



Transforming our world -  
The 2030 Agenda for  
Sustainable Development



# Meeting of the Expanded Bureau of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia  
03 February 2025

**Secretariat for of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management**  
Statistics Division  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
United Nations



**UN-GGIM**

United Nations Secretariat  
Global Geospatial Information Management

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# MEMBERS OF THE EXPANDED BUREAU

## Bureau of UN-GGIM

### Co-Chairs:

Ms. Ingrid Vanden Berghe (Belgium)  
Mr. Fernand Eanes Bale (Côte d'Ivoire)  
Ms. Deirdre Dalpiaz Bishop (USA)

### Rapporteur:

Ms. Meizyanne Hicks (Fiji)

## Regional committees of UN-GGIM

UN-GGIM: Africa	Mr. Clinton Heimann (South Africa)
UN-GGIM: Americas	Ms. Sofia Nilo Crisostomo (Chile)
UN-GGIM: Arab States	Mr. Mohammed Al Sayel (Saudi Arabia)
UN-GGIM-AP	Mr. Antonius Wijanarto (Indonesia)
UN-GGIM: Europe	Mr. Frank Tieroff (The Netherlands) and Mr. David Henderson (United Kingdom)

## Thematic networks of UN-GGIM

Geospatial Societies	Ms. Céline Rozenblat, International Geographical Union
Academic Network	Mr. Songnian Li, Toronto Metropolitan University
Private Sector Network	Mr. Shaik Mohamed Zaffar Sadiq Mohamed-Ghouse, Woolpert
UN Geospatial Network	Mr. Alexandre Caldas, United Nations Environment Programme



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	Mr. David Henderson (United Kingdom)

Apologies

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# AGENDA #1 – WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

## Brief welcome and introductory remarks by the UN-GGIM Secretariat and the Bureau of UN-GGIM

Mr. Stefan Schweinfest

Ms. Ingrid Vanden Berghe

Mr. Fernand Bale

Ms. Deirdre Dalpiaz Bishop

Mr. Meizyanne Hicks



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# AGENDA #2 – AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

## Provisional agenda

- 1) Welcome and introduction
- 2) Agenda and organization of the meeting
- 3) Report of the Committee of Experts on its Fourteenth Session
- 4) Establishment of the new and enlarged Secretariat for the Committee of Experts
- 5) Updated strategic framework of the Committee of Experts
- 6) Programme of work of the Committee
  - c. United Nations global geospatial centres of excellence and their coordination, coherence and governance
    - a. Regional committees, functional groups and thematic networks and their contributions to the global geospatial information management agenda
    - b. Expert consultation, meetings including plenary meetings of regional committees and functional groups
    - d. Third World Geospatial Information Congress
    - e. Geospatial information for climate, environment and resilience
    - f. Future Geospatial Information Ecosystem
- 7) Overview of the preparation for the fifteenth session
- 8) Other matters
- 9) Summary, next steps and close



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# AGENDA #2 – AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

Durations for every agenda items from the [annotated agenda online](#) are indicative, meant to guide and serves as a time check to allow the Expanded Bureau to accomplish the desired outcomes from this meeting.



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# AGENDA #3 – REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON ITS FOURTEENTH SESSION

The report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its fourteenth session in all six official languages for the United Nations is [available online](#)

The Economic and Social Council met on 16 December 2024 –  
The report was introduced by Ingrid Vanden Berghe, Co-Chair

Resolutions and decisions by UN-GGIM adopted by ECOSOC at its [4th plenary meeting](#) as recommended by the Committee on its 14th session ([E/2025/46-E](#));

Decisions on the:

- Report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its fourteenth session and
- Provisional agenda and dates of the fifteenth session of the Committee



ECOSOC Chamber - 16 December 2024



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# AGENDA #3 – REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON ITS FOURTEENTH SESSION

## *Provisional agenda of the fifteenth session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management*

- 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. United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework.*
- 8. Global geodetic reference frame.*
- 9. Geospatial information for sustainable development.*
- 10. Geospatial information for climate, environment and resilience.*
- 11. Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information.*
- 12. Integrated geospatial information for effective land administration and management.*
- 13. Integrated marine geospatial information.*
- 14. Policy and legal frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data and emerging technologies.*
- 15. Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community.*
- 16. Standardization of geographical names and collaboration with the UNGEGN*
- 17. Contribution of United Nations global geospatial centres (away from Headquarters) to enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements.*
- 18. Programme management report.*
- 19. Provisional agenda and dates of the sixteenth session.*
- 20. Report of the Committee of Experts on its fifteenth session.*





## Global Development Frameworks

## Global Geospatial Frameworks

### 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



### INTEGRATED GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION FRAMEWORK (IGIF)

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

Paris Agreement on Climate Change

Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters

Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF)

Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA)

Operational Framework for Integrated Marine Geospatial Information Management (UN-IGIF-Hydro)

*SAMOA Pathway for SIDS*  
*Addis Ababa Action Agenda*  
*Habitat III New Urban Agenda*  
*Our Ocean, Our Future: Call for Action*

*Global Fundamental Geospatial Data Themes*  
*Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF)*  
*National Institutional Arrangements in Geospatial Information Management*  
*Role of Standards in Geospatial Information Management*  
*Compendium on Licensing of Geospatial Information*  
*Statement of Shared Guiding Principles for Geospatial Information Management*  
*Future Trends in Geospatial Information Management Reports*  
*SDGs Geospatial Roadmap*



# UN-GGIM

United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Committee of Experts transmitted to ECOSOC its final report, pursuant to resolution [E/RES/2016/27](#) on strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management ([E/2022/68](#)) entitled 'Enhancing global geospatial information management' in June 2022. The comprehensive report described the process of 'transition' marking the Committee's work, starting with an initial five-year period (2012 – 2016) on **establishment**; the report then detailed its second five-year period (2017-2021) on **institutionalization**; and then considers the Committee's future in the coming five-year period – on **implementation** of the Committee's frameworks, anchored by the UN-IGIF.



# AGENDA #4 – ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW AND ENLARGED SECRETARIAT FOR THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

## Decision 14/101

### Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements

(b) Appreciated the establishment of a **new and enlarged secretariat for the Committee** of Experts dedicated to the Committee's normative and implementation work on global geospatial information management, and in that regard requested the Secretariat to focus, in particular, on (i) supporting the Bureau to develop a strategic framework for the period 2025–2030, (ii) strengthening effective global coordination and governance arrangements for the United Nations global geospatial centres, and (iii) supporting a global programme of national capacity development aligned with the Committee's operations focused on the Sustainable Development Goals and the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework;



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# AGENDA #4 – ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW AND ENLARGED SECRETARIAT FOR THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

## Report on “Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements” [E/C.20/2024/5/Add.1](#)

18. With the establishment of the secretariat for the Committee of Experts in the Statistics Division, the present Global Geospatial Information Management Section in the Environmental Statistics and Geospatial Information Branch of the Division will focus its expertise and efforts to strengthen and coordinate the Division's **geostatistical work** including to improve the standardization of geographical names; the methodological approaches for the disaggregation of statistics according to geography; and the application of geospatial information in the production, dissemination and visualization for official statistics. Within the proposed programme budget for 2025, **DESA is proposing for the reassignment of the three existing statistician positions<sup>3</sup> to geospatial information officer positions**. All three staff members will be retained and will remain in the Section with this reassignment. **Additional Secretariat staff resource<sup>4</sup>** is provided under the agreement for the operationalization of the UN-GGKIC.

<sup>3</sup> Senior statistician (grade P-5), statistician (grade P-4) and statistician (grade P-3)

<sup>4</sup> In the Statistics Division in New York comprising one geospatial information officer (grade P-4), one geospatial information office (grade P-3) and one programme management assistant



# AGENDA #4 – ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW AND ENLARGED SECRETARIAT FOR THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

## Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

### 2024 report [A/79/7](#)

para IV.10 indicated “in the context of the proposed programme budget for 2024, the General Assembly approved the establishment of a secretariat of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management under subprogramme 4, with **seven posts** (including **1 P-5, 1 P-4, 2 P-3, 2 P-2** and **1 General Service**)”

### 2025 report [A/78/7](#)

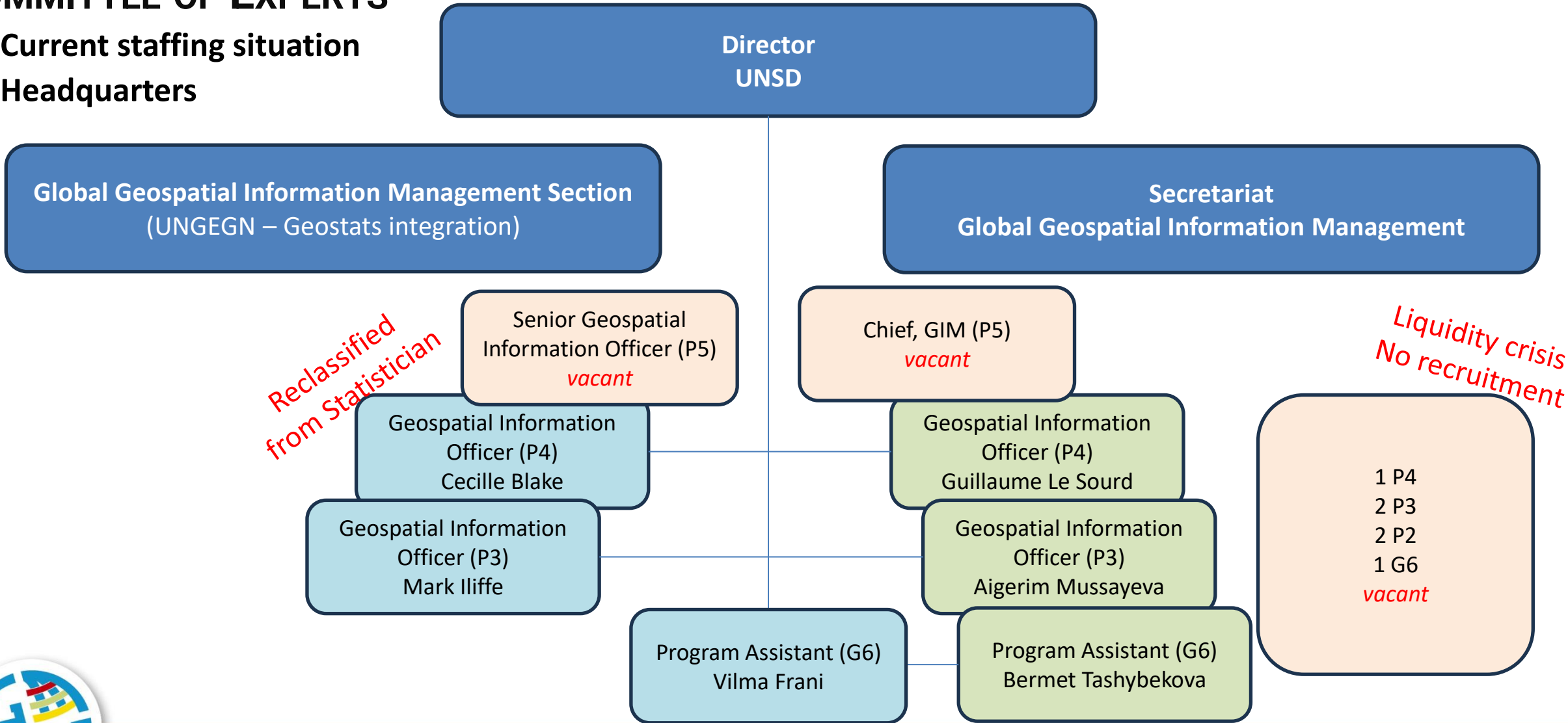
para. IV.6 indicated that “for subprogramme 4, the proposed **reassignment** of a Senior Statistician (P-5) as a Senior Geospatial Information Officer and of two Statisticians (1 P-4 and 1 P-3) as **Geospatial Information Officers** would bring together and strengthen the subprogramme’s geo-statistical efforts”

para IV.10 indicates “in the context of the proposed programme budget for 2024, the General Assembly approved the establishment of a secretariat of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management under subprogramme 4, with **seven posts** (1 P-5, 1 P-4, 2 P-3, 2 P-2 and 1 General Service (Other level)) (A/78/7, para. IV.4). Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that four job openings were published between mid-May and early July 2024 with the rest to follow.”



# AGENDA #4 – ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW AND ENLARGED SECRETARIAT FOR THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

Current staffing situation  
Headquarters

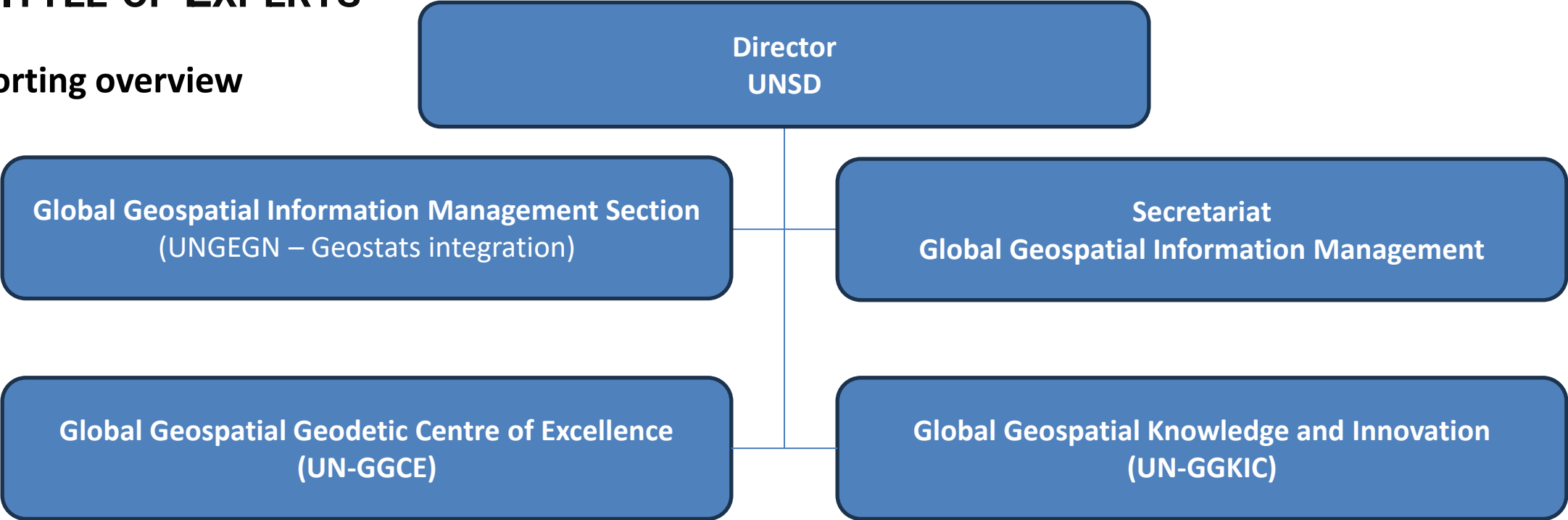


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# AGENDA #4 – ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW AND ENLARGED SECRETARIAT FOR THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

Reporting overview



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# AGENDA #5 – UPDATED STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

UN-GGIM GLOBAL CONTEXT	VISION	Positioning geospatial information to effectively address local to global challenges					
	MISSION	With agreed national policies and global geospatial frameworks, ensure that geospatial information leadership, resources and capabilities are coordinated, integrated, maintained, accessible, and useable by Member States and society to support sustainable solutions for national development and the SDGs, with a view toward strategic positioning for the post-2030 development agenda					
	STRATEGIC GOALS & OBJECTIVES	Providing effective leadership in national to global geospatial information management arrangements	Enabling environment for Member States and the global geospatial community to partner, collaborate and cooperate	Strengthening global availability, accessibility and application of geospatial information technologies to bridge the geospatial digital divide	Promoting geospatial frameworks, policies, standards and methods for the interoperability, integration and use of geospatial data and services	Implementing UNGA and ECOSOC mandates, particularly those focused on implementation of the UN-IGIF and SDGs	Sustaining the Committee's centres of excellence and global architecture of regional committees, functional groups and thematic networks

DEVELOPMENT NEEDS	GLOBAL POLICY FRAMEWORK	Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development					
		Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030	Paris Agreement on Climate Change	Addis Ababa Action Agenda	HABITAT III Urban Agenda	Our Ocean, Our Future: Call for Action	Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS)
	NATIONAL PRIORITIES, CHALLENGES & DRIVERS	Climate Change	Environmental Management	Disaster Resilience	Oceans	Sustainable Development	
	Poverty Reduction	Food Security	Water Scarcity	Sanitation	Humanitarian Assistance	Conflict	
	Population	Urbanisation	Education	Health	National Security	Energy Transition	
	Tourism	Land Management	Biodiversity Loss	Institutional Governance	Social Wellbeing	Employment	
	Sustainable Cities	Infrastructure	Digital Inclusion	Technological Innovation	Economic Growth	Equity	

PRINCIPLES & BENEFITS	OPERATING PRINCIPLES	Global Thought Leadership, Knowledge & Career Development	Strategic Engagement & Communication Opportunities Across Industry Sectors	Robust Global Policies, Standards, Methods, Guides & Frameworks	Digital Inclusion, Technological Innovation & DEI Within the Geospatial Ecosystem	Improved Availability, Accessibility & Application of Geospatial Information	Beneficial & Collaborative Multi-Sector & Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships	Capacity Development & Knowledge-Sharing Within and Among Developing Countries
	DIRECT NATIONAL BENEFITS & EFFICIENCIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Leadership and commitment to enhance the long-term value of investments in geospatial information</li><li>Countries empowered to embrace digital technology and transformation to bridge the geospatial digital divide</li><li>Reduced duplication of effort in the capture, management, and delivery of fundamental geospatial information</li><li>Authoritative, reliable and maintained geospatial data available nationally, regionally, and globally</li><li>Increased return on investment through better coordination, use and reuse of data, information and systems</li><li>Better evidence-based decision making, supported by good data, science and policy</li><li>More open, accountable, coordinated, responsive and efficient governments</li><li>Increased workforce skills, diversity, innovation, entrepreneurship, employability and human capital</li><li>Enhanced stakeholder engagement, communication, awareness, understanding and organisational value</li><li>Strategic and efficient data integration and knowledge sharing across all levels of government and society</li></ul>						

DELIVERABLES	WORKING ACTIVITIES & OUTPUTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Leverage the commitment of the regional committees, regional commissions and thematic networks of UN-GGIM</li><li>Guide the transparent, inclusive and equitable integration and relevance of UN-GGIM's centres of excellence</li><li>Strengthen the use of geospatial information to support the needs of the SDGs, and global development agendas</li><li>Enhance the coordination and coherence of global-to-local geospatial information management arrangements</li><li>Provide strategic leadership to ensure the sustained oversight and implementation of the UN-IGIF</li><li>Lead global coordination and collaboration to improve and strengthen the GGRF and geodesy supply chain</li><li>Determine and provide geospatial information methods, tools and services for climate and disaster resilience</li><li>Integrate geospatial and statistical information through implementation and operationalisation of the GSGF</li><li>Advance the role of integrated geospatial information for effective land administration and management</li><li>Foster dialogue and directions towards determining UN-GGIM's role in the future geospatial information ecosystem</li><li>Guide and encourage the availability, accessibility and integration of marine geospatial information</li><li>Address emerging policy and legal issues in geospatial information management, including the implications of AI</li><li>Demonstrate the benefits of implementing and adopting geospatial standards for the global geospatial community</li><li>Strengthen collaboration with UNGEGN, identifying synergies and mutually beneficial collaborative ventures</li></ul>
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14/101

## Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements

(b) Appreciated the establishment of a new and enlarged secretariat for the Committee of Experts dedicated to the Committee's normative and implementation work on global geospatial information management, and in that regard requested the **Secretariat to focus, in particular, on (i) supporting the Bureau to develop a strategic framework for the period 2025–2030, (ii) strengthening effective global coordination and governance arrangements for the United Nations global geospatial centres, and (iii) supporting a global programme of national capacity development aligned with the Committee's operations focused on the Sustainable Development Goals and the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework;**

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# AGENDA #5 – UPDATED STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

UN-GGIM GLOBAL CONTEXT	VISION	Positioning geospatial information to effectively address local to global challenges					
	MISSION	With agreed national policies and global geospatial frameworks, ensure that geospatial information leadership, resources and capabilities are coordinated, integrated, maintained, accessible, and useable by Member States and society to support sustainable solutions for national development and the SDGs, with a view toward strategic positioning for the post-2030 development agenda					
	STRATEGIC GOALS & OBJECTIVES	Providing effective leadership in national to global geospatial information management arrangements	Enabling environment for Member States and the global geospatial community to partner, collaborate and cooperate	Strengthening global availability, accessibility and application of geospatial information technologies to bridge the geospatial digital divide	Promoting geospatial frameworks, policies, standards and methods for the interoperability, integration and use of geospatial data and services	Implementing UNGA and ECOSOC mandates, particularly those focused on implementation of the UN-IGIF and SDGs	Sustaining the Committee's centres of excellence and global architecture of regional committees, functional groups and thematic networks

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	Tourism	Land Management	Biodiversity Loss	Institutional Governance	Social Wellbeing	Employment	
	Sustainable Cities	Infrastructure	Digital Inclusion	Technological Innovation	Economic Growth	Equity	

PRINCIPLES & BENEFITS	OPERATING PRINCIPLES	Global Thought Leadership, Knowledge & Career Development	Strategic Engagement & Communication Opportunities Across Industry Sectors	Robust Global Policies, Standards, Methods, Guides & Frameworks	Digital Inclusion, Technological Innovation & DEI Within the Geospatial Ecosystem	Improved Availability, Accessibility & Application of Geospatial Information	Beneficial & Collaborative Multi-Sector & Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships	Capacity Development & Knowledge-Sharing Within and Among Developing Countries
	DIRECT NATIONAL BENEFITS & EFFICIENCIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Leadership and commitment to enhance the long-term value of investments in geospatial information</li><li>Countries empowered to embrace digital technology and transformation to bridge the geospatial digital divide</li><li>Reduced duplication of effort in the capture, management, and delivery of fundamental geospatial information</li><li>Authoritative, reliable and maintained geospatial data available nationally, regionally, and globally</li><li>Increased return on investment through better coordination, use and reuse of data, information and systems</li><li>Better evidence-based decision making, supported by good data, science and policy</li><li>More open, accountable, coordinated, responsive and efficient governments</li><li>Increased workforce skills, diversity, innovation, entrepreneurship, employability and human capital</li><li>Enhanced stakeholder engagement, communication, awareness, understanding and organisational value</li><li>Strategic and efficient data integration and knowledge sharing across all levels of government and society</li></ul>						

DELIVERABLES	WORKING ACTIVITIES & OUTPUTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Leverage the commitment of the regional committees, regional commissions and thematic networks of UN-GGIM</li><li>Guide the transparent, inclusive and equitable integration and relevance of UN-GGIM's centres of excellence</li><li>Strengthen the use of geospatial information to support the needs of the SDGs, and global development agendas</li><li>Enhance the coordination and coherence of global-to-local geospatial information management arrangements</li><li>Provide strategic leadership to ensure the sustained oversight and implementation of the UN-IGIF</li><li>Lead global coordination and collaboration to improve and strengthen the GGRF and geodesy supply chain</li><li>Determine and provide geospatial information methods, tools and services for climate and disaster resilience</li><li>Integrate geospatial and statistical information through implementation and operationalisation of the GSGF</li><li>Advance the role of integrated geospatial information for effective land administration and management</li><li>Foster dialogue and directions towards determining UN-GGIM's role in the future geospatial information ecosystem</li><li>Guide and encourage the availability, accessibility and integration of marine geospatial information</li><li>Address emerging policy and legal issues in geospatial information management, including the implications of AI</li><li>Demonstrate the benefits of implementing and adopting geospatial standards for the global geospatial community</li><li>Strengthen collaboration with UNGEGN, identifying synergies and mutually beneficial collaborative ventures</li></ul>					
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Presented at the Bureau on 9 August 2024

Next steps ?

- Send document for consultation to Expanded Bureau
- Send the strategic framework for short global consultation
- Include to the ‘Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements’ report for the fifteenth session of the Committee of Experts

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PRINCIPLES & BENEFITS	OPERATING PRINCIPLES	Global Thought Leadership, Knowledge & Career Development	Strategic Engagement & Communication Opportunities Across Industry Sectors	Robust Global Policies, Standards, Methods, Guides & Frameworks	Digital Inclusion, Technological Innovation & DEI Within the Geospatial Ecosystem	Improved Availability, Accessibility & Application of Geospatial Information	Beneficial & Collaborative Multi-Sector & Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships	Capacity Development & Knowledge-Sharing Within and Among Developing Countries
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DELIVERABLES	WORKING ACTIVITIES & OUTPUTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leverage the commitment of the regional committees, regional commissions and thematic networks of UN-GGIM</li> <li>• Guide the transparent, inclusive and equitable integration and relevance of UN-GGIM's centres of excellence</li> <li>• Strengthen the use of geospatial information to support the needs of the SDGs, and global development agendas</li> <li>• Enhance the coordination and coherence of global-to-local geospatial information management arrangements</li> <li>• Provide strategic leadership to ensure the sustained oversight and implementation of the UN-IGIF</li> <li>• Lead global coordination and collaboration to improve and strengthen the GGRF and geodesy supply chain</li> <li>• Determine and provide geospatial information methods, tools and services for climate and disaster resilience</li> <li>• Integrate geospatial and statistical information through implementation and operationalisation of the GSGF</li> <li>• Advance the role of integrated geospatial information for effective land administration and management</li> <li>• Foster dialogue and directions towards determining UN-GGIM's role in the future geospatial information ecosystem</li> <li>• Guide and encourage the availability, accessibility and integration of marine geospatial information</li> <li>• Address emerging policy and legal issues in geospatial information management, including the implications of AI</li> <li>• Demonstrate the benefits of implementing and adopting geospatial standards for the global geospatial community</li> <li>• Strengthen collaboration with UNGEGN, identifying synergies and mutually beneficial collaborative ventures</li> </ul>
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# AGENDA #5 – UPDATED STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

- How does this get taken forward?
- Open consultation process and building consensus
- Need a small, dedicated group from the Expanded Bureau to focus on this?
- Brainstorm and prepare
- Prepare a scope and timeline
- Send a first draft of the Strategic Framework in March? to key UN-GGIM stakeholders
- Undertake a global consultation with Member States?



