Plenary Session at the
Thirteenth Session of UN-GGIM

AGENDA

- Welcome and introduction of participants
- Adoption of the agenda
- Brief overview of past achievements
- A review of the Blueprint (2020-2025): gaps and challenges
  - Governance stream: Alexandre Caldas
  - Technology stream: Amélie Gagnon
  - Partnership stream: Ravi Shankar Santhana
- Blueprint toward 2030
- The future of the One UN Geospatial Situation Room
- Leadership of the Network: sustainability
- Coordinated capacity development activities
- Any other business

UN GEOSPATIAL NETWORK
UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

MEMBERS ACROSS THE UN SYSTEM

UNCCD

IFAD

UNEP

UN HABITAT

UNHCR

UNICEF

UNITAR

WFP

UNFPA

UNIDO

IAEA

ITU

ILO

ICAO · OACI · ИКАО

FAO

UNESCO

ILO

UN WOMEN

IOM

OLA

ESCAP

ECA

Statistics Division DESA

WHO

ESCWA

ECLAC

ECE

WORLD BANK

OCHA

UNOOSA

UNDRR

Geospatial Information Section OICT

WMO

UNOPS

UNODC

UNDSS

OSAA

OHCHR

OIOS

SECRETARIAT

UN GEOSPATIAL NETWORK
UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

UNGN STRUCTURE

CHAIR

Alexandre Caldas
UN Environment, UNEP

VICE CHAIRS

Amélie A. Gagnon
UNESCO

Ravi Shankar
WHO

STEERING GROUP

WMO · ECA · ITU · UNFPA · Stats Div. DESA · UNOOSA · IOM · UNODC · FAO · Geo. Info. OICT

SECRETARIAT

REPORTING PROCEDURE

Reports to UN-GGIM at annual session including the reports and background documents coordinated by the Steering Group of the Network.

UN GEOSPATIAL NETWORK
UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

UN GEOSPATIAL NETWORK HISTORY

Seventh Session Committee of Experts

2-4 AUGUST 2017, NEW YORK

…agreed to establish a United Nations system network within its global architecture

decision 7/115

Eighth Session Committee of Experts

1-3 AUGUST 2018, NEW YORK

…endorsed the Terms of Reference of the Network and its governance

decision 8/115

Ninth Session Committee of Experts

7-9 AUGUST 2019, NEW YORK

…endorsed the Steering Group, the work programme and renaming of the Network to the "United Nations Geospatial Network"
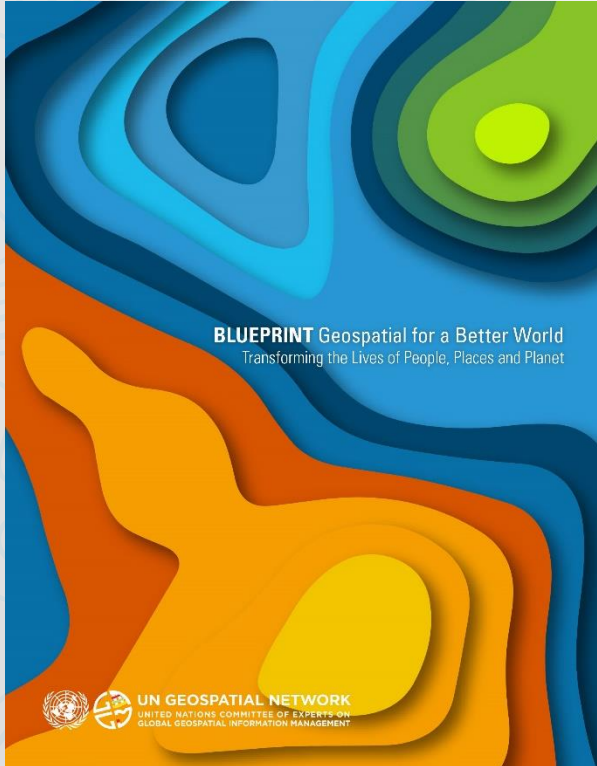
decision 9/115

