

High-Level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework
(HLG-IGIF)

STRATEGIC PLAN

June 2024



Strategic Plan

1. Mandate

At its tenth session, the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) endorsed¹ the establishment of a dedicated High-level Group of experts, with balanced geographical representation and expertise, as a mechanism to provide strategic leadership, coordination and oversight in order to ensure the sustained success of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF), and to mobilize the resources necessary to maintain the momentum and refinement of the UN-IGIF as a continuously evolving process.

2. Objectives

Established in February 2021, the High-level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (HLG-IGIF) aims to: provide the strategic leadership, promotion, coordination, planning and oversight to successfully sustain the acceptance and implementation of the UN-IGIF; explicitly demonstrate the societal value and impact of the UN-IGIF, and associated progress towards enabling the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 SDGs; provide expertise and guidance to assist countries in developing their capacity for implementation of the UN-IGIF at the country level; and provide guidance on mobilizing needed financial resources for implementation while maintaining the momentum and evolving refinement of the UN-IGIF with Member States and other key stakeholders.

3. Purpose

Amongst the Member States there is now broad global consensus, support, and agreement on the critical importance and significance of the UN-IGIF and its Implementation Guide. At its tenth session, UN-GGIM noted that the UN-IGIF serves as a key umbrella for many activities under the purview of the Committee of Experts, including the regional committees and thematic networks of UN-GGIM, and that it could be applied to any country to guide transformational change for all citizens according to national priorities and circumstances.

This importance warrants executive-level governance for promoting the UN-IGIF, guiding its implementation for Member States, and maintaining the content while securing and sustaining its benefits. Therefore, a key strategy for the HLG-IGIF is to focus on the leadership and governance needed to promote, implement, and maintain the UN-IGIF as an enduring enabler in meeting the national geospatial information needs for Member States. This Strategic Plan is intended to do this. It contributes to the successful management, use, and sustainability of the UN-IGIF, and supports Member States in their efforts to implement the UN-IGIF by assuring its relevance, importance and usefulness to national priorities and circumstances.

¹ Decision 10/103

This Strategic Plan has leveraged the executive-level expertise and actions of the members of the HLG-IGIF and has been developed based on the mandates and key functions vested to the HLG-IGIF by UN-GGIM. The individual and collective knowledge, experience, and commitment of the HLG-IGIF assure that appropriate resources are developed, sustained and refined to assist all Member States, independent of their maturity in geospatial information management and capacity. The Strategic Plan is intended to be revisited within the next 2-4 years, as needed, in close coordination with the Committee of Experts and the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Center (UN-GGKIC) to ensure strategic alignment and coordination of activities on the UN-IGIF.

In defining four strategic goals, each with focused actions and expected outcomes that adhere to the HLG-IGIF Terms of Reference (ToR), the Strategic Plan serves as a guide in proposing, formulating, implementing and maintaining the UN-IGIF as appropriate for all countries.

4. Strategic Goals

The four Strategic Goals of the HLG-IGIF pertain to the implementation and sustainability of the UN-IGIF at the country level and are commensurate with the key functions of the HLG-IGIF as defined in the ToR.

Goal 1: Improve and Encourage Communication, Collaboration, Exchange and Sharing

Goal 2: Promote Data Governance, Availability, and Accessibility

Goal 3: Develop Capacity and Improve the UN-IGIF

Goal 4: Mobilize Sustainable Funding

4.1 Goal 1:

Improve and Encourage Communication, Collaboration, Exchange and Sharing

Focus actions:

1. Develop, review, regularly update, and execute the Communications Strategy and Plan.
2. Raise awareness (inside and outside the geospatial community) about the importance and relevance of the UN-IGIF by developing communication materials, utilizing inclusive communication channels, and providing support for relevant events and forums.
3. Host consultative meetings to identify opportunities and foster collaboration within the entire UN-GGIM and UN community, utilizing a broad participant network of associated stakeholders to support and sustain implementation of the UN-IGIF.
4. Promote dialogue with UN-GGIM regional committees and regional UN-IGIF working groups to support sustained collaboration on the UN-IGIF and encourage Member State engagement with national stakeholders to advance the UN-IGIF.

Outcome:

Enhanced communication, understanding, and collaboration among stakeholders, both within and beyond the geospatial community, to strengthen the implementation of the UN-IGIF and achieve nationally integrated geospatial information management.



4.2 Goal 2:

Promote Data Governance, Availability and Accessibility

Focus actions:

1. Promote the utilization of the UN-IGIF nine strategic pathways to ensure data accuracy, completeness, and integration.
2. Promote coordination and standardization of the [fourteen Global Fundamental Geospatial Data Themes](#) and datasets across the UN-IGIF and related UN-GGIM frameworks.
3. Formulate strategies to enhance the development, implementation, and secure sharing of data.
4. Establish methods to ensure the continued utilization of geospatial datasets for informed decision-making and policy formulation.

Outcome:

Through the promotion of robust data governance and increased data availability and accessibility, foundational geospatial data are used for policy setting and decision making, thereby advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and national priorities.

4.3 Goal 3:

Develop Capacity and Improve the UN-IGIF

Focus actions:

1. Provide guidance, assistance, and capacity development resources and materials for Member States.
2. Encourage exchange and sharing of good practices and experiences from using the UN-IGIF at the country level, including use cases.
3. Develop means to evaluate the effectiveness of the UN-IGIF, identify and understand gaps or deficiencies in its use through feedback from Member States and others, and provide advice and support to Member States in evaluating its effectiveness.
4. Periodically review UN-IGIF documents to keep pace with changing knowledge, innovation and technologies regarding geospatial information and its evolution.

Outcome:

Improved and organized approaches for nationally integrated geospatial information management arrangements through strengthened capacity, capability, and greater use of geospatial information, while addressing gaps and applying updates to evolve the UN-IGIF to meet current and future national and global needs.



4.4 Goal 4: Mobilize Sustainable Funding

Focus actions:

1. Help Member States to understand potential funding sources and modalities to foster and support implementation of the UN-IGIF.
2. Provide guidance towards identifying available resources within Member States.
3. Provide guidance to help identify funding and estimate budget/investment for UN-IGIF Country-level Action Plan implementation in developing countries.
4. Provide guidance on how to justify needed investment in geospatial information and the UN-IGIF.
5. Finalize and promote the Sustainable Funding Guide and support tools to broaden knowledge and awareness.

Outcome:

Improved guidance for Member States to help mobilize appropriate resources and funding to support the planning, execution, operationalization and monitoring of the implementation of UN-IGIF at the country-level.

