

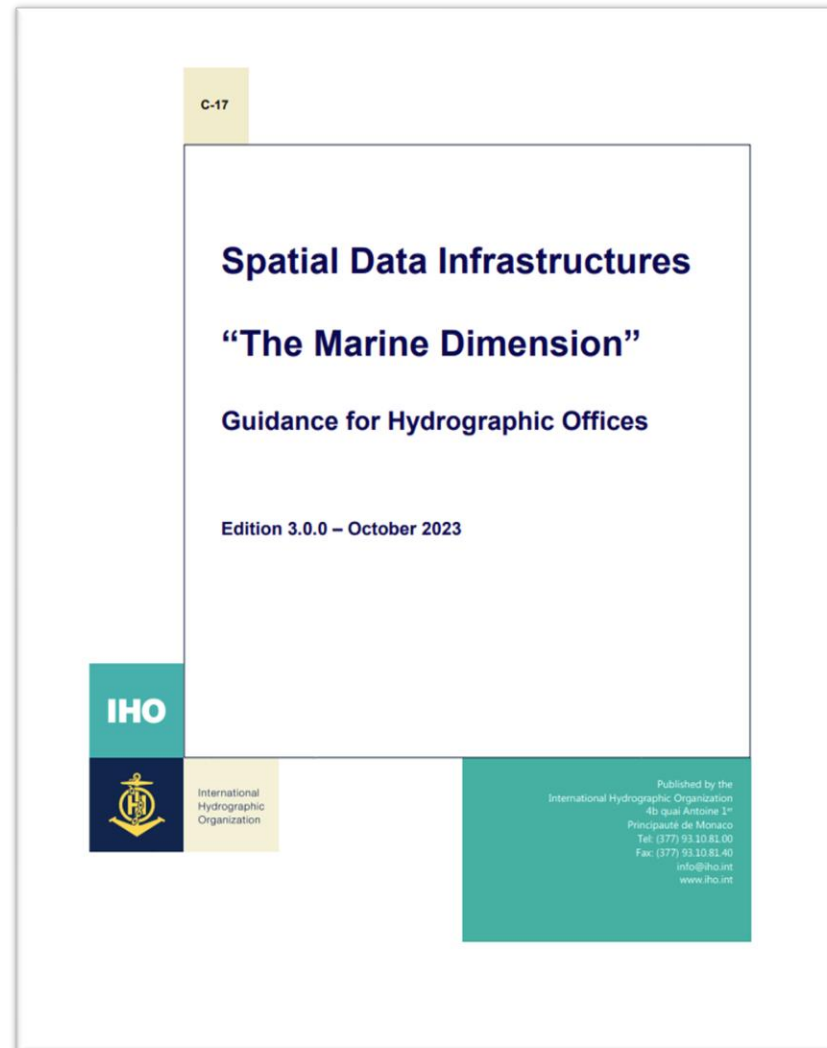
# The Future of IHO C-17 and UN-IGIF-Hydro: A Brainstorming Session



# Our Goal Today

To collaboratively brainstorm and define a clear path forward for the maintenance and evolution of IHO Publication C-17 and the UN-IGIF-Hydro.

# The Current Status



# A Shared Foundation

## The Current Status

Shared Element	IHO C-17 (Guide for HOs)	UN-IGIF-Hydro (Framework for Member States)
<b>Foundational Framework</b>	Aligns its guidance and explicitly maps its principles back to the UN-IGIF.	Built entirely as a domain-specific extension of the UN-IGIF.
<b>Thematic Structure</b>	Organized around "Four Pillars": People, Standards, Information and Communications Technology, and Data.	Organized around the "Nine Strategic Pathways" (which encompass the same topics).
<b>Primary Objective</b>	Aims to help HOs transition from product-centric to data-centric agencies.	Aims to help Member States integrate marine geospatial information into broader national ecosystems.
<b>Emphasis on Interoperability</b>	Heavily emphasizes adoption of standards (e.g., IHO S-100) to ensure data can be shared.	Emphasizes standardized data frameworks to ensure national and global interoperability.
<b>Focus on Governance &amp; People</b>	Highlights the "People" pillar, focusing on capacity building, training, and evolving workforce skillsets.	Dedicates specific pathways to "Governance and Institutions," "Capacity and Education," and "Communication and Engagement."