Tenth Session Committee of Experts

5-7 AUGUST 2020, NEW YORK

…commended work on the preparation and completion of the **Blueprint**, strategic design document and a review of the geospatial landscape in the United Nations
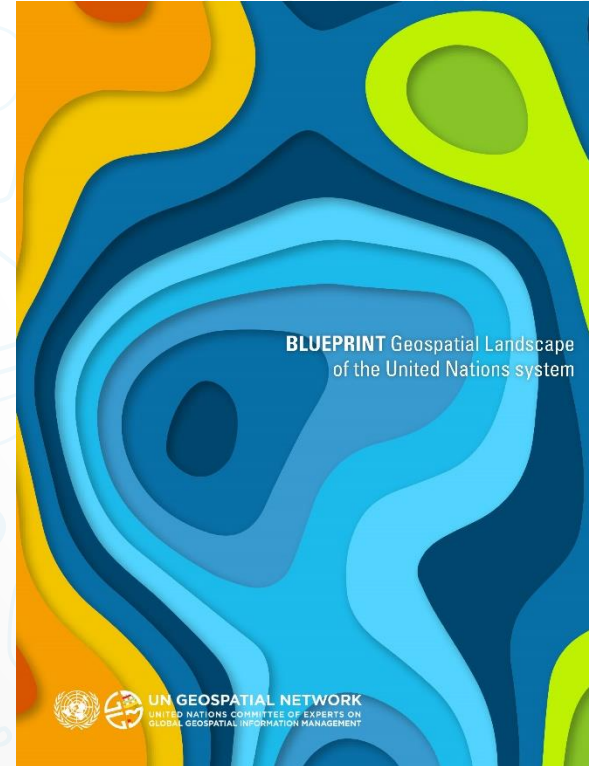
decision 10/102

2017 | **2018** | **2019** | **2020**

UN GEOSPATIAL NETWORK
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UNGN STRATEGY: THE BLUEPRINT

BLUEPRINT

Strategic framework, orientations, design and upcoming activities of the Network (2020)

link

BLUEPRINT LANDSCAPE

Overview of current geospatial capacities and representatives in the UN system (2020)

link

UN GEOSPATIAL NETWORK HISTORY

The UN Geospatial Network is building upon the experiences of past coordination efforts of the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group (UNGIWG), 2000 - 2016
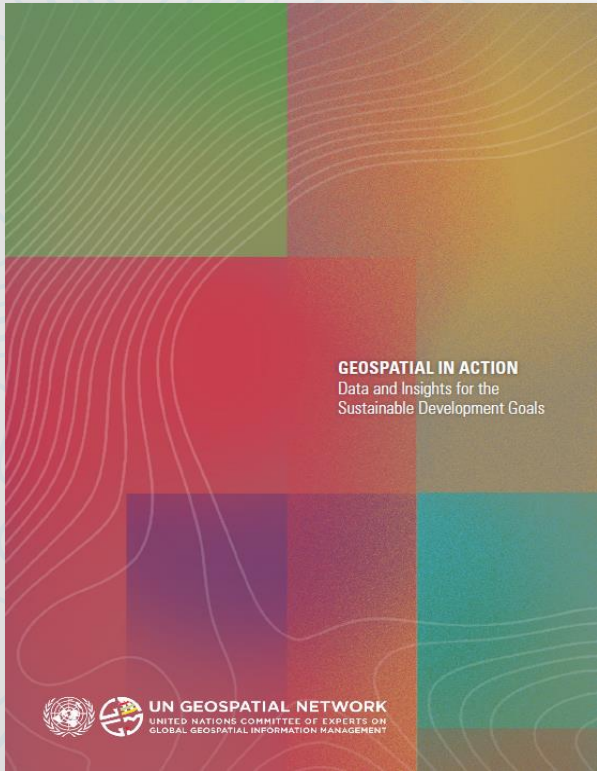
Eleventh Session
Committee of Experts

