



# CARIGEO

Caribbean Geospatial  
Development Initiative

**GEO-EMPOWERING THE CARIBBEAN**

## SIDE EVENT



**UN-GGIM:Americas**

REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF  
UNITED NATIONS  
EXPERTS ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT  
FOR THE AMERICAS

AUGUST 16, 2021 9:30 – 11:00 EDT



# CARIGEO: Strengthening Geospatial in the Caribbean





## WELCOME REMARKS



**PALOMA MERODIO**

PRESIDENT UN-GGIM: AMERICAS & VICE PRESIDENT INEGI



## BACKGROUND AND PROGRAM PLAN



**BHESHEM RAMLAL**

SENIOR LECTURER AND GEOSPATIAL SPECIALIST  
UNIVERSITY OF WEST INDIES, T&T



UN-GGIM:Américas



# CARIGEO

Caribbean Geospatial  
Development Initiative

**GEO-EMPOWERING THE CARIBBEAN**

UN GGIM Americas Side Event  
August 16, 2021



**To improve Spatial Data Infrastructures at the national and regional levels in the CARIBBEAN**

- building on recent and on-going developments*
- leveraging indigenous skills and resources*
- utilising external resources and technical expertise*

# Partners



- an Initiative implemented by the Americas Regional Committee of United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM: Americas)



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES



# Participants



**National Mapping  
Agencies**

**&**



**National Statistical  
Offices**

# The Future We Want



- A **community** of spatial data producers and users is **formed** and remains **active**
- GIS and data management **capacities** are **improved** across the region
- **Increased funding** is available for the creation and updating of **fundamental spatial datasets**
- Spatial data is **shared** more broadly and **more openly** in the Caribbean
- Development decisions and **policy-formulation** take more advantage of geoinformation
- **National Legislation** to regulate and promote the use of geoinformation is enacted
- **Agreements** are instituted for **collaboration** and **corporation** on the use of geoinformation regionally



**CARIGEO**  
Caribbean Geospatial  
Development Initiative  
**GEO-EMPOWERING THE CARIBBEAN**





# Past Initiative



## Project for the Strengthening of Spatial Data Infrastructures in Member States and Territories of the Association of Caribbean States (Caribbean Project)

Initiated through the UN-GGIM Americas  
Funded by the Government of Mexico with support from Government of Chile  
Collaborators: ACS, UWI, CDEMA, URISA Caribbean

### Details:

- **Funding Amounts – US \$ 4.5 m**
- **Start Date: 2014**
- **End Date: 2018**
- **Countries:** Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinique, Dominican Republic, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Martin, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago

# Successes of Past Initiative



# Progress



## CARIGEO

Caribbean Geospatial  
Development Initiative

GEO-EMPOWERING THE CARIBBEAN



**Establish the  
Project  
Steering  
Committee**



**Develop the Terms  
of Reference &  
Program Proposal  
Documents**



**Engage Partners  
& Donors**



**Formulate &  
Execute Projects  
and Activities**

# Terms of Reference



## Guiding Principles



Collaboration and coordination



Use of and adherence to geospatial standards



Ownership and accountability



Transparency



Respect and confident

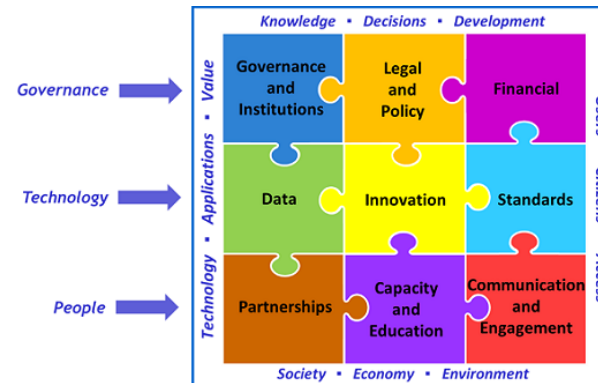


Standards of service



Adherence to law

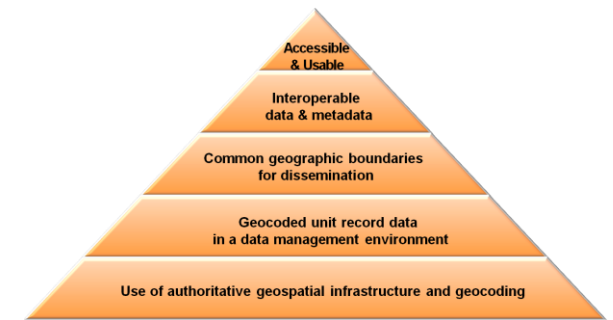
## Alignment to International Frameworks