# Contrasting Roles

## The Current Status

Differentiating Element	IHO C-17	UN-IGIF-Hydro
Target Audience	Hydrographic Offices (HOs), hydrographers, and maritime safety data managers.	Member States, national governments, policy makers, and a broad spectrum of cross-sector marine stakeholders.
Scope & Focus	Operational and practical. Focuses on the internal modernization of an HO from a traditional chart producer to a dynamic marine geospatial data provider.	Strategic and policy-driven. Focuses on building a comprehensive, national-level ecosystem for *all* marine and maritime data.
Structural Framework	Structured around a simplified, agency-focused "Four Pillars" model.	Structured around the comprehensive UN-IGIF "Nine Strategic Pathways".
Level of Implementation	Agency-level guidance. Provides actionable advice for a specific organization (the HO).	National-level guidance. Provides a blueprint for how a country can legislate, govern, and fund a national infrastructure.
Approach to Governance	Treats governance and resources as internal organizational management challenges for the HO Director.	Dedicates specific, high-level pathways to establishing national legal frameworks and securing cross-agency funding.

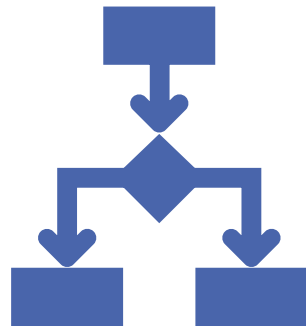
# Alignment and Key Differences

The Current Status

Dimension	IHO C-17	UN-IGIF-Hydro
<b>Perspective</b>	Hydrographic Offices	Whole of Government
<b>Primary role</b>	Operational and institutional guidance	Strategic policy framework
<b>Relationship to IGIF</b>	IGIF interpreted from HO mandate	Official marine extension of IGIF
<b>Authority</b>	IHO Member States / SOLAS context	UN-endorsed, intergovernmental
<b>Capacity Building</b>	Core, explicit focus	Important, but contextual
<b>Marine safety</b>	Central	Implicit, alongside sustainability
<b>Audience</b>	HO executives and practitioners	Ministers, national geospatial leaders

# The Core Issue: Overlap & Opportunity

The Current Status



**Aligned Frameworks:** C-17's "Four Pillars" model is explicitly mapped to the IGIF's "Nine Strategic Pathways".

**Shared Structure:** UN-IGIF-Hydro is built on the same "Nine Strategic Pathways" for all Member States.

**The Challenge:** Efficiently managing and maintaining two separate documents with significant content overlap, which risks confusion for our audience and a duplication of effort for the working group.

# Envisioning the Future

# Brainstorming Questions

Envisioning the Future

## Scenario A: The Full Merger

*What would it look like if we combined C-17 and UN-IGIF-Hydro into a single, comprehensive publication?  
What would be the pros and cons? Who would be the new target audience?*

## Scenario B: Clear Demarcation

*How could we redefine the scope of each document to ensure they are complementary rather than overlapping?  
For instance, could C-17 become a practical 'handbook' for HOs that directly implements the strategic principles of UN-IGIF-Hydro?*

## Scenario C: A Modular Approach

*Could we restructure the content into a modular 'body of knowledge' with a foundational document and specific guidance modules for different audiences (e.g., a module for HOs, a module for policy makers)?*

## Scenario D: Sunsetting One Document

*Should we designate one document as the primary publication and retire the other?  
Which one should take precedence, and why?  
How would we preserve the valuable information from the retired document?*

# Evaluating Options and Defining the Way Forward

# Evaluation Questions

Defining the Way Forward

- For each scenario, what is its overall feasibility and required resources?**
- Which scenario best serves the needs of our different stakeholders (HOs, Member States, etc.)?**
- Which approach best aligns with the strategic goals and vision of our Joint Working Group?**

# Decision and Action Planning



## **Decision:**

*Based on our evaluation, which scenario or hybrid of scenarios should we adopt?*



## **Action Planning:**

*What are the immediate, concrete next steps we need to take to move forward?*

*Who will lead these next steps, and what are our timelines?*