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# AGENDA #6 – PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

## C. UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE AND THEIR COORDINATION, COHERENCE AND GOVERNANCE

14/101

### Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements

(d) Welcomed the establishment of the **United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre in China** and the **United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence in Germany** as well as the advanced planning to establish the **United Nations Global Geospatial Ecosystem Centre of Excellence in Saudi Arabia**; endorsed the strategic plan of the Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre and appreciated the efforts to extend the current agreement on the operationalization of the Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence until 31 December 2030, thereby ensuring a longer-term operation for the Global Geodetic Centre;



UN-GGIM

United Nations Secretariat  
Global Geospatial Information Management

*Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges*

[ggim.un.org](http://ggim.un.org)

# AGENDA #6 – PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

## C. UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE AND THEIR COORDINATION, COHERENCE AND GOVERNANCE

14/101

### Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements

(e) Noted that open and transparent management and coordination between the three United Nations global geospatial centres are key to their successes and effective resource utilization, requested the Bureau, with the support of the Secretariat, to develop a **suitable common governance and operational structure for all United Nations global geospatial centres**, including, for instance, international advisory committees with broad expertise and geographical representation, and to make available the **terms of reference of the international advisory committees as background documents for the Committee of Experts**;



UN-GGIM

United Nations Secretariat  
Global Geospatial Information Management

*Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges*

[ggim.un.org](http://ggim.un.org)

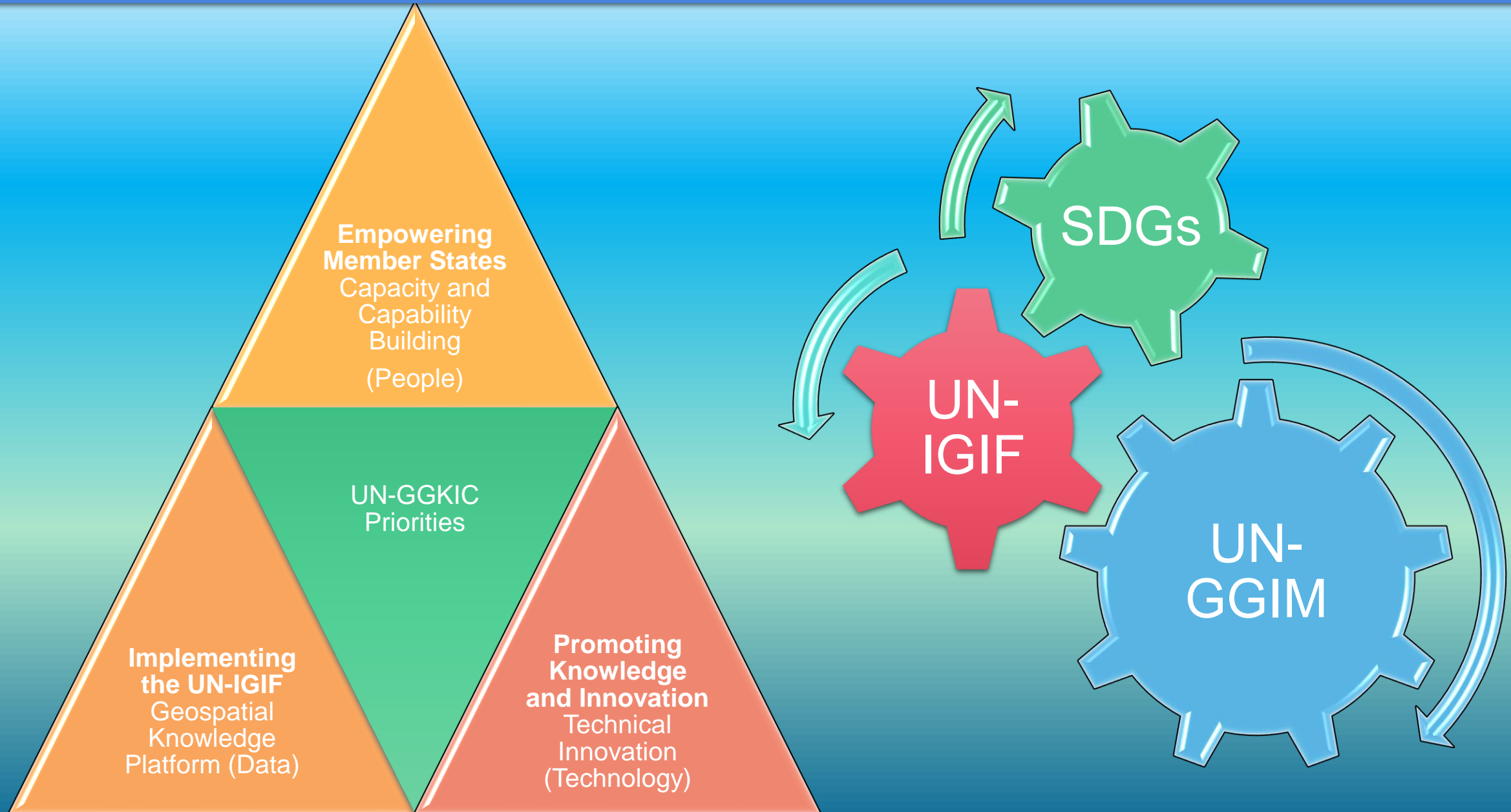


# Current progress and operationalization

Dr. Pengde Li

**United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre**

# Geospatial ideas benefiting our world





# UN-GGKIC and Strategic Goals



Geospatial IDEAS  
Benefiting Our World !

## UN-IGIF Implementation and Applications

1. Developing **leadership and collaboration**
2. Addressing **national priorities**
3. Progressing **geospatial knowledge**
4. Enabling **innovation and technological advancement**
5. Enhancing **communication and awareness**

2024 Meeting of the International Advisory Committee of UN GGKIC



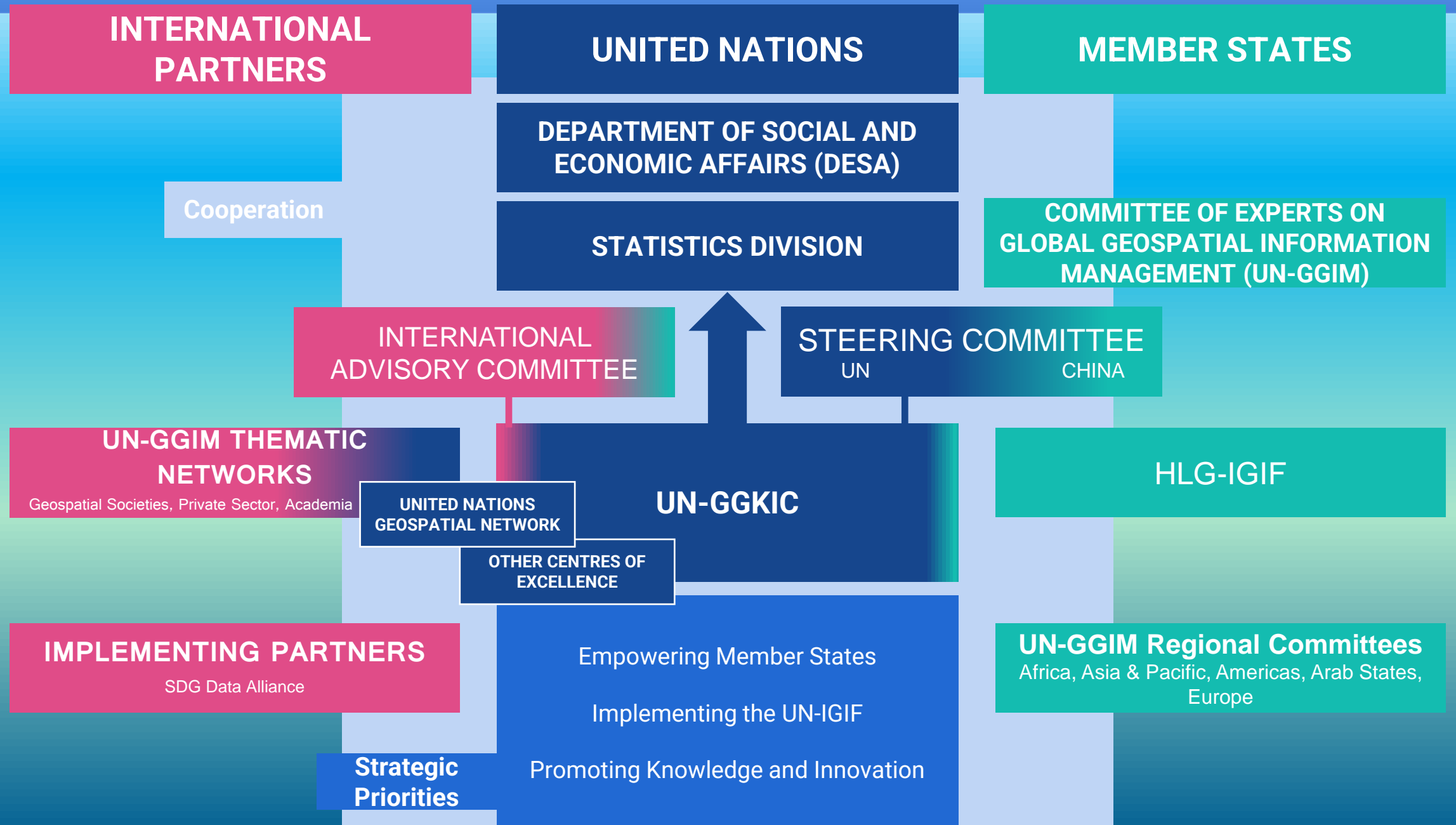
April 2024 Deqing China



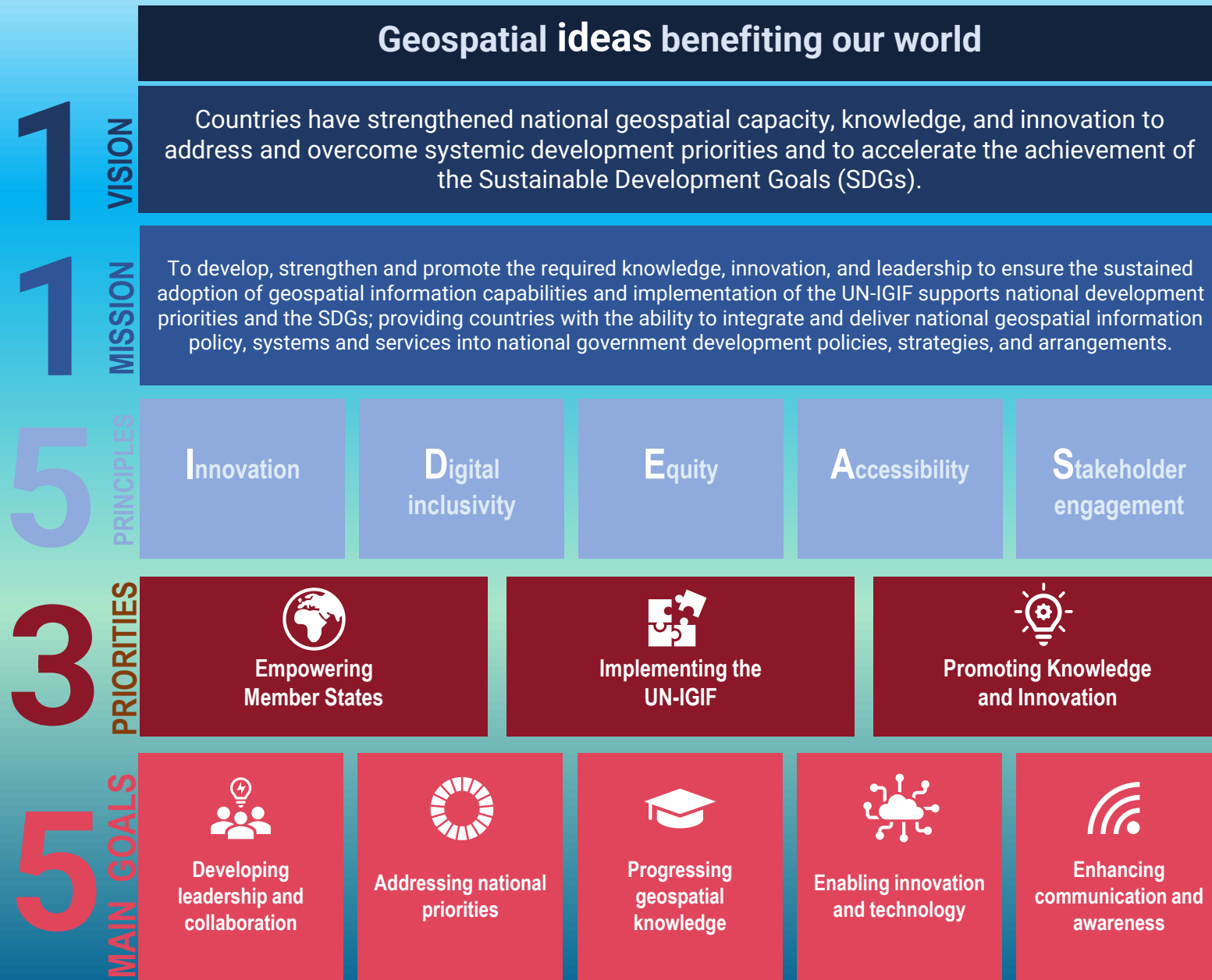
April 2024 Deqing China



# Institutional Arrangements of UN-GGKIC



# Strategic Plan of UN-GGKIC



# Strategic Plan of UN-GGKIC

5

MAIN GOALS



Developing  
leadership and  
collaboration



Addressing  
national  
priorities



Progressing  
geospatial  
knowledge



Enabling  
innovation and  
technology



Enhancing  
communication  
and awareness





**Objective 3:**

Progressing Geospatial Knowledge by enhancing the country-level implementation of the UN-IGIF, including resources and stakeholder relationships, for efficient and effective collaboration with partners, and to maximize impacts for Member States.

**Outcome – OC 3**

Improved national geospatial awareness and knowledge and strengthened capacities and resources for innovation to advance the role of geospatial information in addressing national priorities and global development agendas.

Indicators	Baseline (2024)	Target (2030)
<b>IA 3.1</b> Comprehensive sharing of geospatial knowledge, innovation and good practices	The sharing of geospatial knowledge, innovations, experiences, and good practices is ad-hoc, depending on the specific agenda of events and activities of respective committees, forums, events and thematic seminars.	Peer-to-peer sharing and exchange included in the substantive agendas for annual regional (or sub-regional) expert consultation and meeting, dialogues and workshops that fostered peer-to-peer collaboration among national geospatial information management leaders (coordinated with activities under IA 1.3)  By 2026, increased sharing of geospatial knowledge, innovation, experiences and good practices by expert representatives of countries in all forums and seminars organized by the Centre  Coordinated, comprehensive and curated content on peer-to-peer sharing of geospatial knowledge, innovation, experiences and good practices in the activities of the Centre
<b>IA 3.2</b> Regular webinars on Geospatial knowledge and innovations for stakeholders, totaling twenty-four webinars by 2030	Any webinars are ad-hoc and sporadic usually by respective regional committees, thematic networks, or event organizers.	Coordinated and coherent quarterly webinar program by the Centre including by leveraging national experiences, thematic networks and other geospatial knowledge and innovation expert stakeholders.  By 2030, at least of twenty webinars delivered
<b>IA 3.3</b> Geospatial knowledge reports highlighting good practices and innovations from Member States	No coordinated reporting highlighting good practices and innovations from Member States	By 2030, templates and results of good practices by Member States are captured yearly (2025-2030) and biennial geospatial knowledge reports are available for 2025, 2027 and 2029.

**Planned activities**

2024	2025	2026
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Conceptualize, scope and program the quarterly webinar series on geospatial knowledge and innovations for 2025 (4Q)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Conceptualize, scope and engage the International Advisory Committee for the preparation of the biennial global geospatial knowledge and innovation report that highlights good practices and innovations from Member States (1Q &amp; 2Q) Deliver the 2025 quarterly webinar series to enhance sharing of geospatial knowledge, innovation, experiences and good</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Deliver the 2026 quarterly webinar series to enhance peer-to-peer sharing of geospatial knowledge, innovation, experiences and good practices amongst Member states (1Q – 4Q)</li><li>Conceptualize and scope a quarterly webinar series on geospatial knowledge and innovations for 2027 (4Q)</li><li>Scope and consult the International Advisory</li></ul>



# Participating in UN-GGIM Activities

**UN-GGIM AP**  
**Delhi, India, Nov. 2024**





# Expert Meeting and Consultations on UN-IGIF



UN-GGKIC  
Nov 2024





## UN GGCIC Newsletter

UN GeoNow 2024 Edition

### United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre (UN GGCIC)

#### Geospatial Ideas: Benefiting Our World

UN GGCIC's overarching goal is to work towards the ambitions of implementation of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) set by Member States, to develop capacity, promote and support the required innovation, leadership, coordination, and standards to develop, strengthen, integrate and deliver national geospatial information policy, data, systems, tools, services and capabilities into their national government development policies, strategies and arrangements.



Cover image of Deqing International Conference Center, the main venue of UN GeoNow 2024. Credit: UN-CCRIC



Participants are listening about the vision of the symposium. Credit: UN-CCRIC

### United Nations Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Week 2024

## Let's do "Geo" now at GeoNow!

The first United Nations Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Week (UN GeoNow) was successfully held in Deqing, China. The event provided a new significant platform for international geospatial information cooperation.

The first United Nations Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Week (UN GeoNow) was successfully held in Deqing County, Huzhou City, Zhejiang Province, China from October 21 to 24 2024 under the theme "Geospatial IDEAS Benefiting Our World", organized by the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre (UN-GGCIC) with the Government of Deqing County and Moganshan Geospatial Information Laboratory as co-organizers. The event was co-located with ESCAP's event: the Workshop on Enhancing the Management of Geospatial Data Sharing for Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development and UN DESA's event: the Global Symposium on Data and Digital Governance.

From the first day to the last, it finally had over 1000 participants from more than 40 countries, including the United States, Canada, Australia, Brazil, the United Kingdom, Finland, Austria, India, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Tonga, Tanzania and etc. The participants included governors, UN Officers, experts & researchers, and entrepreneurs, etc.

The highlight activities of the event included the UN Geospatial Information Application Conference, the "Moganshan Talks" discussion panel, and the International Symposium on Leadership Development of Global Geospatial Knowledge. Participants checked on the latest geospatial information applications such as drones and leaders at the application conference, listened to and exchanged each other's experiences with geospatial information at the discussion panel, and gave advice & visions on building the UN Think Tank and leadership development for global geospatial knowledge at the symposium.

### ASG and Local Governors at Opening Ceremony: Geospatial Information for the SDGs, for the Future

UN DESA's ASG, Mr. Navid Hanif gave the opening remarks at the opening ceremony chaired by the Director of UN - GGCIC, Dr. Pengde Li. In his remarks, he pointed out that The Global Digital Compact adopted at the recently concluded Summit of Future affirmed the importance of digital knowledge and technology, and that geospatial management is an indispensable part of the digital world. The UN GeoNow 2024 recognized the importance of geospatial information and took rapid action through "Geo" which not only meets current needs but is also essential for the future sustainable development. The Vice Minister of the Ministry of Natural Resources of China, Guohong Liu, the Executive Vice Governor of the Government of Zhejiang Province, Wenguang Xu, and the Secretary of the Huzhou Municipal Party Committee, Hao Chen, also attended and gave the remarks at the opening ceremony.

### Co-located Together, Benefit Each Other

UN GeoNow 2024 was co-located with ESCAP's event: the Workshop on Enhancing the Management of Geospatial Data Sharing for Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development (21 to 23 Oct) and UN DESA's event: the Global Symposium on Data and Digital Governance (19 to 23 Oct). The participants such as UN Officers and experts of the other two events attended the UN GeoNow 2024 and shared the achievements from their agencies to see if the results of those three events can benefit each other. This excellent organizational form is relatively rare in various UN activities, and it has provided advanced experience for future event organizations.


For detailed information of each event, please go check with the event website:

[UN DESA ESCAP](https://ggim.un.org/UN-GGCIC)



UN GGCIC | United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre

<https://ggim.un.org/UN-GGCIC>




## UN GGCIC Newsletter

UN GeoNow 2024 Edition


### United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre (UN GGCIC)

#### Geospatial Ideas: Benefiting Our World

<https://ggim.un.org/UN-CCRIC>



Cover image of Deqing International Conference Center, the main venue of UN GeoNow 2024. Credit: UN-CCRIC



Participants are discussing about the vision of the symposium. Credit: UN-CCRIC

### Building the Leadership for the Future: Symposium on Leadership Development of Geospatial Knowledge.

The symposium was held on the last day of UN GeoNow 2024 (24 Oct). It is dedicated to promoting global geospatial knowledge and strengthening leadership within the geospatial sector. During the symposium, the experts from each "Moganshan Talks" panel gave insights and advices not only about leadership development, but also on building the UN Geospatial Information Think Tank, which is an important future initiative by UN-GGCIC. It concluded with a focus on capacity-building in geospatial leadership, strengthening international partnerships and developing innovative tools to enhance governance.

### Share for Research : Moganshan Talks, the Panels on the Key Geospatial Scenarios

The "Moganshan Talks" is a series of panels focused on exchanging and sharing experiences about topics under six specific geospatial scenarios: Digital Twins and Smart Cities, Smart Agriculture and Food Security, Natural Resources Investigation and Territorial Spatial Governance, Clean Energy and Green Mining, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction, and Geo-modelling and Geospatial Intelligence. From the first day to the last (21 Oct to 24 Oct), there were more than 70 presenters and panelists who gave the presentation and shared their experiences with geospatial information under assigned topics. The achievements of each panel provided valuable insights for the audience.

### Application Conference & Exhibition : Inspired by Geo, Make It for Geo


Geospatial information has been deeply integrated with new technologies such as artificial intelligence and metaverse. There were over 41 enterprises from more than ten countries worldwide have released their new technologies, products, and applications about geospatial information at the conference and exhibition. All those advanced applications & products provided new inspirations and insights on Geo-related technologies for the participants & visitors.

### Conclusion on the UN GeoNow 2024: A New Beginning

Director of UN-GGCIC, Dr. Pengde Li, invited participants to join the UN Think Tank initiative, aimed at mobilizing expertise from UN agencies, international academic institutions, private sector entities and government bodies. This initiative seeks to advance the UN-IGIF's strategic pathways and will produce guidelines on critical sectors such as agriculture, water resources and biodiversity, promoting the deployment of geospatial solutions across diverse fields. At the closing ceremony, he celebrated the accomplishments of the week and called on participants to transform these priorities into practical actions, underscoring the importance of ongoing collaboration and innovation to leverage geospatial technologies for sustainable global development.


UN GeoNow 2024 is the first ever UN Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Week, and it became a new beginning of an international-level cooperation forum and a series of future initiatives focused on geospatial information. The UN-GGCIC and supporting partners will make continued efforts to build the future UN GeoNow and its related activities to help the geospatial information contribute more to the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and form a better world.

See you next time, world.



UN GGCIC | United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre

<https://ggim.un.org/UN-GGCIC>



### UN GEONOW 2024

For presentation slides from "Moganshan Talks" Panel, concept notes, detailed event agenda, event pictures, and more information please go check with the event website:

[https://ggim.un.org/meetings/2024/Deqing\\_China/](https://ggim.un.org/meetings/2024/Deqing_China/)

UN GGCIC thank you for your attention!

Click to watch the conclusion video of UN GeoNow 2024. If the video does not play properly, please copy the link to and open it with Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge.

Credit: UN - GGCIC



# UN GeoNow 2024 Overview

UN GeoNow  
Open Week

Geospatial Application Conference

ESCAP Expert Meeting on Regional Data Hub for  
DRR and SDGs

DPIDG Global Data Forum

Moganshan Talks

UN Symposium on Geospatial Leadership  
Development

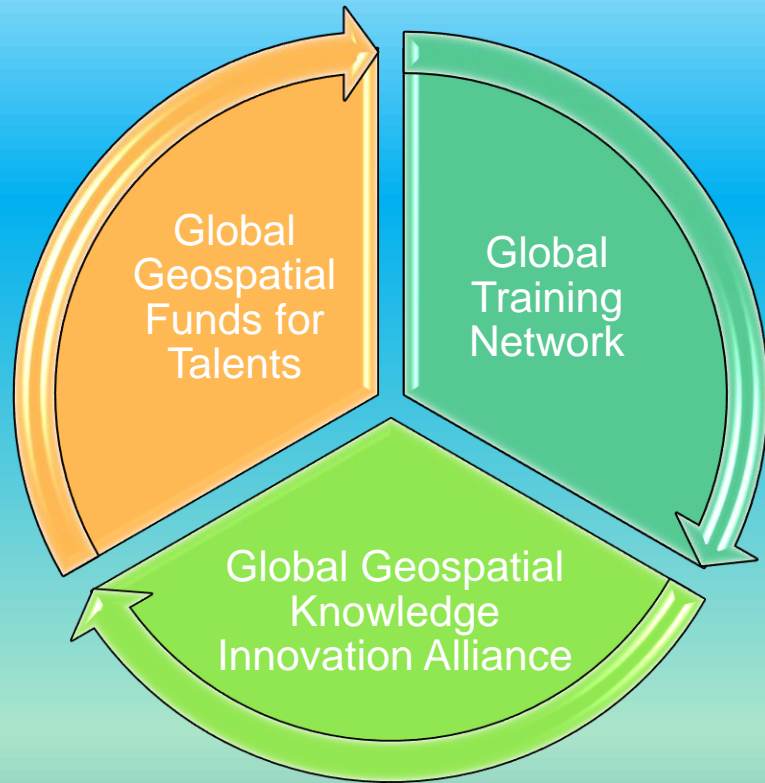
Geo Expo



Oct 2024



# UN GeoNow 2024 Conclusion Remarks



## Future Geospatial Development

- *Advancement of Geospatial Knowledge*
- *Promotion of Cross-Border Integration*
- *Enhancement of Digital Geospatial Infrastructure*
- *Capacity-Building for Youth Leadership*



# Participating in UN-GGIM Activities



7<sup>th</sup> High Level Forum of UN GGIM in Mexico, Oct. 2024





# Participating in UN-GGIM Activities



**Expert Meeting and Consultations  
Aguascalientes, Mexico  
Jan 2024**



**Third Meeting HLG-IGIF  
Aguascalientes, Mexico, Jan 2024**



**Fourth International Conference on  
Small Island Developing States, May 2024**



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# Organigram and staffing

**Director**  
**UNSD**  
D2

**Head**  
**UN-GGKIC**  
D1

**Management**  
**Senior Programme Officer**  
P5

**Deputy Head**  
**Senior Geospatial Officer**  
P5

**Programme Assistant**  
GS5

**Programmes**  
**Geospatial Information Officer**  
P4

**Policy & Knowledge**  
**Geospatial Information Officer**  
P4

**Geospatial Information Officer**  
P3

**Geospatial Information Officer**  
P3

**Coordination**  
**Geospatial Information Officer**  
P4

**Geospatial Information Officer**  
P3

**Programme Assistant**  
GS6

**Consultants**

**Secondments**

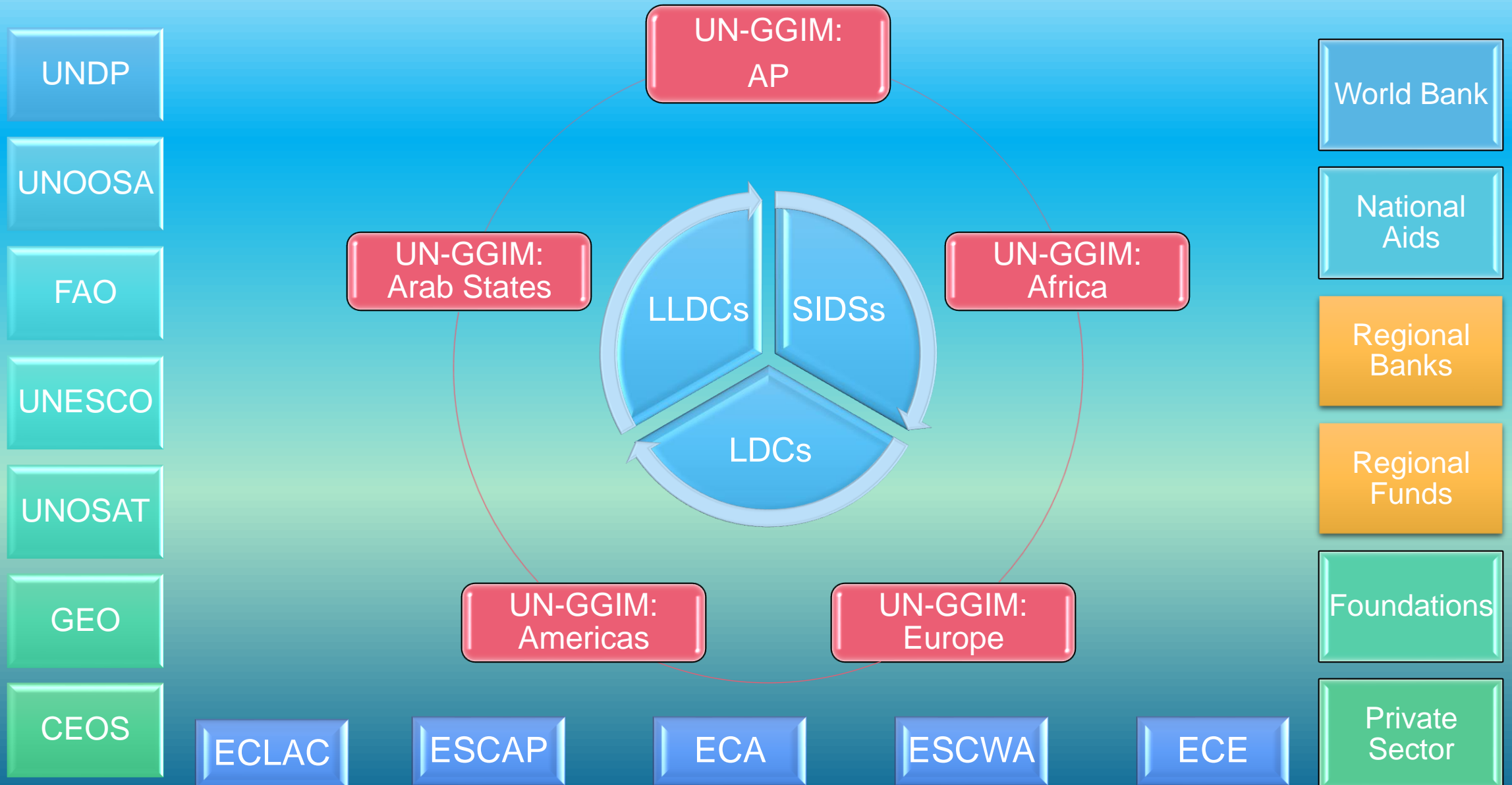
**Interns**

**UN Volunteers**

Secretariat UN-GGIM



# Collaboration considerations





# UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL GEODETIC CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

