

First Expert meeting of the UN-GGIM & IHO Joint Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information
with the theme “Advancing Integrated Marine Geospatial Information Management”

Chiang Mai, Thailand
4 – 8 May 2026



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Australia

Geoscience Australia

Australian Hydrographic Office



Australian Government

Geoscience Australia



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



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Institutions and Coordination

Australia works in partnership with many organisations

- Geoscience Australia (GA)
- Australian Hydrographic Office (AHO)

- Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS)
- University of Tasmania - Australia's Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS)
- AusSeabed Program
- State & Territory Jurisdictions
- Industry and Academic Partners
- Regional partners
- Global community



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Marine Information Geospatial Portals

Australia's marine geospatial data provides seabed mapping, marine science, maritime boundaries and charted information

- Australian Marine Spatial Information System (AMSIS) – <https://ga.gov.au/amsis>
- AusSeabed Marine Data Portal - <https://portal.ga.gov.au/persona/marine>
- ELVIS Elevation And Depth Information System - <https://elevation.fsdf.org.au/>
- Digital Atlas of Australia - <https://digital.atlas.gov.au/>
- Digital Earth Australia data and products - <https://www.ga.gov.au/scientific-topics/dea/dea-data-and-products>

- AHO Chart Explorer - <https://services.hydro.gov.au/AHOChartExplorer/>

- Australian Ocean Data Network - <https://portal.aodn.org.au>



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Progress and Achievements - Geoscience Australia

- Geoscience Australia Strategy 2026–2036 <https://www.ga.gov.au/about/our-strategy>
- Enhanced digital platforms and data collection
 - Digital Atlas of Australia - <https://digital.atlas.gov.au/>
 - Digital Earth Australia data and products - <https://www.ga.gov.au/scientific-topics/dea/dea-data-and-products>
- National and International collaboration and support



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Progress and Achievements – Australian Hydrographic Organisation

- Enhanced data collection
- Strong support for collaboration and regional engagement
- Continuous improvement of data quality and governance



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

- Geoscience Australia has recently launched a new strategy with a 10-year goal for a National Marine Cadastre
- Integrate and deliver national land, water, hazard, coastal, and marine datasets
- Bring together partners and leverage current capability (AMSIS) and initiatives
- Support machine integration and advanced analytics, enable new insights and innovation applications.



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

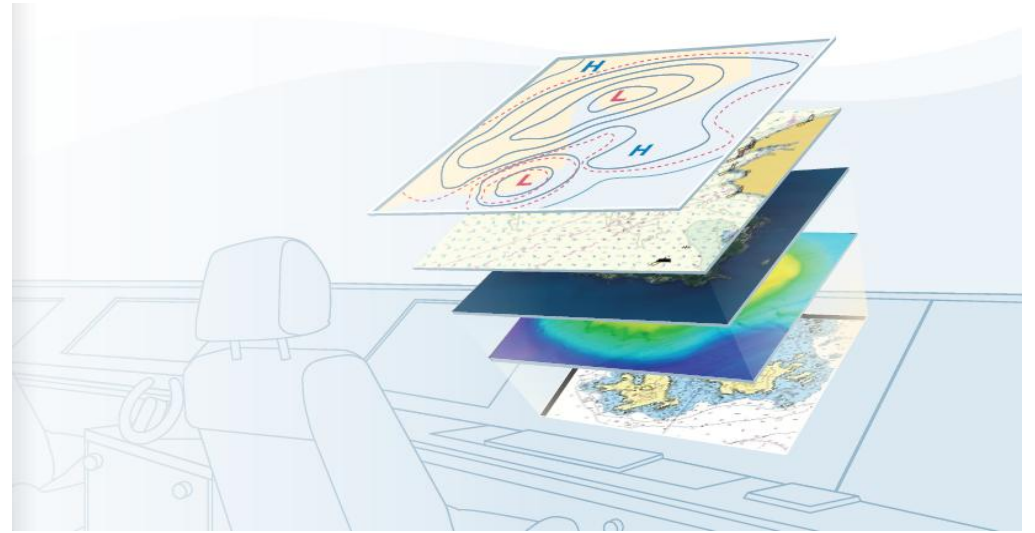
- The Australian Hydrographic Office will continue to focus on the implementation of S-100 products
- Followed by S-100 data and services availability
- Enhanced data governance and standards in support of interoperability
- Automated data workflows
- Continued focus on partnerships and engagement