### **Integrated Geospatial Information Framework**



### **Global Geodetic Reference Frame**



### **Global Statistical Geospatial Framework**



### **Strategic Framework for Disasters**

# Program Proposal – Scope of Work



- 1 Assessment of Current Situation in the Caribbean**
- 2 Governance & Policies**
- 3 Collaboration & Partnership**
- 4 Datasets & Tools**
- 5 Capacity Development**
- 6 Communications**

# CARIGEO Activity: Caribbean Geoportal



## Caribbean GeoPortal

<https://www.caribbeangeoportal.com/>



“

*We are deeply committed to supporting innovation in the Caribbean, helping users discover, explore, and understand the vast information available to them through the power of maps*

”

Jack Dangermond

President and Founder of Esri

A screenshot of the Caribbean GeoPortal website homepage. The header includes a navigation menu with 'Caribbean GeoPortal', 'Data', 'Tools', 'Learn', 'Map', and 'About Us'. The main banner features a map of the Caribbean and a group of diverse people, with the text 'The Caribbean GeoPortal' and 'Inspiring communities through geography'. Below the banner, there is a yellow section for 'COVID-19 Resources for the Caribbean are now available.' with a 'Caribbean COVID-19 Response' button. Further down, there is a section titled 'Why does geography matter?' with a paragraph of text and a small image of people at a water conservancy. The footer contains the text 'Join the community now and start mapping today!'.



## CARIGEO PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES



**LINDA PETERS**

GLOBAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, ESRI



UN-GGIM:Américas



**CARIGEO**

Caribbean Geospatial  
Development Initiative

**GEO-EMPOWERING THE CARIBBEAN**

# CARIGEO PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES





# CARIGEO Activity

## 2021 Webinars for Community Awareness Raising and Capacity Strengthening



- WEBINAR 1: Academic Network Americas:
  - Ethics on the Use of Geospatial Information **Recording** [here](#)
- WEBINAR 2: Caribbean Geoportal Topic 1 - How to Use **Recording** [here](#)
- WEBINAR 3: Caribbean Geoportal Topic 2 – Disasters **Recording** [here](#)
- WEBINAR 4: UNGEGN on Geographical Names – **SCHEDULED** August 31<sup>st</sup>
- WEBINAR 5: Caribbean Geoportal Topic 3 - Metadata, Maintenance, Best Practices On Data Sharing – **SCHEDULED** September 21<sup>st</sup> **sign-up** [here](#)
- WEBINAR 6: Integration of Statistics and Geospatial Information – to be scheduled

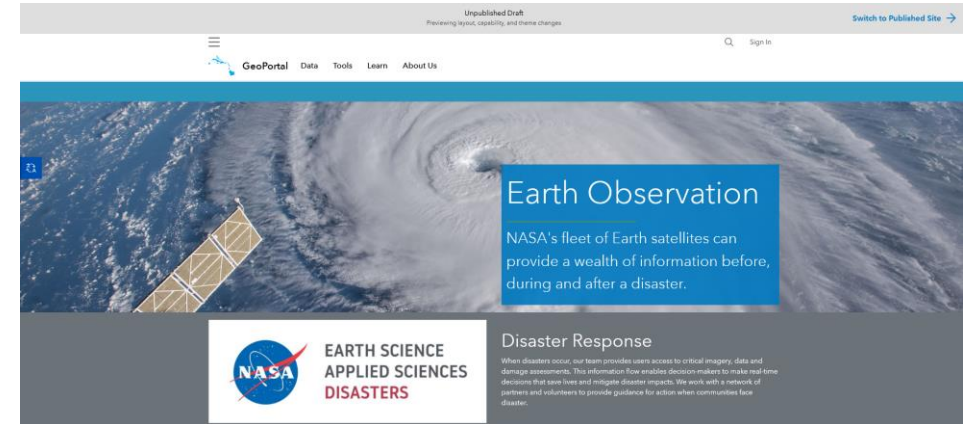


# CARIGEO Activity

## Caribbean Geoportal



- Working to identify many new partners and functionality
  - NASA - Added in new Microsite for NASA data and applications
  - NOAA - New Microsite for NOAA data and applications to be live in September
  - CDEMA and ACS on disasters data
  - New apps for disaster response



### Respond Quickly

Solutions for Public Safety reduce the time it takes to deploy location-based solutions in your organization. Leverage your and collect new geographic data to understand threats and hazards and create a safer community.



