



## UN-GGIM: Arab States

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

# UN-GGIM: Arab States Activities

## 5<sup>th</sup> UN-GGIM Session

New York, 5 - 7 August 2015





# Background



# Activities



# Working Groups



# Future Plans



## **Background**

**The establishment of the UN-GGIM: Arab States came in fulfillment of Decision 4/111 of the Fourth session of United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), held in New York in August 2014.**



# Activities

**Two Meetings in Riyadh (Feb. 24 -25, 2015) & Algiers ( June 10 -11, 2015)  
to facilitate the process of :**

- **Realizing the vision of UN-GGIM by making accurate, authoritative and reliable geospatial information readily available to support national, regional and global development**
- **Adopting Rules of Procedure and Organizational Structure**
- **Election of Executive Committee Chair (Saudi Arabia & Vice Chairs (Algeria and Jordan)**
- **A review of National Experiences of Member States**
- **Establishment of the Working Groups and Election of Chairs & Vice-Chairs**





## Working Groups:



**WG1: Institutional Arrangements, Legal and Policy Issues, Awareness and Capacity Building (Chair: United Arab Emirates and Vice-Chair: Morocco)**



**WG2: Fundamental Data and Geo-Standards (Chair: Tunisia and Vice-Chair: Qatar)**



**WG3: Geodetic Reference Frame (Chair: Algeria and Vice-Chairs: Lebanon and Saudi Arabia)**



**WG4: Integration of Geospatial & Statistical Information (Chair: Oman and Vice-Chairs: Egypt and Kuwait)**



# WG1: Institutional Arrangements, Legal and Policy Issues, Awareness and Capacity Building

## Institutional Arrangement Approach

- Identify the NMA or other NGIM agencies from the member states
- Initiate dialogue to find out their willingness and preparedness to take up UN-GGIM responsibilities
- Facilitate institution building
- Provide expert knowledge and access to resources
- Continue engaging for UN-GGIM expansion



# WG1: Institutional Arrangements, Legal and Policy Issues, Awareness and Capacity Building

## Legal and policy Issues Approach

- Every member state should take stock of the legal and policy documents pertaining to their country
- Study if the legal and policy issues act as stumbling blocks for that state in participating in UN-GGIM initiative
- Provide technical support for states in modifying the necessary legal and policy documents



# WG1: Institutional Arrangements, Legal and Policy Issues, Awareness and Capacity Building



## Geospatial data awareness Approach

- Awareness campaigns among various sections of the society
  - ✓ People working with geospatial data
  - ✓ People using geospatial data
  - ✓ Prospective users / public
  - ✓ Student community
  
- Organize awareness campaigns



# WG1: Institutional Arrangements, Legal and Policy Issues, Awareness and Capacity Building

## Capacity Building Approach

- Identify the target group to be provided with training
- Perform a skill gap analysis by assess their skills and mapping it with the expected skillsets
- Determine the level of training to be provided to different set of people.
- Provide training and obtain feedback
- Continue monitoring their performance and report to impart more training.



# WG1: Institutional Arrangements, Legal and Policy Issues, Awareness and Capacity Building

## Work Plan (August 2015 – August 2016)

Working Groups	Work Items	Activities	Timeline											
			Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16	Jul-16
WG1- Institutional Arrangements, Legal and Policy Issues, Awareness and Capacity Building	Institutional Arrangements	Identify the agency												
		Initiate discussions												
		Facilitate institution building												
		Provide expertise and resources												
		Continue support												
	Legal and Policy Issues	Inventory of legal and policy documents												
		Evaluate the documents												
		Provide technical support to work on the legal and policy documents												
	Awareness	Categorise the target group of people to be provided awareness												
		Organise awareness campaigns												
	Capacity Building	Identify the target group for training												
		Assess the skill gap of the participants												
		Determine the level of training to be provided												
		Provide training												
		Obtain feedback												
		Improvise training program based on feedback												
		Continue monitoring trainees performance												



## WG2: Fundamental Data and Geo-Standards.

### WG2 Approach

- Identify available technical source material on Geospatial data and standards
- Assessment of existing fundamental data and geo-standards
- Fix the relevant geospatial data categories
- Compile existing specifications and geospatial datasets
- Identify / Select fundamental subsets
- Define ways and objectives to complete / harmonize selected subsets
- Define strategies, tools and mechanisms to make available and disseminate the fundamental subsets



## WG3: Geodetic Reference Frame

### WG3 National Level Approach:

- Raise the awareness of the importance of geodesy and the GGRF for scientific and societal applications
- Refer to the UN GA Resolution on the GGRF for all geodetic proposal projects
- Coordinate between different GNSS/Gravity network owners within each country: **one voice & one authority**



## WG3: Geodetic Reference Frame

### WG3 Regional and International level Approach :

- Develop and maintain modern GNSS Networks following IGS Standards
- Explore the possible mechanisms for an appropriate structure of an “ARABREF” and propose a preferred option to the Committee
- Develop efficient geodetic reference data sharing (**GNSS & Gravity**)
- Modernize national geodetic reference frames and their alignment to the ITRF
- Explore the need for a common regional reference frame
- Explore the necessity of establishing a regional reference geoid
- Acquire the technical competence for geodetic data analysis
- Cooperate with external organizations (IAG, IGeS, BGI...
- Report on the progress of the above issues at the next UN-GGIM: Arab States meeting



## WG4: Integration of Geospatial & Statistical Information

### WG4 Approach

- Developing a regional questionnaire of statistical and geospatial information
- Supporting collaboration between statistical and geospatial communities at the national and regional levels
- Developing a regional statistical-geospatial framework as a standard for the integration of statistical and geospatial information
- Identifying existing capability development programmes in national statistical offices and geospatial communities



# Future Plan



**third meeting of the Regional Committee in UAE  
from 23 to 25Feb 2016**



**is looking forward to continue its efforts to meet the  
needs and challenges of the Arab region while  
seeking alignment with the work of UN-GGIM.**



**will continue to contribute to the work of the UN-GGIM  
and take necessary actions upon requests by the  
Committee of Experts.**

**Thank You**



**Mr. Stefan Schweinfest,  
Director of the United Nations Statistics Division**

**Thank You**

**“Regional committees will be aligned to the global architecture,  
which will better address regional and global challenges”**





**Thank You**

**Dr. Vanessa Lawrence**  
**UN-GGIM Co-Chair**



**Thank You**

**Dr. Amor Laaribi**  
**UN-GGIM Secretariat**





Dr. Marie Haldorson  
Director of Regions and  
Environmental Statistics in  
Sweden

Thank You



Dr. Zuheir Altamimi  
National Institute of  
Geographic Information in  
France

Thank You



Dr. Jean-Philippe Grelot  
Director General of the  
National Institute of  
Geographic Information in  
France

Thank You

