



Workshop on United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) at the Twelfth Session of the United Nations Regional Committee on Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas (UN-GGIM Americas)

**‘Implementing geospatial strategies,
advancing development, innovation and resilience’**

Santiago de Chile, ECLAC (Chile), 3-4 November 2025

Concept Note and Provisional Agenda

Introduction and background

The implementation of the SDGs is lagging behind, prompting urgent calls for improved financing mechanisms, equity, and integrated implementation strategies for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The [Pact for the Future](#), agreed by Member States in September 2024, acknowledges the contribution of science, technology, and innovation as a critical source of economic growth and sustainable development. The [Global Digital Compact](#) accompanying the Pact of the Future further highlights the need to close all ‘digital divides’ and recognizes the critical importance of digital public infrastructure and data as key drivers of inclusive digital transformation and innovation to accelerate progress across the Sustainable Development Goals ([SDGs](#)).

Data is key to measure, track, and report progress on the SDGs; high-quality, timely, reliable, and disaggregated data, including geospatial information and Earth observations, is essential to provide actionable knowledge to policy and decision-makers, particularly in the context of developing countries which face persistent challenges that hinder their progress toward the 2030 Agenda. Geospatial information is a critical component of a national digital public infrastructure and knowledge, and a key enabler to realize an integrated whole-of-government services approach that contributes to economic growth, national security, sustainable social development, environmental sustainability, and nationwide prosperity.

Recognizing the importance of geospatial information, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) [resolution 2022/24](#) adopted on 22 July 2022 on ‘Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements,’ which highlights the priority of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management ([UN-GGIM](#)) to strengthen and enhance geospatial information management arrangements to address national economic, social and environmental priorities, the SDGs and bridge the ‘geospatial divide.’ It reiterated “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 United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF), to strengthen and ensure its continued effectiveness and benefits to all Member States.”

In making [decision 10/103 \(d\)](#), the Committee of Experts had noted the global significance of the UN-IGIF which serves as a key umbrella for the many activities under the purview of the Committee of Experts, including the regional committees and thematic groups, which could be applied to any country to guide transformational change, and which would be a living and usable document to be reviewed and refined through an iterative process, based on the practical implementation experiences of Member States. In making [decision 14/101](#) at its





fourteenth session from 7-9 August 2024, the Committee of Experts reiterated the importance of strengthening and enhancing national geospatial information management arrangements, capacity, capability, and leadership, and urged for sustained national investments in national geospatial programs.

At its fourteenth session, in making [decision 14/105](#), the Committee of Experts noted the progress and efforts made to finalize the modalities for the establishment of the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre (UNGGKIC) in Deqing, China, as tangible means to develop and expand global geospatial capacity and capability and to strengthen geospatial information management arrangements in countries, especially developing countries. At its fourteenth session, in making [decision 14/105](#), the Committee of Experts urged the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre to intensify its support to Member States to ensure the sustained adoption of geospatial information management capabilities and the operationalization of the Framework by national circumstances. And finally, at its fifteenth session, in making [decision 15/115](#), the Committee of Experts urged the Centre and the Secretariat to focus on assisting Member States with practical, results-driven support for national implementation of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework.

The Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Americas (UN-GGIM Americas) was established to support geospatial information management development in the Americas and to contribute to the broader effort to strengthen global geospatial information management. Many countries have embarked in advancing the commitment of the continent to sustain the adoption of the UN-IGIF, aligned with ECOSOC [resolution 2022/24](#), and to take advantage of in-person forums and workshops aimed at advancing the implementation of the UN-IGIF and promoting the exchange of good practices to advance geospatial information capacities and capabilities in the region.

The UN-GGIM Americas contributed to the proceedings of the High-level Group of the UN Integrated Geospatial Information Framework and organized expert consultations, meetings and workshops to support the adoption and implementation of the UN-IGIF. The UN-GGIM Americas also played a key role in advancing the overall understanding of progress of the use of the UN-IGIF over the continent and across the world. Since 2020, through the assistance provided by the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC), the SDG Data Alliance, and more recently the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre (UN-GGKIC), countries have started their journey on the implementation of the UN-IGIF. To keep the momentum, Member States in the Americas have expressed the need for further assistance to raise awareness on the UN-IGIF across the continent and to support the development of national strategies for the development of country-level action plans.

In this context, the UN-GGIM Americas, in close collaboration with the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre (UN-GGKIC), United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC) and the Secretariat of UN-GGIM, are organizing this workshop on the sideline of the Twelfth Plenary session of UN-GGIM Americas to further raise awareness of the UN-IGIF and the benefits of geospatial information management to deliver national economic, social and environmental benefits. This workshop also aims to provide an overview on how to advocate, advance and enhance global geospatial information management arrangements and address national priorities, regional aspirations and global agendas.





Objectives for the workshop

The objective of the workshop is to raise awareness on the UN-IGIF and share knowledge on progress and good practices on the ongoing development of Country-level Action Plans in the Americas, contributing to the global call for enhancing national geospatial information management capabilities for Member States. The workshop is organized and hosted ahead of the Twelfth annual Regional committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Americas (UN-GGIM Americas), to be held through and in ECLAC on 5-7 November 2025, to ensure broad engagement, regional dialogues, and awareness on the UN-IGIF and its benefits for national priorities and international agendas, and to support attendance of countries to the annual regional plenary in the Americas. The events are organized jointly with UN-GGIM Americas Secretariat and ECLAC ahead of the annual regional meeting in the Americas to enhance the attendance and participation of countries, particularly developing countries, to the regional plenary as a means to support capacity development in the region, and to maximize and ensure a broad awareness of the overarching Framework of the Committee of Experts, the UN-IGIF.