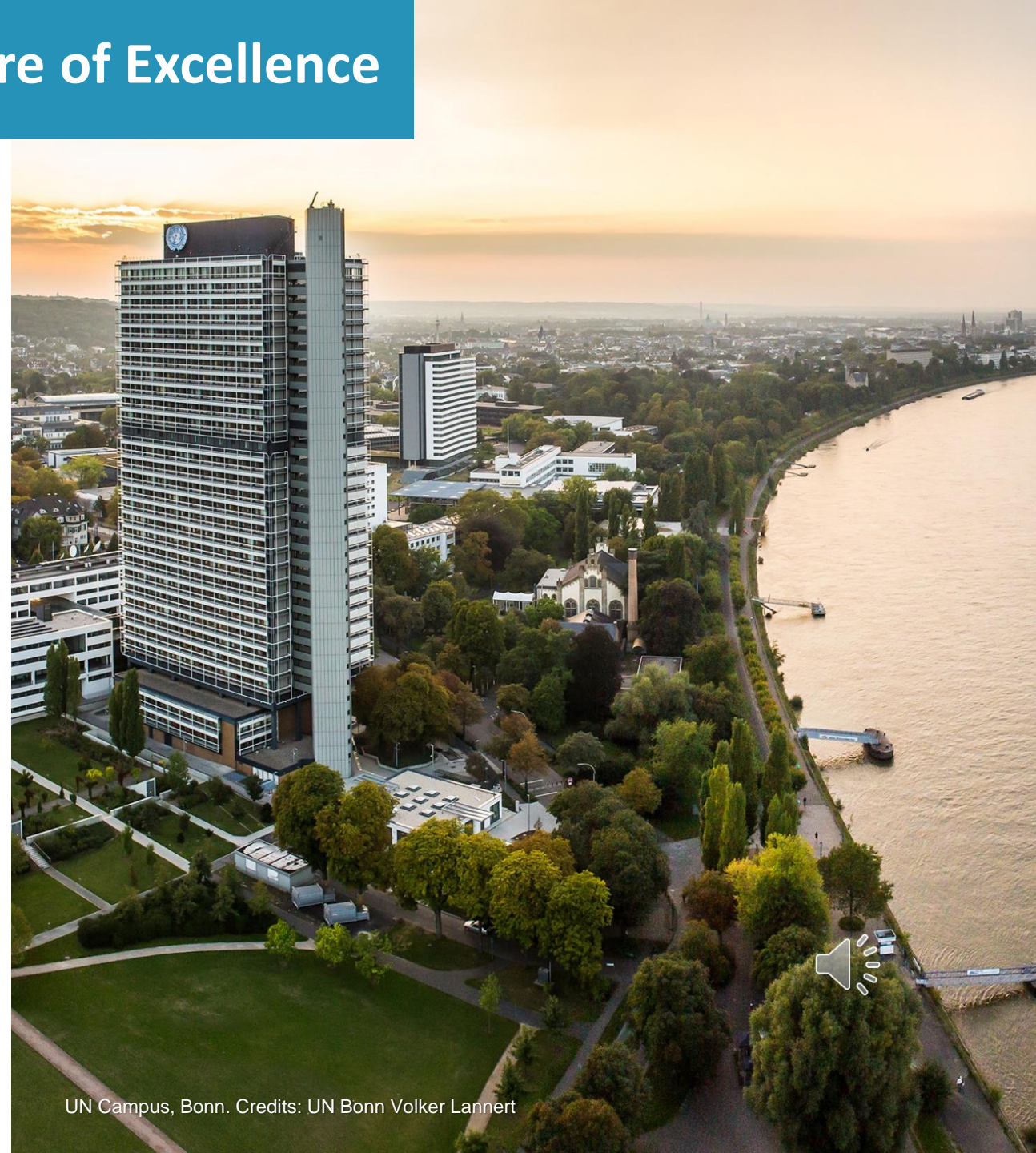
Expanded Bureau of the Committee of Experts

## Actions of the UN-GGCE

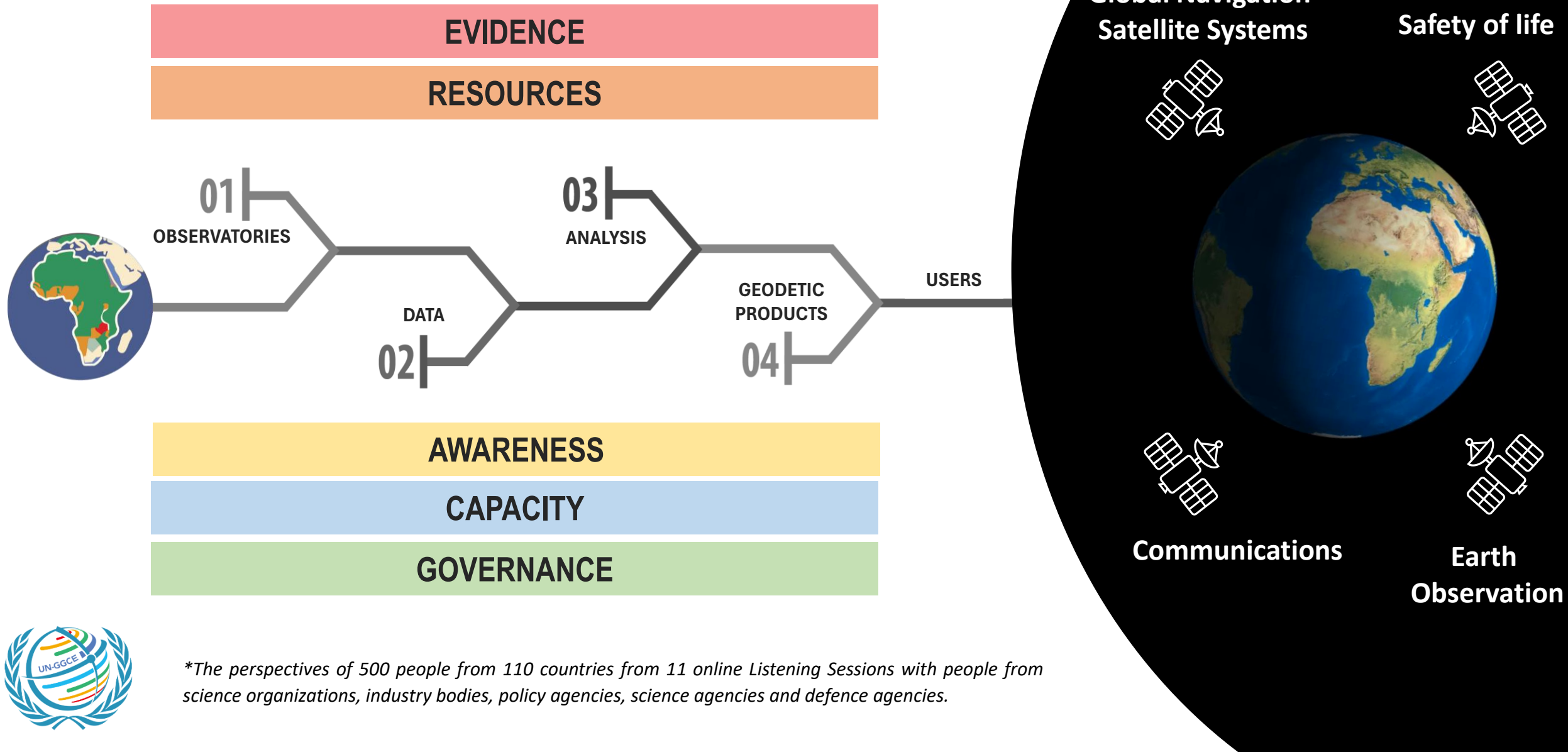
**Nicholas Brown**  
**Head of Office, UN-GGCE**

## Our Vision

All countries have **strong political support** for geodesy.



# Weaknesses in the Global Geodesy Supply Chain



*\*The perspectives of 500 people from 110 countries from 11 online Listening Sessions with people from science organizations, industry bodies, policy agencies, science agencies and defence agencies.*





# 1<sup>st</sup> Joint Development Plan for Global Geodesy

- Available in 6 UN languages now  
<https://ggim.un.org/UNGGCE/#documents>
- **Action plan** (linked with a strategy) to address weaknesses in the global geodesy supply chain
  1. Avoid further degradation of the supply chain (support current operational requirements)
  2. Robust (improve reliability)
  3. Next Generation (meet more ambitious requirements)
- Includes activities for UN-GGCE, Member States and partners

## خطة التنمية المشتركة الأولى للجيوديسيا العالمية



الإصدار 1.0



United Nations  
Global Geodetic  
Centre of Excellence



United  
Nations



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## Phase 1: Avoid further degradation of the global geodesy supply chain

### Objective 1.1 – Member States are engaged in geodesy governance

#### Outcomes

- 1.1.1 Member States have improved governance arrangements within their country including a workplan to manage strategic, operational, and technical geodetic risks.
- 1.1.2 Governments, science organizations, industry, and universities understand their roles in the global geodesy supply chain, as well as how they relate to other elements of the chain.
- 1.1.3 Member States understand their dependency, on the global geodesy supply chain, as well as the impact of loss due to failure or degradation of the global geodesy supply chain.
- 1.1.4 Risks associated with weaknesses in the global geodesy supply chain are beginning to be mitigated.

#### Proposed Activities of Member States

1. Establish, or strengthen an existing, country level geodesy working group which includes representatives from government (science, policy, defence), industry and academia.
2. Lead the development and implementation of a country level strategy and action plan to:
  - Assess strategic, operational and technical risks associated with weaknesses in the global geodesy supply chain.

- Increase awareness of the global geodesy supply chain.
- Address risks that, if realised, would have significant economic, social, and environmental consequences.

#### Proposed Activities of UN-GGCE

3. Develop and share guidance material which can be used by Member States to establish or strengthen country level working groups, strategies and action plans.
4. Establish a website for Member States to voluntarily report on the Activities assigned to them in the Joint Development Plan, monitor their progress and provide summary statistics of Member State activities.
5. Engage with Member State representatives and assist them to establish or strengthen country level working groups, strategies and action plans.

#### Proposed Activities of Partners

6. Engage with Member State representatives and assist them to establish or strengthen country level working groups, strategies and action plans.



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# Policy Briefs



POLICY BRIEF NO001

## Hidden Risk

**How weaknesses in the global geodesy supply chain could have catastrophic impacts on critical infrastructure and national economies**

### INTRODUCTION

Modern society is dependent on satellites. In many countries, satellite information is essential for economic growth, the operation of critical infrastructure, and is a cornerstone of national defence forces.

In some cases, the dependence is so strong that countries have developed sovereign space systems. For example, several countries or regions, e.g., the European Union (EU), have their own Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) to provide Positioning, Navigation and Timing (PNT) services for civilian and defence applications including the Global Positioning System (GPS; USA), GLONASS (Russian Federation), Galileo (EU) and BeiDou (PRC). These countries recognize that a loss of PNT services, either due to technological failures or malicious activity, would have catastrophic and cascading effects for their economy and critical infrastructure. This reliance and need for control is not limited to GNSS satellites which provide PNT services, but extends to telecommunications satellites and Earth Observation (EO) satellites.

### Observing the Earth

Satellites providing vital defence and civilian applications are reliant on constant updates about their 'place in space' (satellite orbit information) and the Earth's 'place in space' (shape, orientation, gravity field, and coordinate reference frame).

This Earth and satellite 'place in space' information are collectively known as geodetic products. Constant updates to the geodetic products are needed because the Earth and satellites are always moving. Without updates to geodetic products, satellite applications that society takes for granted, and all the benefits they provide would degrade or fail.

### GLOBAL GEODESY SUPPLY CHAIN

The geodetic products are created through the global geodesy supply chain (Figure 1) which includes:

- ground observatories and scientists who constantly observe the movement of the Earth and satellites;

### Key Messages

- Society's dependence on satellite services for economic development, the operation of critical infrastructure, and defence applications is very high and growing at a rapid pace.
- Satellite services are at risk of degradation or failure due to the lack of resources provided to the global geodesy supply chain.
- For satellites to operate accurately and reliably, their 'place in space' and Earth's 'place in space' need to be observed and analyzed constantly. This information is provided through the global geodesy supply chain.
- The global geodesy supply chain is the collection of ground observing stations, data centres, analysis centres and highly qualified experts who observe the Earth and convert these observations into geodetic products which are essential to communicate accurately and reliably with satellites.
- Although the supply chain is a vital foundation of the space sector, it is relatively unknown and therefore under-resourced. Less than 0.05% of the revenue generated from GNSS and EO services are reinvested in the global geodesy supply chain.
- Member States and partners are forming a Joint Development Plan describing how they will work together to strengthen the supply chain to enhance the reliability and integrity of the geodetic products.
- Key activities for Member States include: strengthening national awareness and governance in geodesy, recognizing the global geodesy supply chain as national critical infrastructure and engaging in bilateral or multilateral agreements with other Member States.

- data centres and data centre operators who quality check the data from observatories and make it available to the global geodesy analysis community; and,
- analysis centres, correlation centres and analysts who translate the raw data into geodetic products.

It is a *global* geodesy supply chain because the observatories and highly qualified people need to be distributed around the world to achieve the required accuracy and reliability of the geodetic products.

Recognizing the risk of a degrading supply chain, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 69/266 in 2015, entitled 'A Global Geodetic Reference Frame for Sustainable Development'. The resolution encourages Member States to

Authors: Nicholas Brown and Sarah Kowal, United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence, UN DESA.

June 2024

United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence

1

1. Hidden Risk: How weaknesses in the global geodesy supply chain could have catastrophic impacts on critical infrastructure and national economies.
2. Reliance on the global geodesy supply chain for climate science.
3. Need to protect parts of the radio frequency spectrum (in collaboration with the International Telecommunications Union).

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# Industry Engagement



“In a Joint Working Group discussion, the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence (UN-GGCE) highlighted weaknesses in the global geodesy supply chain<sup>1</sup>; in particular issues relating to the reliability of geodetic products such as Earth Orientation Parameters (EOP) and future realisations of the International Terrestrial Reference Frame which are essential to the operation of GNSS satellites. ICG members openly acknowledged the risks highlighted by the UN-GGCE and recognized strengthening the global geodesy supply chain should be prioritised to ensure GNSS services are more robust.”

-- 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the International Committee on GNSS (2024)

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# Policy and Defence Engagement



**Defence** (USA, UK, Germany, Iraq)

**Policy** (USA, Germany Iraq, Norway, UK, Finland, Spain, France)

**Science**

“Member States acknowledge the risks associated with failure, or degradation in the Global Geodesy Supply Chain (GGSC).”

-- Draft Decisions from the Expert Consultation meeting on  
Strengthening the Global Geodesy Supply Chain (22-23 April 2024)

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# Stronger governance arrangements

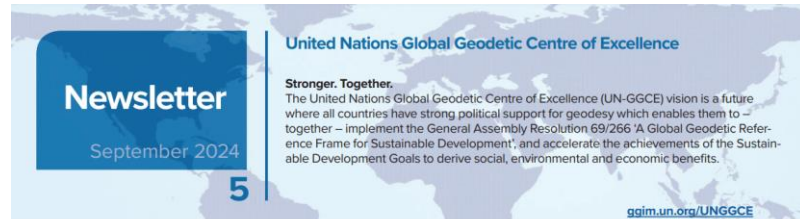
- 1. Multilateral Memorandum of Understanding [led by UN-GGCE]**
  - Government agencies / departments, organizations, associations, private sector
  - Non-binding
  - Draft has been sent
  - Operational on 10 March 2025
- 2. Bilateral / Regional Agreements**
- 3. Intergovernmental Organization**



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# Newsletters



## GLOBAL GEODESY SUPPLY CHAIN

### Steps towards international commitments

The UN-GGCE outlines new opportunities for government agencies around the world. "We propose they join together and take steps towards strengthening international cooperation and commitments for the global geodesy supply chain", says Nick Brown, UN-GGCE Head of Office.

The UN-GGCE envisions a future where Member States collaborate on the global geodesy supply chain and ensure it is operated in a sustainable manner for the benefit of all people.

#### World geodetic organization

In this vision Nick Brown sees a United Nations world geodetic organization or an equivalent governance structure, like the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), as a long-term objective. "This is ambitious, and we recognize this will take time and money," says Nick Brown, "however, it is necessary to start taking steps in this direction to enhance the governance of the global geodesy supply chain; in particular, raising awareness of the issues to senior leaders in government agencies."

#### Record breaking geodesy interventions

When the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) held its 14th session this summer, from 6-8 August, there were a record breaking 40 interventions. Member States, regional committees and observers praised the successful work of UN-GGCE and the UN-GGIM Subcommittee on Geodesy on agenda item 8 – Global geodetic reference frame. In its decisions the Committee of Experts

among others requested the Subcommittee with support from the UN-GGCE, to identify options to strengthen international cooperation and commitment and mechanisms for appropriate resource mobilization – and to investigate the opportunities to bring the status of, and the need for, a more sustainable geodesy supply chain to the attention of the greater United Nations community.

#### UN-GGIM 14th session decisions:

<https://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/14th-Session/documents/>

#### Opportunities to strengthen geodesy

In response to these decisions the UN-GGCE is prepared to guide the way forward with small steps designed to grow awareness and build trust.

"We first propose two opportunities which can be considered by government agencies now," says Brown. The objective is to strengthen international cooperation and commitment and provide resource mobilization in 1) a Multilateral Memorandum of Understanding and 2) a Multilateral Memorandum of Agreement.

The UN-GGCE will also assist the Subcommittee on Geodesy in its work to investigate other opportunities related growing awareness throughout the greater UN community, as requested by the Committee of Experts.

#### Forum on First Joint Development Plan

In the margins of the UN-GGIM 14th session in New York the UN-GGIM Subcommittee on Geodesy and the UN-GGCE jointly convened a Forum on the First Joint Development Plan for Global Geodesy. The objective of this forum in the UN General Assembly Building was to bring representatives from space agencies, industry, defense and science together to discuss options on how representatives will take responsibility for activities outlined in the First Joint Development Plan.



NEW YORK: Jy Markel (from right), Albert Monro, Alison Rose and Richard Gross. Photo: Lubov Pashyavala Shubel

The panel members provided excellent insights into how to convince decision makers to fund geodetic programs, described the weaknesses in the global geodesy supply chain that keep them awake at night and explained governance models in other international organizations that the geodesy community could learn from.

The draft plan is out now for consultation and can be found here: [https://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/14th-Session/documents/Draft\\_Joint\\_development\\_Plan\\_v0.2.pdf](https://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/14th-Session/documents/Draft_Joint_development_Plan_v0.2.pdf).

- Seven newsletters available
  - <https://ggim.un.org/UNGGCE/#documents>
- Growing mailing list
- Stronger following on LinkedIn
  - Over 2,300 followers in 12 months
  - Primary communication source



UN-GGCE

United Nations Global Geodetic  
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# YouTube (evidence and training)



## UN-GGCE

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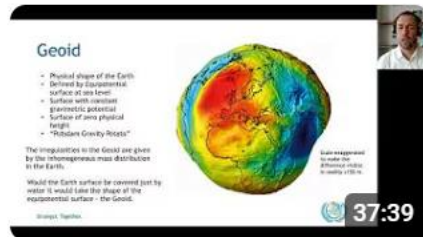
Videos

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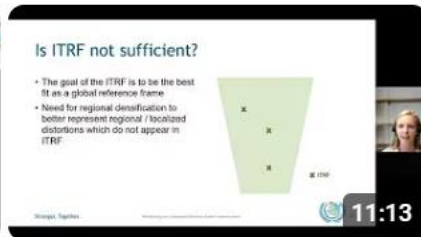


## Videos



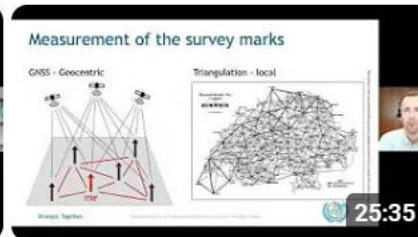
Modernizing your Geospatial Reference System - Part 4 -...

171 views · 2 months ago



Modernizing your Geospatial Reference System - Part 3 -...

355 views · 4 months ago



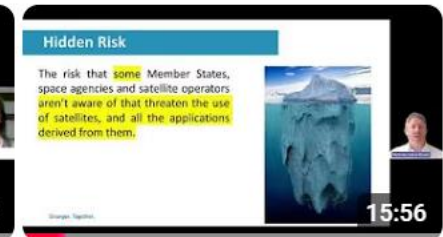
Modernizing your Geospatial Reference System - Part 2 -...

713 views · 5 months ago



Modernizing your Geospatial Reference System - Part 1 -...

452 views · 5 months ago



Hidden Risk - The importance of geodesy in our everyday...

755 views · 7 months ago

# Capacity Development

## Joining Land and Sea workshop (Indonesia, Dec, 2024)

- Development of practical guidance on how to align land and sea data for improved decision making
- Addresses a common request of Member State interventions over the last 10 years to bring together the work from:
  - Expert Group on Land Administration and Management
  - Working Group on Geospatial Information for Disaster Risk Management
  - Working Group on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information Management
  - Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information
  - Subcommittee on Geodesy
  - ISO/TC211, Open Geospatial Consortium
  - Academia



**STRONGER.  
TOGETHER.**



# Capacity Development

- Member States identified a need for more tailored geodetic assistance which is specific to Member States capacity, capability and requirements.
- Build geodetic capacity across Member States with a particular focus on Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).
- 5 Capacity Development workshops
  - Europe | 17-21 February 2025 (Bonn, Germany)
  - Africa | 19-23 May 2025 (Nairobi, Kenya)
  - Asia-Pacific | 30 June-4 July 2025 (Bangkok, Thailand)
  - Americas | 3-7 November 2025 (Santiago, Chile)
  - Arab States | TBA 2025 (Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia)



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TOGETHER.**

# Partners (25 and growing)



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# AGENDA #6 – PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

## C. UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE AND THEIR COORDINATION, COHERENCE AND GOVERNANCE

14/101

### Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements

(d) Welcomed the establishment of the **United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre in China** and the **United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence in Germany** as well as the advanced planning to establish the **United Nations Global Geospatial Ecosystem Centre of Excellence in Saudi Arabia**; endorsed the strategic plan of the Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre and appreciated the efforts to extend the current agreement on the operationalization of the Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence until 31 December 2030, thereby ensuring a longer-term operation for the Global Geodetic Centre;



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# AGENDA #6 – PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

## A. REGIONAL COMMITTEES, FUNCTIONAL GROUPS AND THEMATIC NETWORKS AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GGIM AGENDA

- *Regional Committees*
- *Thematic Networks*
- *Functional groups*



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**UN-GGIM:Américas**

REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF  
UNITED NATIONS  
ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT  
FOR THE AMERICAS

# Contributions of UN-GGIM: Americas to the global geospatial information management agenda

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## Expanded Bureau of the Committee of Experts

Sofía Nilo Crisóstomo  
President UN-GGIM: Americas  
3 February 2025



**UN-GGIM:Americas**

REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF UNITED NATIONS  
ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION  
MANAGEMENT FOR THE AMERICAS

## Highlights of the work of UN-GGIM Americas From 2024 to Date

### UN-GGIM Americas Working Groups:

#### 1. WG Integrated Geospatial Information Framework for the Americas (UN-IGIF)

- 3 Virtual Conversations on strategic pathways 1, 2 and 4 (with Spanish-English translation). With the participation of more than 100 people from the Americas and other regions.

#### 2. WG Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information

- Virtual workshops on principles 1, 2, 3 and 4 With the support of ECLAC for Spanish-English translation.

#### 3. WG Strategic Framework for Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters

- 'Memory HUB' of the Americas to strengthen awareness of the most significant natural disasters that have affected the region in the past decade.



With the support of the  
**Academic and Private  
Network of the  
Americas**, as well as the  
**subregional vocals.**





**UN-GGIM:Americas**

REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF UNITED NATIONS  
ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION  
MANAGEMENT FOR THE AMERICAS

## Highlights of the work of UN-GGIM Americas From 2024 to Date

### UN-GGIM Americas Working Groups:

#### 4. WG Geodetic Reference Framework for the Americas (GPRG)

- Workshops, webinars, and training programs to strengthen geodesy-related capacities.
- Expansion of the SIRGAS Reference Network with 15 new stations.

#### 5. WG on Effective Land Management

- Implementation of the Working Group with the participation of 11 countries.
- Introductory discussion on effective land administration.
- Preliminary survey on land administration in the Americas.
- Virtual presentations of country experiences on land administration.



With the support of the  
**Academic and Private  
Network of the  
Americas**, as well as the  
**subregional vocals.**



**UN-GGIM:Americas**

REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF UNITED NATIONS  
ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION  
MANAGEMENT FOR THE AMERICAS

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## Highlights of the work of UN-GGIM Americas From 2024 to Date

### Enhancing other areas:

#### 1. Geospatial Intelligence Community (GEO AI)

- Implementation of the community led by Canada.
- Development of the Community's Terms of Reference.

#### 2. Women's leadership in geospatial field

- First conversation on female leadership in the geospatial field: challenges and opportunities

#### 3. In the short term, fostering youth leadership in the geospatial field.



**UN-GGIM:Americas**

REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF UNITED NATIONS  
ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION  
MANAGEMENT FOR THE AMERICAS

# Key decisions adopted at the Eleventh Session of UN-GGIM: Americas

Held virtually on September 25-26, with its in-person session on October 7, 2024, in Mexico City

**11/03**

**Evaluation of the work and functioning of the Regional Committee.  
Needs, challenges and priorities for 2025**

1. It was recommended that the statutes of the Regional Committee be reviewed and updated **to strengthen and enhance the role of the Sub-Regional Vocals**, so that they have guidelines to carry out their role of promoting the active participation of the Member States and supporting the regional work program.
2. Supported the **implementation of a communication plan** that leverages existing tools (such as the UN-GGIM: Americas website and social media platforms) to facilitate the discovery, dissemination and sharing of best practices in geospatial information management.
3. The diversity of languages in the region and the need to mobilize resources to ensure the **use of the official languages of the Regional Committee (at least English and Spanish)** in its regular activities and in the preparation of official documents was recognized.





**UN-GGIM:Americas**

REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF UNITED NATIONS  
ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION  
MANAGEMENT FOR THE AMERICAS

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## Key decisions adopted at the Eleventh Session of UN-GGIM: Americas.

**11/05**

### **Regional, intra- and inter-regional cooperation**

1. Appreciates the financial contribution provided by the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (IPGH), which has supported the implementation of related activities and services.
2. The importance of the in-person interregional meeting held in Mexico was highlighted. The proposal to develop an interregional work plan for the continuous exchange of knowledge and experiences between the five UN-GGIM regions was welcomed, enriching the products each regional committee considers in their agendas.

**\*The proposed Interregional Work Plan is currently in the process of validation.**



**UN-GGIM:Americas**

REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF UNITED NATIONS  
ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION  
MANAGEMENT FOR THE AMERICAS

## Key decisions adopted at the Eleventh Session of UN-GGIM: Americas.

**11/06**

### **Progress of the working groups following the resolutions of the Tenth Session**

1. Member States were urged to promote technical cooperation and knowledge exchange for the successful implementation of the UN-IGIF in the region, utilizing established opportunities, such as the support from ECLAC, SDG Data Alliance, the UN-IGIF High-Level Group, OECS, CARICOM, and other regional committees.

