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## Fourth Expert Meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information

30 January to 3 February 2023  
**Grand Hotel Savoia Genoa**  
Via Arsenale di Terra 5, Genova, Italy

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“the availability of high-quality data is also critical, helping decision makers to understand **where** investments can have the greatest impact”

*António Guterres*  
Secretary-General of the United Nations

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**UN-GGIM**  
UNITED NATIONS  
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

**UN-GGIM Bureau:**  
Co-Chairs: Belgium, Ethiopia, Mexico  
Rapporteur: Morocco

**UN-GGIM Regional Committees & Chairs:**

- Africa: South Africa
- Americas: Chile
- Arab States: Saudi Arabia
- Asia and the Pacific: Indonesia
- Europe: Slovenia

*The Committee of Experts, a subsidiary expert body of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, is the peak intergovernmental body to liaise and coordinate among Member States, and between Member States, international organizations and stakeholders, to foster better coordination and coherence in geospatial information management*

**UN-GGIM Thematic Networks:**

- Academic Network
- Private Sector Network
- Geospatial Societies
- United Nations Geospatial Network

*International Standards Development Organizations*





United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management


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- High-level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework
- Subcommittee on Geodesy
- Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information
- Expert Group on Land Administration and Management
- Working Group on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters
- Working Group on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information Management
- Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information

<https://ggim.un.org/UNGGIM-functional-groups/>

"Greater investment in data infrastructure is needed to efficiently target investments now, anticipate future demands, avoid crises from descending into full-blown conflict and plan urgent steps needed to achieve the 2030 Agenda."

Antonio Guterres  
Secretary-General of the United Nations





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## Fourth Expert Meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information

30 January to 3 February 2023

### AGENDA ITEM #4(b)

#### REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT ON E/RES/2022/24, THE TWELFTH SESSION OF UN-GGIM, AND THE PROGRAMME OF WORK OF UN-GGIM



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### AGENDA ITEM #4(b)



#### REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT ON E/RES/2022/24, THE TWELFTH SESSION OF UN-GGIM, AND THE PROGRAMME OF WORK OF UN-GGIM

(i) *ECOSOC Resolution 2022/24, 34<sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting of ECOSOC, 22 July 2022*

13 preambular paragraphs  
8 operational paragraphs, including -

4. Reiterates the importance of strengthening and enhancing the effectiveness of the Committee of Experts, particularly for the achievement of its operations focused on the Sustainable Development Goals and the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, to strengthen and ensure its continued effectiveness and benefits to all Member States;

5. Recognizes that, as the global role and relevance of the Committee of Experts continues to grow and expand, implementing and sustaining the mandate of the Committee without adequate, predictable and sustainable funding and support limits the potential of the full value of the Committee's normative and implementation work;

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(i) **ECOSOC Resolution 2022/24, 34<sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting of ECOSOC, 22 July 2022**



6. Decides to **enhance** the institutional arrangements of the Committee of Experts as a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council in charge of all matters related to geospatial information, geography, land administration and related topics, in accordance with the terms of reference annexed to the present resolution;

7. Also decides to strengthen the work of the Committee of Experts, and requests the Secretary-General, in the context of his next budget proposal, to identify options to do so, within existing resources, including the establishment of a secretariat for the Committee, dedicated to the Committee's normative and implementation work on global geospatial information management;



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(i) **ECOSOC Resolution 2022/24, 34<sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting of ECOSOC, 22 July 2022**  
**Terms of reference as annexed to the resolution**



Objectives and functions (*some*):

- Provide leadership to ensure that geospatial information and resources are coordinated, maintained, accessible and able to be leveraged by Member States and society to find sustainable solutions for social, economic and environmental development
- Provide a forum for coordination and dialogue with and among Member States, the regional committees and thematic networks of the Committee, and relevant international organizations, on enhanced cooperation in the field of global geospatial information management, and to make joint decisions and set directions
- Provide a platform for the development of effective strategies on how to build and strengthen national capacity concerning geospatial information, especially in developing countries
- Ensure interdisciplinary collaboration with other national and international communities such as statisticians in measuring and describing the society, economy and the environment

\*geospatial information management and its many interrelated fields

*Geospatial sciences, geomatics, surveying, geography, land administration, geodesy, cartography and mapping, remote sensing, hydrography and oceanography, land/sea and geographic information systems and environmental sciences*



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**AGENDA ITEM #4(b)****REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT ON E/RES/2022/24, THE TWELFTH SESSION OF UN-GGIM, AND THE PROGRAMME OF WORK OF UN-GGIM****(ii) Twelfth Session of UN-GGIM, 3 - 5 August 2022**

At its 1st meeting, on 3 August 2022, the Committee of Experts elected the following officers by acclamation:

