



**Expert consultation and meeting on Enhancing Geospatial Information Management Arrangements and Accelerating the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals together with the Sub-regional Workshop on United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) for Central America and neighboring Latin American countries ‘Implementing geospatial strategies: challenges and opportunities’**

**Ciudad de Las Artes**  
*Panama City, Panama, 1-5 December 2025*

## **Logistical and Information Note**

### **Preamble**

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In this logistical and information note, you will find relevant information about the logistics and arrangements for the Expert Consultation and Meeting on Enhancing Geospatial Information Management Arrangements and Accelerating the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals together with the Sub-regional Workshop on United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework for Central America and neighboring Latin American countries, including information on the venue, visa, accommodation, and general information about Panama City, Panama.

### **Logistical arrangements for the event**

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The in-person expert consultation and meeting and sub-regional workshop is organized jointly by the Instituto Geográfico Nacional “Tommy Guardia” and the Autoridad Nacional de Administración de Tierras (ANATI) of Panama, the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre (UN-GGKIC), the SDG Data Alliance, and the Secretariat of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) in the Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The event is also organized in close cooperation with the ECLAC (the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean). The event will generally take place from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day.

### **Venue**

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The event will be held at the Ciudad de Las Artes, Ave. Ascanio Villalaz, Llanos de Curundu, Panama City, Panama.



## Language

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This expert consultation and meeting and sub-regional workshop will be conducted in English, with Spanish interpretation provided.

## Participants

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This event is an in-person closed event, and participation is by invitation only. Participants are expected to be designated geospatial information management representatives, leads or focal persons, and subject matter experts from Central American and neighboring Latin American countries.

## Accommodation

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Participants are responsible for arranging their accommodation and can make the necessary reservations through all major booking websites. The United Nations will not be able to assist in booking or in bearing any related costs and expenses. A few recommendations are as follows:

Name	e-mail	Web-site	Telephone	Location
Hotel Riu	reservations@riu.com	<a href="https://www.riu.com/en/hotels/america/panama">https://www.riu.com/en/hotels/america/panama</a>	<a href="tel:+5073789000">+507 378-9000</a>	Calle 50 Panama.
Las Americas Golden Tower	reservas@lasamericasgoldentower.com	<a href="https://www.lasamericasgoldentower.com/en/">https://www.lasamericasgoldentower.com/en/</a>	+507 370-4600	Av. Balboa & Calle 53 esquina, Marbella, Panamá City
Courtyard Multiplaza	panama.reservas@rhr.com	<a href="https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/ptycy-courtyard-panama-multiplaza-mall/overview/">https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/ptycy-courtyard-panama-multiplaza-mall/overview/</a>	+507 301-0101	Multiplaza Pacific Mall, Vía Israel Avenue, Ciudad de Panamá
Renaissance Panama	RHpanama.reservations@renhotels.com	<a href="https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/ptyrh-renaissance-panama-city-hotel/overview/">https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/ptyrh-renaissance-panama-city-hotel/overview/</a>	+507 232-2100	Via España & Ricardo Arias Street, Panamá City
Hyatt Regency	ptyrp-reservations@hyatt.com	<a href="https://www.hyatt.com/hyatt-regency/en-US/ptyrp-hyatt-regency-panama-city">https://www.hyatt.com/hyatt-regency/en-US/ptyrp-hyatt-regency-panama-city</a>	+507 230-1234	Calle 52 & Ricardo Arias, Área Bancaria, Panamá City

## Travel information

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Participants are responsible for their travel to and from Panama, for acquiring entry visas into Panama and any necessary transit visas, including necessary travel and health insurance as applicable. The United Nations will not be able to assist in bearing any related costs or in obtaining required visas.

## Visa

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Citizens of most countries in the Americas, the European Union, and several other regions do not require a visa to enter Panama for stays of up to 90 days. A valid passport with at least six months of validity remaining and proof of onward or return travel are required.

Participants from countries that require a visa should contact the nearest Panamanian Embassy or Consulate well in advance to apply. Updated visa information is available on the official website of the Servicio Nacional de Migración (<https://www.migracion.gob.pa/>).

## Transportation

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Panama City is served by **Tocumen International Airport (PTY)**, located about **25 minutes** from downtown and Ciudad de las Artes.

Transportation options include:

- **Official airport taxis** and **hotel transfer services** (USD 30–40 per trip).
- **Rideshare apps** such as **Uber, DiDi, and InDriver**, widely available and reliable.
- The **Metro de Panamá, Line 1 and Line 2**, connects key areas of the city. For group transfers to Ciudad de las Artes, pre-arranged **shuttle buses** or private vans are recommended.

## Health and Safety

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Panama is generally a **safe destination** with high-quality healthcare facilities in Panama City. Basic precautions—such as avoiding isolated areas at night and using official transportation—are advised. Tap water in the city is **safe to drink**, though bottled water is widely available.

No special vaccinations are required, but visitors are encouraged to have routine immunizations up to date.

Emergency services: **dial 911** for police, fire, or medical assistance.

## Weather

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December marks the **beginning of the dry season** in Panama. Expect **warm and sunny weather**, with average daytime temperatures around **30 °C (86 °F)** and cooler evenings near **24 °C (75 °F)**.

Light clothing is recommended, along with a hat, sunscreen, and a light jacket for air-conditioned venues.

## Currency and banking

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Panama uses the **Balboa (PAB)**, which is **equivalent to the US Dollar (USD)**.

Both currencies circulate interchangeably, but all notes are in USD.

Major credit cards are accepted in most establishments.

ATMs are available throughout the city and dispense **US dollars**.

Banking hours are typically **Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

## Telephone communications, mobile telephones and Internet

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Panama has excellent mobile and Internet coverage.

Local SIM cards are available at the airport and in shopping centers from providers such as **Claro, Tigo, and Más Móvil**.

Wi-Fi is available in most hotels, restaurants, and conference venues.

The international dialing code for Panama is **+507**.

## Electricity

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The power plug sockets in Panama are of **Type A and Type B**, the same as in the United States.

The standard voltage is **110 V**, and the frequency is **60 Hz**.

Travelers from countries using different plug types may need a **universal adapter**.

## Laptops and Printing

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Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops for note-taking and presentations.

If you require printing of documents during the event, please contact the organizing team in advance.

## Time Zone

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Panama is in the **Eastern Standard Time (EST)** zone, corresponding to **UTC-5**.

The country **does not observe daylight saving time**, so the time remains the same throughout the year.

In December, the local time in Panama is the same as **Eastern Standard Time (New York)** and **two hours behind Argentina or Chile**.

## Attire

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Participants are encouraged to wear formal at this meeting.

## Enquiries

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For local logistical and substantive arrangements:

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