

UN-GGIM: Africa | United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management in Africa

Summary report of key activities undertaken since the 10th Session of UN-GGIM

1. Consensus-building

1. **Organization of the UN-GGIM: Africa Meeting:** The Sixth meeting of the UN-GGIM: Africa Regional Committee took place virtually, in a scaled down format, from 1 - 4 December 2020. The meeting was attended by over 90 participants from 43 countries across the globe, out of which 32 were from African countries represented by Heads of National Geospatial Authorities/Agencies. A large number of partners and private sector representatives were also in attendance.
2. **Organization of the Space Law Conference:** ECA in collaboration with the United Nations Office of Outer Space Affairs (UN-OOSA) organized the United Nations Conference on Space Law and Policy which was held virtually from 8-10 December 2020. The theme of the conference is “Emerging Issues in Space Law and Policy – Perspectives for African Nations”. The objective of the meeting is to promote adherence to the United Nations treaties on outer space and to assist States in building their capacity in space law, and thus help them to meet the Sustainable Development Goals.
3. Organization of a regional Workshop for Northern Africa countries on the development and implementation of national spatial data infrastructure (NSDI).

2. Knowledge Generation

4. **Compilation of the African countries national efforts** in tracking and visualizing the status of the COVID-19 into a compendium of national dashboards. The inventory is continuously updated as additional countries are creating their national dashboard.
5. **Development of a policy guideline on the dimensions** of a holistic COVID-19 strategy for a geospatial response in Africa that is informing on ideas, insights and strategies avenues (cooperative management of development information, frameworks for financial appropriation, partnership, etc.).
6. **Development of a financial appropriation framework** and assessing the economic benefit of geospatial information management in Africa. The economic benefits will be represented as tangible and relatable factors for investors and government budget authorities in order to increase their buy-in and interest in geospatial information.

3. Capacity development

7. **Engagement of young women fellows** to undertake a research study on current state of national data ecosystems, assessment of existing strategies and achievements in African countries in integrating statistical and geospatial information, and experiences and best practices in each of the 5 sub-regions.
8. **Organization of an online e-Learning course** on evaluating the socio-economic benefits of investing in geospatial information.





4. Outlook | Perspectives

9. **Future of geospatial information** | Developing a comprehensive programme on the modernization of geospatial activities in Africa. The programme will serve as a vehicle to mobilize resources to strengthen member States capacities and for the integration of geospatial and statistical information infrastructures.
10. **Integrated Geospatial Information Framework** | Assisting member States to develop country-specific action plans that will help them to move towards spatially-enabled e-services; digital transformation; and bridging the geospatial digital divide in the continent.
11. **UN-GGIM: Africa Regional Committee meeting** | The seventh meeting of the Regional Committee will be held physically in conjunction with the AfricaGIS Conference 2021. The sessions are tentatively scheduled to be held on 22-25 November 2021 in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. The meeting will focus on sharing experience and determining ground-level geospatial infrastructure that may be required for post-COVID recovery at national level.