## Co-Chairs:

Ms. Ingrid Vanden Berghe (Belgium)  
Mr. Tulu Besha Bedada (Ethiopia)  
Ms. Paloma Merodio Gómez (Mexico)

## Rapporteur:

Mr. Kamal Outghouliast (Morocco)

The session was attended by 379 participants, including 268 representatives from 78 Member States. Also present were 111 representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations. The Committee of Experts welcomed the President of ECOSOC to its opening session together with the Deputy Permanent Representative of Fiji to the United Nations in New York. This is the first time the President of ECOSOC came to a session of the Committee



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The Committee of Experts welcomed the President of ECOSOC to its opening session together with the Deputy Permanent Representative of Fiji to the United Nations in New York. This is the first time the President of ECOSOC came to a session of the Committee.



Her Excellency Ambassador Lachezara Stoeva from Bulgaria, in her opening statement, said *“when I attended your expert meeting in April in New York, one particular element stayed with me: **Everything happens somewhere**. This unequivocal axiom is also the essence of your work - and a pretty catchy phrase! Geospatial Information reflects the physical world in which all human, economic and environmental activity takes place, and provides the digital version of our world. Geospatial information is an essential national information resource, critical component of the national infrastructure and knowledge economy; and it is also a means to integrate a wide variety of Government services”*.

Her Excellency Agnes Ali-Harm from Fiji, in her statement, said *“when the world was grappling with the global pandemic with regard to health response efforts, you can imagine what this looks like for small administrations with limited capacities and resources. For Fiji, given our ongoing work with UN-GGIM, we managed to use geospatial information to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic in decision making to support the deployment of resources to **where it was most needed**. It is against this backdrop and our recognition of this important work that Fiji took on the role as the main Facilitator and sponsor of the ECOSOC Resolution” 2022/24.*



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*(ii) Twelfth Session of UN-GGIM, 3 - 5 August 2022*



UN-GGIM, in its report on its Twelfth session, recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following:

The Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Takes note of the report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its twelfth session (E/2023/46);
- (b) Decides that the thirteenth session of the Committee of Experts shall be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 2 to 4 August 2023;
- (c) Approves the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirteenth session of the Committee of Experts

ECOSOC adopted the Report of UN-GGIM on its Twelfth Session at its 3rd plenary meeting on 31 October 2022 with its decision 2023/301.



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*(ii) Twelfth Session of UN-GGIM, 3 - 5 August 2022*



The Provisional Agenda for the Thirteenth Session of UN-GGIM, 2 - 4 August 2023

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements.
4. Contribution of regional committees to the global geospatial information agenda.
5. Contribution of thematic networks to the global geospatial information agenda.
6. The future geospatial information ecosystem.
7. Integrated Geospatial Information Framework.
8. Global geodetic reference frame.
9. Geospatial information for sustainable development and climate resilience.
10. Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information.
11. Application of geospatial information related to land administration and management.
12. Geospatial information and services for disasters.
13. **Integrated marine geospatial information.**
14. Policy and legal frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data.
15. Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community.
16. Collaboration with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.
17. Programme management report.
18. Provisional agenda and dates of the fourteenth session.
19. Report of the Committee of Experts on its thirteenth session



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**(ii) Twelfth Session of UN-GGIM, 3 - 5 August 2022**

Decisions brought to the attention of the ECOSOC

- 12/101. Strengthening global geospatial information management arrangements
- 12/102. Determining the future geospatial information ecosystem
- 12/103. Contribution of regional committees to the global geospatial information agenda
- 12/104. Contribution of thematic networks to the global geospatial information agenda.
- 12/105. Integrated Geospatial Information Framework
- 12/106. Global geodetic reference frame
- 12/107. Geospatial information for sustainable development.
- 12/108. Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information
- 12/109. Application of geospatial information related to land administration and management
- 12/110. Geospatial information and services for disasters
- 12/111. Marine geospatial information**
- 12/112. Policy and legal frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data
- 12/113. Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community
- 12/114. Collaboration with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names
- 12/115. Programme management report



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**(ii) Twelfth Session of UN-GGIM, 3 - 5 August 2022****Decision 12/111. Marine geospatial information**

The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:

