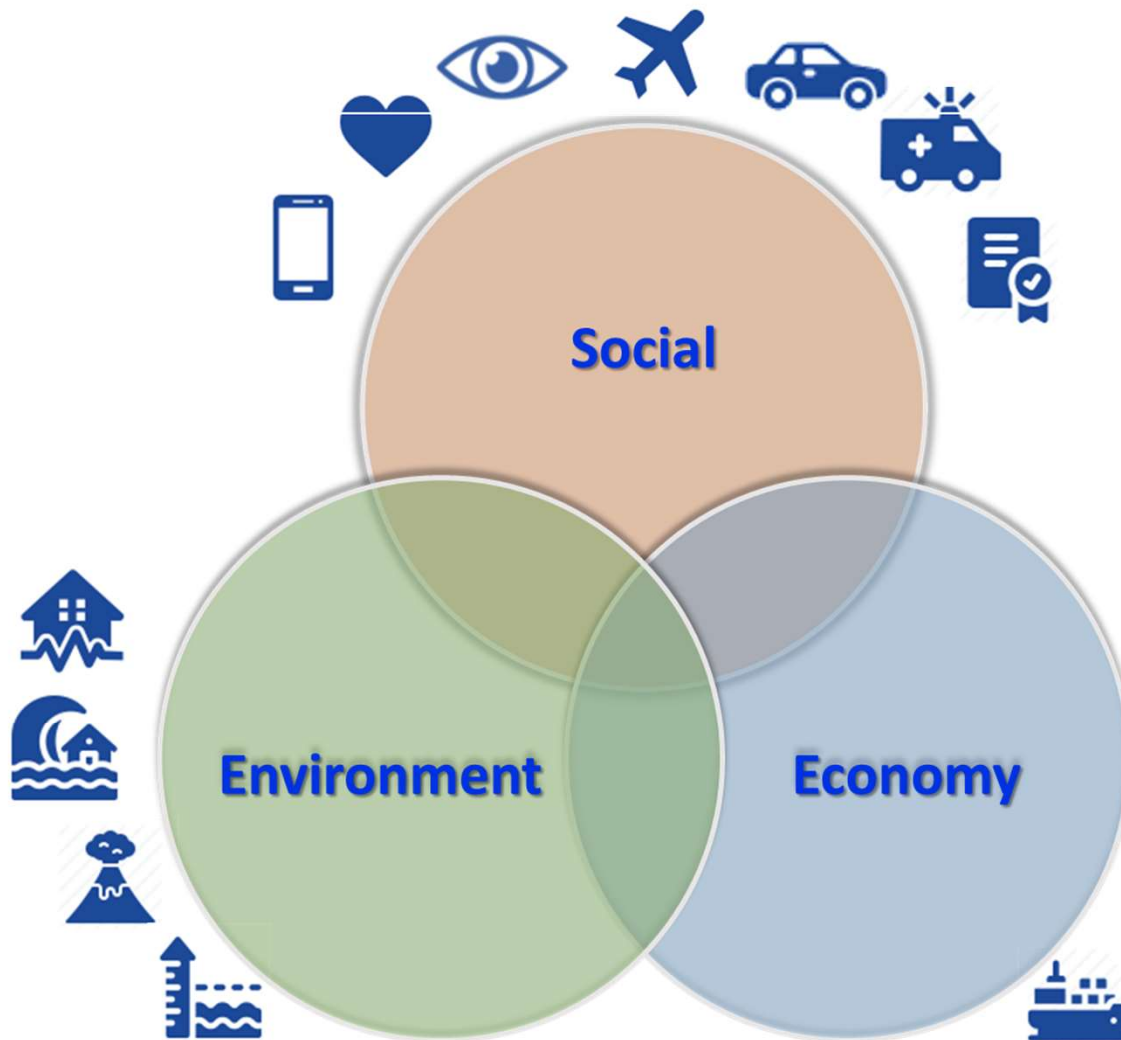
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There need to be more institutional collaboration, coordination, interoperability and integration across national data and information systems and platforms, and influenced by Governance, Technology and People



"the availability of high-quality data is also critical, helping decision makers to understand *where* investments can have the greatest impact"

António Guterres
Secretary-General of the United Nations



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The United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) provides an overarching paradigm to further strengthen nationally integrated geospatial information management, not only for Member States that were in the early stages of adopting spatial data infrastructures but also for those that had already successfully implemented spatial data infrastructure capabilities

(Eleventh session, Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, August 2021)



