

Expert Consultation and Meeting on Enhancing Geospatial Information Management Arrangements and Accelerating Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, and the Sub-regional Workshop on the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) for Central America and neighbouring Latin American countries

Implementing geospatial strategies: challenges and opportunities

Panama City, Panama
1-5 December 2025



Enhancing Geospatial Information Management arrangements Accelerating the Implementation of the SDGs

Sub-regional Workshop on UN-IGIF for the Central America and neighbouring Latin American countries

[BELIZE]

[LANDS AND SURVEYS DEPARTMENT MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES, PETROLEUM AND MINING]



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Where is your country today in enhancing the management and use of geospatial information?

- 2009 - Belize first national conference of spatial data and the idea of BNSDI started
- 2012 - NSDI Policy approved by Cabinet – to develop rules and standards for sharing spatial data
- 2018 – 2020 BCRIP Project – funded NSDI National Consultations, NSDI Strategic Planning, Web Portal but full implementation stalled due to re-directing of funds for COVID relief
- 2024 - Geospatial Strategy developed with ESRI Advantage Program
- 2025 – National Land Use Policy approved by Cabinet underscores the importance of the NSDI to support planning. Limited funding approved under the World Bank – Belize Blue Cities Project to support (i) Updating the National Geospatial Policy and develop a Legislative Framework for Belize. (ii) Jumpstart implementation of the NSDI



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Where does your country aim to be in the next five years?

- 2026 – 2027 – Updated National Geospatial Policy (approved) and new Legislative Framework Establishment (adopted and enacted); Country Action Plan being implemented
- **2026 – 2027** - A National Geospatial Institution (Agency) established
- **2026 – 2030** - National SDI being implemented
- **2027 - 2031** - Identify funding for CORS Network and scaling up implementation



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What do you see as the main challenges in reaching this “ideal” situation within the next five years?

- Funding, especially for the CORS network
- Capacity Building – trainings - few geospatial professionals
- Political and national Support/buy in
- Infrastructures (hardware/software/servers)



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What potential opportunities could help address some or all of these challenges?

- National and Regional Partnership/networking Technical Support
- Trainings – we need more geospatial professionals - ICLPST
- Building Climate Resiliency – national priority



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How familiar are you with UN-GGIM, the UN-GGKIC, the IGIF, and the CAP?

Please describe:

- Any interactions you might have had with UN-GGIM and/or the UN-GGKIC (e.g., attending sessions, receiving technical support, etc.);
- If and how you have been using, or are planning to use, the IGIF and/or the CAP in your country.

- First time in attendance of UN-GGIM Americas in Santiago Chile on November 3rd to the 7th 2025
- Belize have been attending UN-GGIM
- Has not been an active member state – we want to be more involved



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What kind of support would you like to receive from UN-GGIM, UN-GGKIC, or other partners?

Please describe the type of support you would like to receive to help address the current challenges observed in your country regarding the management and use of geospatial information.

- UN-IGIF Implementation/integration Support
- Build on our existing and ongoing national spatial initiatives
- Innovation and Technological Support
- Funding
- Capacity Development/Formal education



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