**\*ECLAC is evaluating the possibility of maintaining technical assistance to countries that could not complete their processes in the framework of the SDG Data Alliance project.**



**UN-GGIM:Americas**

REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF UNITED NATIONS  
ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION  
MANAGEMENT FOR THE AMERICAS

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## **Key decisions adopted at the Eleventh Session of UN-GGIM: Americas.**

**11/08**

**Duodécima Sesión de UN-GGIM: Américas**

1. It was agreed that the Twelfth Session of UN-GGIM: Americas will be held in November 2025 at the ECLAC Headquarters in Santiago, Chile.



**UN-GGIM:Américas**

REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF  
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FOR THE AMERICAS

# Contributions of UN-GGIM: Americas to the global geospatial information management agenda

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## Expanded Bureau of the Committee of Experts

Sofía Nilo Crisóstomo  
President UN-GGIM: Americas  
3 February 2025



# Africa Region Report

**3 February 2025**

**Jeddah, Saudi Arabia**

*Clinton Heimann*

*Chairperson UNGGIM: Africa*



# Introduction

## UN-GGIM and Africa's Geospatial Agenda

- **UN-GGIM Initiative:** Launched by the UN Secretariat to coordinate global geospatial activities among Member States.
- **Africa Regional Committee:** Established in 2015 to advance geospatial governance across African nations.
- **10th Meeting in Addis Ababa:** Held in October-November 2024 with 100+ participants from governments, private sector, and UN bodies.
- **Strategic Objective:** Focuses on strengthening governance, interregional collaboration, and national leadership in geospatial data.



Photo by Aslam Parker



# Key Outcomes & Regional Coordination Efforts

## Strengthening Governance & Collaboration



### Strategic Governance & Alignment

Established four new working groups focused on IGIF, geospatial-statistical integration, geodetic infrastructure, and land administration.



### Interregional Synergies

Strengthened collaborations with the Statistical Commission for Africa and the African Union Commission.



### Private Sector & Academia

Expanded industry and academic engagement to drive geospatial innovation.



### Capacity Development

Launched training programs to address gaps in geodetic infrastructure and data governance.



# Current Activities

## Upcoming Events & Initiatives



### **Working Groups Appointment**

Formal appointment of working group chairs scheduled for March 2025.



### **Geodesy Workshop**

UN Global Geospatial Ecosystem of Excellence to hold a workshop in Kenya, May 2025.



### **Technical Cooperation with Japan**

Japan supporting the establishment of CORS to modernize geodetic infrastructure. Currently working with Senegal.



### **African Geospatial Leadership Forum**

Planned initiative to strengthen leadership, advocacy, and collaboration.





# Strategic Resolutions from the Meeting

## Strengthening Leadership & Sustainability

- **Executive Board Continuity:** South Africa continues as Chair, Cameroon as Vice-Chair, with Uganda and Burkina Faso as Rapporteurs.
- **Enhanced Regional Governance:** Commitment to refining policy frameworks and aligning with global priorities.
- **Capacity Development:** Partnerships with UN geospatial centers to enhance technical training.
- **Financial Sustainability:** Advocacy for increased funding from member states and development partners.



Photo by Cytonn Photography on Unsplash



# Working Groups & Proposed Convenors

## Key Responsibilities & Leadership



### **IGIF – Integrated Geospatial Information Framework**

Led by South Africa, supported by AFRIGIST, focusing on geospatial policy alignment.



### **AFREF – African Geodetic Reference Frame**

Led by Côte d'Ivoire, focusing on strengthening geodetic infrastructure.



### **ISGI – Integration of Geospatial & Statistical Information**

Led by Namibia, enhancing data integration across sectors.



### **LAM – Land Administration & Management**

Led by Morocco, improving land governance through geospatial tools.



# Challenges & Resource Constraints

## Barriers to Geospatial Development

- **Inadequate Funding:** Limited financial resources restrict participation in regional activities and national geospatial programs. Funding is needed for simultaneous interpretation.
- **Technical & Institutional Gaps:** Shortage of skilled professionals and weak institutional frameworks hinder progress.
- **Emerging Technologies & AI:** Limited access to AI and remote sensing due to financial and infrastructure barriers.
- **Geospatial Sovereignty:** Need for Africa-led data governance structures to ensure regional decision-making autonomy.



Photo by UN GGIM AFRICA





## Expanded Bureau of the Committee of Experts

### UN-GGIM Arab States Update

February 2025, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia



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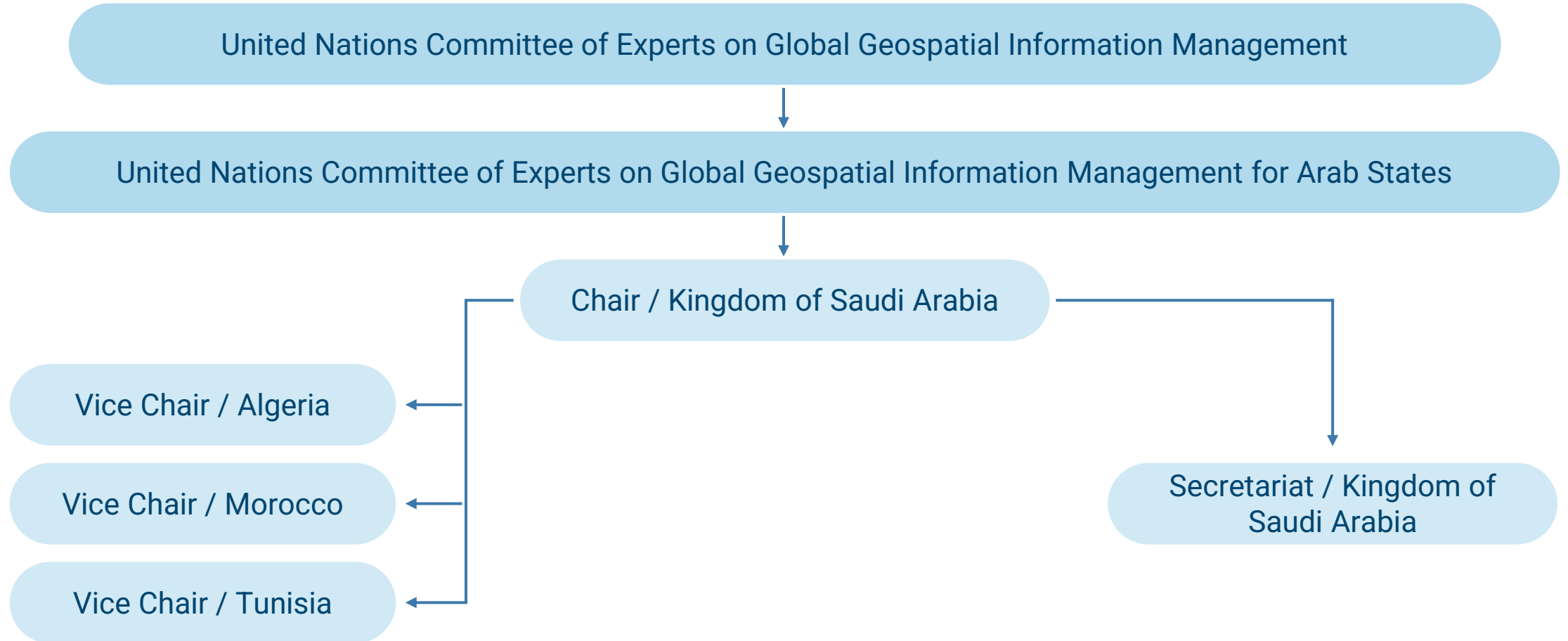
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# UN-GGIM: AS



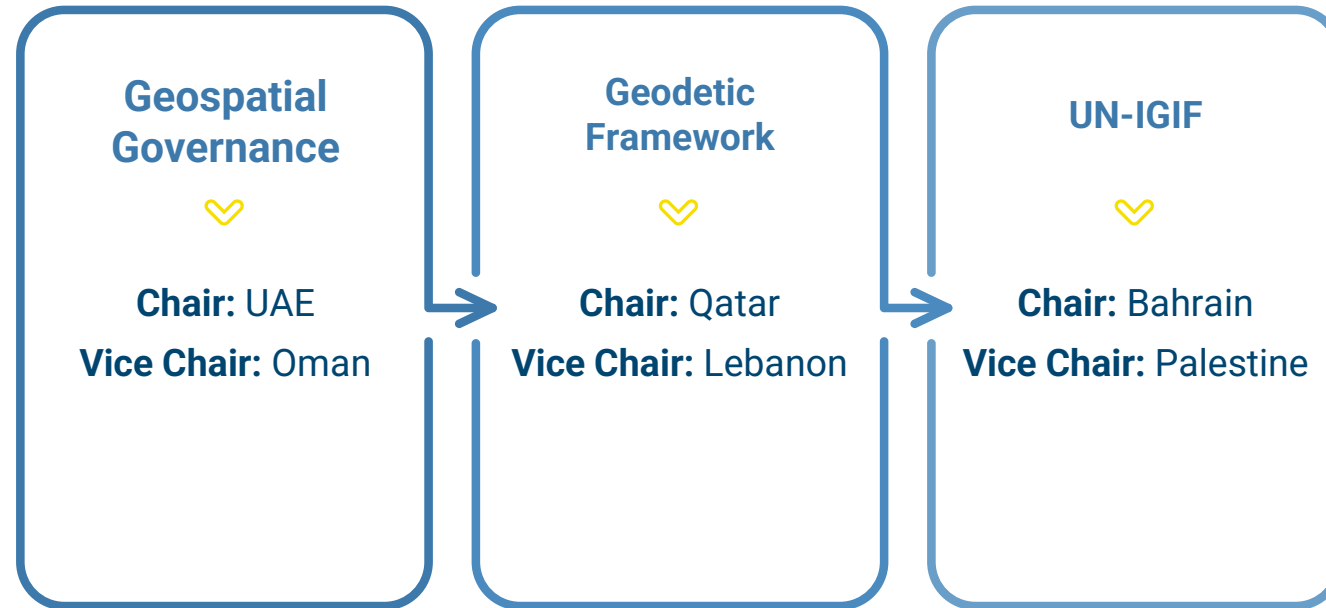


# UN-GGIM: AS Meetings

Meeting	Host Countries	Date
1	Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	25-24 FEB 2015
2	Algiers, Algeria	11-10 JUN 2015
3	Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates	25-23 FEB 2016
4	Doha, Qatar	23-21 FEB 2017
5	Muscat, Oman	21-19 FEB 2018
6	Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	20-18 FEB 2019
7	Algiers, Algeria	19-17 FEB 2020
8	On Line Meeting, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	23 FEB 2021
9	On Line Meeting, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	29 MAR 2022
10	Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates	16-12 FEB 2023
11	Doha, Qatar	4-8 FEB 2024
12	Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	2-6 FEB 2025



# Working Groups



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# ≡ Main Outcomes of the 11<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting

Approval of the new structure for the Executive Office of the UN-GGIM Arab States

01

Approval of the re-formation of the working groups during the period (2024-2028)

02

Approval of the strategic plans and the charter of the WGs

03

Adopting the Saudi experience in Geospatial Governance that have been jointly developed between the General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information and the Open Geospatial Information Consortium (OGC).

04



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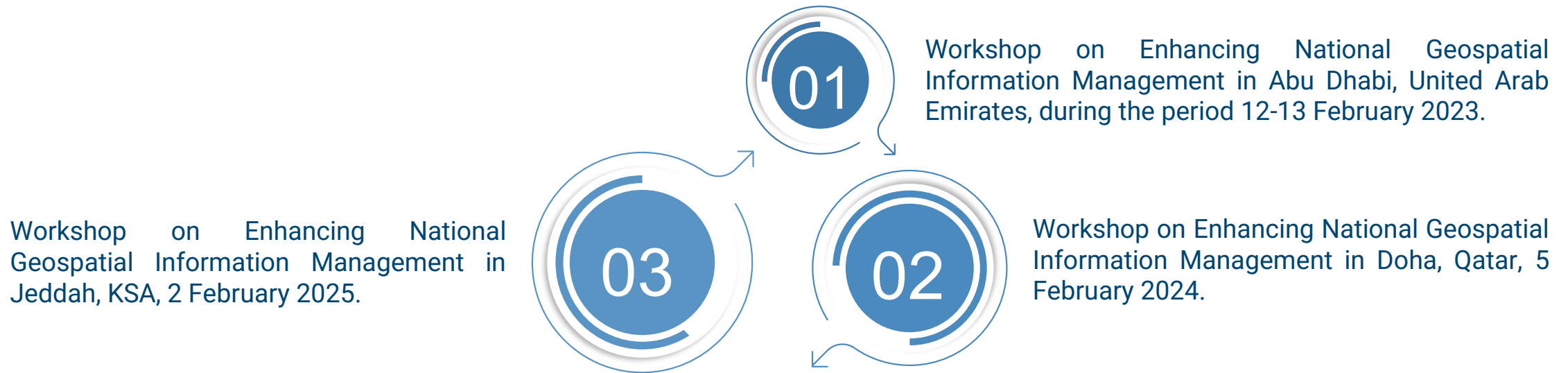




# UN-GGIM: AS Efforts in Implementing the IGIF

UN-GGIM: AS is a member of the High-Level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (HLG-IGIF), and the following are the contribution to the HLG-IGIF:

## UN-GGIM: AS Meeting:



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# UN-GGIM: AS Efforts in Implementing the IGF

Translation of the second part of the Integrated Framework for Geospatial Information - Kingdom of Morocco.

The work program for the revision of the translation of the second edition of the Executive Manual from English into Arabic is developed as follows:

#	Selected tracks + appendices	Designated Member
Solve the puzzle	Solve the puzzle	Kingdom of Morocco
1	Governance and Institutions	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
2	Policy and Legal	Kingdom of Morocco
3	Financial	Kingdom of Morocco
4	Data	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
5	Innovation	Kingdom of Morocco
6	Standards	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
7	Partnership	United Arab Emirates
8	Capacity and Education	United Arab Emirates
9	Communication & Engagement	United Arab Emirates



# ≡ 12<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of the UN-GGIM Arab states Committee

List	Numbers
Number of Countries invited to Arab States	13
Number of People Attending from Arab Region	52
Number of International Organizations, Thematic groups invited	14
Number of International Experts invited	39



# Timeline for Jeddah Meeting

Time / Day	Sunday, 2-Feb		Monday, 3-Feb		Tuesday, 4-Feb	Wednesday, 5-Feb	Thursday, 6-Feb
08:30 – 10:00	Plenary meeting of HLG-IGIF (For invited members only)	Workshop on the Saudi experience on geospatial data governance, policies, & standards	Joint meeting of HLG-IGIF and Expanded Bureau (For invited members only)	Workshop on Geospatial Security	12 <sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Arab States (Opening Session)	12 <sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Arab States (Session-3: Meeting of Geospatial Governance WG)	12 <sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Arab States (Session-5: Contribution of UN & International organizations for GIM)
10:30 – 12:00		Visit to the Holy Haram Mosque to Makkah (optional)	Plenary meeting of HLG-IGIF (For invited members only)	Workshop on Empowerment of Arab women in the field of geospatial information	12 <sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Arab States (Session-2: Meeting of Geodetic Framework WG)	12 <sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Arab States (Session-4: Meeting of IGIF WG)	12 <sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Arab States (Session-6: Conclusion of plenary)
13:00 – 14:30	Meeting of the Bureau and its expanded bureau (For invited members only)		Workshop on Geospatial Leadership	UN-GGIM: Arab States' Workshop on IGIF	Workshop on Geospatial Ecosystem in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia		
15:00 – 16:30							Plenary meeting of HLG-IGIF (For invited members only)
20:00 – 22:00	Official Dinner - Celebration on 10 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of UN-GGIM: Arab States						



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# GGIM:AS

UNITED NATIONS INITIATIVE ON  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL  
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FOR ARAB STATES



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**UN-GGIM-AP**

REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF  
UNITED NATIONS  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT  
FOR ASIA & THE PACIFIC

# Executive Report

**03 February 2025**

**Jeddah, Saudi Arabia**



# Key Activities

- ❑ Organization of AP Regional meeting at the 14th session of UN-GGIM in New York, 5 August 2024.
- ❑ Coordination with the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre (UNGKIC) to support regional capabilities development for IGIF and technical support to pilot countries. (Questionnaire on IGIF Capacity Building for Member Countries in Asia and the Pacific)
- ❑ Continuous maintenance and updating of the UN-GGIM-AP website. Cloud migration of the UN-GGIM-AP website.
- ❑ Participation in monthly virtual of the UN Geospatial Network (UN-GGIM)
- ❑ Hosting the UN-GGCE Workshop on Joining Land and Sea in Bogor 2-5 December 2024



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# Key Activities

## *Inter-Regional Committees' Activities:*

- ❑ Coordinating Collaborative Reporting for Agenda #4:  
Contribution of regional committees to the global geospatial information agenda
- ❑ Connecting Regional Committees' websites
- ❑ Hosting a meeting in New York and approving the joint project proposed by UNGEGN



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# Regional Challenges/Issues

Every year since COVID-19, the number of member states actively contribute to or participate in the UN-GGIM-AP activities decreases to less than 50% (from 56).



## Lost contacts

Secretariat is tracing back the contact persons for each country.



## Finding donor for the activities

Sponsorship from UN-GGKIC, Geospatial World and Govt of India to support some developing countries.



## Identify National Priorities

Conduct regional survey regarding member's national priorities and their expectation



## Re-arrange the organisational structure

Learning from America with vocals and Europe with co-chairs.



# Feedback on Survey

## A Survey from UN-GGIM-AP

Dear Members, on behalf of the President of UN-GGIM-AP, Mr. Antonius Bambang Wijanarto, we are pleased to invite your esteemed country to participate in the **13th UN-GGIM-AP Plenary Meeting**, which will be held in **New Delhi, India, on 26 - 29 November 2024**. Additionally, we encourage all members to actively join our **four Working Groups** (for more details, you can visit the UN-GGIM-AP website <https://un-ggim-ap.org/content/home-page>) and engage in their respective topics to further regional geospatial development. To help us better understand your thoughts, we kindly ask you to complete the following survey regarding your plans and interests. Your feedback is valuable and will help us improve our services and better support member countries. Please complete and submit the survey by **28 October 2024**. Thank you very much for your cooperation and valuable input!

Sincerely,

UN-GGIM-AP Secretariat

\* 必答题

1. Will your country attend the 13th UN-GGIM-AP Plenary Meeting on 26-29 November 2024 in New Delhi, India? \*

☒ Yes

☐ No

2. Is your country interested in joining one of our four Working Groups? \*

☒ Yes

☐ No

- **Period: 07-28 October**
- **Results:**
- **10 Countries + 1 Organization responded: Tonga, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Australia, Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, Japan; International Federation of Surveyors, FIG.**



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# 13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting Resolution

## ☐ **International and Interregional Agendas**

- *Emphasizing* the importance of addressing regional priorities, enhancing regional capacities and advancing the modernization of geospatial information management at the national level;
- *Emphasizing* the importance of coordination, coherence and alignment by all regional committees, functional groups, thematic networks and United Nations global geospatial centres to avoid duplication

## ☐ **Collaboration with the Academic Network and the Private Sector Network for Asia and the Pacific**

- *Requests* to continue to strengthen collaboration and cooperation between the two networks to provide technical assistance and capacity-building opportunities for members of the UN-GGIM-AP.



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# 13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting Resolution

## ☐ **Change of the Members of the Executive Board**

- Mr. Hitesh Kumar S. Makwana from Survey of India has replaced Mr. Sunil Kumar, as the Vice President; Ms. Maree Wilson from Geoscience Australia has replaced Ms. Lisa Bush, as the member; and Mr. Yo Iida from Geospatial Information Authority of Japan (GSI) has replaced Mr. Shoichi Oki, as the Vice President.

## ☐ **Collaboration with the Academic Network and the Private Sector Network for Asia and the Pacific**

- *Requests* to continue to strengthen collaboration and cooperation between the two networks to provide technical assistance and capacity-building opportunities for members of the UN-GGIM-AP.





# 13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting Resolution

## ❑ Working Group 1: Geodetic Reference Frame

- *Contribute* to the Global Geodetic Reference Frame through close collaboration with the Subcommittee on Geodesy, its Working Groups and the Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence;
- *Strongly encourage* member States to share geodetic data openly and freely to support, for example, the connection of national height datums to global systems so that decision makers can address global issues, such as sea level change

## ❑ Working Group 2: Cadastre and Land Management

- *Prioritizing* the engagement of young leaders in the geospatial field and in the UN-GGIM agenda discussions to ensure diverse perspectives and leadership succession;
- *Aligning* effective land administration and integrating the terrestrial, built, maritime and cadastral domains with the UN-IGIF and the Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA) to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- *Decides* to change the name of the Working Group to align with the UN-GGIM agenda: Integrated Geospatial Information for Effective Land Administration;
- *Requests* member States for participatory support for the terrestrial-maritime questionnaire required for the reference guide.



# 13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting Resolution

## □ Working Group 2: Cadastre and Land Management

- *Prioritizing* the engagement of young leaders in the geospatial field and in the UN-GGIM agenda discussions to ensure diverse perspectives and leadership succession;
- *Aligning* effective land administration and integrating the terrestrial, built, maritime and cadastral domains with the UN-IGIF and the Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA) to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- *Decides* to change the name of the Working Group to align with the UN-GGIM agenda: Integrated Geospatial Information for Effective Land Administration;
- *Requests* member States for participatory support for the terrestrial-maritime questionnaire required for the reference guide.



# 13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting Resolution

## **Working Group 3: Integrating Geospatial Information and Statistics**

- *Strengthen* regional and international partnerships to support capacity-building, training and technology transfer for geospatial data and statistics integration;
- *Support* research and innovation in geospatial data and statistics integration, analysis and visualization techniques to enhance decision-making and policy formulation in the Asia-Pacific region.

## **Working Group 4: Integrated Geospatial Information Framework**

- *Share the experiences and best practices to assist in preparation of country-level action plans;*
- *Prepare IGIF component specific plans for understanding and implementation;*
- *Conduct training and capacity-building actions with special focus on the requirements of developing countries;*
- *Work on Adoption and Monitoring Mechanisms;*
- *Organize workshops, webinars, meetings for deliberations and exchanging the ideas and experiences.*



# 13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting Resolution

## Organisational Structure

- *requests* the President to take actions, with support from the Executive Board and secretariat, and through close coordination with member countries, to identify the regional priorities, approaches and proposals for rearranging the structure of the Committee and report to the Fourteenth plenary meeting of UN-GGIM-AP



UN-GGIM-AP

Regional Committee of United Nations  
Global Geospatial Information Management  
for Asia and the Pacific

[www.un-ggim-ap.org/](http://www.un-ggim-ap.org/)





**UN-GGIM-AP**

REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF  
UNITED NATIONS  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT  
FOR ASIA & THE PACIFIC

**THANK YOU!**



# Report from UN-GGIM: Europe



UN-GGIM  
EUROPE

UNITED NATIONS  
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

*Frank Tierolff and David Henderson  
Co-Chairs UN-GGIM: Europe Executive Committee*



# UN-GGIM: Europe

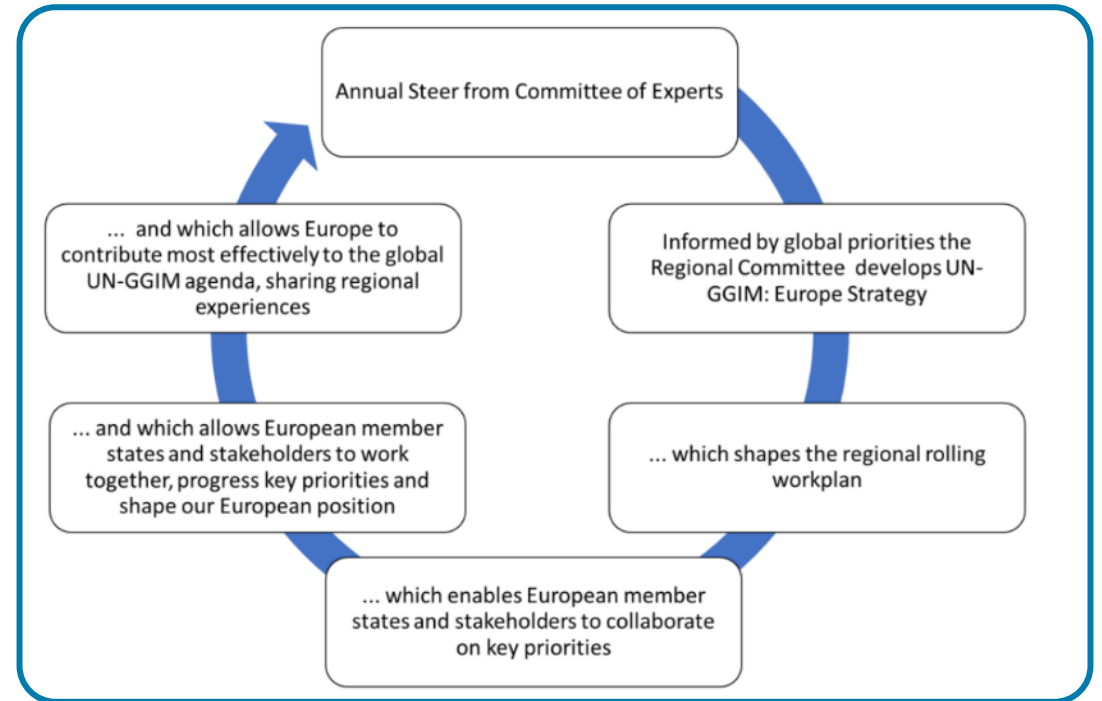
Refreshed strategy of UN-GGIM: Europe was adopted at the Regional Plenary in 2021.  
We adopted the new Work Plan at the Regional Plenary in 2022.

## Vision & Mission Statement

Building on the overarching vision of UN-GGIM of *positioning geospatial information to effectively address global challenges*, UN-GGIM: Europe mission is:

*Maximise the use of geospatial information in Europe for a safer and more sustainable world.*

*Through identifying opportunities, understanding and solving common challenges across the Europe Region. By collaborating with partners to enhance the use of geospatial data and its integration with statistics to inform and drive action.*



# Work Plan – 5 ‘lines of work’

## Integrated Geospatial Information Framework

- supports the regional representatives on the HLG-IGIF, provide the views of the European Region as the IGIF matures, and consider activities which will benefit members of UN-GGIM: Europe.

