

United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management for Arab States

FULL REPORT

To

15th United Nations - Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) Session

ON

The UN-GGIM – Arab States Activities

August-2025

Prepared By

Secretariat of UN-GGIM: Arab States



United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management for Arab States

Table of Contents

1.	Summary	3
2.	Introduction	3
3.	Objectives	3
4.	Activities	4
4.1.	UN-GGIM: Arab States 12 th Plenary Meeting	5
4.2. Specif	Workshop on "The Saudi Experience in Geospatial Data Governance, Policies, Standards and ications"	7
4.3.	Workshop on "Geospatial Security"	8
4.4.	Workshop on "Empowering Arab Women in the Field of Geospatial Information"	9
4.5.	Workshop on "Geospatial Leadership"	10
4.6.	UN-GGIM: Arab States' Workshop on IGIF	10
4.7.	Workshop on "Legal and Regulatory Frameworks and Emerging Geospatial Technologies"	11
4.8.	Workshop on "Geospatial Ecosystem in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia"	12
4.9.	Workshop on "Asian Experience in the Use of Geospatial Information in Land Management"	12
4.10.	Meeting of the Geospatial Governance Working Group	13
4.11.	Meeting of the UN-IGIF Working Group	13
4.12.	Meeting of the Geodetic Framework Working Group	13
5. Frame	Fifth Plenary Meeting of the High-level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information	14
6.	UN-GGIM: Arab States initiatives and collaborations	14
6.1.	UN-GGIM: Arab States initiatives	14
6.2.	UN-GGIM Arab States collaborations	15
7.	Conclusion	16

United Nations Committee of Experts on

UN-GGIM: Arab States

Global Geospatial Information Management for Arab States



1. Summary

This report summarizes the activities carried out by the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Arab States (UN-GGIM: Arab States), as well as other activities considered as being of interest to member States and partners, since the last report presented to the Thirteen Session of United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), on August 2024.

2. Introduction

The members of UN-GGIM: Arab States have been actively working together in order to develop this regional body. They have obtained active support and patronage from their respective governments and the main government bodies or associations responsible about geospatial information in their respective countries. To this effect, there has been one plenary meeting of the member states during this period. The three working groups (WGs) have also continued their activities, the summary of all activities of UN-GGIM Arab States is presented in Sections 4 and 5.

3. Objectives

UN-GGIM: Arab States Report

The UN-GGIM: Arab States plays its role as the formal Arab chapter of the UN-GGIM initiative with the core objective of coordinating, facilitating and enhancing the regional cooperation in the realm of geospatial information management as well as cooperating with other regional and international entities for promoting best practices in geospatial information management in the region.

United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management for Arab States

4. Activities

UN-GGIM: Arab States Report

Activity	Date	Location	
Plenary meeting of HLG-IGIF	2 February 2024	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	
Workshop on the Saudi experience on		Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	
geospatial data governance, policies, &	2 February 2024		
standards			
Joint meeting of HLG-IGIF and Expanded	3 February 2024	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	
Bureau	3 1 Ebi dai y 2024		
Workshop on Geospatial Security	3 February 2024	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	
Plenary meeting of HLG-IGIF	3 February 2024	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	
Workshop on Empowerment of Arab		Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	
women in the field of geospatial	3 February 2024		
information			
Meeting of the Bureau and its expanded	3 February 2024	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	
bureau	3 February 2024		
Workshop on Geospatial Leadership	3 February 2024	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	
UN-GGIM: Arab States' Workshop on	4 February 2024	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	
IGIF	Trebruary 2024	Jeddan, Saddi Arabia	
Workshop on Legal and Regulatory	4 February 2024	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	
Framework and emerging Technologies	4 1 Col daily 2024	Jeddan, Saddi Arabia	
Workshop on Geospatial Ecosystem in	5 February 2024	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	3 1 cordary 2024	Jeddan, Sadar Arabia	
Workshop on the Asian experience in			
use of Geospatial Information in Land	5 February 2024	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	
Management			
12th Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Arab	4-6 February 2023	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	
States	1 0 7 001 001 7 2025	Jeddan, Sadan Arabid	



United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management for Arab States

4.1. UN-GGIM: Arab States 12th Plenary Meeting

The twelfth meeting of the UN-GGIM Arab States was held in Jeddah. The meeting aimed to follow up on the committee's work, review the experiences of Arab countries in managing geospatial information, and establish the executive plans for the working groups.