#### Shelter Locator

Shelter Locator can be used to share emergency shelters activated during an incident or event.

The location-enabled search helps residents quickly find shelter information to improve communication and promote efficient use of transportation and shelter resources.

[Details](#)



#### Road Closures

Road Closures can be used to maintain an inventory of road closures and communicate closures and detours to travelers.

The Road Closures solution delivers a set of capabilities that help you inventory road closures and related detours and communicate closures and detours with the public.

[Details](#)



#### Warming & Cooling Centers

The Warming and Cooling Centers solution delivers a set of capabilities that help you source the locations of warming and cooling centers from community partners, review each center to ensure they meet health and safety requirements, and share the locations of the temporary shelters with the public.

[Details](#)



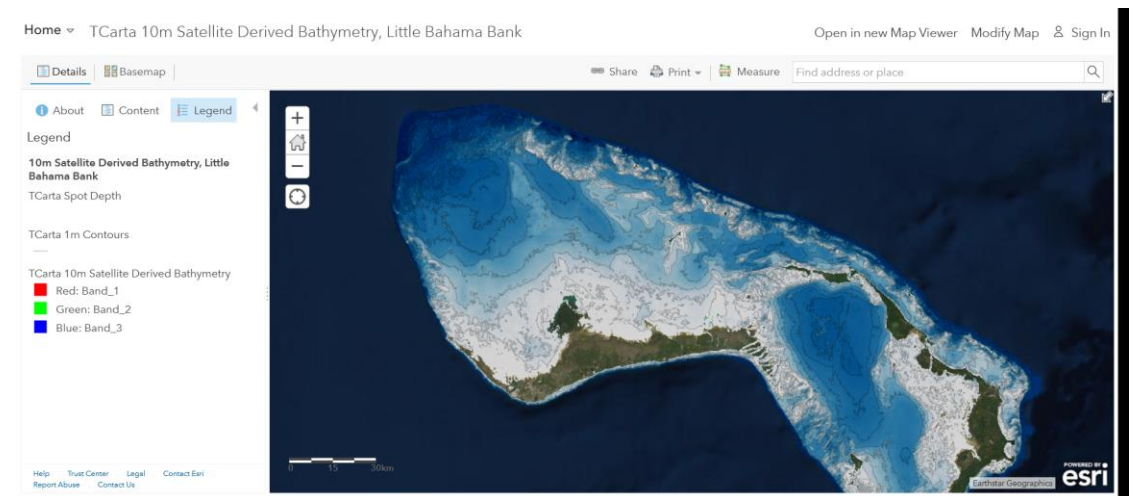
- Working to identify many new partners and functionality
  - IHO, MACHC, TCarta, Caribbean Marine Atlas – all will be added as part of new Maritime micro site
- Creating new Community pages
- Creating new section for trending items

### Trending Items

Esri 2020 Land Cover

A ten-class global land use/land cover (LULC) map for the year 2020 at 10-meter resolution.

Explore



# CARIGEO Activity

## Caribbean Geoportal



- Creating new Community pages
- Deploy new survey on disasters
- As of August 15<sup>th</sup> – over 2,100 users!

### Why Join our Community?

A Community is a social unit - with commonalities, sharing a sense of place. Our place, our region the **Caribbean** is a special one. One with many relationships, that extend beyond our immediate ties of place. We are citizens, teachers, students, parents, government workers, politicians, engineers, architects, farmers, business owners, geographers, statisticians, scientists, communications and IT professionals, health care workers, emergency responders, planners, and so much more. We share one vision ... a resilient, sustainable and more prosperous Caribbean.

This community is being empowered by the Caribbean GeoPortal and the CARIGEO initiative.

CARIGEO, is a collaborative initiative that seeks to empower the countries and territories of the Caribbean to advance the greater use and sharing of geospatial and statistical information to support improved decision making for sustainable national and regional development.

We encourage you to join our community - where you can find data, solutions, share ideas and collaborate with us to help achieve our goals.