## Global Geodetic Reference Frames

- Aligns and support the UN-GGIM Subcommittee on Geodesy's priorities for the Global Geodetic Reference Frame, and to translate them into actions relevant for UN-GGIM: Europe

## Data Integration

- Explore ways to contribute and support activities promoting geospatial and statistical data integration, including reinforcing the involvement of the EO community

## Sustainable Development Goals

- Maintain the active contribution of UN-GGIM: Europe on showcasing the added value of integrating geospatial data with other data to address SDG indicators

## Data Strategy and Policy

- contribute to the development of relevant policy and data strategies regarding the management and use of geospatial data to maximise its value in addressing the challenges of a green, sustainable and digital Europe



UN-GGIM: EUROPE

UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT





# The strategy is delivered through a Work Plan

*... a blueprint that facilitates the collaboration of European Member States, European Institutions and observer bodies to work together to progress key priorities that are relevant to the region*

## Integrated Geospatial Information Framework

- Provides support and input to European Members of the HLG-IGIF
- Contribute to the global tasks of HLG-IGIF making sure regional concerns are raised and addressed
- Understand issues and obstacles the Regional Members may face when looking to implement IGIF

## Geodetic Reference Frames

- Contribute to the activities of the Subcommittee of Geodesy
- Focus on growing and sustaining the geodesy profession

## Sustainable Development Goals

- Showcasing the added value of integrating geospatial data with other data to address SDG indicators
- Explore further requirements and practices on the use and integration of Earth Observation data

## Data Strategy and Policy

- Contribute to the development of relevant policy and data strategies
- Understand the links between European policy and the IGIF

## Data Integration

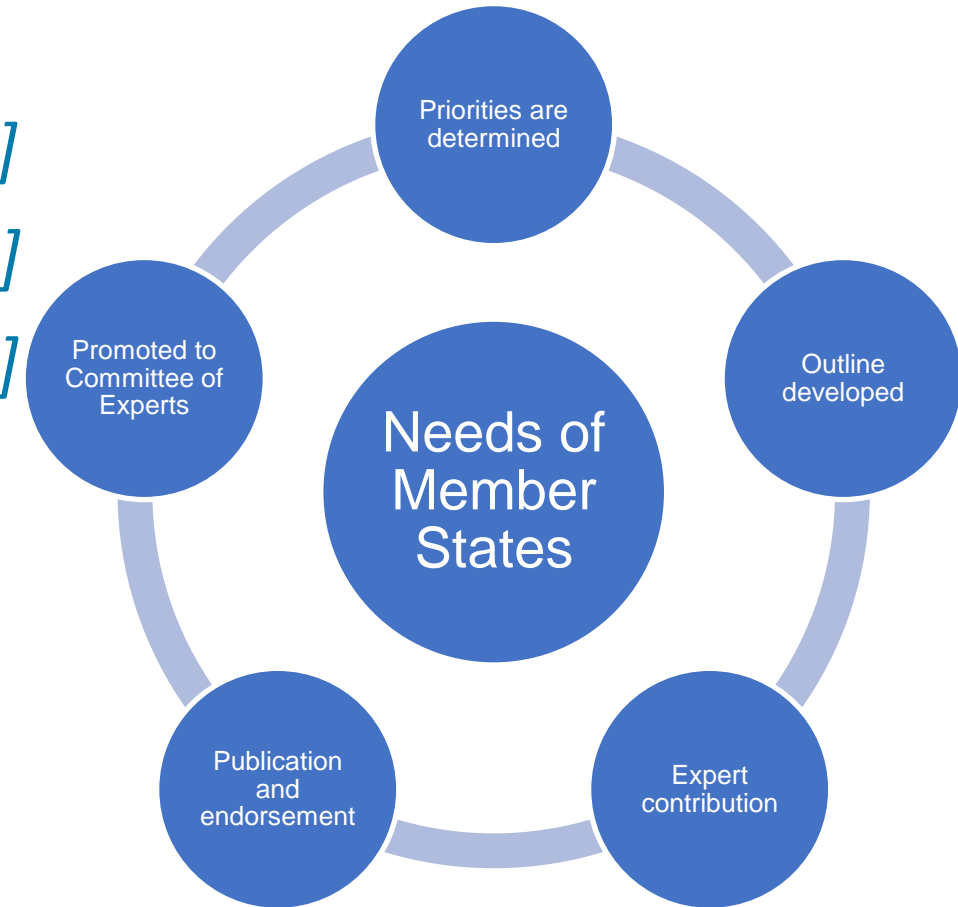
- Maintain the active contribution on data methods and showcasing the value of integrating geospatial data with other data
- Explore ways to support activities promoting geospatial and statistical data integration

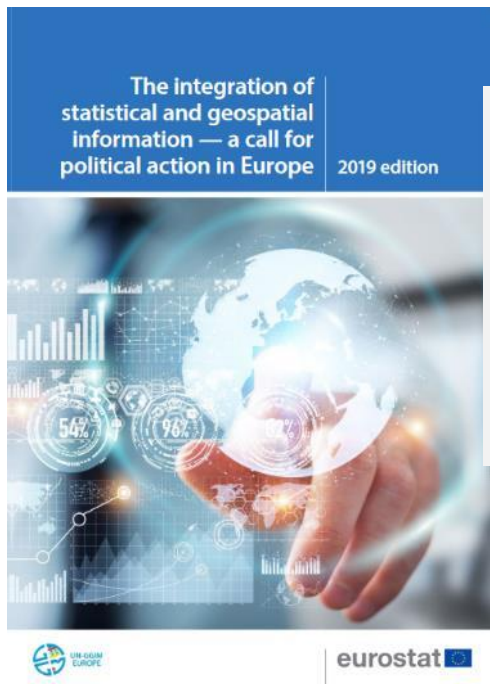


# Vision documents

- Diversity, equity and inclusion *[completed]*
- Collaboration with private sector *[completed]*
- Climate resilience *[completed]*
- Future geospatial information ecosystem
- Geospatial data and Post-2030 Agenda

## Process





- ### Policy Outreach Paper
- ✓ Promotes the benefits of data integration
  - ✓ Recommendations on data integration

- ✓ Focuses on the **contribution of geospatial data** and its integration with statistical data at a global, European and national perspective
- ✓ Provides **recommendations** towards a more effective geospatial data integration to address SDG indicators



- ### Leaflet
- ✓ Strengthen information
  - ✓ Effective examples of data integration



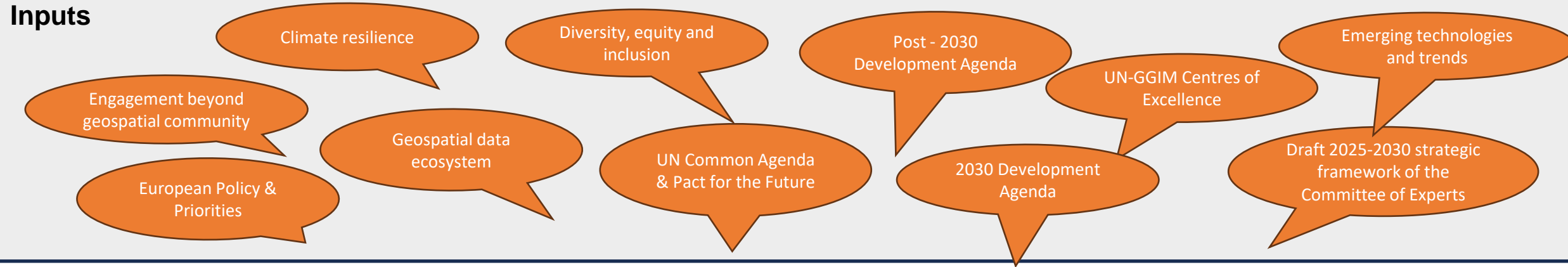
# Data integration in Europe



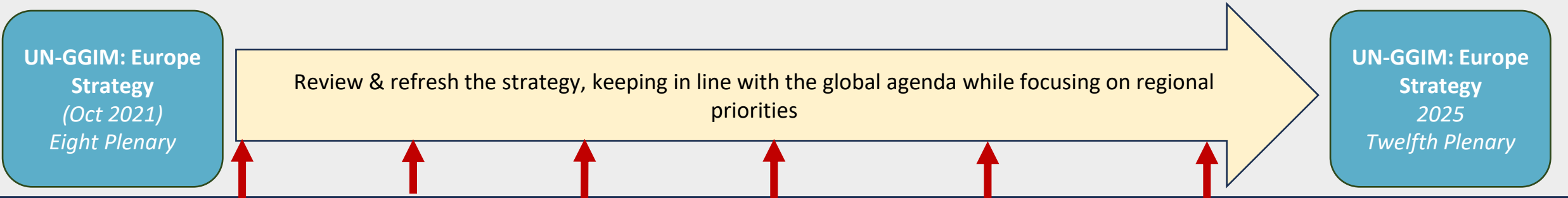


# Process to update the Regional Strategy in 2024/25

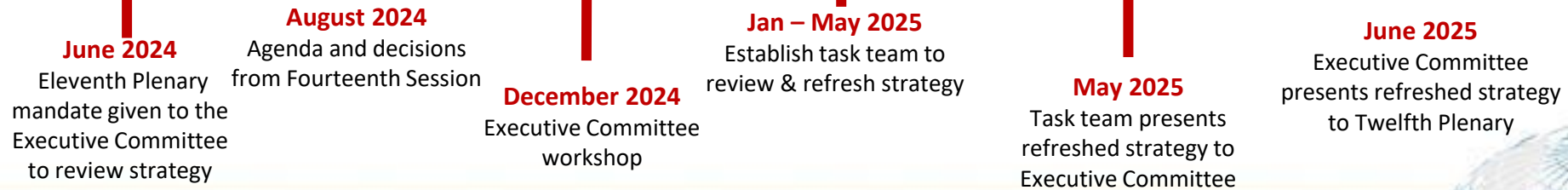
## Inputs



## Process



## Timeline



UN-GGIM: EUROPE

UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT





# 2025: Looking forward ...

- **Geodesy Capacity Development Workshop for Europe, GGCE UN Campus, Bonn, Germany 17-21 February 2025**
- **11th Joint UN-GGIM: Europe – ESS – UNECE Meeting on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, Luxemburg, Spring 2025**
- **Twelfth Plenary Meeting UN-GGIM: Europe, Brussels, 24-25 June 2025**



UN-GGIM: EUROPE

UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT



# Areas of concern

- The overarching and guiding strategy 2025-2030 is still missing.
- We are in a transitional period for the leadership of UN-GGIM. This leads to a risk to the direction of the Committee of Experts at the regional and global levels.
- With key personnel leaving the Secretariat there is a risk of losing the 'institutional knowledge' which has been developed alongside UN-GGIM.
- The UN-GGIM Secretariat are doing a good job, with the resources available to them. This develops risks around single points of failure, delays to follow up actions, and limited notice of meetings and events.
- Consequence for reaching out and communication with other sectors.
- Affects the capability, knowledge and impact to leverage results.



# Call to action

*A condition* is to strengthen capacity and support urgently before we can deliver the:

- Continuation of our joined-up approach to working across the UN-GGIM Regional Committees
- Commitment to support the development of the UN-GGIM Strategic Refresh 2025-2030
- Contribution to the post 2030 agenda



UN-GGIM: EUROPE

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# Thank you for listening.



**UN-GGIM  
EUROPE**

UNITED NATIONS  
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT







**UN-GGIM**  
GEOSPATIAL SOCIETIES

# **UN-GGIM – Geospatial Societies**

## **United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management**

**Prof. Céline Rozenblat**

**Chair of the UN-GGIM Geospatial Societies**

**International Geographical Union (IGU)**

**Institute of Geography and Sustainability - University of Lausanne - Switzerland**

# 11 UN-GGIM Geospatial societies in 2024

**IIEE**

•IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society (GRSS)

**IAG**

•International Association of Geodesy (IAG)

**ICA**

•International Cartographic Association (ICA)

**FIG**

•International Federation of Surveyors (FIG)

**IGU**

•International Geographical Union (IGU)

**IMIA**

•International Map Industry Association (IMIA)

**ISDE**

•International Society for Digital Earth (ISDE)

**ISPRS**

•International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS)

**IUGG**

•International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG)

**OS-GEO**

•The Open Source Geospatial Foundation

**ISC-CODATA**

•International Science council (ISC) - CODATA

## REVISION OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

To better address priorities and needs of working groups

### VISION / MISSION / ACTIONS

⇒ Work in progress 2024-2025

#### VISION

*“The vision of the UN-GGIM Geospatial Societies network is to **support and enhance the work program of the UN-GGIM** and the SDGs to enable and secure a better world for future generations”.*

# CONTRIBUTION TO WORKING GROUPS AND ACTIONS

## As individual societies

### WORKING GROUPS

1. One Situation Room
2. **UN-IGIF**
3. **Inter-Agencies and Expert Group on SDGs**
4. **Geodesy**
5. Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information
6. **Land Administration and management**
7. **Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters**
8. **Marine Geospatial Information**
9. **Policy and Legal Frameworks**
10. **Role of Standards**
11. **Toponymy**

### REGIONAL COMMITTEES

- **Asia-Pacific**
- **Americas**
- **Arab States**
- **Europe**
- **Africa**

### CENTERS

- Bonn (2021): **UN Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence**
- Daqing (2023): **UN Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre**
- Riyadh (2024): **United Nations Global Geospatial Ecosystem Centre**



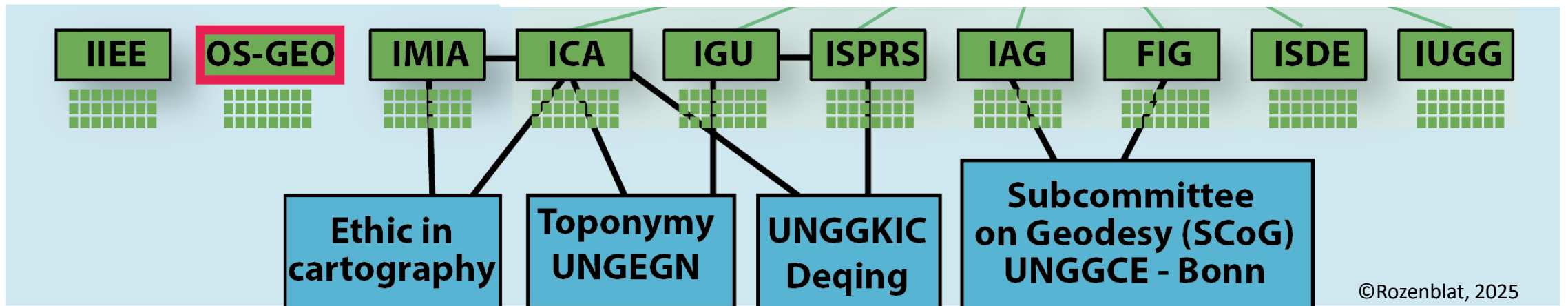
## REVISION OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

### VISION / **MISSION** / ACTIONS

#### **MISSION**

*“The mission is to **leverage collaborations, amplify activities and messages** in relation to geospatial science, technology, knowledge and governance **by proposing, developing, including advocacy**, that support and enhance the work program of the UN-GGIM”.*

# COLLABORATIONS BETWEEN GEOSPATIAL SOCIETIES

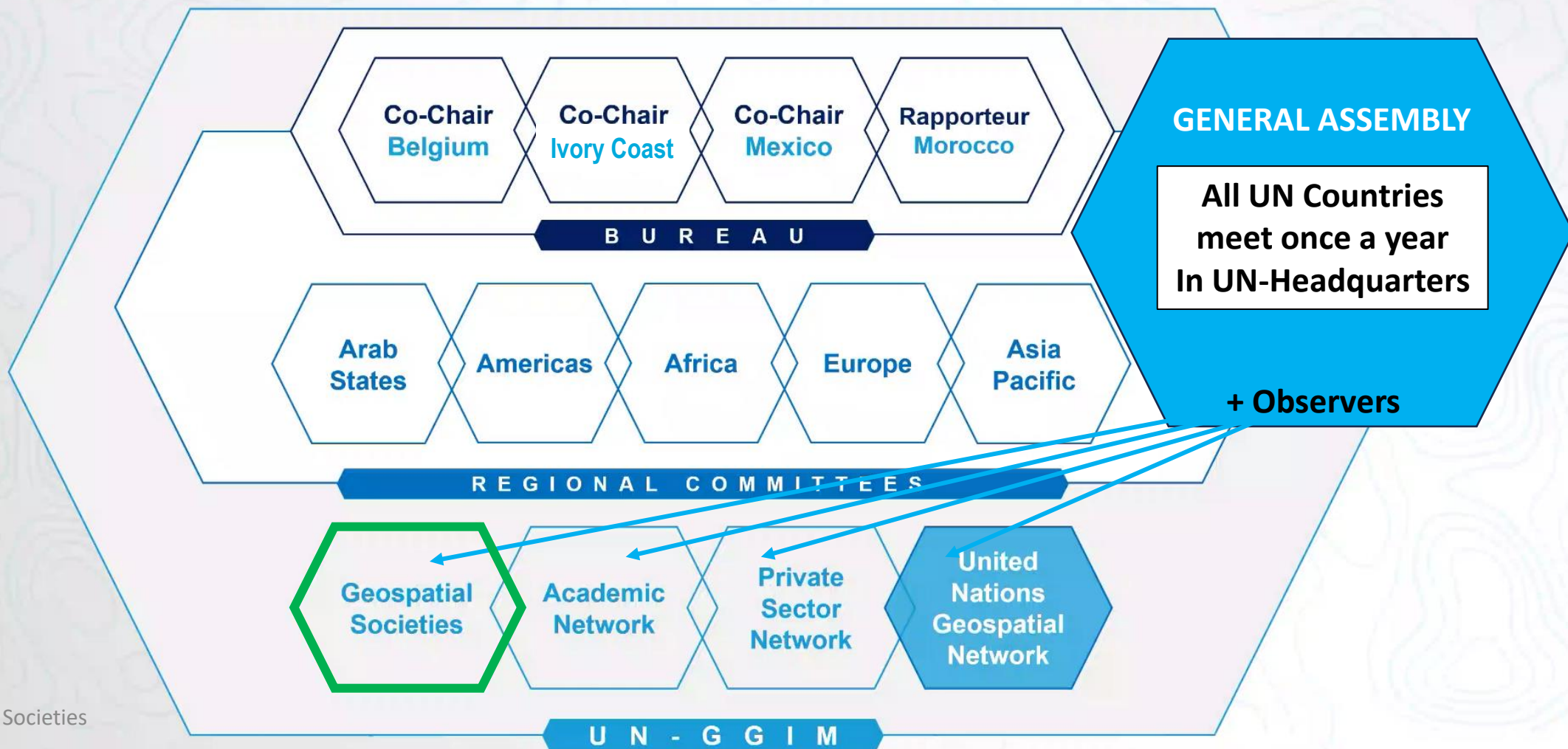


©Rozenblat, 2025

# COLLABORATIONS

## Geospatial societies within UN-GGIM

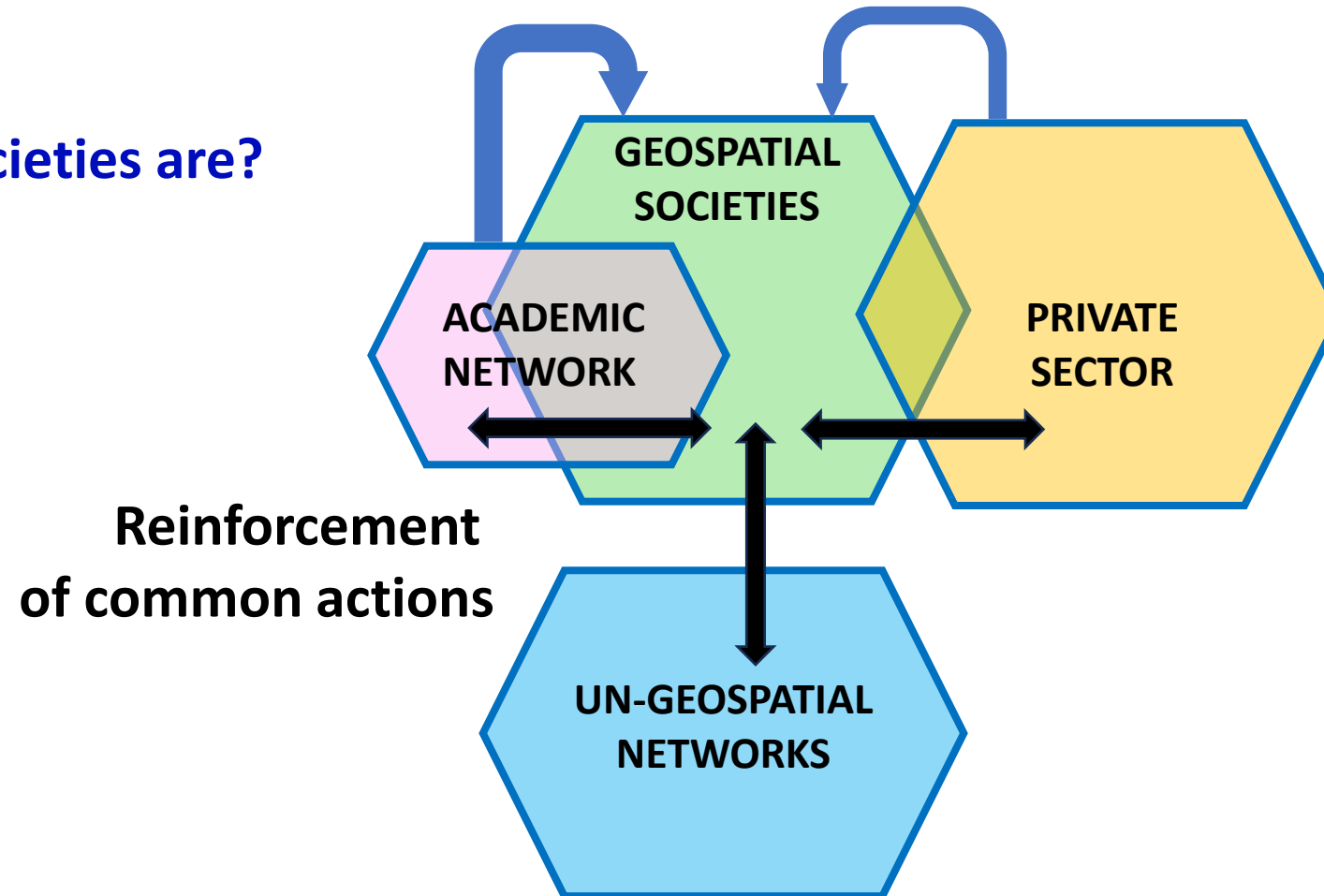
### OUR ROLE IN UN-GGIM ARCHITECTURE



# REVISION OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

## Geospatial societies' missions considering the position AT THE SCALE OF THE 4 THEMATIC NETWORKS

⇒ To understand  
**what Geospatial Societies are?**

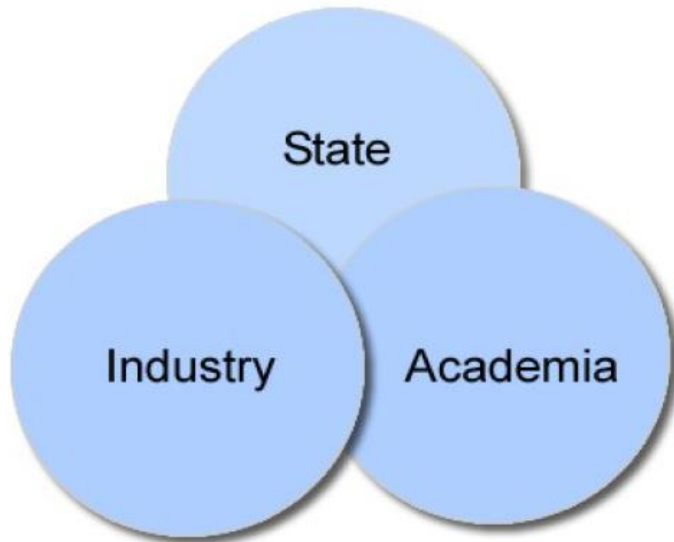




# REVISION OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

## USING THE TRIPLE HELIX FOR INNOVATIVE ECOSYSTEM CONCEPT FOR THE SCALE OF THE WHOLE UN-GGIM

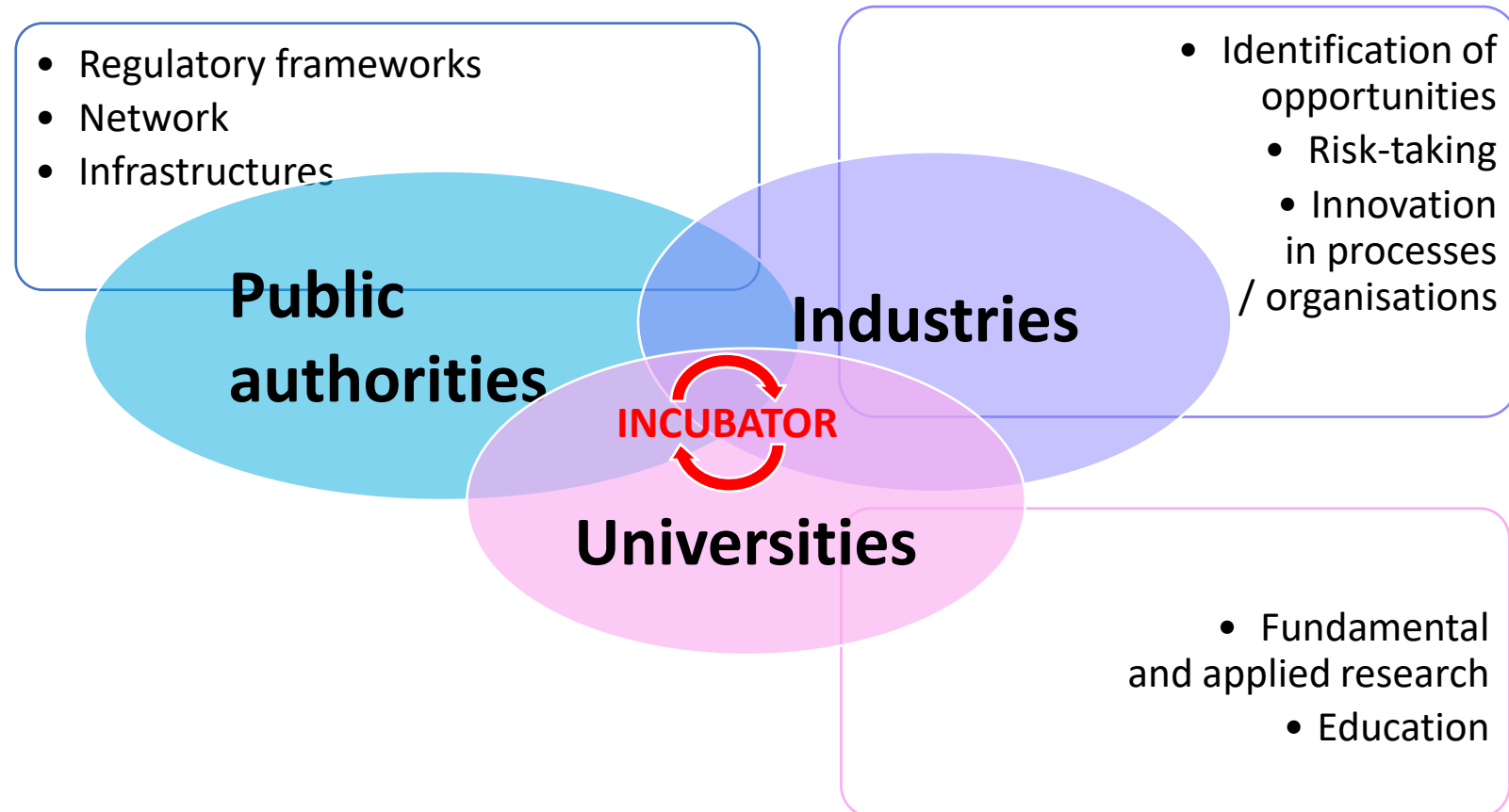
### TRIPLE HELIX MODEL



Etzkowitz, Leydesdorff, 2000

### TWO SYNERGY DIMENSIONS:

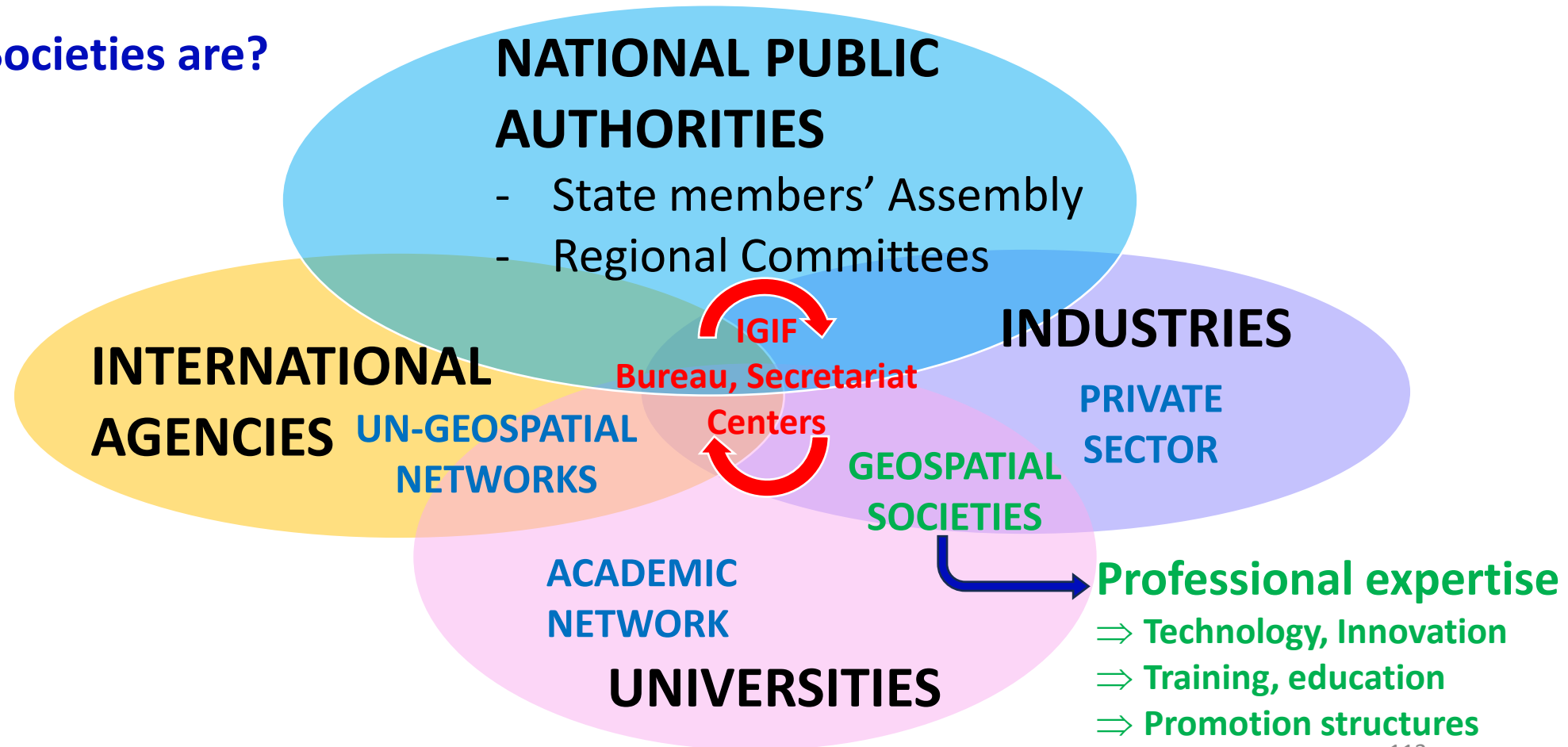
- Integration: relations / collaboration
- Differentiation: codes of communication / translations