Eighty-five participants from twelve Arab countries attended the meeting, along with the Secretariat of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, representatives from regional committees (European, Asian, American, African) of UN geospatial information experts, experts from the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, the Statistical Center for the Gulf Cooperation Council States, and several international consultants and experts. The meeting was accompanied by a gathering of the High-Level Team for the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework and a meeting of the expanded bureau of the UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management.

Key Agenda Items:

- Approval of the agenda for the twelfth meeting of the UN-GGIM Arab States
- The annual report of the UN-GGIM Arab States
- Contributions of the United Nations and international organizations to geospatial information activities
- Workshop on "The Saudi Experience in Geospatial Data Governance, Policies, Standards, and Specifications"
- Workshop on "Geospatial Security"
- Workshop on "Empowering Arab Women in the Field of Geospatial Information"
- Workshop on "Geospatial Leadership"
- Workshop on "The Integrated Geospatial Information Framework for Arab Countries"
- Workshop on "Legal and Regulatory Frameworks and Emerging Geospatial Technologies"
- Workshop on "Geospatial Ecosystem in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia"
- Workshop on "The Asian Experience in Using Geospatial Information for Land Management"
- Geodetic Framework
- Geospatial Governance
- Integrated Geospatial Information Framework
- The thirteenth meeting of the UN-GGIM Arab States



United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management for Arab States

The meeting concluded with support for the working groups in preparing their executive plans and approval of the future directions of the UN-GGIM Arab States, including attracting global geospatial organizations and companies as observer members, rationalizing expenses for committee meetings, ensuring the participation of official geospatial entities from their countries, and emphasizing the integration of the committee's work with international efforts at the United Nations.

The main recommendations from the twelfth meeting of the UN-GGIM Arab States:

- Extending appreciation to the General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, for hosting the (twelfth) meeting of the Arab States Committee of Experts of the United Nations for Geospatial Information Management, and its corresponding workshops.
- Affirming that the official organization concerned with geospatial information in the Member States shall be represented in the official delegation participating in the work of the Arab States Committee of Experts of the United Nations for the Management of Geospatial Information.
- Work on preparing an implementation plan for the Geodetic Framework Working Group, in line with the tasks, responsibilities and strategic plan approved during the Doha-February 2024 meeting, in coordination with the United Nations Global Center for Geodetic Excellence.
- Calling on the Arab States Members to support the completion of the requirements for the registration of the Arab Geodetic Reference (ARABREF) under the International Geodesy Association (IAG), by nominating a competent representative from the authorities responsible for updating and developing the national geodetic references to work on forming a steering committee for this purpose under the IAG, provided that the names are provided to the secretariat of the Arab Committee before the end of March 2025.
- Inviting and encouraging Arab Member States wishing to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MMOU) to enhance the quality of global geodetic references with the United Nations World Center for Geodetic Excellence, through direct coordination with the President of the Center.
- Commencing the directions of the Geospatial Governance working group to work on preparing a Geospatial Sector Governance Questionnaire in each Arab Member State, which supports the integration of the institutional system and the exchange of necessary data among Arab countries.
- Approval of the implementation plan submitted by the UN-Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) working group.
- Encourage Member States to participate in building the UN-Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-GGIM) action plan at the national



United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management for Arab States