What is your name?\*

What is your job title?\*

What are your areas of interest or expertise?\*

<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Business
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Disaster Response
<input type="checkbox"/> Earth Sciences	<input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Education



GeoPortal Data Tools Learn Map About Us

Search New Notification

Caribbean GeoPortal Account



### Caribbean Disasters Response Program - Survey

#### CARIGEO Caribbean Disaster Response Program Survey

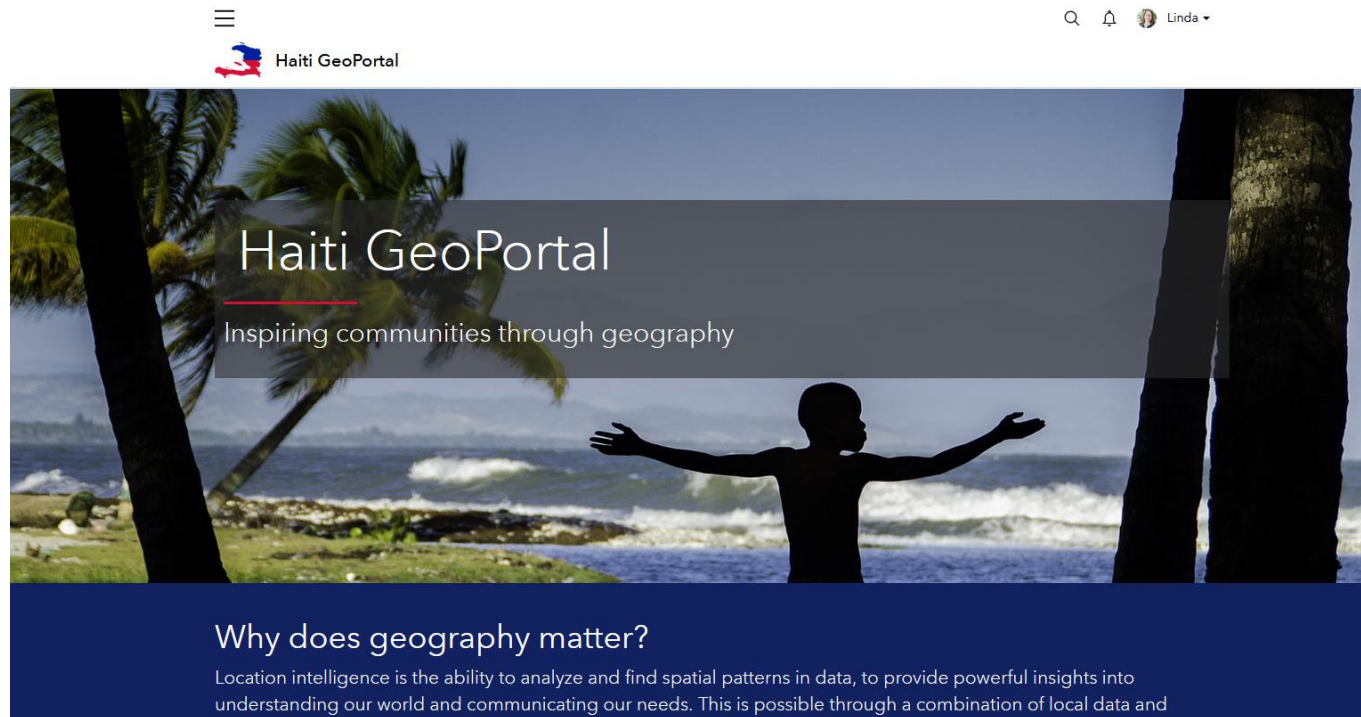
CARIGEO is a collaborative effort under UN-GGIM Americas, which seeks to empower the countries and territories of the Caribbean region to advance the use and sharing of geospatial, statistical and related information to support improved decision making for sustainable national and regional development.

We would like to understand ongoing programs in the region to better provide support.

A program can be a very specific initiative or project focused on a target region or thematic area in disasters. Including disaster preparedness, response and recovery. E.g., Jamaica Disasters program, St. Lucia Disasters preparedness program, Hurricane Response initiative or Landslide Research initiative.

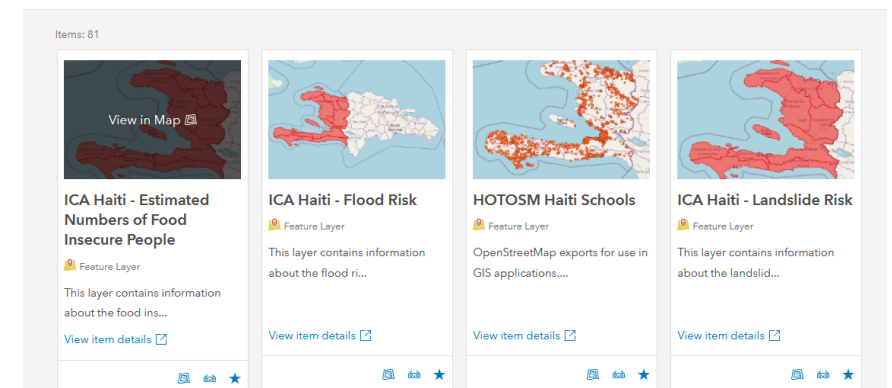


**NEW** Haiti Country page going live today <https://haiti.caribbeangeoportal.com/>



Centralizing resources for:

- Earthquakes
- Hurricane
- Flooding
- Soils
- Landslides
- And more..