23, 24, 27 AUGUST 2021
NEW YORK

…noted the accomplishments of the UN Geospatial Network, recognized […] the strengthened partnerships and communication among stakeholders and the three [publications] prepared
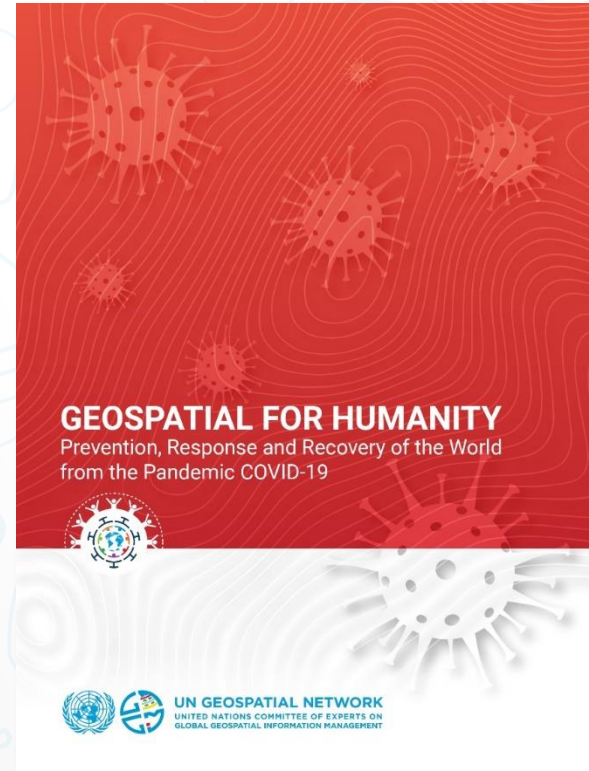
decision 11/102

2021

UN GEOSPATIAL NETWORK
UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

PUBLICATIONS IN 2021

GEOSPATIAL IN ACTION

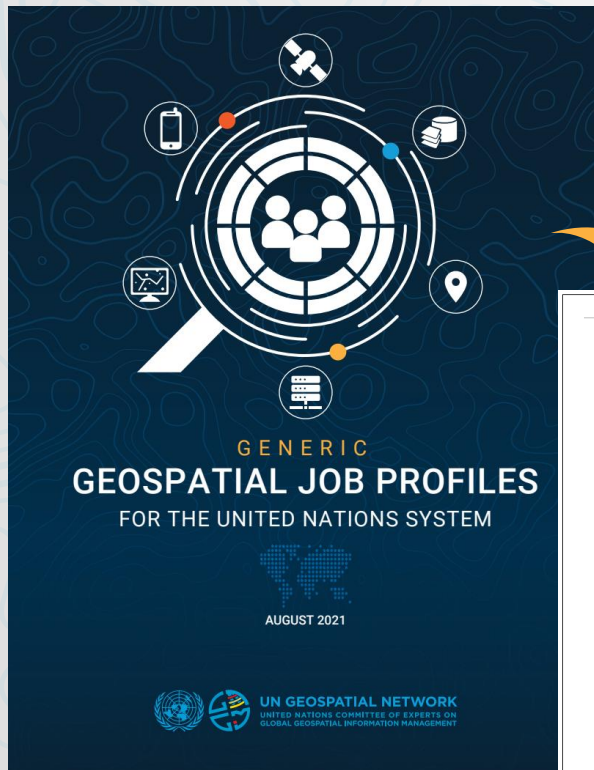Geospatial for the SDGs: data and insights for the SDGs by the UN system (2021)

link

GEOSPATIAL FOR HUMANITY

Geospatial for prevention, response & recovery from COVID19 by the UN system (2021)

link

UN GEOSPATIAL NETWORK
UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
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PUBLICATIONS IN 2021

GENERIC JOB DESCRIPTION

Generic geospatial jobs for:
Director
Senior professionals
Professionals
Assistants
approved by OHRM
(2021)

link

Used for job openings for the Centres of Excellence of UN-GGIM

UN GEOSPATIAL NETWORK

Eleventh Session
Committee of Experts

23, 24, 27 AUGUST 2021
NEW YORK

…noted the accomplishments of the UN Geospatial Network, recognized its […] the strengthened partnerships and communication among stakeholders and the three [publications] prepared

decision 11/102

Twelfth Session
Committee of Experts

3-5 AUGUST 2022
NEW YORK

…welcomed the Data Strategy of the Secretary-General […] and the initiative of the United Nations Geospatial Network **to build its geospatial component**

