

ENHANCING GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

ACCELERATING
THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE **SDGs**

**22-26
JANUARY
2024**



**AGUASCALIENTES,
MÉXICO**



UN-GGIM

UNITED NATIONS
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

INEGI



Expert consultation and meetings on enhancing geospatial information management arrangements and accelerating the implementation of the SDGs
including the meeting of the Expanded Bureau of the Committee of Experts, the third plenary meeting of the High-level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, and the meeting and workshops of the SDG Data Alliance

Aguascalientes, México

22 – 26 January 2024

Logistical and Information Note

Introduction

The weeklong event is hosted by National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) of Mexico at its facility in Aguascalientes and allows the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Section, Statistics Division to engage and consult with expert representatives of Member States who are members of the Expanded Bureau of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) or the High-level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (HLG-IGIF) and partnering SDG Data Alliance (SDA) countries from Latin America. The event seeks to strengthen and enhance national geospatial information management arrangements, resources, leadership and capacities towards accelerating implementation of the Committee's frameworks, principles and guides and the achievement of the SDGs. The substantive agenda and organization of the meetings will allow participants to engage, interact and discuss with one another upcoming priorities for strengthening and enhancing geospatial information management arrangements for accelerating the implementation of the SDGs.

The venue

Aguascalientes is the capital city of the state of the same name in the west-central part of Mexico. The city was founded in 1575, has a rich historical heritage and features a blend of colonial and modern architecture. It played a significant role during the Mexican War of Independence and later became the capital when the state of Aguascalientes was officially created in the 1850s. One of the most famous events in Aguascalientes is the annual Feria Nacional de San Marcos (San Marcos National Fair). It's a lively celebration that combines music, dance, rodeos, and cultural exhibitions. The fair attracts visitors from all over Mexico. The name "Aguascalientes" itself means "hot waters", and the city lives up to its name with numerous thermal springs. These were once considered medicinal and are still popular for relaxation and wellness. The city boasts a strong economy hosting various industries, including automotive manufacturing, technology, and services. Aguascalientes also offers a delightful culinary experience including local dishes such as birria, tacos, and aguas frescas.

The meeting will be held at:

Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía (INEGI)
Av. Héroe de Nacozari Sur #2301, Jardines del Parque
20276 Aguascalientes, México



Participants

These meetings are closed and participation is strictly by invitation only. Participants are expected to be members of the UN-GGIM Expanded Bureau and/or the HLG-IGIF, and key contributing countries from Latin America and partners of the SDG Data Alliance. Interested national representatives of Member States wishing to participate and contribute to the meetings may additionally request to the Bureau (E-mail: ggim@un.org) to be invited, it should be noted that due to meeting room capacity limits, priority will be given to the core membership of the Expanded Bureau, HLG-IGIF and SDG Data Alliance.

Weather

In late January, Aguascalientes experiences pleasant weather. The average high temperature during this time is around 69°F (20.6°C), while the low temperature hovers around 40°F (4.4°C). Rainfall is minimal. So, expect comfortable conditions with mild days and cool nights.

Visa

It is the responsibility of all participants to make the necessary visa arrangements. Depending on your nationality, you might need a visa to visit Mexico. Please refer to the following links (only in Spanish):

- Countries who do not need visa to Mexico (<https://www.inm.gob.mx/gobmx/word/index.php/paises-no-requieren-visa-para-mexico/>)
- Countries who need visa to Mexico (<https://www.inm.gob.mx/gobmx/word/index.php/paises-requieren-visa-para-mexico/>)

Notwithstanding the above, a visa is not necessary if you can prove permanent residency status¹ in any member country of the European Schengen Area². Additionally, as part of Mexico's visa exemption program, current Mexican immigration regulations allow foreign nationals to travel to Mexico as Non-Immigrants-Visitors³ without the need to apply for a Mexican visa if they are holders of a valid visa from USA, Canada, Japan, Great Britain or any of the Schengen area countries⁴. Full information is available at [Visa exemption program](#) (only in Spanish).

¹ You will need to prove this status directly to the immigration authority at the point of entry. The Embassy of Mexico cannot offer guarantees for your admittance. It is the traveler's own responsibility to offer proper documentation. Keep in mind that admittance to Mexico (as to any other country) is subject to the final approval of immigration officials at the point of entry, whom have the authority to evaluate your case, verify the authenticity of all the documents and the truthfulness of the information you provide. They will also confirm that no outright restrictions exist for your admittances.

