



**Eighth Session of the Committee of Experts on
Global Geospatial Information Management**
Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management
**“Strengthening national geospatial information management,
systems and infrastructure”**

Monday, 30 July 2018
10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Venue: Conference Room 3 (CR-3)
United Nations Headquarters, New York

The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in July 2016 adopted a resolution entitled “Strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management”. This resolution stressed the continued need to strengthen the coordination and coherence of global geospatial information management as well as the implementation of globally agreed development agendas. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is ambitious and transformative, requires all to consider new and innovative means to address the many local to global development challenges to leave no one behind, and with commensurate new and innovative data sources and methods.

The 2030 Agenda, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA Pathway) and the New Urban Agenda call for globally coordinated actions in new data acquisition and integration approaches and in employing geospatial information for sustainable development and disaster risk reduction, and to strengthen the availability and accessibility of geospatial data platforms. The demand for new data acquisition and integration approaches, including to exploit the contribution to be made by geospatial information and Earth observations to support the implementation of the SDGs, targets and global indicators, must be met. Further, it has articulated the need for all countries to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.

The Committee of Experts at its seventh session, in supporting its 2017-2021 Strategic Framework, acknowledged the need for collaboration and partnerships when implementing integrated evidence-based decision-making solutions that maximized and leveraged national geospatial information systems tailored to their own circumstances. Member States thus have an interest to strengthen arrangements in national geospatial information management that can be leveraged and maximized for the wellbeing and betterment of people, planet and shared prosperity.

“This is an open forum and all Session Attendees are invited”



Objectives of the Forum

The Committee of Experts has embarked on several inter-related work programmes aimed at providing Member States with globally agreed references and guides to strengthen national geospatial information management, systems and infrastructures, together with related capacities and capabilities towards achieving national strategic priorities and sustainable development. This is crucial as the implementation of the 2030 Agenda gains momentum and the world begins to consider in more detail how to better measure, monitor and report progress on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their associated targets and indicators.

This Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management is being organized by the UN Statistics Division with the support of the World Bank, European Commission – Joint Research Centre and IAEG-SDGs Working Group on Geospatial Information to explore and address –

- a) A global definition for settlements and cities – an internationally developed and agreed definition is necessary to measure and monitor progress in SDGs through a number of indicators that require comparable data to be collected at, or disaggregated by, geographic location - rural and urban being one, to leave no one behind.
- b) Implementing the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework – operationalizing the Framework will mean supporting Member States to prepare and implement their own national (or sub-national) action plans that consider their national priorities and circumstances. These plans will include elements such as deploying diagnostic tools, socio-economic-environmental benefits assessments, and identifying stakeholder, partners and at times donor entities. Crucially, understanding investment needs and financial resources needed to successfully strengthen and sustain national geospatial information system and its infrastructures.

The Forum will comprise two moderated panels with diverse presenters to address two differing but inter-related issues to ensure that national geospatial information management when strengthened and sustained, can be leveraged and maximized to deliver national strategic priorities and sustainable development using credible, comprehensive, current and comparable data, and integrated, for evidence based policies, decision making and solutions.



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Proposed Agenda

Introductory Remarks

- Ms. Dorine Burmanje, co-Chair UN-GGIM, **Netherlands**

10:10am – 11:25am

Segment 2: Global Definition of Settlement and Cities

Moderator: Mr. Timothy Trainor, past co-Chair UN-GGIM, **USA**

- A people-based definition of settlements and cities
Mr. Ekkehard Petri, **EuroStat**
- Defining settlement and cities in the United States
Mr. Michael Ratcliffe, US Census Bureau, **USA**
- Defining settlement and cities in Brazil
Mr. João Bosco de Azevedo, Institute of Geography and Statistics, **Brazil** (tbc)

Moderated interactive discussion with participants (20 minutes)

Summary and Conclusions by Moderator

11:30am – 13:00pm

Segment 3: Integrated Geospatial Information Framework

Moderator: Mr. Wael Zakout, Global Lead for Land and Geospatial, **The World Bank**

- The Integrated Geospatial Information Framework – an overview
Mr. Tim Trainor, past co-Chair UN-GGIM, **USA**
- World Bank's implementation of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework – the case of State of Palestine
Representative from **State of Palestine** & Mr. Peter ter Haar, **Ter Haar Geoinnovation**
- World Bank's implementation of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework – the case of Tirana, Albania
Ms. Kathrine Kelm, **The World Bank**
- Resources for implementing the African Action Plan on Global Geospatial Information Management 2016 - 2030
Mr. Andre Nonguierma, GISS Section, **UN Economic Commission for Africa**

Moderated interactive discussion with participants (30 minutes)

Summary and Conclusions by Moderator

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