decision 12/104

Thirteenth Session
Committee of Experts

2-4 AUGUST 2023
NEW YORK

…*upcoming*

2021   **2022**   **2023**

UN GEOSPATIAL NETWORK
UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
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THE BLUEPRINT: TRANSFORMATION PATHWAYS
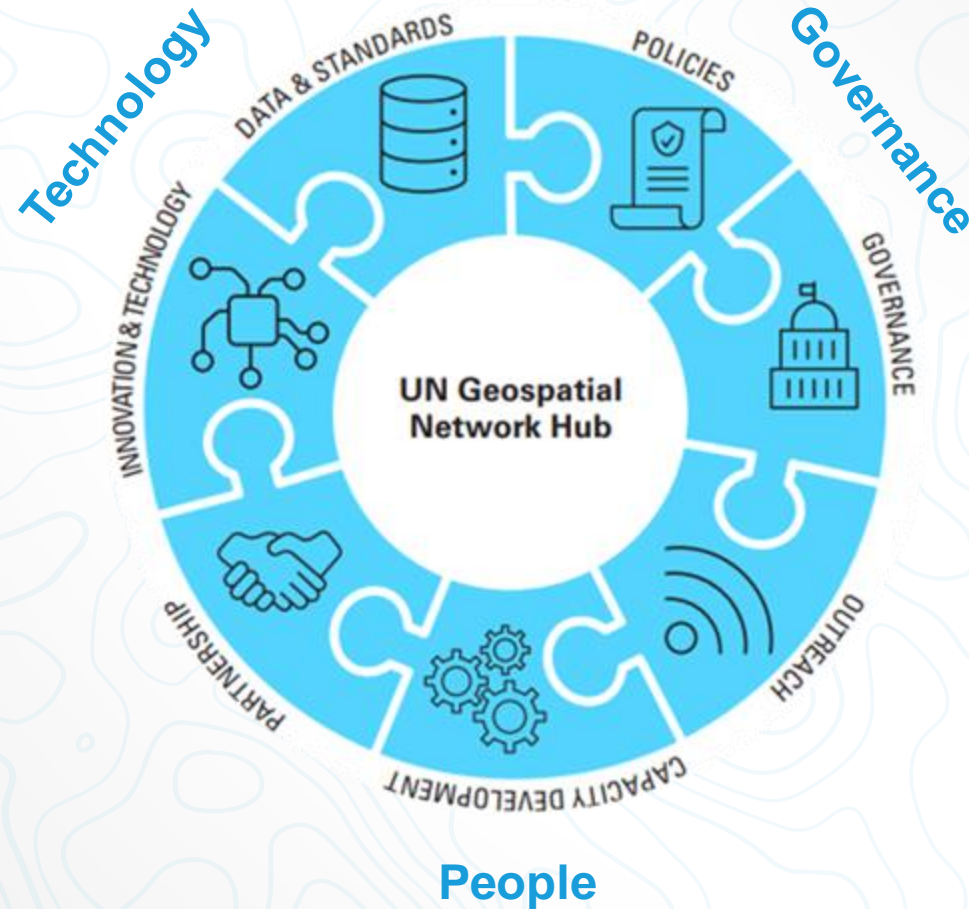
1 STRATEGY
The Blueprint

3 PRIORITIES
Governance, Technology & People

7 TRANSFORMATION PATHWAYS
Data & Standards Policies, Governance, Outreach, Capacity development, Partnership, Innovation & Technology,

50 PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

THE BLUEPRINT: GOVERNANCE

1. Ensure effective reporting to UN-GGIM and solicit guidance when required, including the exploration of partnerships with a wide range of actors, especially with Member States, on geospatial information management. See also Partnerships

2. Reach out to the Chief Executives Board for Coordination and request the inclusion of the Network in their next upcoming agenda, share the Blueprint and suggest the inclusion of a report of the Network on its annual activities to the CEB.

3. Present the Blueprint to the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and propose that Network representatives be included in the upcoming composition of the Data Council on data management.

4. Ensure sustainability of the Network's leadership by identifying potential candidates for the position of chair, vice chairs and steering group members.

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UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

THE BLUEPRINT: GOVERNANCE

5. Engage United Nations system entities working in the field of geospatial information management, and those who are interested in this field, with a goal to grow membership of the Network.