- (a) Welcomed the report of the working group on marine geospatial information (see E/C.20/2022/15) and noted its progress towards an updated workplan for the period 2023-2024 that would continue raising awareness, providing guidance and encouraging the availability and accessibility of marine geospatial information for the benefit of society, the environment and the economy;
- (b) Expressed its appreciation to the Government of Singapore and its Maritime and Port Authority for hosting the virtual webinar series in October 2021 and the in-person meeting of the working group together with an international seminar on effective and integrated marine geospatial information management in Singapore in May 2022, and welcomed the Singapore Statement on Effective and Integrated Marine Geospatial Information Management as an outcome;
- (c) Noted the continuing efforts of the working group to advance the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, and its nine strategic pathways, with the working group's Operational Framework for Integrated Marine Geospatial Information Management, which was being developed as a two-part document to leverage the guidance offered in the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, and to provide practical guidance for countries to extend the nine strategic pathways in the marine domain, ultimately working towards the vision of the integration of "water" into the global geospatial information ecosystem and to enhance the ability to make informed decisions to support the preservation and management of the ocean's resources;



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(ii) *Twelfth Session of UN-GGIM, 3 - 5 August 2022*



(d) Welcomed and endorsed part one of the Operational Framework for Integrated Marine Geospatial Information Management, an executive summary of the Operational Framework, and emphasized that the Operational Framework must provide practical guidance that Member States could use to enhance the availability and accessibility of marine geospatial information, including but not restricted to hydrography, oceanography, marine geology, marine biology, human-related activities and maritime governance, and that future marine geospatial infrastructures should be integrated with the broader geospatial ecosystem essential for the sustainable development of the world's resources and vital for responding to the impacts of climate change, which was particularly relevant to small island developing States;

(e) Noted that the updated workplan would seek to address issues related to the land-sea interface and coastal zones; integration of the maritime, terrestrial and cadastral domains; promoting the use of established standards; and strengthening collaboration, partnerships, engagement and capacity development, including with the International Hydrographic Organization, the Open Geospatial Consortium, the Singapore-International Hydrographic Organization Innovation and Technology Laboratory, the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans Seabed 2030 project and the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development;

(f) Also noted the offers of new members and relevant stakeholders, and the intention of the working group to convene its fourth expert meeting in Genoa, Italy, from 30 January to 3 February 2023.



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**AGENDA ITEM #4(b)**

**REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT ON E/RES/2022/24, THE TWELFTH SESSION OF UN-GGIM, AND THE PROGRAMME OF WORK OF UN-GGIM**

**(iii) Programme of Work of UN-GGIM**



- 1) Coordination and coherence
- 2) Normative and implementation
- 3) Normative and implementation - new, arising from decisions of Twelfth Session
- 4) Operations focused on SDGs and UN-IGIF (E/2022/24)  
*and in addition to the programme of work*
- 5) Convene global forums and promote comprehensive dialogue
- 6) Annual sessions
- 7) Administrative, compliance and management

Leadership

Purpose

Relevance

Impact



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### (iii) Programme of Work of UN-GGIM



#### 1. Coordination and coherence

- a) Regional committees
- b) Thematic networks including standards development organizations
- c) Functional groups -
  - i. High-level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework
  - ii. Subcommittee on Geodesy
  - iii. Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information
  - iv. Expert Group on Land Administration and Management
  - v. Working Group on Geospatial Information and Services on Disasters
  - vi. Working Group on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information Management
  - vii. Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information  
*plus* Working Group on Geospatial Information of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals Indicators;

and engagement with ECOSOC; Statistical Commission; United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names; DESA/CDPMO; UN system entities (FAO; UNOOSA; UNDRR; UNFPA; World Bank); International Hydrographic Organization; the International Bar Association; the International Organization for Standardization (Technical Committee 211) and the Open Geospatial Consortium



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### (iii) Programme of Work of UN-GGIM



#### 2. Normative and implementation

- a) Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (*UN-IGIF and E/RES/2022/24*).
- b) Global geodetic reference frame (*A/RES/69/266 - A global geodetic reference frame for sustainable development*).
- c) Geospatial information for sustainable development (*SDGs Geospatial Roadmap*).
- d) Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information (*Global Statistical Geospatial Framework*).
- e) Land administration and management (*Framework for Effective Land Administration*).
- f) Geospatial information and services for disasters (*Strategic Framework for Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters*).
- g) Integrated marine geospatial information (*Operational Framework for Integrated Marine Geospatial Information Management (UN-IGIF-Hydro)*).
- h) Policy and legal frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data.
- i) Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community.