² A Dutch Residency Card valid for 5 years is not considered as permanent

³ Visitor without permission to conduct gainful activities, which include tourism, transit, short study programs, business meetings, medical treatment, technical assistance, professional counseling, among others

⁴ Please be aware that the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) is not a visa and therefore you cannot use this for the purpose of traveling to Mexico under the Mexican visa exemption benefits



Transportation

When arriving at Aguascalientes Airport (AGU), possible transportation options to reach hotels in the city are –

Authorized Taxis: You can purchase a taxi voucher inside the terminal according to your destination. Present the voucher at the taxi area, and you'll be on your way. Taxis are a convenient and reliable option.

Hotel Shuttles: If you're staying at a hotel, inquire with them about shuttle services. Some hotels offer complimentary shuttle transfers from the airport. Check with your hotel in advance to see if this service is available.

Car Rentals: If you prefer more flexibility, consider renting a car. Car rental services are available at the airport.

Accommodation and rates

The hotels recommended by the host are as follows (prices are in Mexican pesos):

<p>Hotel Quinta Real Aguascalientes (★★★★★) Av. Aguascalientes Sur No. 601, Fracc. Jardines de la Asunción, C.P. 20270 Aguascalientes, Ags Tel. 449 978 5818 www.quintareal.com</p>	<p>\$ 1,764.00 habitación sencilla/single room \$ 2,028.00 habitación doble/double room (incluye desayuno americano e internet/rates include American breakfast and wifi).</p> <p>Contacto/Contact: Mauricio Abrego Ejecutivo de Ventas grags-recepcion@quintareal.com mabrego@quintareal.com</p>
<p>Hotel Fiesta Inn Aguascalientes Patio (★★★★★) Av. José María Chávez No. 1531, Desarrollo Especial Villa Asunción, C.P. 20234 Aguascalientes, Ags. Tel. 449 9563110, 449 1962773 www.fiestainn.com</p>	<p>\$ 1,262.40 habitación sencilla/single room \$ 1,453.80 habitación doble/double room (incluye desayuno tipo buffet e internet/Rates include breakfast and wifi).</p> <p>Contacto/Contact: Angélica Ornelas Ejecutivo de Ventas ventas1fiagp@posadas.com</p>
<p>Hotel Hampton by Hilton Aguascalientes Downtown (★★★★★) Blvd. José María Chávez 1512, Fracc. Jardines de la Asunción, C.P. 20270 Aguascalientes, Ags. Tel. 449 136 1650 ext. 707 https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/agumxhx-hampton-aguascalientes-downtown/</p>	<p>\$ 1,100.00 habitación sencilla o doble/single or double room (desayuno americano tipo buffet e internet/rates include American breakfast and wifi).</p> <p>Contacto/Contact: Daniela Vargas Ejecutiva de Ventas Mobile: 553 936 7341 Daniela.vargasmartinez@hilton.com</p>



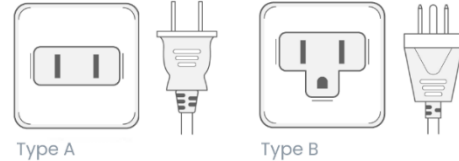
Every participant should fill out the reservation form with their information and contact the hotel directly to make the necessary accommodation arrangement and reservation. The host will be providing bus transfers between these hotels and INEGI Aguascalientes daily.

Plugs and voltage

In Mexico, the standard voltage is 127V and the frequency is 60Hz. The power plug sockets come in two types -

Type A: This socket is mainly used in North and Central America, China, and Japan. It has two flat parallel pins and works only with plug type A.

Type B: Similar to type A, but with an extra prong for grounding. It also works with plug type A.



Currency

The monetary unit is the Peso.

Banks and ATMs

Banks operate between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. ATMs operate 24 hours a day.

Taxes

In Mexico, all purchases are subject to a 16% Value Added Tax (IVA), except for medicines, unprocessed foods, and books.

Tips

Tips are not included in restaurant menu prices. It is customary to leave between 10% and 15% of the total bill as a tip.

Point of Contact

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