6. Maintain a permanent list of Network representatives and web-platform to communicate on geospatial knowledge, education and training, community of practice, technology, data, needs, partnerships and collaborative arrangements and to facilitate the proceedings, work and synergies of the Network.

7. Establish working groups for the implementation of recommended activities for each respective transformation pathway; these working groups would establish appropriate coordination mechanisms with relevant UN-GGIM Subcommittee, Working Groups, Expert Groups and Networks of UN-GGIM, as and when necessary.

8. Establish a technical review board, that reports to the chair, vice chairs and steering group, composed of technical focal points from interested agencies: the board would provide the technical direction of the Hub to review data, technical documentation and standards prior to its incorporation in the Hub.

UN GEOSPATIAL NETWORK
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THE BLUEPRINT: POLICIES

9. Prepare and establish data custodianship and related guidance for the development of a governance model on geospatial information management, in accordance with existing mandates and responsibilities. The governance model will ensure currency, consistency, quality, availability and best usage, in collaboration with relevant standards development organizations (SDOs) and Member States

10. Liaise with relevant legal affairs specialists on data, to develop, establish, adapt and adopt policies concerning the acquisition, management and dissemination of geospatial data in consideration of data privacy, protection, security and related confidentiality

11. Establish a clear and sustainable cooperation mechanism between United Nations entities and their partners to foster collaboration according to clearly defined goals and terms in defined timeframes, including through formal arrangements, such as memorandums of understanding, letters of assist, licensing and contractual arrangements. See also Partnerships

THE BLUEPRINT: POLICIES

12. Prepare generic job title and description templates for geospatial professionals and support staff to promote geospatial professions and develop a consolidated approach to human resource management, including facilitating recruitment, mobility and identification of geospatial experts in the United Nations system

13. Develop further enterprise contracts and provision agreements of geospatial data that can be shared within United Nations entities, in coordination with relevant procurement offices of the Organization

14. Support the creation of an online repository of best practices and guidance documents, in conjunction with UN-GGIM activities, for the successful implementation of geospatial activities within or outside of the United Nations.

THE BLUEPRINT: DATA & STANDARDS

15. Perform an inventory of geospatial data (data gap analysis) to identify and consider existing geospatial data and information produced and used in each entity: which are relevant to many, which should be shared and which are to be prioritized

16. Develop further common acquisition activities and methods to collect once, but use many times, including through enterprise contracts and provision agreements of geospatial data

17. Coordinate the collection of geospatial data with/ from Member States, in particular through Member States from UN-GGIM, and relevant UN-GGIM Subcommittee, Working Groups, Expert Groups and Networks to coordinate actions, practices and standardization activities on methods, tools and dissemination of geospatial information management.

18. Develop further common acquisition activities and methods to collect once, but use many times, including through enterprise contracts and provision agreements of geospatial data.

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THE BLUEPRINT: DATA & STANDARDS

19. Coordinate the collection of geospatial data with/ from Member States, in particular through Member States from UN-GGIM, and relevant UN-GGIM Subcommittee, Working Groups, Expert Groups and Networks to coordinate actions, practices and standardization activities on methods, tools and dissemination of geospatial information management

20. Develop and promote demonstration projects to showcase best practices in the application and usage associated with the (priority) geospatial data.

21. Review and update minimum standards and metadata, through the Technical Review Board, for geospatial data through an inventory and collection of existing and used standards, including format, reference system, metadata and dictionaries

22. Develop, support and promote geospatial data and international standards, through the Technical Review Board and in line with respective mandates and activities.

THE BLUEPRINT: DATA & STANDARDS

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UN GEOSPATIAL NETWORK
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THE BLUEPRINT: INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY

23. Perform a review of existing infrastructures and progress toward the pooling of geospatial infrastructures with due consideration to existing mandates, open source technologies, cloud computing and hosting, and United Nations policies.
24. Establish a governance structure for the management of technology, including leadership, responsibilities and resources.
25. Design a technical architecture for geospatial data priorities that integrates with the different infrastructures used by United Nations entities. Identify the most appropriate software products for the Hub, consider whether nodes should be established and prioritise geospatial applications.
26. Deliver common geospatial applications for users (design, develop, customise, implement) according to priorities, including the Organization's priorities to develop test cases for the delivery of mandates.