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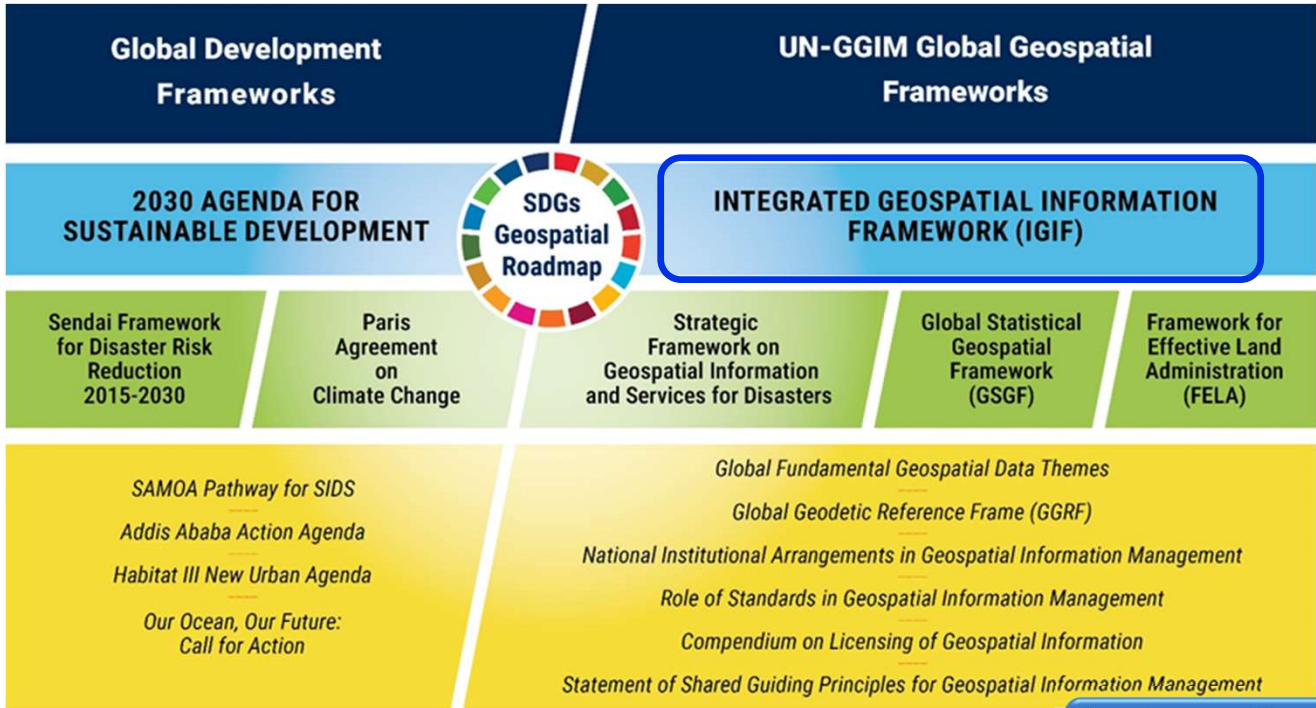
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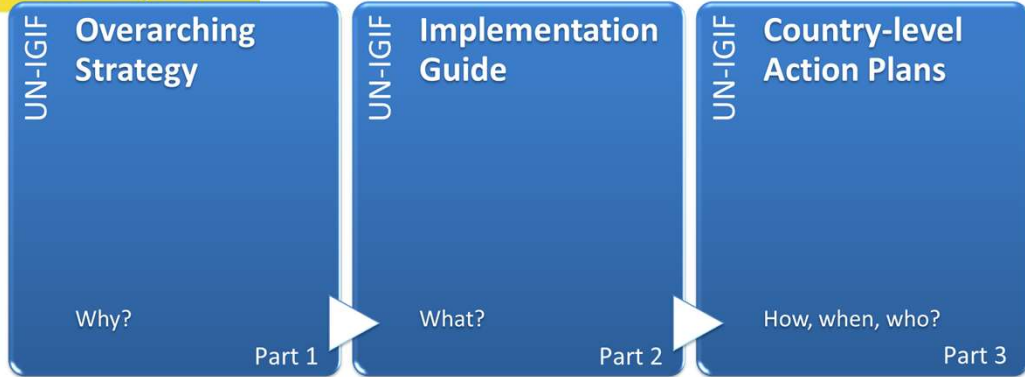
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- Population distribution
- Cities and infrastructure mapping
- Elevation and topography
- Land cover and use mapping
- Oceanographic observations
- Hydrological and water quality observations
- Atmospheric and air quality monitoring
- Biodiversity and ecosystem observations
- Agricultural monitoring
- Hazards, disasters and environment impact monitoring



The UN-IGIF is a multi-dimensional Framework that is aimed at strengthening national geospatial information management in countries, developing countries in particular. It comprises an overarching **Strategy** - from local to global, **Implementation guidance**, and **Action plans** at the country level.



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THANK YOU



Thirteenth Session
of the
United Nations
Committee of
Experts on
Global Geospatial
Information
Management

2 - 4
August 2023
UNHQ, New York



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