



UN-GGIM-AP

REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF
UNITED NATIONS
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
FOR ASIA & THE PACIFIC

**REPORT
of the
Regional Committee of United Nations Global
Geospatial Information Management
for Asia and the Pacific
(UN-GGIM-AP)**

**Secretariat of UN-GGIM-AP
ESCAP**

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1. Reporting Period

This report highlights the activities carried out by the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP) since the twelfth session of Committee of Experts on UN-GGIM held from 3-5 August 2022 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

2. Activities and Achievements

2.1. Contribution to UN-GGIM

UN-GGIM-AP has operated effectively in line with its mandate and guidance given by UN-GGIM, contributing to its activities. The Committee has closely cooperated with UN-GGIM as well as the other regional committees, to ensure that Member States are well informed of and involved in the UN-GGIM work.

- a. The Committee supported and contributed to the second United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress (UNWGIC) held on 10-14 October 2022 in Hyderabad, India.
- b. The Committee cooperated with the UN-GGIM Secretariat for the nominations of representatives from the Asia Pacific region to the UN-GGIM Subcommittee on Geodesy.
- c. The Committee will continue its efforts to identify and report regional issues to the Thirteenth Session of UN-GGIM.

2.2. Plenary Meeting

On 14 October 2022 the Eleventh Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP took place in Hyderabad, India in hybrid format (in-person and virtually), hosted by the Survey of India and in conjunction with second UNWGIC.

It was the fourth Plenary Meeting under the secretariat services of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), and the first Plenary Meeting after two virtually organized meetings because of COVID-19 pandemic precautions. The resolution of the Eleventh Plenary Meeting reconfirmed commitments to further advance international and regional agendas in support of the sustainable development goals such as Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development, the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF), and the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF) and included the election of the new President and Executive Board for the term 2022-2025, continuation of three Working Groups on Geodetic Reference Frame, Cadastre and Land Management, and Integrating Geospatial Information and Statistics and establishment of one new and fourth Working Group on Integrated Geospatial Information Framework.

2.3. Other Meetings

The COVID-19 pandemic measures and reluctance to travel for in-person meeting remain. Following this, meetings have been successfully held in hybrid format (in-person and virtual) with the support of Member States and the Secretariat of the UN-GGIM-AP. The Executive Board meeting took place on 13 March 2023 in Singapore, hosted by the Singapore Land Authority.

The workplan of UN-GGIM-AP for 2023 includes organising the Twelfth Plenary Meeting in Bali in November as well as continuously supporting Member States through organizing/facilitating various workshops and seminars for sharing perspectives, use cases, and practices on geospatial information sharing.

2.4. Working Group Activities

A. Working Group 1 on Geodetic Reference Framework

Working Group 1 on Geodetic Reference Framework aims to improve access to the Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF) through development and maintenance of the regional geodetic reference frame, which supports regional geodetic cooperation, enhances regional Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) cooperation and develops geodetic capacity through workshops and seminars in the region.

The WG has four main activities in the term 2019-2022: (1) the Asia-Pacific Reference Frame (APREF) project; (2) the Asia Pacific Regional Geodetic Project (APRGP); (3) the Asia-Pacific Regional Height System Unification (APRHSU); and (4) the Asia-Pacific Geodetic Capacity Building (APGCB) project.

The presentations on the working group's activities were made during the [Eleventh Plenary](#) and [Executive Board](#) meetings of the UN-GGIM-AP.

B. Working Group 2 on Cadastre and Land Management

Working Group 2 on Cadastre and Land Management aims to identify and determine the key regional issues for the management of land and cadastre, and take necessary measures to secure the social, economic and environmental benefits. The WG focuses on advocating the importance and pertinence of land and its administration and management at the global, regional and national levels for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal.

In the year 2022, the Working Group held a parallel meeting during the procession of the second UNWGIC on Cadastre and Land Management on 12 October highlighting activities and use cases of effective land management in the Asia Pacific region.

The presentations on the working group's activities were made during the [Eleventh Plenary](#) and [Executive Board](#) meetings of the UN-GGIM-AP.

C. Working Group 3 on Integrating Geospatial Information and Statistics

Working Group 3 on Integrating Geospatial Information and Statistics aims to integrate statistic and spatial data to monitoring targets and indicators of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In 2023, 3-year plan of action with a time budgeting is in discussion with the deliberation and consideration of priorities in the region and sharing ideas with vice chairs. There are plans to hold webinars to discuss the feasibility of the plan and convene opinions to strengthen and implement stages.

The presentations on the working group's activities were made during the [Eleventh Plenary](#) meeting of the UN-GGIM-AP.

D. Working Group 4 on Integrated Geospatial Information Framework

Working Group 4 on Integrated Geospatial Information Framework aims to advance the implementation and raise awareness of the developed framework and its components at regional and country levels.

In the year 2022, the Working Group has been formed and initiated for the first time. It has finalised short, medium, and long term plans and strategies as well as indicative timelines.

The presentations on the working group's activities were made during the [Executive Board](#) meeting of the UN-GGIM-AP.

3. Regional Priority Issues

The COVID-19 pandemic has subsided but travel restrictions and pre-cautions as well as financial or budgetary constraints remain as challenges for Member States in the region. The UN-GGIM-AP is continuing support to Member States on advancing the operationalization of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF) and Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF). The [terms of reference](#) have been reviewed and revised with an updated contact list of focal points and activities to identify regional issues relevant to geospatial information management and actions. Activities include further implementation of

IGIF through raising awareness and preparing plans in relation to the framework, developing the Regional Geodetic Reference Frame, advocating for efficient and effective land administration, and promoting use of standards and common literatures for the integration of geospatial information and statistics. The sharing of country level experiences in FELA implementation as a parallel meeting during UNWGIC serves as one example for Member States to learn implementation progresses as well as their outcomes from one another.

In the region, strong motivations are found in the fields of effective land management and disaster risk reduction, and geospatial information sharing through both inter-agency cooperation in each country and international cooperation, with making full use of technology and innovation such as 3D data applications and remote sensing via unmanned aerial vehicles.

4. Future Meetings

The Committee is cooperating with the National Geospatial Information Agency (BIG) of the Government of Indonesia to organize, in conjunction with the Asia-Pacific Geospatial Forum, the Twelfth Plenary Meeting in Bali, Indonesia in 7-8 November 2023.

The Committee is planning to host an Executive Board Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand at ESCAP in June 2024.

The Committee is cooperating with the Survey of India, Department of Science and Technology of the Government of India, and United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) to tentatively plan for the organising of the Thirteenth Plenary Meeting in India in 2024.

The Committee is also cooperating with the Singapore Land Authority of the Government of Singapore to tentatively plan for the organising of the Fourteenth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP in Singapore in 2025.