At this critical juncture, less than five years away from the target of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, many countries in the Americas still lack adequate capacities, capabilities and skills to advance the use of geospatial information management to address national priorities and global agendas. While some have embarked on the implementation of IGIF, challenges remain to finalize Country-level Action Plan (CAP) to enhance national geospatial information management. The workshop will provide an opportunity to share knowledge, latest trends and technologies and best practices in enhancing geospatial information arrangements in Americas, raise awareness of the benefits from using geospatial information for sustainable development, and consider policies, measures and actions that could be adopted towards the effective implementation of UN-IGIF in the region.

Organization

The workshop will be organized for two days as a means for invited officials and geospatial leaders from Member States, relevant international and regional entities, and subject-matter experts and stakeholders to get acquainted to the current achievements and challenges Member States are facing in implementation of the UN-IGIF and enhance national geospatial information management arrangements for accelerating the SDGs. The discussions will be structured around national priorities, methods and frameworks, required leadership and collaboration to advance geospatial information management in countries according to national circumstances.

Participation

In close alignment with the decisions and recommendations of the Committee of Experts and its HLG-IGIF, the workshop will bring together various implementation partners for the operationalization of the UN-IGIF for Member States from the region including the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre, the SDG Data Alliance, the regional committee leadership from the Americas, in close coordination with the Secretariat of UN-GGIM. Meeting participants will include Members of the UNGGIM Americas Regional Committee, National officials responsible for UN-IGIF implementation including mapping, cartography, surveying, land registration, earth observation, data agencies, and selected subject-matter experts on the UN-IGIF from the academic community, research institutions, government, civil society, and the private sector.





Provisional Agenda (tentative)

Day 1 – Advancing national priorities through geospatial information management	
Welcome and introduction	Opening remarks and introduction Providing introductions, setting expectations, and anticipated outcomes before confirming set-up and organization for the two days.
Session I-1	Setting the Scene In this segment, organizers will frame the expectations and discussions around the theme ‘Implementing geospatial strategies, advancing development, innovation and resilience’
Session I-2	The UN-GGIM programme and the UN-IGIF In this segment, organizers will provide a rapid overview on Enhancing national geospatial information management arrangements and accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals with the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) and the importance of addressing national priorities and showcasing geospatial benefits.
Session I-3	Country implementation: successes and challenges of implementing the UN-IGIF Member States, regional entities, subject-matter experts, organizations, and stakeholders will set the stage and provide perspectives and ‘status report’ on their achievements and challenges in the preparation of country-level Action Plans, leveraging the UN-IGIF.
Session I-4	Enhancing geospatial information management arrangements In this segment, organizers and participants will discuss considerations, perspectives and strategies to advocate and advance the implementation of the UN-IGIF toward enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements and addressing national priorities, regional dimensions and global agendas.

Day 2 – Leadership in advancing geospatial information management	
Session II-1	Developing Leadership through multi-stakeholder cooperation Leadership and multi-stakeholder partnerships play a crucial role in advancing global, regional, national, and local geospatial information management, bringing together diverse expertise and multi-sectoral approach from government, the private sector, academia, civil society, and international organizations fostering collaborative approaches and integrating cross-cutting knowledge and capacities.
Session II-2	Developing a Country-level Action Plan process Enhancing national geospatial information management arrangements and accelerating the achievement of the SDGs with the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) and introduction to the country-led approach to prepare a Country-level Action Plan (CAP).
Session II-3	Partnership and innovation In this segment, organizers and participants will discuss and review benefits of partnerships and innovation to showcase benefits of geospatial information management for national priorities.
Summary and wrap up	Summary and Wrap-up for the First Two Days The organizers will provide a summary and wrap-up for the workshop and discuss next steps.





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Organizers

This event is organized jointly by the UN-GGIM Americas, the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre (UN-GGKIC), and the Secretariat of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) in the Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, in collaboration with the SDG Data Alliance.

Language

The meeting will be conducted in English and Spanish, with interpretation for both languages.

Participation

This event is an in-person closed event and participation by invitation only. Participants are expected to be designated geospatial information management representatives, leads and subject matter experts in Americas. Participants are responsible for obtaining the necessary transit and entry visas, including necessary travel and health insurance as applicable.

Meeting Venue

The meetings will be held at the Conference room at the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Santiago de Chile, Chile.

Dates

The dates for the workshop are 3-4 November 2025, and for the regional committee are 5-7 November 2025.

Logistical Information

Local logistical information and arrangements will be provided separately via email when information is made available by the local organizers and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Health and Safety

Participants are responsible for making their own inoculations and medical/health insurance arrangements, including life, health, medical evacuations and treatments, and other forms deemed appropriate. The organizers and the United Nations do not take responsibility for the ill health of any participants during their travel to and stay in Santiago de Chile, Chile. For a safe meeting environment, any prevailing local government measures related to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) at the time of the meeting shall apply.

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(17 September 2025)