# CARIGEO Activity

## Other key activities



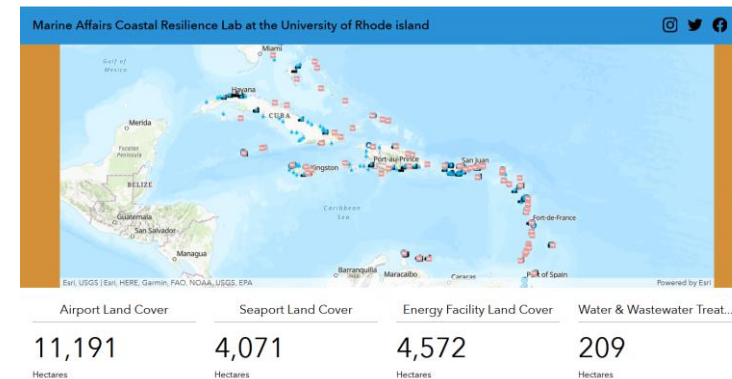
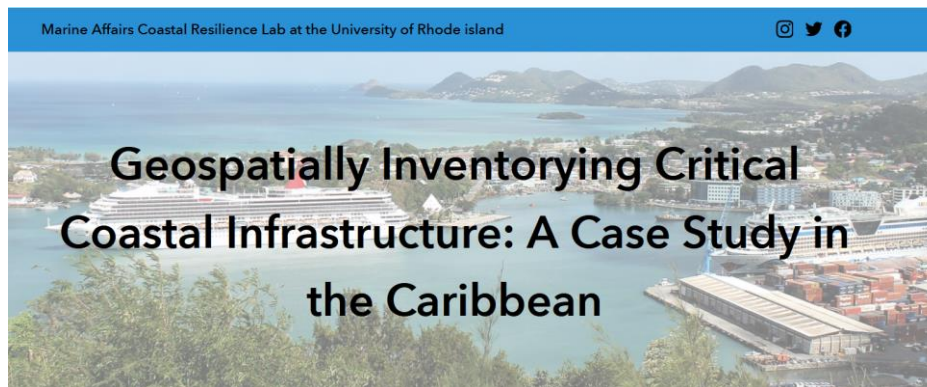
- New partnerships in academia
  - Sandra Turner, National Geographic Certified Instructor
  - University of Rhode Island – Critical Infrastructure
- Hosted a session during the Statistical Conference of the Americas (SCA-ECLAC)
- Participating in the GGIM Americas session in Fall 2021.



On An Island

With more than 7000 islands, the Caribbean is a magical place! Designed to encourage geo-literacy skill development, this collection of StoryMap...

[Explore](#)



# CARIGEO Activity

## Other key activities: Sargassum



- Submitted proposal on Sargassum Project to the Blue Economy cluster call in April
- Applied to the Blue Economy innovation challenge
  - project is short-listed to move forward to the next step in the selection process



**Figure 3:** Offshore *Sargassum* line. Photo © [Gulf Coast Research Laboratory](#)



**Figure 7:** *Sargassum* on beaches in Barbados. Photo © [Hazel Oxenford](#)



# Next steps

Obtain funding to support project execution and member states implementation

Seek the support of member states to commit, participate and benefit from the project

Implement strategies to establish communication channels and ways to keep everyone engaged and informed