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S-100 Products and Data

- S-101 Electronic Navigation Chart
- S-102 Bathymetric Surface
- S-104 Water Level Information
- S-111 Surface Currents
- S-121 Maritime Limits and Boundaries
- S-122 Marine Protected Areas
- S-124 Navigational Warnings
- S-129 Under Keel Clearance Management (UKCM)



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

Geoscience Australia and Australian Hydrographic Office

- Competing, changing and challenging government priorities
- Skills and capacity gaps – particularly for applied data science, AI and ML
- Keeping up with technology and data
- Data quality – the increase in data availability requires smart approaches to evaluating quality and standardization to be fit for use
- Capacity and technology constraints

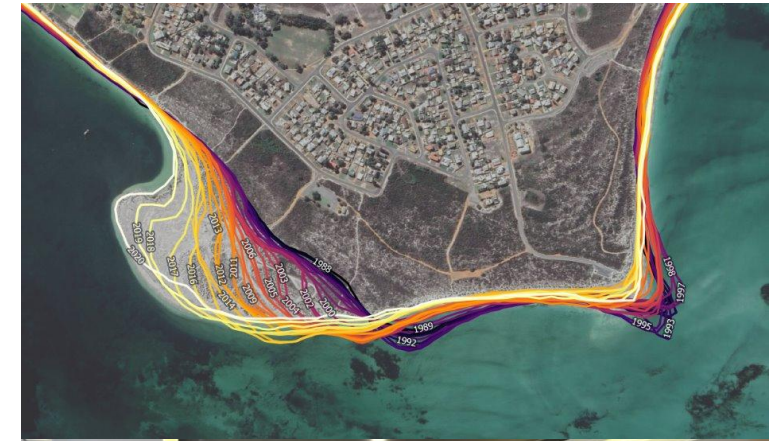


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What potential opportunities could help address some or all of these challenges?

GA and Australia's Southeast Asia Maritime Partnerships

- Geoscience Australia is working with partner agencies in Southeast Asia to deliver real, practical capability development
 - Philippines, Vietnam, and Indonesia
- Collaboratively designing activities and training courses that address countries geospatial priorities to manage marine resources
 - Nautical Cartography
 - Satellite Derived Bathymetry
 - Digital Earth Coastline (MSL Coastline Timeseries)
- Delivers scalable, cost-effective, national scale datasets to enable coastal states to implement the IGIF framework in the marine space



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

Australian Hydrographic Office

- Continued guidance and support through ongoing collaboration and engagement with IHO and UNGGIM working groups
- Continued engagement and capacity through regional hydrographic commissions to promote understanding and use of Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure
- Improvement of technologies that support data discovery and availability



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How familiar are you with the UN-IGIF, and IHO C-17?

- Continued engagement with IHO, UNGGIM and South-West Pacific Region working groups in support of UN-IGIF
- The AHO has IHO C-17 awareness, its principles are informing data policies and governance, more to do...
- Fuller application is waiting for critical mass of S-100 datasets to enable geospatial feature services and release of standardised/quality assured data



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What kind of support would you like to receive from UN-GGIM-IHO Joint Working Group?

Geoscience Australia and Australian Hydrographic Office

- Targeted and achievable work programs
- Continued support of IHO international and regional hydrographic commissions and working groups for marine geospatial information
- Training opportunities, sharing of use cases and templates



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