- level, and to coordinate with the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) working group of the Arab Committee.
- Approval of the selection of Mr. Abdullah Theeb Al-Qahtani as the Deputy Chairman of the Geodetic Framework Working Group during the coming period (2025-2028).
- Approval of the addition of the Open Geospatial Information Consortium (OGC) as a member of the Arab Sates Committee as an observer.
- Approval of the addition of Esri Arabia as a member of the Arab States Committee as an observer.
- Coordination between the General Secretariat of the Arab States Committee and Esri International Company to develop a number of initiatives to support the management of geospatial information in the Arab States members, provided that the details will be presented at the next meeting of the Arab States Committee.
- Rationalizing expenditure in hosting the meetings of the Arab States Committee, provided that the host country does not bear the costs of housing and accommodation for the members of the Arab countries and international experts participating in the meeting, provided that the duration of the meeting is only two days.
- The Chair of each working group shall submit a report on the progress of the work to the General Secretariat before the end of May 2025 to submit the annual report of the Arab Committee to the fifteenth meeting of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management.
- Encourage the members of the Committee to attend the Fifteenth United Nations Expert Meeting on Global Geospatial Information Management, which is expected to be held at the United Nations Headquarters from 6-8 August 2025 in New York City. Communicate with their country's permanent delegations to the United Nations in New York to facilitate this.
- Hosting the (thirteenth) meeting of the Arab States Committee of Experts of the United Nations for Geospatial Information Management in the Republic of Tunisia during the period from 3-4 February 2026.

4.2. Workshop on "The Saudi Experience in Geospatial Data Governance, Policies, Standards and Specifications"

Mr. Ali Al-Awaji from Saudi Arabia gave a presentation on the governance of national geospatial data, where the workshop addressed the policies and standards of geospatial data and the specifications of the basic layers. The importance of establishing the Geospatial Information Unit was emphasized, which will contribute to improving data management and enhancing its accuracy and reliability. The existence of a clear governance framework ensures coordination between various



United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management for Arab States

government entities, which facilitates the exchange of information and enhances transparency.

Dr. Ingo Simons, Chief Technology Officer at OGC, also gave a presentation on the integration of geospatial data and the national geospatial model. During the meeting, he reviewed the basic layers of national geospatial data, explaining how the effective integration of this data contributes to providing a comprehensive picture of the geographical reality, which supports strategic decision-making in multiple areas such as urban planning and resource management.

The principles and foundations of data classification, as well as licensing and pricing policies, were discussed, emphasizing the importance of data protection, sharing, and quality assurance in light of the current challenges. These policies ensure that sensitive information is not leaked, while encouraging investments in the private sector by providing reliable data that can be used in the development of new applications.

The most important outputs of the workshop were:

- Emphasizing the importance of establishing a comprehensive framework for geospatial data governance, including policies, standards, and specifications, which contributes to improving data management and facilitating access to data.
- The importance of cooperation between government agencies and the private sector to facilitate the exchange of geospatial data and achieve better integration in its use, which enhances the quality of data and ensures the application of the (Geospatial Ecosystem) system.

4.3. Workshop on "Geospatial Security"

Mr. John Kedar gave a presentation on geospatial security, where he discussed geopolitical tensions, economic threats, climate change and their impact on national security. He also pointed out the importance of geospatial data in addressing these challenges.

The workshop included raising awareness about the relationship between national security and geospatial technologies, and enhancing the role of concerned agencies in security policies. Discussion on the concept of "geospatial security" within Arab countries was also encouraged. The panel discussions also addressed potential threats to national security, including espionage, terrorism, organized crime, and how actors use geospatial data to achieve their goals.

Page | 8

The most important outputs of the workshop were:

• Emphasizing the need to understand the relationship between national security and geospatial technologies, and how the relevant authorities use this data to achieve their goals.





United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management for Arab States

 The importance of developing comprehensive strategies for geospatial data security that includes cooperation between different government entities, and a balance between open access to data and ensuring the protection of sensitive information.