UN GEOSPATIAL NETWORK
UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

THE BLUEPRINT: INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY

27. Perform an inventory of updated geospatial tools, platforms, innovative practices, algorithms, methods, technologies and instruments with relevance for application within and outside the United Nations system.
28. Deliver priority innovation initiatives, common processes and projects based on new methods and technology of geospatial data and sources (AI, machine learning, Internet of Things, satellite imagery, drones, social media data etc.) for the benefit of the larger community through showcasing demonstration projects.
29. Foster and establish research, innovation and technology initiatives to address operational and mandated delivery challenges of the Organization with innovators, private sector and academia.

UN GEOSPATIAL NETWORK
UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
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THE BLUEPRINT: PARTNERSHIPS

30. Facilitate the establishment of partnerships by promoting the Network, its activities and activities of its Members including through the exchange of the Executive Brief and its work plan, in particular with other Networks
31. Organize and support common activities, webinars, workshops and online training platforms in collaboration with partners
32. Facilitate and invite geospatial actors to develop demonstration projects in collaboration with the United Nations system including for the selected 10 demonstration projects
33. Identify potential joint activities among Network members and further facilitate and foster the establishment of partnerships on these activities with external actors (SDGs, common societal challenges, demonstration projects, standards; licensing, common tools and methods, frontier technologies)

UN GEOSPATIAL NETWORK
UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

THE BLUEPRINT: PARTNERSHIPS

34. Liaise with and coordinate activities with international and regional organizations related to geospatial data and earth observation including geospatial data systems, acquisition, processing and distribution: in particular, the Committee on Earth Observing Satellites (CEOS), the CEOS Satellite Data Coordination Group (SDCG) and the Group on Earth Observations (GEO), as well as UN-Space, and other relevant United Nations entities and groups.

35. Engage with relevant initiatives and activities of the UN-GGIM Subcommittee, Expert and Working Groups of the Committee of Experts which provide opportunities for consultative proceedings and to engage with relevant stakeholders and potential partners.

36. Foster and establish clear and sustainable cooperation mechanisms through the Network, between the United Nations entities, to foster collaboration including through formal arrangement such as memorandums of understandings, letters of assist, licencing and contractual arrangements

THE BLUEPRINT: CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

37. Assess and develop an inventory of knowledge, skills, and resources within the United Nations system to identify existing capacity development and education policies, programmes, and resources – technological, financial, and human – that are currently in place (see IGIF Implementation Guide that provides templates for conducting this kind of inventories - Annexes of SP8)

38. Act as broker on capacity development by assessing needs of Member States and of the United Nations system and identifying capacity building activities in the United Nations system to support Member States.

39. Conduct a needs assessment and gap analyses to development capacities, and for the identification of gaps in capabilities within the UN System (see Capacity Scanning Matrix template in the IGIF Implementation Guide)

40. Develop capacity building activities in areas where none exist in cooperation with external partners, such as the UN-GGIM Academic Network, the Committee for the Coordination of Statistics Activities (CCSA), the UN-GGIM Geospatial Societies, the UN-GGIM Private Network,

UN GEOSPATIAL NETWORK
UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
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THE BLUEPRINT: CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

41. Design and develop strategies and programmes that promote and improve competencies, skills, education, training, and continuous professional development to improve capacities in the United Nations system
42. Coordinate and conduct technical assistance to strengthen national capacities in geospatial information management, including through interinstitutional workshops convened by geospatial agencies and others in accordance with respective mandates, intergovernmental mechanisms and global frameworks
43. Maintain a directory of events, conferences, workshops and related activities on geospatial information management within and outside the United Nations system, that is relevant to the Network
44. Organize regular on-line training and webinars, through partnership with other Organizations, e.g. the Eye on Earth Alliance, the IEEE Computer Society, Academic Network, and on-line resource outreaching in areas of global geospatial information management.