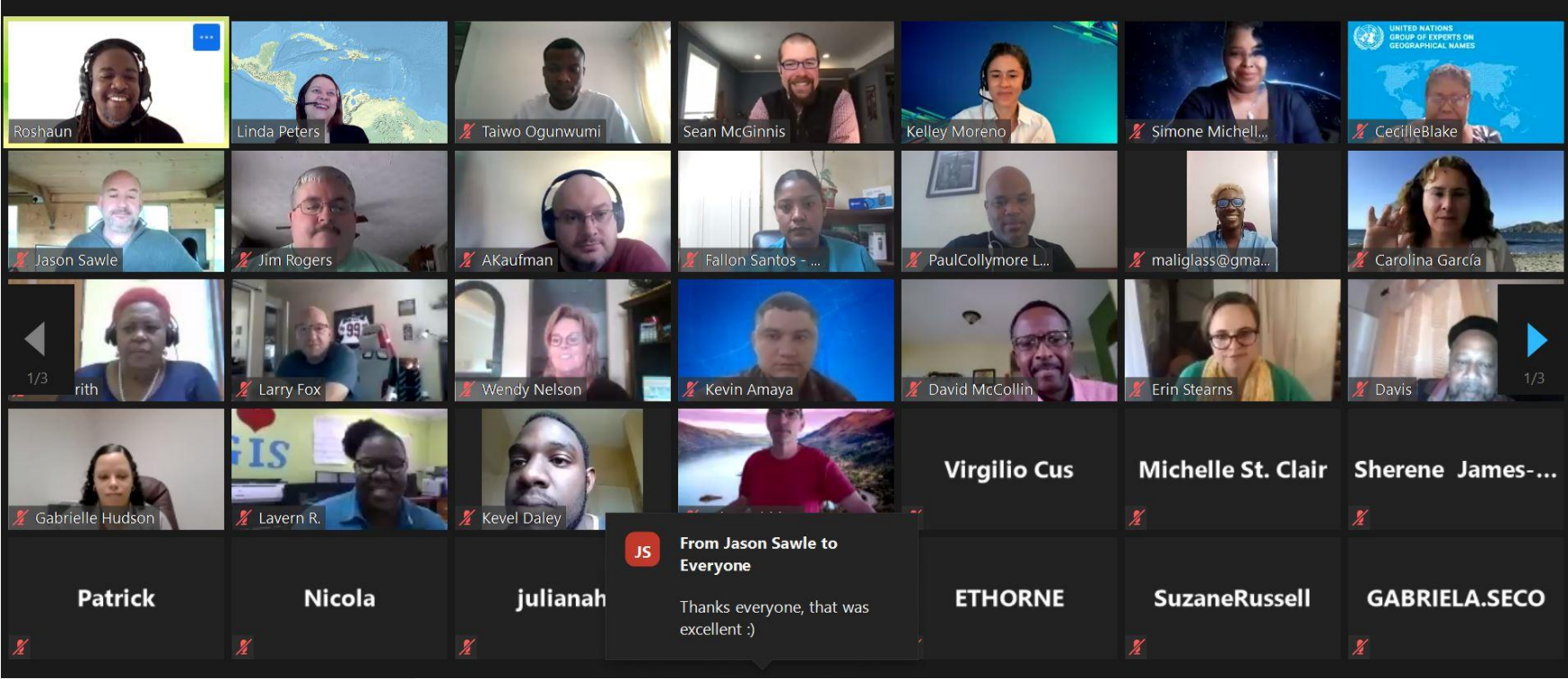
Project Implementation

Developing mechanisms and capacity for sustainability

Monitoring and Evaluation of Project



# Thank you



UN-GGIM:Américas



**CARIGEO**  
Caribbean Geospatial  
Development Initiative  
GEO-EMPOWERING THE CARIBBEAN



APPLICATION OF GEOSPATIAL TOOLS IN CARRIBEAN DISASTER MANAGEMENT ● ● ●



**SIMONE LLOYD**

SENIOR GIS MANAGER & TRAINER  
NATIONAL SPATIAL DATA MANAGEMENT  
BRANCH OF JAMAICA'S  
MHURECC  
UN-GGIM WORKING GROUP DISASTERS



**ARTIE DUBRIE**

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND  
DISASTER UNIT COORDINATOR  
ECLAC



## CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES



**CECILLE BLAKE**  
UN-GGIM SECRETARIAT



## NEXT STEPS AND OPEN DISCUSSION



**VALRIE GRANT**

PRESIDENT UN-GGIM:AMERICAS PRIVATE SECTOR NETWORK



## CLOSING REMARKS



**ÁLVARO MONETT**

REGIONAL ADVISOR ON GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT  
SCA-ECLAC



# CARIGEO

Caribbean Geospatial  
Development Initiative

**GEO-EMPOWERING THE CARIBBEAN**

**SIDE EVENT**



**UN-GGIM:Americas**

REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF  
UNITED NATIONS  
EXPERTS ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT  
FOR THE AMERICAS

AUGUST 16, 2021 9:30 – 11:00 EDT



**CARIGEO: Strengthening  
Geospatial in the Caribbean**

# THANK YOU