4.4. Workshop on "Empowering Arab Women in the Field of Geospatial Information"

The workshop dealt with the topic of women's empowerment in the field of geospatial information, where it reviewed each of the following:

- Dr. Nadine Alameh from USA
- Dr. Mona Al-Hefdhi from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Dr. Sheikha May Al Khalifa from the Kingdom of Bahrain
- Dr. Anwaar Al-Shimmari from the United Arab Emirates
- Ms. Nabila Licer from the Kingdom of Morocco
- Ms. Nahla Seddik Saleh from the Arab Republic of Egypt

Experiences and success stories of women from different countries with a focus on the challenges and opportunities available. The importance of innovation, research, and knowledge management was discussed, as well as the challenges and opportunities available in geospatial information and the importance of education and training.

Good practices and institutional support for women's empowerment were also reviewed, while providing experiences in geospatial information systems and their role in supporting society. The importance of promoting diversity and inclusion in the workforce was emphasized, and challenges that hinder women's progress such as societal expectations were emphasized. The workshop also focused on the need to provide customized educational programs, and the speakers shared success stories that inspire women to enter this field. Finally, recommendations were made to strengthen educational programs and career support, and to encourage the establishment of professional support and mentoring networks, making the workshop an important platform for knowledge sharing and enhancing the role of women in this vital field.

The most important outputs of the workshop were:

- Emphasizing the importance of increasing women's participation in the fields of geospatial information, by supporting educational and training programs that allow women to participate in this field and achieve success.
- The importance of providing support to address the challenges facing women in this field, such as societal expectations and cultural barriers, which contributes to promoting diversity and inclusion in the geospatial workforce.



United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management for Arab States

4.5. Workshop on "Geospatial Leadership"

Dr. Salah Memar from Saudi Arabia Geospatial Authority gave a presentation on the importance of geospatial knowledge and its role in supporting innovation. He also explained that the establishment of a national geospatial academy is a strategic investment, which contributes to building a sustainable knowledge society and promoting economic diversification.

Dr. Abbas, from the University of Melbourne, also participated in a presentation on the challenges facing the geospatial sector, such as the skills gap and the rapid development of technology. He stressed the importance of training national cadres to meet the needs of the market. The services provided by the Academy were reviewed, which include the qualification and classification of practitioners, and the provision of high-quality educational programs to meet the requirements of the labor market.

The most important outputs of the workshop were:

- Emphasizing the importance of developing skills and knowledge in the geospatial field, which contributes to bridging the skills gap and enhancing the competitiveness of the public and private sectors.
- The importance of the role of innovation in improving the effectiveness of work in the geospatial sector, including the use of modern technologies, which helps to develop innovative solutions to the challenges facing this sector.

4.6. UN-GGIM: Arab States' Workshop on IGIF

UN-GGIM: Arab States Report

Mr. Tim Trainor, UN Expert Advisor on Geospatial Information Management, gave a presentation on the objectives of the workshop, noting the importance of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) in fostering cooperation among Member States. He highlighted the potential benefits of the Framework, and how it can help countries better organize and manage geospatial information, enhancing the ability of governments to make informed decisions. He also invited countries to share their experiences in implementing UN-IGIF. and how to use it to meet their national needs.

Mr. John Kedar, UN Expert Advisor for Geospatial Information Management, spoke about the challenges facing the implementation of UN-IGIF, such as resistance to change from some institutions and lack of necessary funding. He presented strategies to overcome these barriers, stressing the importance of raising awareness of the value of geospatial information in supporting government policies. He also called for adequate funding to support geospatial data projects, noting that this can contribute to improving government services and community.

Dr. Zaffar Mohammed, Head of the United Nations Private Sector Network of Experts on Geospatial Information Management, also gave a detailed explanation on



United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management for Arab States

how to develop a country-level action plan (CAP) in line with national goals. He stressed the importance of using geospatial data to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, noting its vital role in improving the quality of life. He highlighted the importance of collaboration between various stakeholders, including the government, the private sector, and academia, to achieve common goals.