# REVISION OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

## MISSIONS CONSIDERING THE QUADRUPLE (N-TUPLE) HELIX FOR INNOVATIVE ECOSYSTEM AT THE SCALE OF THE WHOLE UN-GGIM

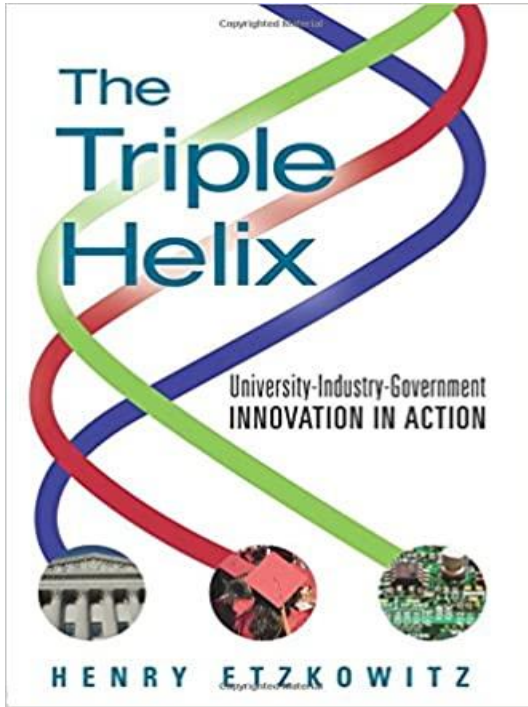
⇒ to understand  
**where Geospatial Societies are?**



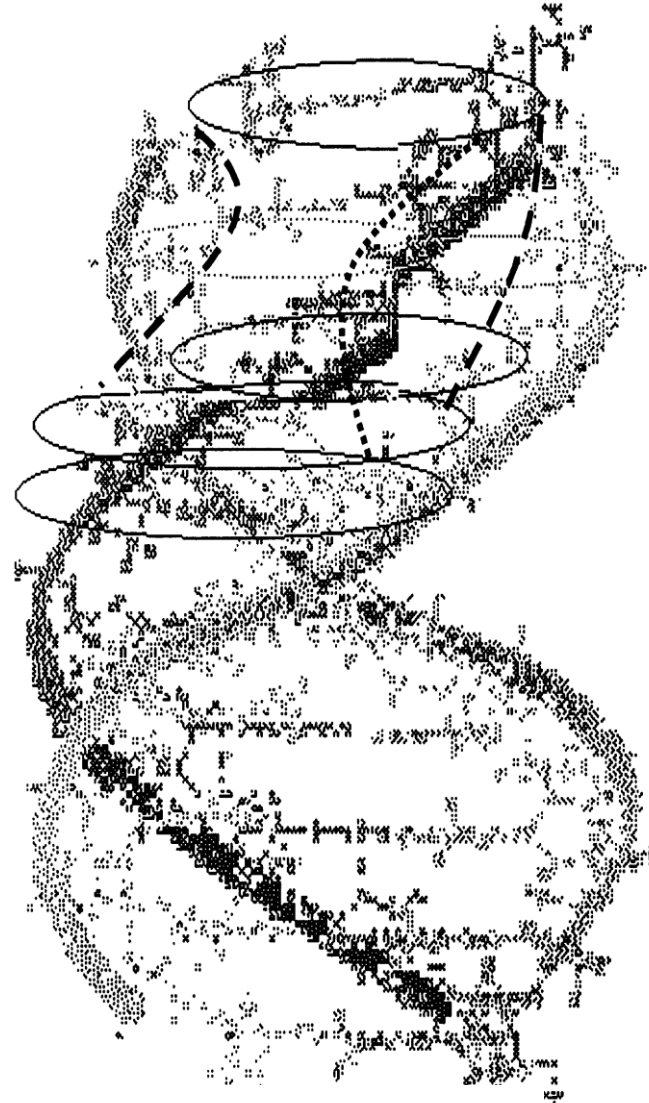
# EVOLUTION – PERMANENT ADAPTATION (Variation, Selection)

## Spirals:

Reflexive sub-dynamics of intentions, strategies, and projects



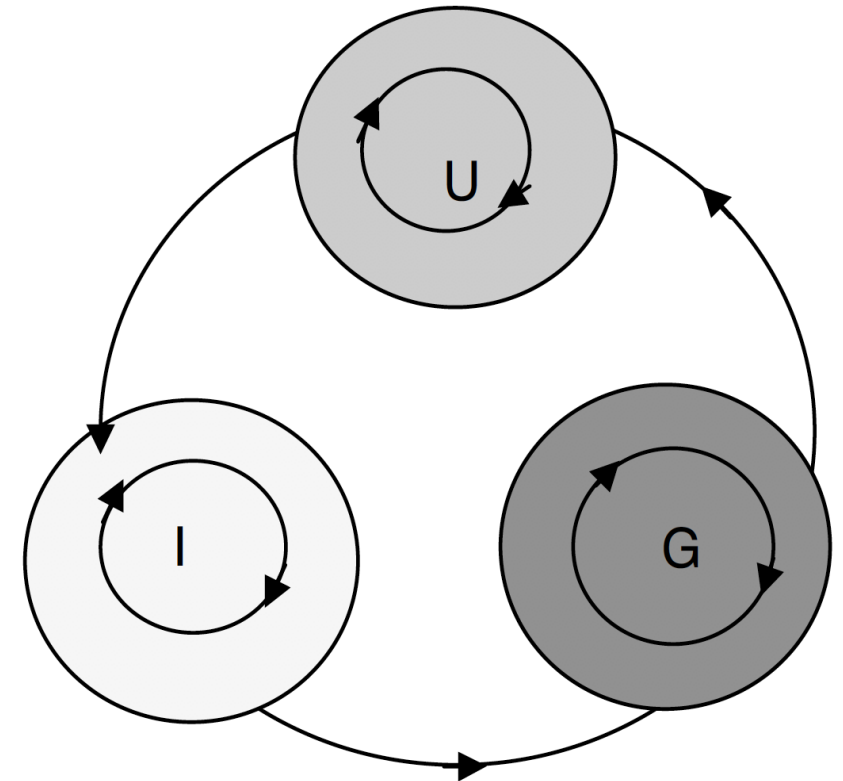
2008



Etzkowitz, Leydesdorff, 2000

## Reshaping of the organization of:

- each components
- their interactions



Etzkowitz, 2008



**DEFINING OUR ROLE IN COORDINATION WITH**

- The other networks => scale of the networks
- The UN-GGIM secretary => scale of the whole UN-GGIM

⇒ **Priorities**

⇒ **Alignment of activities**

⇒ **Plan of action**

**Thank you for your attention**





**UN-GGIM**  
PRIVATE SECTOR NETWORK

# UN-GGIM Private Sector Network Extended Bureau Meeting

By

**Prof Dr Eng Zaffar Sadiq Mohamed-Ghouse**

*HonFSSSI FRGS FIEAust*

*Chair, Board of UN-GGIM Private Sector Network*

*Chair, Asia-Pacific UN-GGIM Private Sector Network*

*Board Member, UN-GGIM Geospatial Societies*

Jeddah, 03/February/2025

# LEADERSHIP OF UN-GGIM PSN

## Board Members:



**NADINE ALAMEH, PH.D**

CEO, Open Geospatial Consortium, USA

Region: UN-GGIM Americas



**DEVLEENA BHATTACHARJEE**

CEO, Numer8 Analytics Pvt. Ltd, India

Region: UN-GGIM Asia Pacific



**VALRIE GRANT**

Founder/Chairwoman, GeoTechVision, Jamaica

Region: UN-GGIM Americas



**ANAMIKA DAS**

Vice President – Product Management, Geospatial World, India

Region: UN-GGIM Asia Pacific



**WILLY GOVENDER**

CEO  
TERRA ANALYTICS, South Africa

Region: UN-GGIM Africa



**PETER TER HAAR**

Ter Haar Geoinnovation  
United Kingdom

Region: UN-GGIM Europe



**DR. KUMAR NUVULUR**

Sr. Director, Global Industry Business Development, Maxar Technologies, USA

Region: UN-GGIM Americas



**DR. SAAD ALHAMLAN**

CEO, Gravity Geospatial Services  
Saudi Arabia

Region: UN-GGIM Arab States



**BEN ADDOU IDRISSE KAMAL**

CEO, ETAFAT  
Morocco

Region: UN-GGIM Arab States



**PETER BAUMANN**

CEO, Rasdaman GmbH  
Bremen

Region: UN-GGIM Europe



**FELIX ORINA**

Managing Director, Orbital Africa  
Kenya

Region: UN-GGIM Africa



## PRIVATE SECTOR NETWORK BOARD

### Chair of the Board:



**DR. ZAFFAR SADIQ MOHAMED-GHOUSE**

Director, Advisory & Innovation  
AAM, a Woolpert Company  
Australia

Region: UN-GGIM Asia Pacific



### UN-GGIM PSN Secretariat:



**DR. SHIVANGI SOMVANSHI**

Director – Geospatial Knowledge Infrastructure, Geospatial  
World, India

Region: UN-GGIM Asia Pacific

### Former Chairs:



**SANJAY KUMAR**

CEO, Geospatial World  
India

Region: UN-GGIM Asia Pacific



**STEVEN HAGEN**

Vice President Development, Oracle  
USA

Region: UN-GGIM Americas



# Regional Activities of UN-GGIM PSN in 2023-24



**DR. ZAFFAR SADIQ MOHAMED-GHOUSE**

Director, Advisory & Innovation  
AAM, a Woolpert Company  
Australia

Region: UN-GGIM Asia Pacific



**VALRIE GRANT**

Founder/Chairwoman, GeoTechVision, Jamaica

Region: UN-GGIM Americas



**PETER TER HAAR**

Ter Haar Geoinnovation  
United Kingdom

Region: UN-GGIM Europe



**WILLY GOVENDER**

CEO  
TERRA ANALYTICS, South Africa

Region: UN-GGIM Africa



**DR. SAAD ALHAMLAN**

CEO, Gravity Geospatial Services  
Saudi Arabia

Region: UN-GGIM Arab States

UN GGIM Asia Pacific – Thirteen  
Plenary Meeting, 26-29  
November 2024, New Delhi,  
India

- Conducted the UN-GGIM AP regional consultation with private sector to gather inputs for the paper.
- Contribution to Working Group 4 on IGIF
- Established the operation of a regional PSN committee for Asia Pacific
- EB Meeting Sydney, May 2024

UN GGIM Americas –  
Eleventh Plenary Meeting,  
October 2024, Mexico City,  
Mexico

- Conducted the UN-GGIM Americas regional consultation with private sector to gather inputs for the paper.
- **Industry and academia bridge the gap**, Organized by Private Sector Network Americas (PSNA) and the Academic Network Americas (ANA)
- Organization of Carigeo
- Podcast of geospatial leadership

UN GGIM Americas –  
Eleventh Plenary Meeting,  
November 2024, Belgium.

- Conducted the UN-GGIM Europe regional consultation with private sector to gather inputs for the paper.
- Participation in the plenary and present plan on the PSN activities for Europe.

Participate in webinar series of the UN-GGIM Europe

UN GGIM Africa – Ninth  
Plenary Meeting,  
November 2024, Addis  
Ababa

- Conducted the UN-GGIM Africa regional consultation with private sector to gather inputs for the paper.
- Participation in the Plenary and providing a plan of work of PSN in Africa

UN GGIM Arab States –  
Eleventh Plenary,  
February 2024, Doha

- Conducted the UN-GGIM Arab States regional consultation with private sector to gather inputs for the paper.
- Web session pre-planning meeting of the 10<sup>th</sup> Plenary by PSN Arab States
- Participation in the Plenary and providing a plan of work of PSN in Arab States
- Dedicated UN-GGIM PSN Arab States Workshop was successfully conducted in Doha Feb 2024.



# Global Activities of UN-GGIM PSN

- 1) The UN-GGIM: Private Sector Network (PSN) actively engaged in various initiatives, notably contributing to the UN-GGIM sessions focusing on the Future of Geospatial Ecosystem during the 14th session at New York, August 2024.
- 2) The PSN involvement extends to the drafting committee for the Future of Geospatial Information Ecosystem, a document presented at the the 14th session of UN-GGIM.
- 3) Additionally, the PSN made significant contributions to Working Group 4 on Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF), providing invaluable insights from the private sector to aid in IGIF implementation including the IGIF HLG on Financing pathway.
- 4) With a commitment to furthering IGIF, the PSN developed a position paper delineating its role in IGIF development and enhancement at the 14th session of UN-GGIM.
- 5) A jointly authored paper on GeoAI, co-authored by PSN and the Academic Network, is scheduled for publication in 2024.





# Role of the Private Sector in Strengthening the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF)

The Group of Experts to the United Nations Global  
Geospatial Information Management – Private Sector  
Network (UN-GGIM: PSN)



# Objectives

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Assess the level of awareness about UN-IGIF in the private sector.



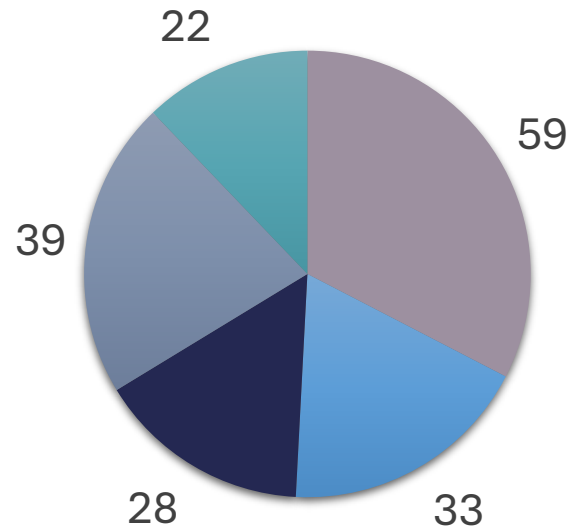
Understand stakeholder expectations on collaborating for UN-IGIF implementation.



Identify obstacles and propose solutions to address these issues.

# Regional Consultations

181 Participants



■ Africa ■ Americas ■ APAC ■ Arab States ■ Europe

5 Regional Consultations



# Summary: Regional Outlook

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# Africa: Overview

<b>GOVERNANCE &amp; INSTITUTIONS</b> <i>PSN's contribution to strengthen IGF implementation</i>	<div>Communicating the value proposition of Geospatial Information</div> <div>Actively participating in Working Groups for Geospatial Information management</div> <div>Providing feedback to the government on governance issues</div>
<b>POLICY &amp; LEGAL</b> <i>Policies required to enhance the role of the Private sector</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Policies that involve more private sector in Geospatial Information management</li> <li>2. Open access policies</li> <li>3. Guiding policies on roles and responsibilities of the private sector and their contribution</li> <li>4. Data Interoperability and Data Privacy policies</li> <li>5. Policies that promote FOSS</li> <li>6. Geospatial Information Management (GIM) Policy</li> </ol>
<b>FINANCIAL</b> <i>PPP engagement models</i>	<div>Build trust between government entities and the private sector for a successful PPP.</div> <div>Develop Geospatial data collection partnerships and management of Spatial assets</div> <div>Help the national mapping agency build a methodology and scope for socioeconomic impact assessment.</div>
<b>DATA</b> <i>Top 5 data themes on the level of availability &amp; productivity improvement measures</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Land cover/ Land use</li> <li>2. Geodetic Framework</li> <li>3. Geology &amp; Soils</li> <li>4. Geographical Names</li> <li>5. Transport Network</li> </ol>
<b>INNOVATION</b> <i>Support the promotion of innovation in geospatial sector</i>	<div>Supporting innovation in the country</div> <div>Productivity Improvement Measures for the NMA</div>

<b>STANDARDS</b> <i>Initiatives are undertaken for Standards development</i>	<div>Participating in the process of standards development</div> <div>Adopting national standards for products and services</div> <div>Developing capacity and training on various standards</div>
<b>PARTNERSHIPS</b> <i>Initiatives are undertaken for Standards development</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Standards development</li> <li>2. Awareness building initiatives</li> <li>3. Industry-Academic collaborations for joint research &amp; development</li> <li>4. Cross-sector/Interdisciplinary initiatives</li> </ol>
<b>CAPACITY &amp; EDUCATION</b> <i>Private Sectors support in Capacity-building Initiatives</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Providing training to government officials on the latest technologies and products</li> <li>2. Providing skill development courses to students and young professionals to promote Geospatial education</li> <li>3. Developing a community of practitioners</li> </ol>
<b>COMMUNICATION &amp; ENGAGEMENT</b> <i>Efforts for Geospatial advocacy to the users promoting geospatial information</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establishing an industry association that acts as a collective voice for the geospatial industry in the country</li> <li>2. Building and participation in various stakeholder engagement programs</li> <li>3. Organizing periodic conferences/meetings</li> <li>4. Publishing geospatial knowledge content that promotes knowledge exchange</li> <li>5. Collaboration for research and development</li> </ol>

# Americas: Overview

<b>GOVERNANCE &amp; INSTITUTIONS</b> <i>PSN's contribution to strengthen IGF implementation</i>	Communicating the value proposition of Geospatial Information	Actively participating in Working Groups for Geospatial Information management	Providing feedback to the government on governance issues
<b>POLICY &amp; LEGAL</b> <i>Policies required to enhance the role of the Private sector</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Easier procurement policies</li> <li>2. Open data policies</li> <li>3. Policies for geospatial data collection and processing, recognizing authorship</li> <li>4. Data access policies</li> </ol>		
<b>FINANCIAL</b> <i>PPP engagement models</i>	<div> <div>Develop Geospatial data collection partnerships and management of Spatial assets</div> <div>→</div> <div>Build trust between government entities and the private sector for a successful PPP.</div> <div>→</div> <div>Help the national mapping agency build a methodology and scope for socioeconomic impact assessment.</div> </div>		
<b>DATA</b> <i>Top 5 data themes on the level of availability &amp; productivity improvement measures</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Geology &amp; Soils</li> <li>2. Imagery</li> <li>3. Geodetic Framework</li> <li>4. Geographical Names</li> <li>5. Addresses/Buildings and Settlements</li> </ol>		
<b>INNOVATION</b> <i>Support the promotion of innovation in geospatial sector</i>	<b>Supporting innovation in the country</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Become an active member of an Innovation Group</li> <li>2. Be a part of the review board/process</li> <li>3. Provide Training and Workshops on Geospatial Information</li> <li>4. Building Innovation Programs &amp; Hubs</li> <li>5. Help with conducting technology needs assessments</li> </ol>	<b>Productivity Improvement Measures for the NMA</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Timebound delivery and outcome-based projects</li> <li>2. Streamlining procurement and data access</li> <li>3. Improving transparency</li> <li>4. More efficient communication and information sharing with the private sector</li> </ol>	

<b>STANDARDS</b> <i>Initiatives are undertaken for Standards development</i>	Participating in the process of standards development	Developing and participating in a community of practice	Developing specifications for their data and products
<b>PARTNERSHIPS</b> <i>Initiatives are undertaken for Standards development</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Industry-Academic collaborations for joint research &amp; development</li> <li>2. Standards development</li> <li>3. Capacity building</li> <li>4. Awareness building initiatives</li> </ol>		
<b>CAPACITY &amp; EDUCATION</b> <i>Private Sectors support in Capacity-building Initiatives</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Providing skill development courses to students and young professionals to promote Geospatial education</li> <li>2. Providing training to government officials on the latest technologies and products</li> <li>3. Developing a community of practitioners</li> </ol>		
<b>COMMUNICATION &amp; ENGAGEMENT</b> <i>Efforts for Geospatial advocacy to the users promoting geospatial information</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establishing an industry association that acts as a collective voice for the geospatial industry in the country</li> <li>2. Collaboration for research and development</li> <li>3. Organizing periodic conferences/meetings</li> <li>4. Publishing geospatial knowledge content that promotes knowledge exchange</li> <li>5. Building and participation in various stakeholder engagement programs</li> </ol>		

# Arab States: Overview

<b>GOVERNANCE &amp; INSTITUTIONS</b> <i>PSN's contribution to strengthen IGIF implementation</i>	Providing feedback to the government on governance issues Communicating the value proposition of Geospatial Information Actively participating in Working Groups for Geospatial Information management
<b>POLICY &amp; LEGAL</b> <i>Policies required to enhance the role of the Private sector</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Policies encouraging investments in the private sector and ease of doing business</li> <li>2. Open data and access policies</li> <li>3. Policies for public-private partnerships</li> <li>4. Data exchange policies</li> <li>5. Fewer regulations for the private sector</li> <li>6. Level playing field for the private sector</li> </ol>
<b>FINANCIAL</b> <i>PPP engagement models</i>	<div> <div>Develop Geospatial data collection partnerships and management of Spatial assets</div> <div>→</div> <div>Build trust between government entities and the private sector for a successful PPP.</div> <div>→</div> <div>Help the national mapping agency build a methodology and scope for socioeconomic impact assessment.</div> </div>
<b>DATA</b> <i>Top 5 data themes on the level of availability &amp; productivity improvement measures</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Geographical Names</li> <li>2. Addresses/Buildings and Settlements</li> <li>3. Geology &amp; Soils</li> <li>4. Functional Areas</li> <li>5. Imagery</li> </ol>
<b>INNOVATION</b> <i>Support the promotion of innovation in geospatial sector</i>	<div> <b>Supporting innovation in the country</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Become an active member of an Innovation Group</li> <li>2. Be a part of the review board/process</li> <li>3. Building Innovation Programs &amp; Hubs</li> <li>4. Provide Training and Workshops on Geospatial Information</li> <li>5. Help with conducting technology needs assessments</li> </ol> </div> <div> <b>Productivity Improvement Measures for the NMA</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Streamlining data access</li> <li>2. Increase G2G, G2B, G2C collaborations</li> <li>3. More partnerships with global entities</li> <li>4. Ensure more budgets and human resource allocation</li> </ol> </div>

<b>STANDARDS</b> <i>Initiatives are undertaken for Standards development</i>	Popularizing available standards Participating in national standards needs assessments Developing and participating in a community of practice
<b>PARTNERSHIPS</b> <i>Initiatives are undertaken for Standards development</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Standards development</li> <li>2. Cross-sector or interdisciplinary initiatives</li> <li>3. Co-funding of fundamental data themes</li> <li>4. Industry-academic collaborations for joint research and development</li> <li>5. Awareness building initiatives</li> </ol>
<b>CAPACITY &amp; EDUCATION</b> <i>Private Sectors support in Capacity-building Initiatives</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Undertake a skill gap analysis regarding geospatial education</li> <li>2. Providing skill development courses to students and young professionals to promote Geospatial education</li> <li>3. Providing training to government officials on the latest technologies and products</li> </ol>
<b>COMMUNICATION &amp; ENGAGEMENT</b> <i>Efforts for Geospatial advocacy to the users promoting geospatial information</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Collaboration for research and development</li> <li>2. Publishing geospatial knowledge content that promotes knowledge exchange</li> <li>3. Organizing periodic conferences/meetings</li> </ol>

# Asia Pacific: Overview

<b>GOVERNANCE &amp; INSTITUTIONS</b> <i>PSN's contribution to strengthen IGIF implementation</i>	Communicating the value proposition of Geospatial Information      Providing feedback to the government on governance issues      Actively participating in Working Groups for Geospatial Information management		
<b>POLICY &amp; LEGAL</b> <i>Policies required to enhance the role of the Private sector</i>	1. Geospatial information matters should rest with the highest authority in the government 2. Policies endorsing, enforcing, and encouraging the development and adoption of geospatial standards 3. Policies for open tendering 4. Data access policies 5. Open data policies 6. Engagement policies, upskilling, and innovation policies		
<b>FINANCIAL</b> <i>PPP engagement models</i>	<div> <div>Develop Geospatial data collection partnerships and management of Spatial assets</div> <div>→</div> <div>Build trust between government entities and the private sector for a successful PPP.</div> <div>→</div> <div>Help the national mapping agency build a methodology and scope for socioeconomic impact assessment.</div> </div>		
<b>DATA</b> <i>Top 5 data themes on the level of availability &amp; productivity improvement measures</i>	1. Imagery 2. Geodetic Framework 3. Land Parcels 4. Geographical Names 5. Transport Network		
<b>INNOVATION</b> <i>Support the promotion of innovation in geospatial sector</i>	<b>Supporting innovation in the country</b> 1. Become an active member of an Innovation Group 2. Provide data/content/platform services for innovation hubs 3. Help with conducting technology needs assessments 4. Be a part of the review board/process 5. Building Innovation Programs & Hubs	<b>Productivity Improvement Measures for the NMA</b> 1. Deploy dissemination platform for thematic data 2. Publication and maintenance of standard practices 3. Outcome-based contracts 4. Utilize automation processes & algorithms 5. Data validation processes	

<b>STANDARDS</b> <i>Initiatives are undertaken for Standards development</i>	Developing product specifications      Adopting national standards      Participating in standards development
<b>PARTNERSHIPS</b> <i>Initiatives are undertaken for Standards development</i>	1. Industry-academic collaborations for joint research and development 2. Capacity building 3. Cross-sector or interdisciplinary initiatives 4. Standards development 5. Awareness building initiatives
<b>CAPACITY &amp; EDUCATION</b> <i>Private Sectors support in Capacity-building Initiatives</i>	1. Undertake a skill gap analysis regarding geospatial education 2. Establishing and contributing to innovation hubs 3. Providing training to government officials on the latest technologies and products 4. Providing skill development courses to students and young professionals to promote Geospatial education
<b>COMMUNICATION &amp; ENGAGEMENT</b> <i>Efforts for Geospatial advocacy to the users promoting geospatial information</i>	1. Establishing industry associations to act as a collective voice for the geospatial industry 2. Collaboration for research and development 3. Building and participating in stakeholder engagement programs



# Europe: Overview

<b>GOVERNANCE &amp; INSTITUTIONS</b> <i>PSN's contribution to strengthen IGIF implementation</i>	Actively participating in Working Groups for Geospatial Information management Communicating the value proposition of Geospatial Information Demanding open and transparent processes for Geospatial Information management
<b>POLICY &amp; LEGAL</b> <i>Policies required to enhance the role of the Private sector</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Open data policies</li> <li>2. Policies promoting public-private partnerships</li> <li>3. Legal and regulatory frameworks</li> <li>4. Strong and reliable institutional frameworks</li> <li>5. Policies supporting ease of doing business</li> </ol>
<b>FINANCIAL</b> <i>PPP engagement models</i>	<div> <div>Build trust between government entities and the private sector for a successful PPP</div> <div>→</div> <div>Develop Geospatial data collection partnerships and management of Spatial assets</div> <div>→</div> <div>Help the national mapping agency build a methodology and scope for socioeconomic impact assessment.</div> </div>
<b>DATA</b> <i>Top 5 data themes on the level of availability &amp; productivity improvement measures</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Imagery</li> <li>2. Geographical Names</li> <li>3. Land Parcels</li> <li>4. Addresses/Building and Settlements</li> <li>5. Elevation and Depth</li> </ol>
<b>INNOVATION</b> <i>Support the promotion of innovation in geospatial sector</i>	<div> <div> <b>Supporting innovation in the country</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Become an active member of an Innovation Group</li> <li>2. Provide training and workshops</li> <li>3. Be a part of the review board/process</li> <li>4. Help with conducting technology needs assessments</li> <li>5. Provide data/content/platform services for innovation hubs</li> </ol> </div> <div> <b>Productivity Improvement Measures for the NMA</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sharing of open in-situ data on agriculture, water, environment, and climate</li> <li>2. Being open to new methods of data collection</li> <li>3. Keeping abreast with latest IT innovations</li> <li>4. Standardization and data homogeneity at the European level</li> </ol> </div> </div>

<b>STANDARDS</b> <i>Initiatives are undertaken for Standards development</i>	Developing and participating in a community of practice Developing product specifications Participating in standards development
<b>PARTNERSHIPS</b> <i>Initiatives are undertaken for Standards development</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Industry-academic collaborations for joint research and development</li> <li>2. Capacity building</li> <li>3. Standards development</li> <li>4. Cross-sector or interdisciplinary initiatives</li> <li>5. Awareness building initiatives</li> </ol>
<b>CAPACITY &amp; EDUCATION</b> <i>Private Sectors support in Capacity-building Initiatives</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Providing training to government officials on the latest technologies and products</li> <li>2. Providing skill development courses to students and young professionals to promote Geospatial education</li> <li>3. Developing a community of practitioners</li> <li>4. Establishing and contributing to innovation hubs</li> <li>5. Undertake a skill gap analysis regarding geospatial education</li> </ol>
<b>COMMUNICATION &amp; ENGAGEMENT</b> <i>Efforts for Geospatial advocacy to the users promoting geospatial information</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Organizing conferences and meetings</li> <li>2. Building and participating in stakeholder engagement programs</li> <li>3. Collaboration for research and development</li> </ol>

# Private Sector Expectations

1. **Incorporating Private Sector:** Countries need methods to involve private sector in UN-IGIF implementation.
2. **Private Sector Support:** Geospatial private sector ready to support UN-IGIF.
3. **Limited Awareness:** Private sector awareness of UN-IGIF is low. They expect governments to boost outreach, communication, and education.
4. **Awareness Activities:** Governments and mapping agencies should promote UN-IGIF at country level.
5. **Private Sector Policy Needs:**
  - Ease of business in geospatial sector.
  - Innovative funding models for joint projects.
  - Access to non-sensitive data.
  - Competitive procurement framework.
6. **Promoting Innovation:** National programs needed for geospatial innovation with private sector support.
7. **Socioeconomic Impact Assessment:** Governments and private sector should assess and promote geospatial info usage.

