



**Eleventh Session of the Committee of Experts on  
Global Geospatial Information Management**  
**Guide to the role of standards in global geospatial information  
management – *The Standards Guide***

**Tuesday 17 August 2021**  
**08:00-09:30 am EDT/UTC-4**  
Virtual seminar side event [Register Here](#)

**CONCEPT NOTE**

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**Background**

The standards development organizations (SDO): Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC), the Technical Committee 211 of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO/TC 211), and the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) have worked in partnership for more than two decades to ensure international geospatial standards are developed to meet the needs and requirements for data sharing within our global geospatial community including to support Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In 2015 the UN-GGIM endorsed the Guide to the Role of Geospatial Information Standards and its Companion Document - Standards by Tier.

**The Standards Guide Edition 3**

The purpose of the Guide is to promote the recommendations regarding the use of standards for geospatial information management. The Guide compliments [Strategic Pathway 6 on Standards \(SP6\)](#) of the [Integrated Geospatial Information Framework \(IGIF\)](#) Implementation Guide, providing specific guidance and options to be taken by countries when implementing the IGIF. The Guide and the IGIF have been developed through extensive consultations with experts from around the world working under the auspices of the UN-GGIM. The Guide:

1. Provides detailed insights on the standards and good practices necessary to establish and maintain geospatial information management systems that are compatible and interoperable with other systems within and across organizations. The Guide also underscores the importance of standards in facilitating the application of the FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable) data principles - promoting improved policymaking, decision making and government effectiveness in addressing key social, economic, and environmental topics, including attainment of Sustainable Development Goals.
2. Addresses different target audiences and the roles they play in performing implementations of standards, while raising awareness of the benefits and costs of engagement:

[Skriv här]

- **Decision makers** - who need guidance and coordination to understand the benefits of standards and the importance of setting strategic goals to achieve increasing levels of geospatial maturity.
  - **Developers of interoperable solutions** - who need working knowledge about what standards are needed and applicable in different cases, as well as methods to access the standards to take the essential steps for implementing geospatial standards and interoperable solutions.
  - **Standards users** - who must understand the importance of adhering to standards and to provide feedback into the ongoing use of the implemented standards.
  - **Practitioners in the public and private sector and civil society** - who need to know the benefits of working with standardized data, how and why things work the way they do, and can share experiences and standards success stories with others.
- Provides guidance on the benefits of implementing current, broadly implemented standards, it also provides insight on the importance of managing change. Standards must continuously adapt to changes in technology and other developments. On a regular basis, the UN-GGIM reviews and publishes [a five to ten year vision on future trends in geospatial information management](#) that informs readers of upcoming developments. In the most recent version, the top geospatial industry drivers predicted to have the greatest impact on geospatial information management over the next five to ten years were identified and grouped into five categories: rise of new data sources & analytical methods; technological advancements; evolution of user requirements; industry structural shift; and legislative environment. In terms of the IGIF Strategic Pathways, these drivers are expected to have a significant impact on standardization needs.
  - Represents the work of individuals around the world who contributed their time and expertise in global cooperation, with the encouragement of their home nations and employers, in some cases on a voluntary basis. As a reader of the document, we invite your participation and contributions as your encouragement plays a crucial role in bringing your nation's and employer's perspectives and insights to the geospatial community. The Guide is intended to be a living document, regularly reviewed and updated. The authors invite you to send your feedback, suggestions, and contributions to [UNStdsGuideComments@lists.ogc.org](mailto:UNStdsGuideComments@lists.ogc.org) to help us improve the utility of the Guide.

## Objectives and expected outcomes

This side event aims to engage participants, member nations, observers, and experts in:

- raising the awareness of the role of global standards for interoperability
- identifying the needs for standards development leading to supporting the SDGs
- participating in standards development and sharing user stories of implementations.

## **Agenda**

### **Tuesday 17 August 2021, 08:00-09:30 am EDT/UTC-4**

**08:00 am**      ***Moderator and Opening***

Mr. Mark Reichardt, Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)

***Introductory speech (10 min)***

Mr. Anders Sandin, *Co-Chair UN-GGIM High-level Group on IGIF;*  
*Director Geographic and Land Information, Lantmäteriet, Sweden*

***Introduction to the joint work of the SDOs (10 min)***

Dr. Nadine Alameh, *CEO Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)*

Ms. Agneta Engberg, *Chair ISO/TC 211 Geographic information/ Geomatics*

Dr. Mathias Jonas, *Secretary-General International Hydrographic Organization (IHO)*

***The Standards Guide Edition 3 – Overview (10 min)***

Mr. Mark Reichardt, *Director Strategic Opportunities*  
*Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)*

***Facilitated Discussion: How do I use the Guide - taking a closer look at: Direction setting, Understanding needs, Planning for Change, Taking action, Ongoing management, Achieving outcomes (50 Minutes)***

Members of the core revision team

- How will you share this Guide in your organization?
- What other examples of implementations of standards or case studies do you know of?

**09:20 am**      ***Summary and Closing***

## **Organizers**

This side event is being coordinated by the UN-GGIM Secretariat in collaboration with the Standards Development Organizations (SDO), represented by Mr. Mark Reichardt, Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC); Ms. Agneta Engberg, ISO/TC 211 Geographic Information/ Geomatics; and Dr. Mathias Jonas, International Hydrographic Organization (IHO).