- The importance of coordinating with national priorities and local conditions to enhance the chances of successful implementation of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF) for Member States.
- Access to the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework at all levels, such as the Framework Implementation Manual, and tools supporting the preparation of the country-level action plan through the United Nations website.

4.7. Workshop on "Legal and Regulatory Frameworks and Emerging Geospatial Technologies"

The most important outputs of the workshop were:

Mr. Kevin Bomfret, United Nations Expert Advisor for Geospatial Information Management, gave a comprehensive presentation on the legal and policy frameworks needed to enable emerging technologies in the field of geospatial information, stressing the importance of these technologies in shaping the future of governance and data management. He began by defining emerging technologies, noting that they include innovations that are still in the early stages of development, but have enormous potential to bring about radical changes in society and industry. Showcase some technologies such as intelligence artificial intelligence, autonomous systems, and drones, explaining how these technologies open up new opportunities for data collection and analysis, while raising legal and ethical challenges related to privacy and data ownership.

The importance of having robust legal frameworks that include legislation and policies that define how to use geospatial data securely and effectively was also discussed. The geospatial community has called for an active contribution to shaping the legal environment, as it can provide valuable expertise to develop a legal framework that is in line with technological innovations. He also stressed the need for international cooperation in developing legal frameworks that support cross-border data exchange, taking into account issues related to national sovereignty. In conclusion, he noted that emerging technologies offer enormous opportunities, but they must be managed with caution to ensure the responsible use of these technologies and enhance the role of geospatial data in supporting governance and sustainable development.

The most important outputs of the workshop were:



United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management for Arab States

- The importance of studying the impact of emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and digital twinning on geospatial information management.
- The geospatial community can use the Integrated Geospatial Framework Strategic Track II to enable legal and policy frameworks to address the challenges posed by these emerging technologies, ensuring greater value for geospatial information in a safe and secure manner.

4.8. Workshop on "Geospatial Ecosystem in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia"

Mr. Peter Rapley, CEO of OGC, gave a presentation on the importance of strengthening collaboration between governments, companies and academia to achieve compatibility in data and geospatial technologies.

Dr. Ingo Simons also spoke about the Geospatial Ecosystem in the Kingdom, pointing to the challenges facing the integration of geospatial data and how to use modern technologies such as artificial intelligence to improve access to data.

Dr. Zafar Mohammed also gave a presentation on the plan of the Geospatial Ecosystem in the Kingdom, reviewing its goals and vision in supporting innovation and enhancing cooperation between various stakeholders.

The most important outputs of the workshop were:

- Emphasizing the importance of cooperation between government agencies and the private and academic sectors to enhance integration in the national geospatial data system, which contributes to improving access to data and its quality.
- Focus on using modern technologies such as artificial intelligence and machine learning to improve data management and analysis.

4.9. Workshop on "Asian Experience in the Use of Geospatial Information in Land Management"

Dr. Victor Kho from the Land Authority of Singapore gave a presentation on "Asian Experience in the Use of Geospatial Information in Land Management", focusing on Singapore's experience in this area. He began by presenting the Global Framework for Effective Land Management (FELA) adopted in August 2020, which aims to strengthen people-land relations to achieve sustainable development. He pointed out the importance of GNSS infrastructure as a primary tool to support surveying and planning, use technologies such as high-speed ground radar and scanners to collect geospatial data.

Dr. Moh Aris, Head of the Indonesian Survey, also gave a presentation on "Best Practices in the Application of Geospatial Information for Land Management in Indonesia", where he addressed the importance of land management in Indonesia, which consists of 17,380 islands. He pointed out the need to integrate land and sea



United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management for Arab States

management to achieve sustainable development. The presentation centered on a framework that aims to build effective and sustainable land management systems through nine tracks that include governance, policies, data, and partnerships, with a focus on Comprehensiveness and reliability.