# Proposed Steps Forward

Brainstorming for innovative, profitable business models, such as those based on public-private partnerships.

Explore opportunities in country-level committees for private sector participation to support UN-IGIF implementation .

Encourage NMAs to work with private sector on:

- Fostering geospatial innovation and entrepreneurship.
- Raising awareness about value of geospatial information.
- Building awareness about UN-IGIF and role of fundamental data themes.

National governments may engage with private sector to seek resolution on the availability, accessibility, and awareness of fundamental data themes.

Private sector can initiate partnerships and collaborations for awareness building, data engagement, research and development, promotion of innovation, and skill development.

The global geospatial private sector needs to engage with the PSN to contribute and actively engage with the UN-GGIM.

Similar surveys should be conducted with all member states to understand their expectations from the private sector.

The regional private sector network can undertake initiatives to foster collaborations with the respective UN-GGIM regions.



## ROLE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN STRENGTHENING THE UNITED NATIONS INTEGRATED GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION FRAMEWORK (UN-IGIF)

Submitted by  
UN-GGIM Private Sector Network

For  
14<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session of the UN-GGIM  
August 2024



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Role of the Private Sector in Strengthening the





**UN-GGIM**  
PRIVATE SECTOR NETWORK

grazie 谢谢 ขอบคุณ  
mercí Σαc ευχαριστ takk bedankt  
Спасибо धन्यवाद ありがとう  
tack g gracias **thank you** terima kasih  
teşekkür ederim شكرا 고마워요  
danke kiitos köszönjük  
obrigado

*Let's develop a positive and enduring impact on a sustainable world using geospatial information, leaving no one behind*

**Prof Dr Eng Zaffar Sadiq Mohamed-Ghouse HonFSSSI FRGS FIEAust**

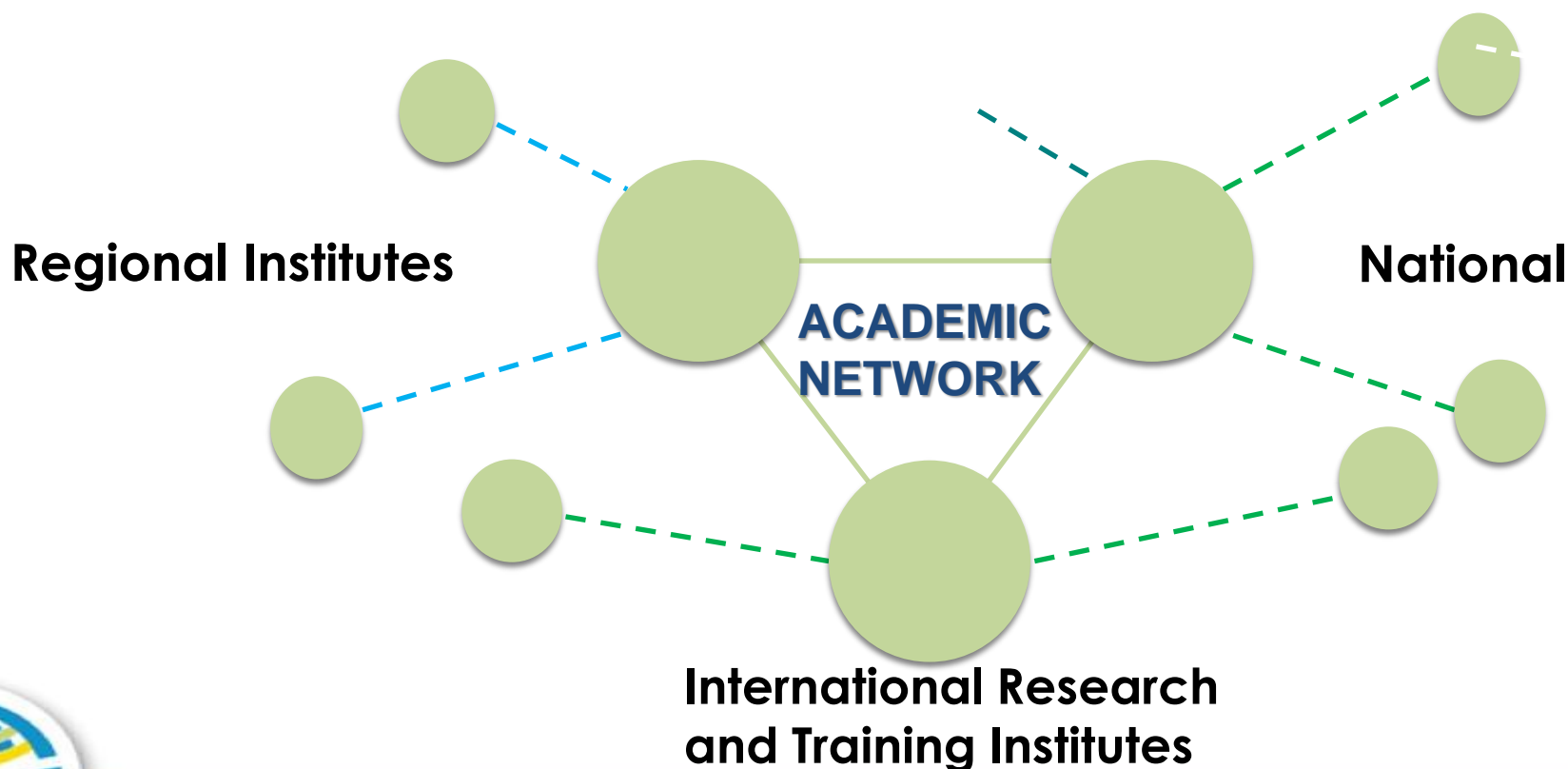
*Chair, UN-GGIM Board PSN*

*Chair, UN-GGIM Asia Pacific PSN*

*Board Member, UN-GGIM Geospatial Societies*

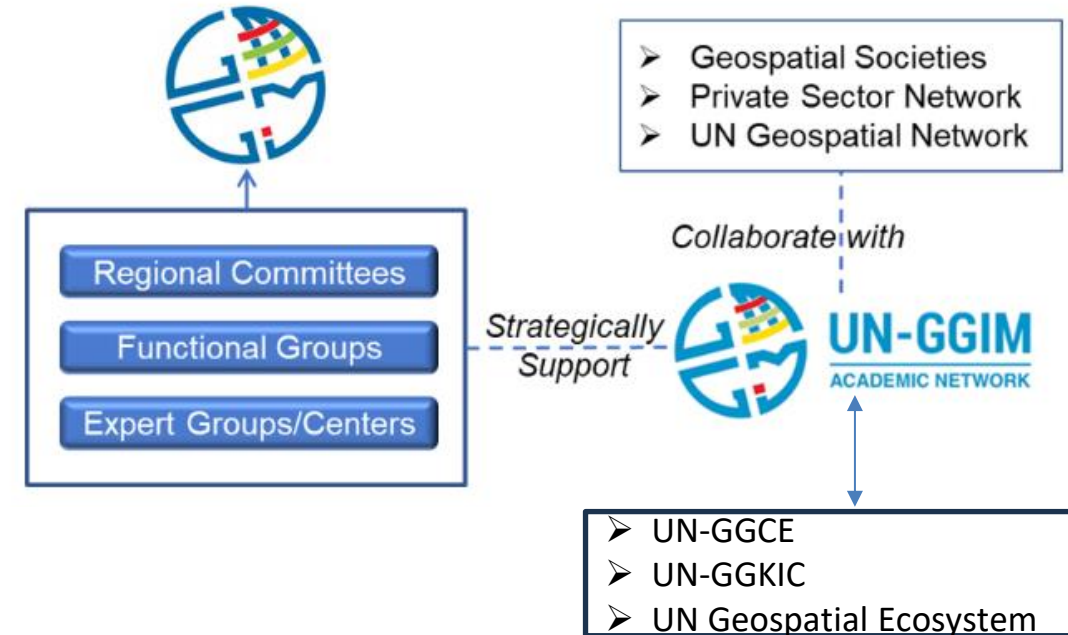
# UN-GGIM Academic Network Report

Website: <https://unggim.academicnetwork.org/>



# UN-GGIM Academic Network

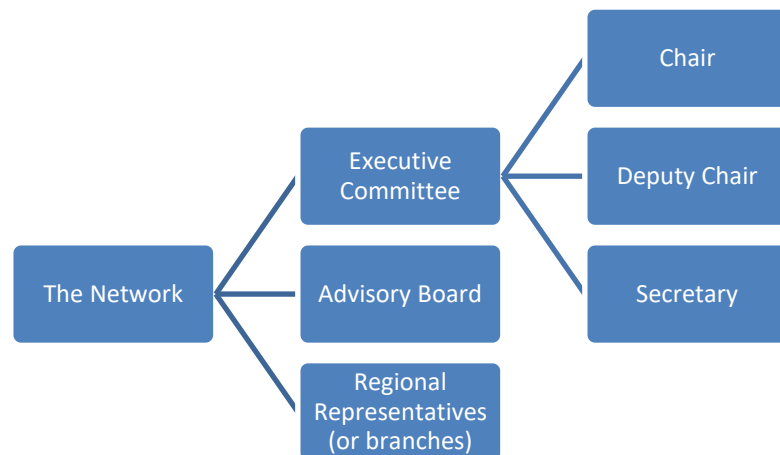
- **Global Network:** A coalition of universities, research institutions, and education centers advancing.
- **Support for UN-GGIM:** Actively aligns with UN-GGIM's strategic goals and activities (e.g. UN-IGIF).
- **Collaboration Focus:** Drives research, innovation, and capacity-building by uniting experts.
- **Strengthened Expertise:** Builds a global ecosystem.
- **Impact:** Enhances sustainable development, governance, and resilience through Innovative Geospatial Solutions.



- Geospatial research
- Capacity building
- knowledge sharing



# Organization & Structure



## Executive Committee



Songnian Li,  
Toronto  
Metropolitan  
University, Canada  
(Chair)



Georg Gartner,  
Vienna University of  
Technology (TU  
Wien), Austria (Co-  
Chair)



Saied Pirasteh,  
Shaoxing University,  
China (Secretary)

## Advisory Committee



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University of Melbourne,  
Australia



Maria Antonia Brovelli,  
Politecnico di Milano,  
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Tarun Pratap Singh  
Symbiosis International  
(Deemed) University,  
India



Rosario Casanova  
Universidad de la República  
Uruguay



Jonathan Li,  
University of  
Waterloo, Canada



Jie Shen  
Nanjing Normal  
University, China

## Regional Representative



**Asia-Pacific**  
Huayi Wu  
Wuhan  
University  
(China)



**Africa**  
Serena Coetzee  
University of  
Pretoria  
(South Africa)



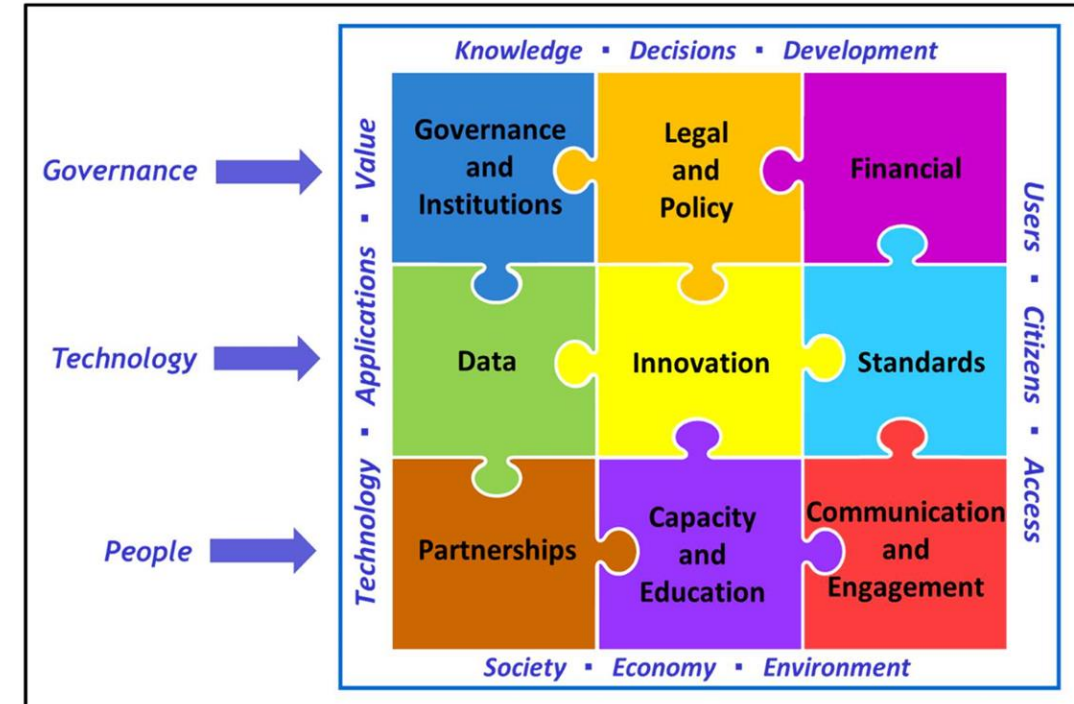


# Strategic Alignment with IGIF

## The Academic Network contribute to:

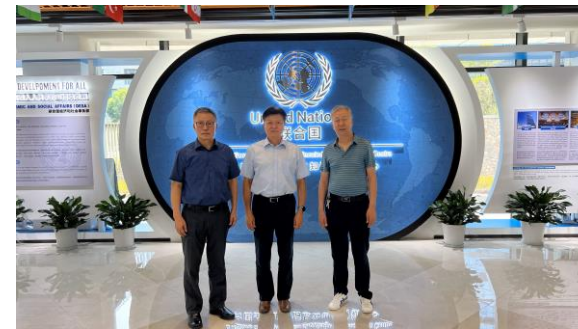
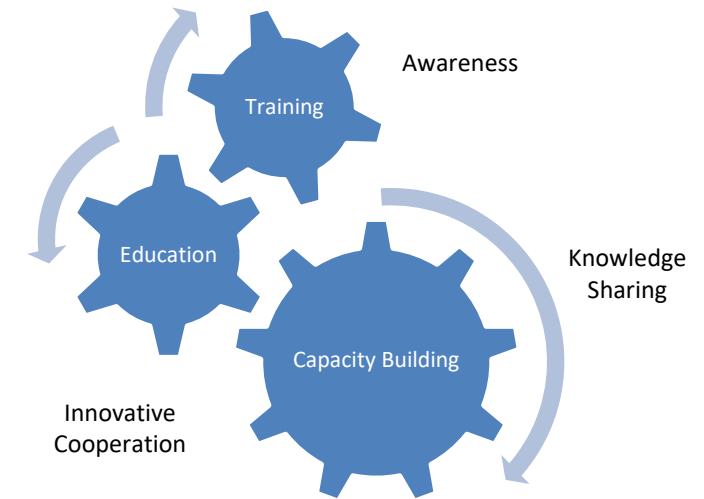
- All UN-GGIM IGIF Strategic Priorities & Components
- Development of SDGs

Data sharing  
Privacy  
Policy  
Capacity Building  
Innovation



# Collaboration Opportunities: Collaboration with New UN Centers

- **United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre (UN-GGKIC), Deqing, China**
  - to implement the UN-IGIF set by Member States
- **United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence (UN-GGCE), Bonn, Germany**
  - to sustain, enhance, access and utilize an accurate, accessible and sustainable GGRF
- **UN Global Geospatial Ecosystem Centre of Excellence (UN-GGECE), Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**
  - to strengthen the global partnership towards the future environment for managing geospatial information



# Members & Geographical Distribution

Advanced geospatial knowledge and collaboration

- 72 Members and 4 Associate members
- 40 countries



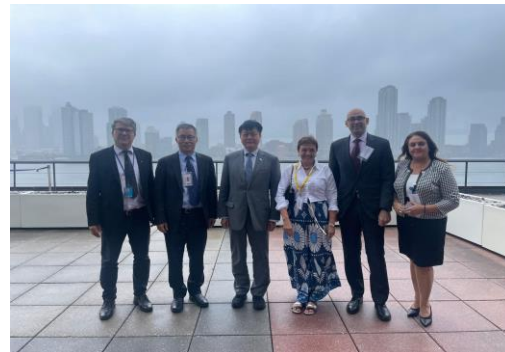
<https://unggim.academicnetwork.org/members/>





## Recent Activities

- Capacity building workshops
- Academic research contributions
- Publications, reports, and papers
- Collaborative projects with PS, Member states



Side event “GEOAI: Opportunities and Challenges”  
with Private Sector Network, 13<sup>th</sup> UN-GGIM Session, 2-4 Aug  
2023, NY, USA

Joint Side Event on “Geospatial Data Analytics and GeoAI  
Accelerating the SDGs and Impacting National Priorities”  
with all thematic networks, 14<sup>th</sup> UN-GGIM Session, 7-9 Aug  
2024, NY, USA

Business meeting on “strategic plan for the Network over  
the next few years”

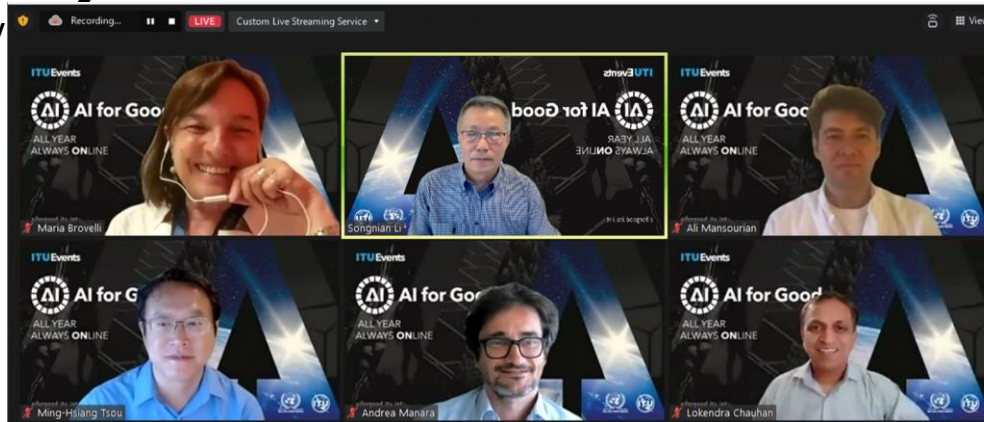




# Recent Activities

- **GeoAI Education webinar (June 2023)**

- V



- **Workshop on “Building a foundation for geospatial AI: defining a syllabus and body of knowledge” (July 2023)**

- In person & video online

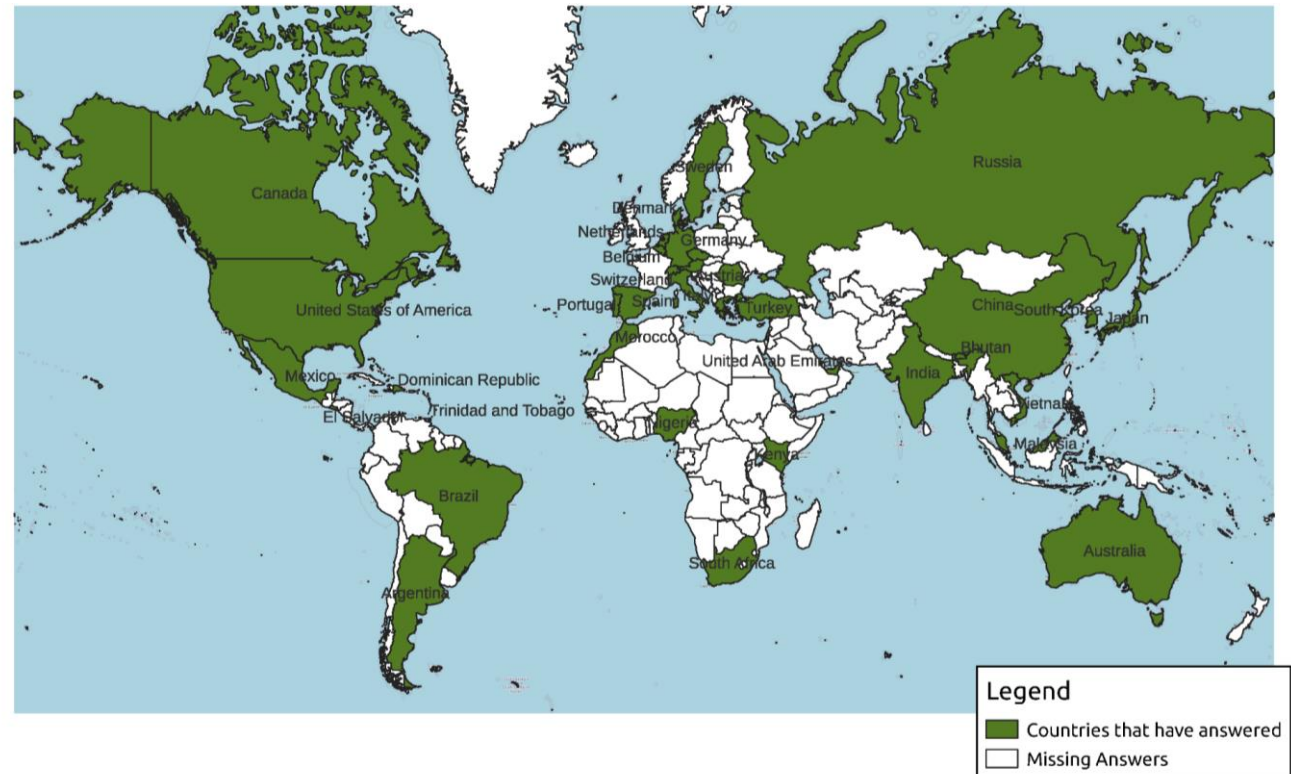
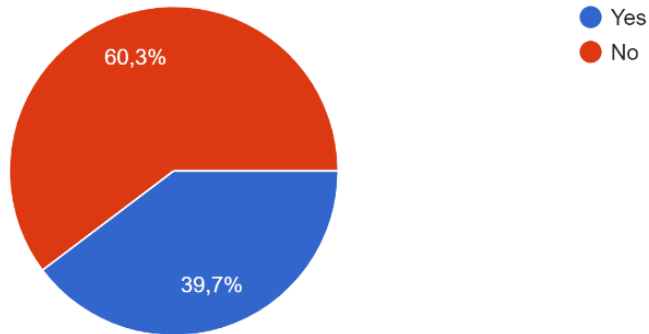


# 2023-2024 GeoAI Survey

- Survey to the Universities – 70 participants**

Is your University a member of the UN-GGIM Academic Network?

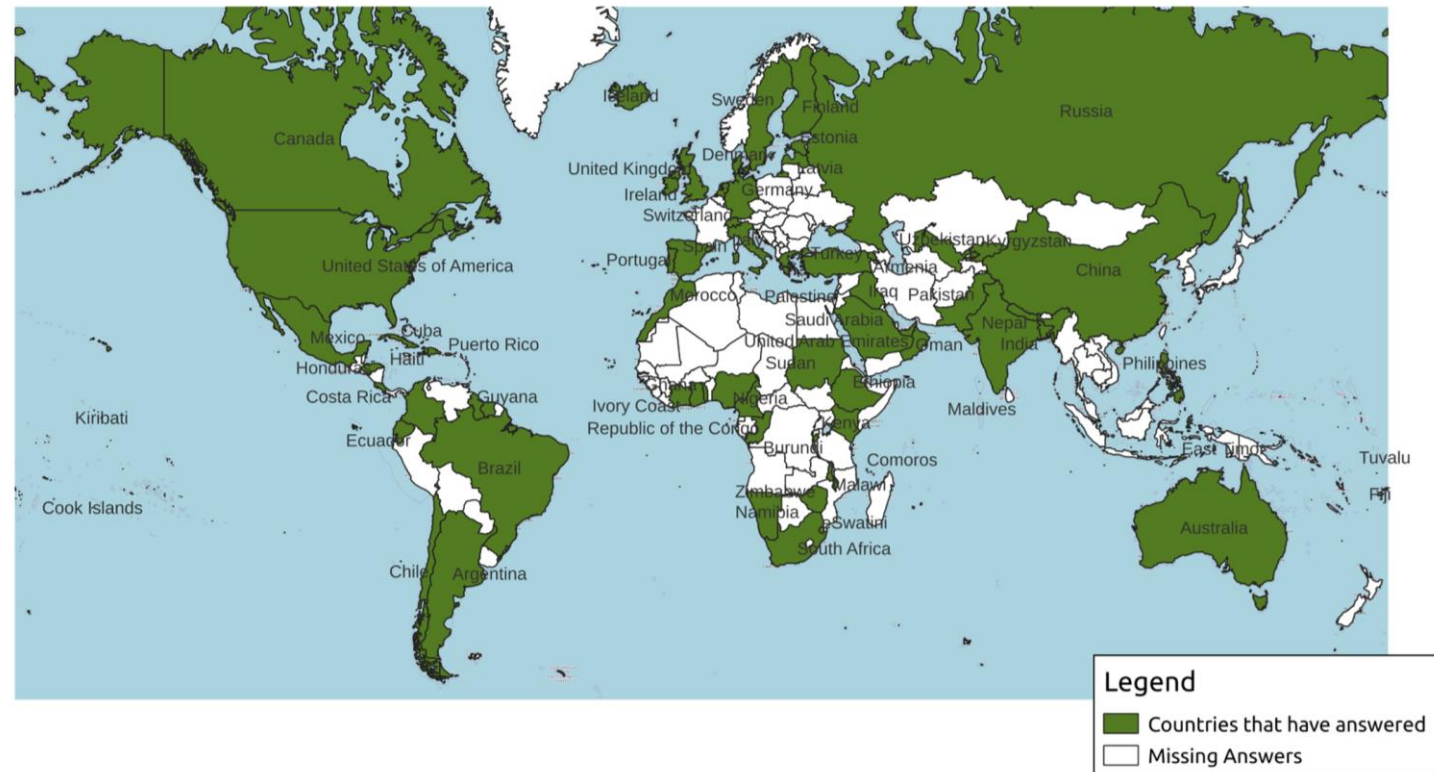
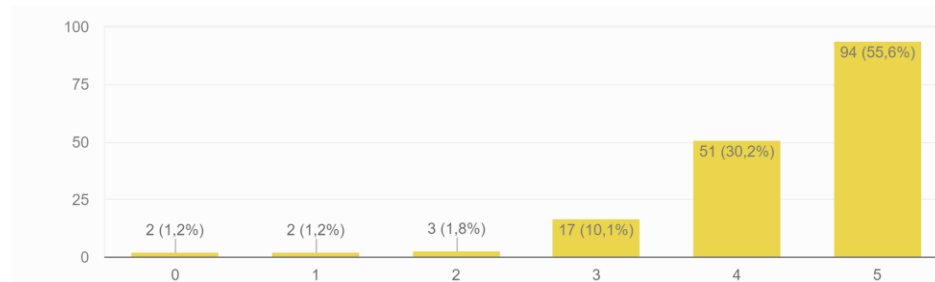
68 risposte



# 2023-2024 GeoAI Survey cont.

- **Survey to the Member States – 169 participants**

Do you believe that GeoAI can **improve** the **provision, effectiveness and value** of the existing geospatial procedures, products and services?