THE BLUEPRINT: COMMUNICATION

45. Discuss and establish a communication strategy for the Network, including via presentations, events, website, social media, promotional videos and other related materials for both within and outside the United Nations system, leveraging the UN-GGIM websites and content, as appropriate

46. Organize and coordinate events/venues targeted at raising awareness on geospatial activities towards senior management of the United Nations, Member States and the general public, in collaboration with UNGGIM Member States and its regional Committees and Networks.

47. Facilitate the organization and advertisement of public events, trainings, capacity development and education opportunities related to geospatial information conducted, organized or attended by the United Nations system and UN-GGIM
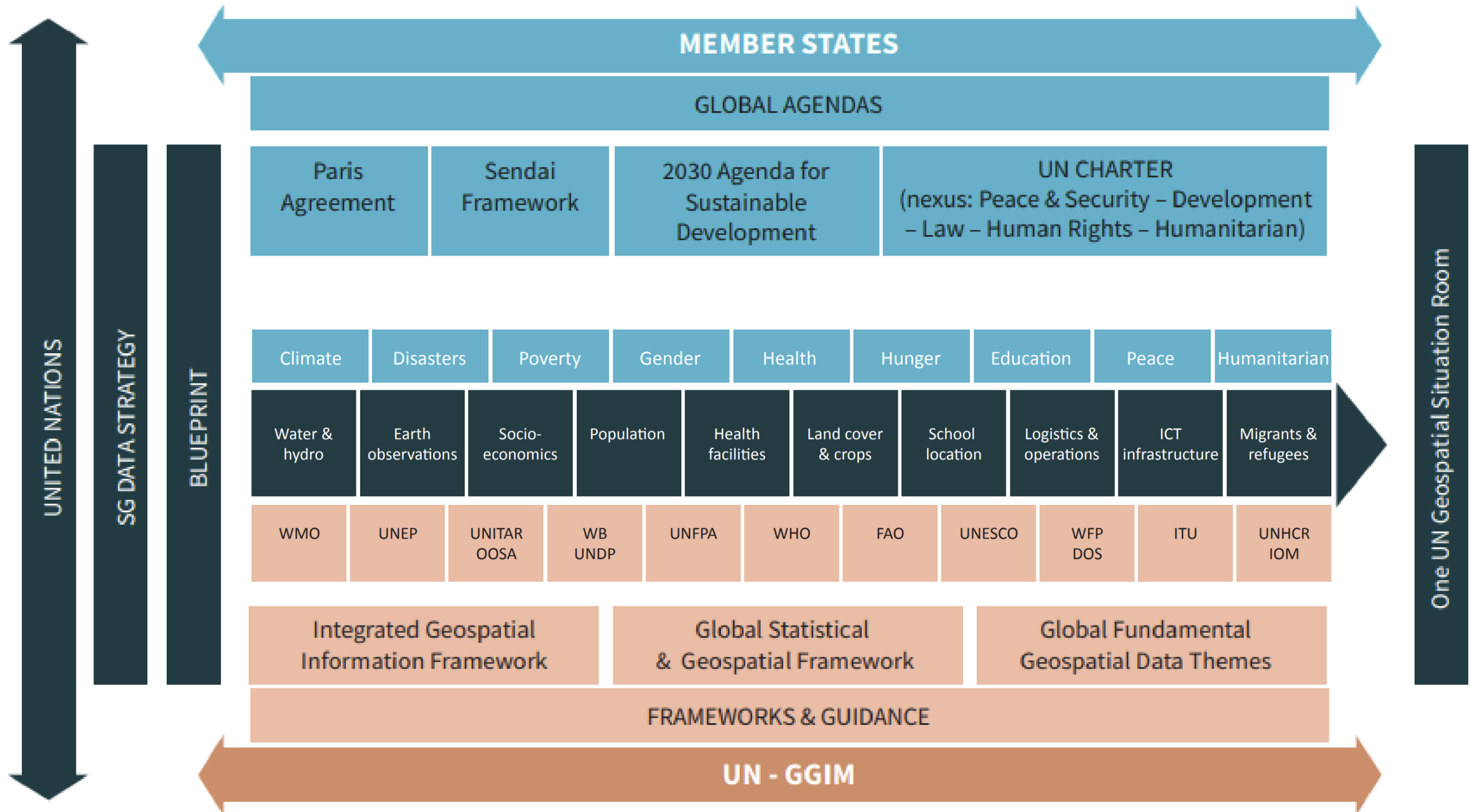
UN GEOSPATIAL NETWORK
UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