The most important outputs of the workshop were:

- Emphasize the importance of promoting effective land management, with a focus on the importance of cooperation between the public and private sectors.
- Emphasizing the importance of establishing an infrastructure based on technologies such as GNSS and geospatial data management to improve urban planning and enhance sustainability, which contributes to strengthening the national economy.

4.10. Meeting of the Geospatial Governance Working Group

The chairman of the working group, Ms. Anwar Al-Shammari from the United Arab Emirates, presented a report on the activities of the Task Force during the past period and the future directions of the Team's Executive Plan, followed by a presentation by the Task Force Advisor, Mr. Tim Trainor, during which he stressed the importance of developing a governance model for the National Action Plans, and identifying the required legal arrangements. It was also proposed to establish partnerships to enhance cooperation. Dr. Adi Zakaria Jassim from the Republic of Iraq then gave a summary of the local achievements in the field of geospatial information management, then Dr. Makki Ghazi Abdul Shajlawi and Ms. Aseel Mahdi Radi gave a presentation on the Iraqi experience in geospatial governance.

4.11. Meeting of the UN-IGIF Working Group

The chairman of the working group, Dr. Shaikha Mai Al Khalifa from the Kingdom of Bahrain, presented a report on the team's activities during the past period and the future directions of the team's executive plan, then Mr. Mohammed Talfat gave a presentation on the Bahraini experience in managing geospatial data, followed by a presentation by the team's advisor, Mr. Tim Trainor, during which he emphasized on The importance of promoting integrated information management and supporting the development of the necessary policies and standards was also urged by Member States to actively participate and exchange knowledge and experiences to enhance cooperation in order to build an action plan at the national level.

4.12. Meeting of the Geodetic Framework Working Group

The chairman of the working group, Mr. Mohammed Al-Marri from the State of Qatar, presented a summary of the progress of the team's work, then Mr. Abdullah Al-



United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management for Arab States

Qahtani from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia presented a report on the team's activities during the past period and the future directions of the team's executive plan, followed by a presentation by the team's advisor, Dr. Zuhair Al-Tamimi, on the level of progress in the activities of the Geodesy Subcommittee and urging countries to participate and support these activities. Mr. Abdullah Al Naqbi from the United Arab Emirates gave a presentation on the Emirati experience in the geodetic framework, followed by an open discussion.

5. Fifth Plenary Meeting of the High-level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework

The Fifth Plenary Meeting of the High-level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (HLG-IGIF) will take place on February 2-3, 2025, at the Jeddah Hilton in Saudi Arabia. This meeting follows significant progress made since the group's establishment of strategic goals in 2021, which focused on improving communication, strengthening capacity development, and mobilizing sustainable funding. After creating three work groups in 2022, the HLG-IGIF reviewed its Strategic Plan in January 2024, resulting in a streamlined approach with four key priorities. These include enhancing communication strategies, finalizing and publishing UN-IGIF documents, establishing a central repository for resources, and evaluating the group's role in relation to the newly formed UN Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre (UN-GGKIC).

The agenda for the Fifth Plenary Meeting includes a strategic overview, updates on key deliverables such as the Global UN-IGIF Survey Results and the launch of a Sustainable Funding Guide, and discussions on specific priorities identified by various work groups. The meeting will involve collaboration among the HLG-IGIF, UN-GGIM Regional Committees, and other partners like the SDG Data Alliance and UN-GGKIC, focusing on clearly defining roles and responsibilities. The outcomes will help finalize the HLG-IGIF work plan and establish a roadmap for 2025, taking into account anticipated resources from the UN-GGKIC and the UN-GGIM Secretariat.

6. UN-GGIM: Arab States initiatives and collaborations

6.1. UN-GGIM: Arab States initiatives

• Empower Arab women in the field of geospatial information.

