

## Report of the activities within the UN-GGIM Geospatial Societies

### Summary

This executive report describes the activities of the members of the Geospatial Societies since the last meeting in September 2020. For further information regarding the Geospatial Societies pls. have a look at [https://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/10th-Session/documents/UN-GGIM-Geospatial-Societies-Report\\_2019-2020.pdf](https://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/10th-Session/documents/UN-GGIM-Geospatial-Societies-Report_2019-2020.pdf)

### Introduction

All members of the coalition are greatly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The events, which are normally organized on a regular base, are cancelled, postponed to a later date and / or transformed to virtual or hybrid events. The current situation with the vaccines offers an optimistic perspective but it is far too early for a planning and implementation of events with usual physical meetings. All members are collaborating in a variety of constellations not only under the umbrella of UN-GGIM. Our recent activities regarding collaborations are described in the next chapter.

### Collaborations and coordination

**International Association of Geodesy (IAG).** In the coming years IAG will contribute to the Global Geodetic Center of Excellence (Bonn, Germany). Priority issues in this respect are the improvement and sustainability of the geodetic infrastructure that underpins all geodetic reference products provided by IAG Services.

**International Cartographic Association (ICA).** ICA joined OGC as an associate member. The dates of the 30<sup>th</sup> Cartographic Conference were extended to December 2021. ICA is also active in ISC (International Science Council), ISO/TC211 and OSGeo.

**International Federation of Surveyors (FIG).** FIG is active in the Professional Cluster of GLTN (Global Land Tools Network). The current activities there are the URLL (Urban Rural Land Linkages) and the Valuation of Unregistered Land. The Volunteer Community Surveyor Program (VCSP) led by the FIG Young Surveyors Network hosted a 2-day Wisdom Workshop in January 2021 under the topic "Sustainable Solutions for Land-Based Community Problems - Tools and Modern Approaches".

**International Geographical Union (IGU)** The IGU-India International Conference 2020 (December 2020) was joined by more than 800 of participants from about 40 countries. IGU was invited to the ISC GeoUnions Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction.

**International Map Industry Association (IMIA)** The new International Map Industry Association organizational restructuring is now completed. IMIA entered a new affiliate partnership with British Cartographic Society (BCS). 'Where Cartography Meets Industry' is the next IMIA event (28<sup>th</sup> march, together with BCS).

**International Society for Digital Earth (ISDE)** In addition to the international collaborations, ISDE's five national and regional chapters (they are Chinese National Committee, Australian Chapter, European Chapter, Japan Chapter and Russian Chapter) are dedicated into the promotion of Digital Earth in these countries or regions. For example, in November 2019, the Chinese National Committee organized the 1<sup>st</sup> China Digital Earth Conference and will continue this event in 2021.

**International Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS).** The ISPRS-Congress held every four years was postponed until 2022 and replaced by a virtual event in July 2021. In 2020 ISPRS has financed a project on a Capacity Building Initiative.

**International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG)** IUGG endorsed the declaration of the Significance of Geoscience Expertise to Meet Global Societal Challenges, signed the Kyoto Landslide Commitment 2020 and will support the African Light Source (AfLS) Project.

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