THE BLUEPRINT: COMMUNICATION

48. Conduct fund raising activities, based on agreed overarching data governance, implementation priorities and agreed action items of the Network

49. Develop content and mediums to promote geospatial information and activities of the United Nations system entities, the Network and UN-GGIM, in accordance with an established Communication Strategy through presentations, events, website, social media, newsletters, promotional videos, demonstration projects and leveraging the UN-GGIM websites and content as appropriate

50. Develop demonstration projects, as showcases, on the use and application of geospatial information management by the United Nations system. The demonstration projects should be selected each year at Plenary sessions of the Network

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High-level Architecture and Priorities

MEMBER STATES

GLOBAL AGENDAS

Paris Agreement	Sendai Framework	2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	UN CHARTER (nexus: Peace & Security – Development – Law – Human Rights – Humanitarian)

Climate	Disasters	Poverty	Gender	Health	Hunger	Education	Peace	Humanitarian
Water & hydro	Earth observations	Socio-economics	Population	Health facilities	Land cover & crops	School location	Logistics & operations	ICT infrastructure	Migrants & refugees
WMO	UNEP	UNITAR OOSA	WB UNDP	UNFPA	WHO	FAO	UNESCO	WFP DOS	ITU	UNHCR IOM

Integrated Geospatial Information Framework	Global Statistical & Geospatial Framework	Global Fundamental Geospatial Data Themes

FRAMEWORKS & GUIDANCE

UN - GGIM

UNITED NATIONS

SG DATA STRATEGY

BLUEPRINT

One UN Geospatial Situation Room

MEMBER STATES

Global Agenda Priorities

Priority Themes

DATA & STANDARDS

POLICIES

GOVERNANCE

OUTREACH

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

PARTNERSHIP

INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY

UN Lead Agency(ies)

UN - GGIM

Nexus approach across UN Pillars

Human Rights

International Rule of Law

Peace and Security

Humanitarian

Development

One UN Geospatial Situation Room

One UN Geospatial Situation Room

Strategic Foresight and Scenarios

→ **Early Warning**
Economic and social foresight
Climate and drought risks
Health impact models

→ **Operations and Crisis awareness**
Security and threats
Water scarcity and conflicts
Crisis management

→ **Disasters**
Flooding and Agriculture threats
Environment impact assessment
Climate and education impact

→ **Humanitarian response**
Logistics and corridors
Economic refugees
Supply routes and operations

→ **Sustainable development**
Universal connectivity and digital economy
Development and urban planning
Land degradation evaluation

Strategic Foresight and Scenarios

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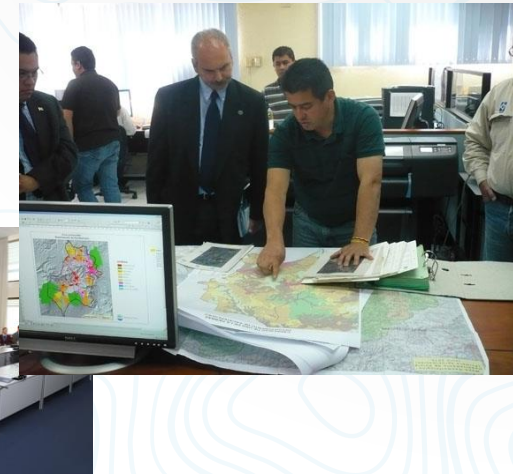- Coordinated capacity development activities
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COORDINATED CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Upcoming endeavour of the UN Geospatial Network to coordinate capacity development in line with the governance and mandates established in the
One UN Geospatial Situation Room including the implementation of UN-GGIM frameworks and guidance, in particular IGIF

Open source
(UNGSC, Italy)

Emergency response
(UN SPIDER)

Geospatial actors workshop
(UNGIS, Mali)

Census and Statistics
(UNFPA, West and Central Africa)

Land cover and intervention areas
(FAO, Nepal)

Plenary Session at the
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