# Inventory of Education Programs & Materials

**Facilitate access to education via curated collection of resource contributed by UN-GGIM**

**AN's members:**

<http://unggim.academicnetwork.org/educational-material/>

 <b>UN-GGIM Academic Network</b> Support global geospatial management with science and research				
<a href="#">Home</a> <a href="#">News &amp; Events</a> <a href="#">Organization</a> <a href="#">Members</a> <a href="#">Activities</a> <b>Educational Material</b> <a href="#">About the Network</a> <a href="#">Q</a>				
Educational Material				
Title	Keywords	Universities and Research Centres	Links	Notes
GIS4Schools	QGIS, data visualisation, data analysis, imagery analysis, crisis mapping, Copernicus EMS	– <b>Politecnico di Milano</b>	<a href="#">Link to the English Version GIS4Schools Handbook</a>  <a href="#">GIS4Schools Handbook in Italian; French; Portuguese; Romanian; Spanish</a>	Free & Open-source
Capacity Building for GIS-based SDG indicator analysis with global high-resolution land cover datasets	SDGs, open-source	– <b>Politecnico di Milano (Italy)</b> – United Nations Institute for Training and Research (Thailand) – National Geomatics Center of China (China) – University of Pretoria (South Africa) – Curtin University (Australia) – Udine University (Italy) – University of Cagliari (Italy) – University of New South Wales (Australia)	<a href="#">Training Material</a>  <a href="#">Data</a>  <a href="#">GitHub repository</a>	Free & Open-source
UNECE Guidelines for the formalization of informal constructions	SDGs, informal settlements, land-related problems, adequate housing	– <b>National Technical University of Athens</b> – <b>NewStream Companies</b> – <b>FIG Commission 9</b> – Kadaster, The Netherlands – Housing and Land Management Unit, UNECE	<a href="#">UNECE Guidelines for the formalization of informal constructions</a>	Free & Open-source





## Proposed Activities for 2025-2026 years

- **Capacity Building**: Training programs, workshops, Webinars
- **Research Initiatives**: Focus on geospatial, GeoAI, Ethics, climate resilience, global mapping, SDGs progress
- **Collaborations**: Partnership with member states, PS, and universities
- **Advocatory**: Promoting geospatial education and awareness through global forum



## Specific Goals and Milestones

### **SMART: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time bound**

- Train 500 professionals
- Publish 3 high-quality papers
- Conduct 2 workshops and side events at UN Headquarters
- Develop 2 GeoAI cutting-edge courses
- Review UN-IGIF and update it based on the recent development
- Develop educational materials and open data/open source and post them on the AN website





**1-3 April 2025**, Melbourne, Australia

# **Next-Generation Sustainability:** Advancing the Future with Geospatial Intelligence

Empowering Emerging Leaders to Drive the  
**Sustainability Agenda** through Geospatial Innovation

- ✓ **Geospatial Leadership Training**
- ✓ **& Global Forum**







**UN GEOSPATIAL NETWORK**  
UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT



**Alexandre Caldas**  
Chair of the UN Geospatial Network  
Director, United Nations Environment Programme



# AGENDA #6 – PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

## A. REGIONAL COMMITTEES, FUNCTIONAL GROUPS AND THEMATIC NETWORKS AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GGIM AGENDA

### *Functional groups*

#### ***Agenda items of the Fifteenth session:***

- 6. The future geospatial information ecosystem.*
- 7. United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework.*
- 8. Global geodetic reference frame.*
- 9. Geospatial information for sustainable development.*
- 10. Geospatial information for climate, environment and resilience.*
- 11. Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information.*
- 12. Integrated geospatial information for effective land administration and management.*
- 13. Integrated marine geospatial information.*
- 14. Policy and legal frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data and emerging technologies.*



# AGENDA #6 – PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

## B. EXPERT CONSULTATION, MEETINGS INCLUDING PLENARY MEETINGS OF REGIONAL COMMITTEES AND FUNCTIONAL GROUPS



# AGENDA #6 – PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

## D. WORLD GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION CONGRESS 2026

In decision 2011/24, ECOSOC “encouraged Member States to hold regular high-level, multi-stakeholder discussions on global geospatial information, including through the convening of global forums, with a view to promoting a comprehensive dialogue with all relevant actors and bodies”

**14/101**

### **Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements**

(g) Requested the Bureau, with the support of the Secretariat, to initiate preparations for the Third United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress, to be convened after the sixteenth session of the Committee of Experts, in 2026, and to report back to the Committee at its fifteenth session;



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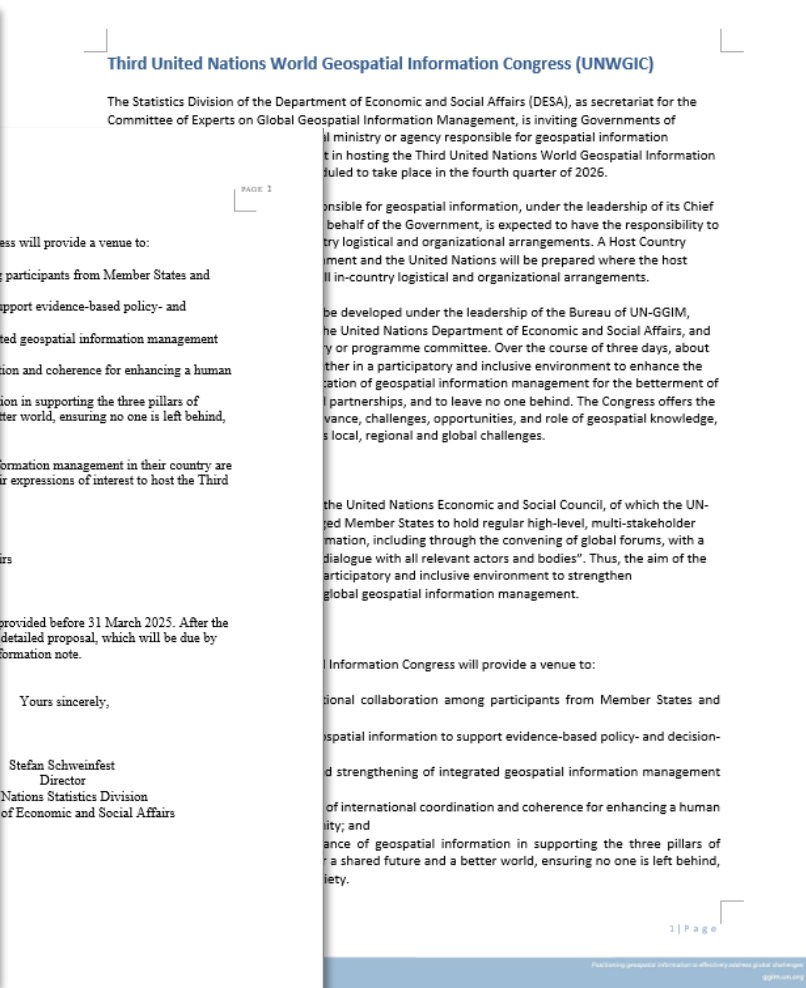
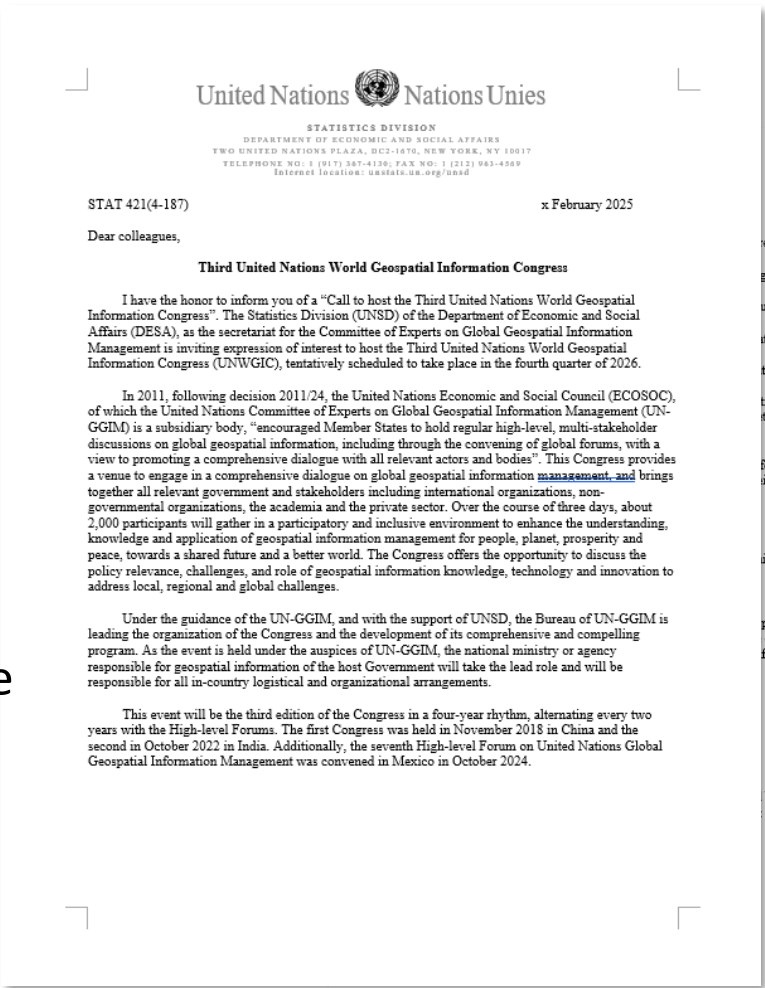
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# AGENDA #6 – PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

## D. WORLD GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION CONGRESS 2026

Documentation is ready:

- Letter from Director on “Call to host the Third United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress”
- Background document: objectives, criteria to host, logistics and timeline



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# AGENDA #6 – PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

## D. WORLD GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION CONGRESS 2026

### Timeline for bidding process

The timeline for expressing interest and submitting bids to host of the Third United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress is as follows:

- Expressions of interest to be submitted to UNSD by **31 March 2025**.
- Instructions on how to submit a detailed proposal to host the UNWGIC to be shared with all who expressed interest by UNSD by **16 April 2025**
- Detailed bids to host the UNWGIC to be submitted by **16 June 2025**
- Decision on the host will be taken and **announced by the Bureau of UN-GGIM at the fifteenth session of UN-GGIM**



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# AGENDA #6 – PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

## D. GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION FOR CLIMATE, ENVIRONMENT AND RESILIENCE

14/101

### Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements

(h) Recognized the increasingly complex and challenging operating environment for national geospatial, mapping and cadastral agencies, with rapid technological changes and advancements (including artificial intelligence), noted that there were only **six years remaining to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, in that context stressed the importance of **holistically considering environment, climate, resilience and sustainability** and requested the Bureau, with the support of the Secretariat, to consider those issues as a matter of **priority as part of the development of the strategic framework** of the Committee of Experts for the period 2025–2030, taking also into account, within all activities and operations, aspects of diversity, equality and inclusion;



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# AGENDA #6 – PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

## D. GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION FOR CLIMATE, ENVIRONMENT AND RESILIENCE

Agenda item #10.

### Geospatial information for climate and resilience

- E/C.20/2024/12 Summary : [Arabic](#) | [Chinese](#) | [English](#) | [French](#) | [Russian](#) | [Spanish](#)
- E/C.20/2024/12/Add.1 - [Report](#) ➔ **Task Team on Geospatial Information for Climate Resilience**
- [Introductory Statement](#)
- E/C.20/2024/12/Add.2 - [Report](#) ➔ **Working Group on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters**
- [Introductory Statement](#)
- *Background documents*
  - ▶ Applying geospatial information to climate resilience
  - ▶ Application of the UN-IGIF to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction



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# AGENDA #6 – PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

## D. GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION FOR CLIMATE, ENVIRONMENT AND RESILIENCE

Next steps ?

- Working Groups proceedings and reporting
- Events and engagement on climate, environment and resilience
- ...



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# AGENDA #6 – PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

## F. FUTURE GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION ECOSYSTEM



Writing Team on the Future Geospatial Information Ecosystem



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# Co-Convenors



**Mohammad Al Mabrook**

- Executive Director for International Collaboration and Partnerships.
- GEOSA (General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information).
- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



**Cindy Mitchell**

- Senior Policy Advisor, GeoBase Division.
- Canada Centre for Mapping and Earth Observation.
- Natural Resources Canada / Government of Canada.



**Clinton Heimann**

- Deputy Director General.
- Branch: Spatial Planning and Land Use Management.
- National Department of Agriculture Land Reform and Rural Development / South Africa.





# Background

## Decisions 14/104 on “The future geospatial information ecosystem”

(e) Agreed to proceed with option 1 to **further explore and consider the future geospatial information ecosystem and its scope, characteristics, fundamental elements and principles** and to **position the future geospatial information ecosystem within the broader digital ecosystem;**



(f) Acknowledged the proposed principles and fundamental elements contained in the report prepared by the Bureau and its writing team as an initial step for conceptualizing the future geospatial information ecosystem, and agreed to carry out further activities towards **presenting a concept on the future geospatial information ecosystem with its scope, fundamental elements, principles and role within the broader digital ecosystem at the fifteenth session** of the Committee of Experts.



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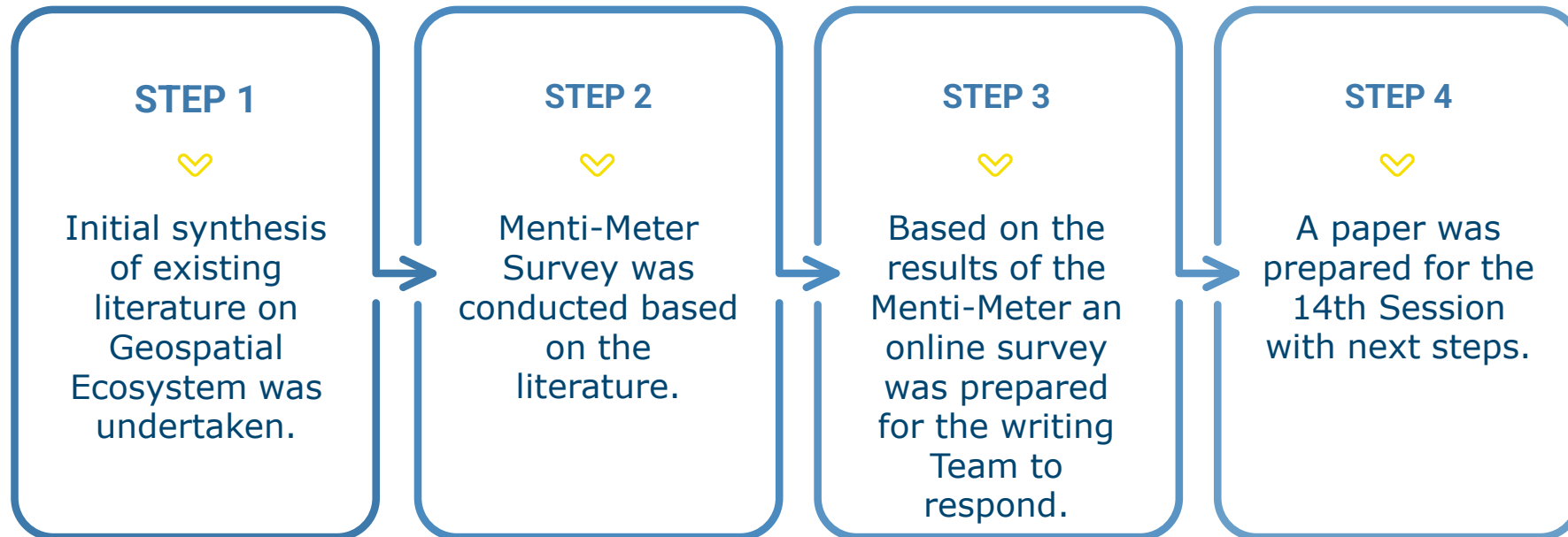
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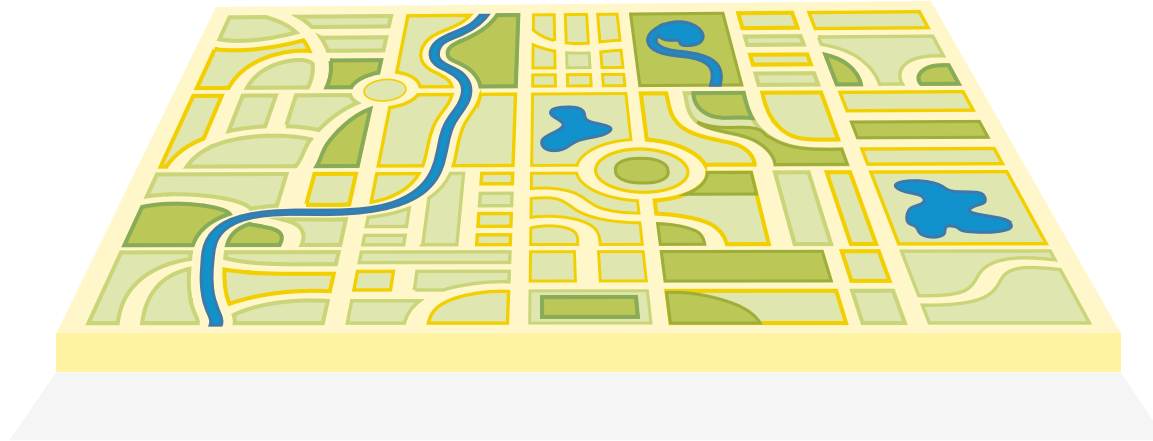
# ≡ Writing Team Process followed until 14<sup>th</sup> Session



## ≡ Next steps

### Mapping the wider digital ecosystem via a survey:

widen the survey to outside of geospatial community as part of wider digital ecosystem.



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Work done so  
far...

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# Purpose and Objectives

The 25-week FGIE programme is designed to:

01

Clarify and  
advance the  
concept FGIE.

02

Enhance  
Stakeholder  
Engagement.

03

Promote Cross-  
Sectoral Value.

04

Provide Practical  
Implementation.



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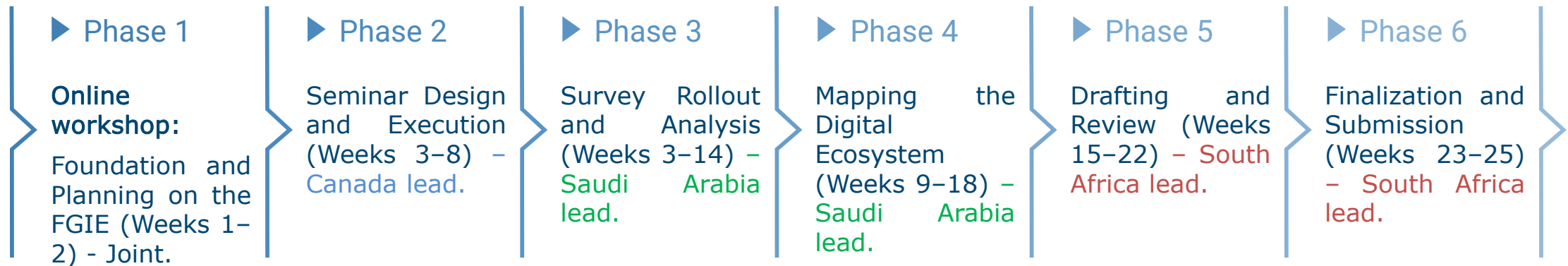
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# ≡ Purpose and Objectives

The programme is organized into six phases, each with distinct activities, timelines, and deliverables:







# Phase 1

## Online workshop: Foundation and Planning on the FGIE (Weeks 1-2) - joint

Objectives	Key Activities	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Recall contributors on FGIE scope, principles, and goals.</li><li>Define key to reach out (seminar, survey).</li><li>Design the seminar.</li><li>Finalize roadmap: workstreams, timelines, and deliverables.</li></ul> <div>01</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Develop a common view and consolidation of a shared understanding.</li><li>Development of the programme roadmap.</li><li>Assignment of roles and responsibilities.</li></ul> <div>02</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Detailed work plan with milestones.</li><li>Seminar program, dates and speakers.</li></ul> <div>03</div>





# Phase 2

## Seminar Design and Execution (Weeks 3-8) - Canada lead

Objectives	Key Activities	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Foster global dialogue on FGIE trends, challenges, and opportunities.</li><li>• Objective of the engagement: open conversation of broader group of players on digital/geospatial ecosystem, data to knowledge.</li><li>• Include questions for speakers, though provoking questions (what do you do for next COVID19 crisis? Autonomous vehicle: what data do they need?)</li><li>• Future problems/issue based approach: where is the data? implications of geospatial/data.</li><li>• Themes/sectors for the seminar? Government/policy, industry, academia, civil society, regions (manage webinar by region/time zone), climate change, urban settlement.</li><li>• Find <b>Key visionary speakers including videos</b> of VIPs</li><li>• Interactive sessions</li><li>• Capture themes on the FGIE and stakeholder insights to inform programme outputs.</li></ul> <div>01</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Host the global seminar and facilitate feedback.</li><li>• Document outcomes and key takeaways.</li></ul> <div>02</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Seminar Delivered.</li><li>• Seminar Outcome Report.</li></ul> <div>03</div>





# Phase 3

## Survey Rollout and Analysis (Weeks 3-14) - Saudi Arabia lead

Objectives	Key Activities	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Identify regional and global challenges, gaps, and needs.</li></ul> <div>01</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Design interactive sessions of the seminar.</li><li>Inputs from seminar: earlier questions (Canada).</li><li>Capture regional challenges.</li><li>Develop and distribute the FGIE survey based on interactive sessions of the seminar.</li><li>Distribution across themes (Government/policy, industry, academia, civil society, regions, international organizations).</li><li>Monitor responses and analyze trends.</li><li>Actionable insights and description of digital ecosystem (and geospatial within it).</li><li>Prepare a survey analysis report.</li></ul> <div>02</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>FGIE Survey Report and analysis.</li></ul> <div>03</div>





# Phase 4

## Mapping the Digital Ecosystem (Weeks 9-18) - Saudi Arabia lead

Objectives	Key Activities	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Define FGIE's relationships within the broader digital ecosystem.</li><li>• Highlight interoperability challenges and opportunities.</li><li>• How geospatial integrates with other technologies / stakeholder / sectors identified.</li></ul> <div>01</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Further identify key stakeholders across sectors.</li><li>• Develop a conceptual mapping framework and survey.</li><li>• Finalize mapping visuals and reports.</li></ul> <div>02</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Interactions of geospatial and wider digital ecosystem.</li><li>• FGIE Mapping Report with some preparation of visuals.</li></ul> <div>03</div>







# Phase 5

## Drafting and Review (Weeks 15-22) - South Africa lead

Objectives	Key Activities	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Draw from concept and objective of seminar.</li><li>• Draft Table of content (week 8-10).</li><li>• Principles/Elements from previous reports/documents (week 12-14).</li><li>• Draft and validate the concept on the FGIE framework based on: (everyone to contribute):<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Vision, objective.</li><li>▪ Consensus on scope, principles, and goals.</li><li>▪ Survey and stakeholder inputs.</li><li>▪ Seminar insights.</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop initial drafts of the FGIE report.</li><li>• Conduct internal and external reviews.</li><li>• Address feedback and finalize sections.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Final draft concept on the FGIE.</li></ul>
01	02	03





# Phase 6

## Finalization and Submission (Weeks 23-25) - South Africa lead

Objectives	Key Activities	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Finalize and present the concept on the FGIE.</li></ul> <div>01</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Technical editing and validation.</li><li>Preparation of presentation materials.</li><li>Submission of the concept on the FGIE for the UN-GGIM session.</li></ul> <div>02</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Final FGIE Report and presentation.</li></ul> <div>03</div>



# Thank You!



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# AGENDA #7 – OVERVIEW OF THE PREPARATION FOR THE FIFTEENTH SESSION

Summary reports: 2 May 2025

Full reports: 27 June 2025

Background docs: 11 July 2025

**DUE DATES**

E/C.20/2025/1	Provisional agenda for the fifteenth session [...]
E/C.20/2025/2	Documentation for the session
E/C.20/2025/3	Organization of work
E/C.20/2025/4	Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements
E/C.20/2025/5	Contribution of regional committees to the global geospatial information agenda
E/C.20/2025/6	Contribution of thematic networks to the global geospatial information agenda
E/C.20/2025/7	The future geospatial information ecosystem
E/C.20/2025/8	United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework
E/C.20/2025/9	Global geodetic reference frame
E/C.20/2025/10	Geospatial information for sustainable development
E/C.20/2025/11	Geospatial information for climate, environment and resilience
E/C.20/2025/12	Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information
E/C.20/2025/13	Integrated geospatial information for effective land administration and management
E/C.20/2025/14	Integrated marine geospatial information
E/C.20/2025/15	Policy and legal frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data and emerging technologies
E/C.20/2025/16	Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community
E/C.20/2025/17	Standardization of geographical names and collaboration with UNGEGN
E/C.20/2025/18	Contribution of UN global geospatial centres (away from Headquarters) to enhancing GGIM arrangements



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## AGENDA #8 – OTHER MATTERS

### Additional items to note and consider:

- **ECOSOC Coordination Segment**, UNHQ New York, 6-7 February 2025

*Bureau invited to two panels. “Conversation with Executive Secretaries of the Regional Commissions and Chairs of Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies on Accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals including by leveraging the outcomes of the Summit of the Future” and “Harnessing data, science, technology and innovation to advance digital progress”*

- **UNGEQN**, UNHQ, 28 April to 2 May 2025

*In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution E/RES/2018/2 of 10 November 2017 and decision 2023/338 of 25 July 2023, the session will be held from 28 April to 2 May 2025 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.*

- **High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)**, UNHQ New York, 14 to 23 July 2024

*The theme for 2024 HLPF is “Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science-and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for leaving no one behind.” The focus will be on SDGs 3, 5, 8, 14 and 17. The deadline for input is **3 March 2025**.*



# AGENDA #9 – SUMMARY, NEXT STEPS AND CLOSE

- **Summary of the outcomes**
- **Next steps**
- **Closing remarks**

Mr. Stefan Schweinfest

Ms. Ingrid Vanden Berghe

Mr. Fernand Bale

Ms. Deirdre Dalpiaz Bishop

Mr. Meizyanne Hicks



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## *“Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges”*



**Fifteenth session  
of the United Nations  
Committee of Experts on  
Global Geospatial  
Information Management**

**6-8 August 2025  
UN Headquarters  
New York, USA**



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