UN-GGIM:AS has provided home use licenses to 500 Arab women in Geospatial across the Arab States Countries for three years. This is a step towards gender equality in the technology sector, especially in the specialized area of Geospatial. Recipients of this license will gain full access to all training materials through the Esri Academy e-



United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management for Arab States

learning platform. This access not only opens the door to comprehensive self-paced learning opportunities but also allows these professionals to stay abreast of the latest developments in Geospatial technology. Furthermore, the UN-GGIM: AS has gathered number of Inspiring Arab Women in Geospatial to share their experience for young woman in the Arab region.

• Build geospatial capabilities and communicating with international companies in this field within the website of the Arab Committee.

In the context of Geospatial Capacity Building for the Arab States, the UNGGIM:AS in collaboration with ESRI, five ArcGIS Online seats are provided along with 5,000 credits each, to every member state. This generous offer, valid for a period of three years (February 2024 – February 2027), is a major boost for geospatial capacity building in the region. These credits are not just a token gesture but are calculated to be more than sufficient to cover all training needs and provide ample opportunities for hands-on experience with this cutting-edge technology.

6.2. UN-GGIM Arab States collaborations

• UN-GGIM Arab States with UN-GGIM Asia Pacific Collaboration

Rational:

The Arab States and Asia Pacific regional committees have a unique and diverse challenges and solutions that can benefit inter-region collaboration. The geographic proximity of the regions is another reason which will make the cross-collaboration between the committees, effective.

Vision:

Resolve regional issues by collective experience and knowledge-sharing

Mission:

To foster collaborative efforts within UN-GGIM regions utilizing regional solutions.

Objective:

The regional committee of the Arab States and Asia Pacific commit to developing a shared understanding and solutions addressing regional challenges.

Work Plan:

Region	Area of collaboration	Indicative dates	Anticipated Outcomes
UN-GGIM Asia Pacific	I- Disaster Management experience: The Asia Pacific region working group on disaster will present and share knowledge to UNGGIM Arab States in a workshop.	2024 Arab States UNGGIM Meeting	Joint initiatives / Data Sharing/ Knowledge sharing/ Capacity building between the regions.



United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management for Arab States

UN-GGIM Arab States	II- Policy and Standards Experience: The Arab States will present their experience and share the knowledge with UNGGIM Asia Pacific colleagues in a workshop	2024 Asia Pacific UNGGIM Meeting	Joint initiatives / Data Sharing/ Knowledge sharing/ Capacity building between the regions.
UN-GGIM Asia Pacific	III- Land Management experience: The Asia Pacific region will share its experience on the topic of Land Management with Arab state's colleagues in a workshop or a round table.	2025 Arab States UNGGIM Meeting	Joint initiatives / Data Sharing/ Knowledge sharing/ Capacity building between the regions.
UN-GGIM Arab States	IV- Geospatial Ecosystem Experience: The Arab States will present their experience and share the knowledge with UNGGIM Asia Pacific colleagues in a workshop on the topic of Geospatial Ecosystems	2025 Asia Pacific UNGGIM Meeting	Joint initiatives / Data Sharing/ Knowledge sharing/ Capacity building between the regions.

- <u>UN-GGIM Arab States participation in other UN-GGIM regional committees</u>
 The UN-GGIM: Arab states have actively participated in last year's previous meeting of the UN-GGIM: Asia Pacific, UN-GGIM: Americas, UN-GGIM: Europe, and UN-GGIM: Africa.
- <u>UN-GGIM regional committees' participation in the UN-GGIM Arab States meetings</u>
 The UN-GGIM: Asia Pacific, UN-GGIM: Americas, UN-GGIM: Europe has actively participated in the last meeting of the UN-GGIM: Arab states that was held last February in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

7. Conclusion

The period since the submission of the last report in June 2024 has been that of well-organized and sustained efforts by all the member states of UN-GGIM: Arab States to further the agenda of improved management of regional geospatial information. The three working groups have been active working on their respective mandates in an extremely cooperative manner. Efforts have been made to strengthen the activities of the working groups by encouraging them continue working on their strategic goals and plans as well as enhancing them.