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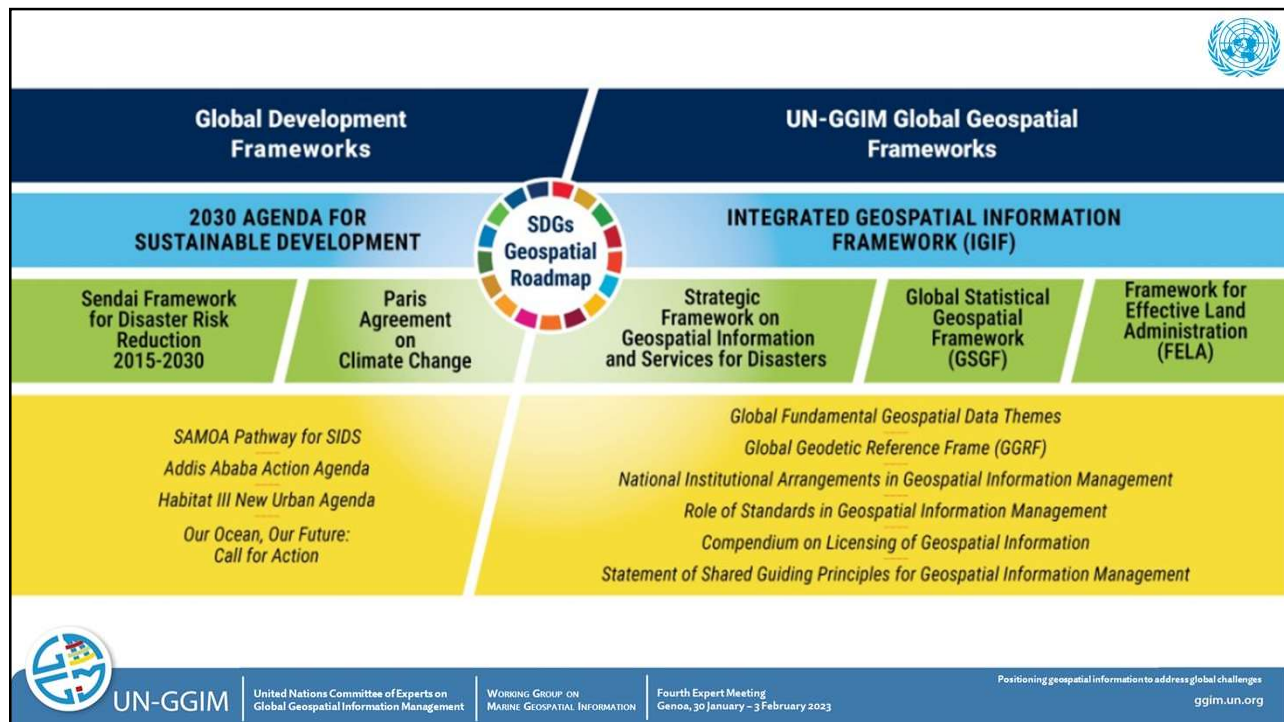
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**(iii) Programme of Work of UN-GGIM**

**3. Normative and implementation - new, arising from the decisions of the Twelfth Session**

- The future geospatial information ecosystem.
- Geospatial information for climate resilience

**4. Operations focused on SDGs and UN-IGIF (E/2022/24)**

- Concepts, approaches, guides and resource materials for SDGs and UN-IGIF
- Establishment and operationalization of UN-GGKIC
- Establishment and operationalization of UN-GGCE
- Expert meetings, seminars, workshops and activities of functional groups
- Capacity development under the China Trust Fund Phase II Project for Global Geospatial Information Management
- Capacity and capability strengthening for the operationalization of the UN-IGIF at the country level under SDG Data Alliance

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### (iii) Programme of Work of UN-GGIM



#### 5. Convene global forums and promote comprehensive dialogue

Congress, High-level Forum, International Forum and Seminar  
Regional Seminar and Workshop

#### 6. Annual sessions

Preparing, arranging, coordinating, convening and reporting  
Next session: Thirteenth session of UN-GGIM, 2 - 4 August 2023 at UNHQ

#### 7. Administrative, compliance and management

Global Geospatial Information Management Section, Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs including the work and activities of the UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names, United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre and the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence



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## Fourth Expert Meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information

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**A UNITED NATIONS PUBLICATION ON MARINE GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**



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## A United Nations Publication on Marine Geospatial Information Management



In the General Assembly Resolution 77/248 of 30 December 2022 entitled “Oceans and the law of the sea”, in paragraph 388, the General Assembly requests the Secretary-General for a publication on marine geospatial information management. Marine geospatial information management is a broad topic including hydrographic data, oceanographic data, geologic and geophysical data of the seabed and subsoil, biological and cryosphere data, meteorology and climate data, land and coast data, data on maritime governance and human-related activities, which are acquired and owned by different organizations and researchers or regulated by different authorities.

The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea in the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs is coordinating this publication that is expected to focus on issues that Member States would identify as priorities.

An expert group, nominated by Member States on the basis of equitable geographical distribution would assist the United Nations in preparing the publication. The Division is expected to finalize the publication with a view to submitting it for processing by the end of 2023



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## Fourth Expert Meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information

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### ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UN-GGKIC AND UN-GGCE UPDATES



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## ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UN-GGKIC AND UN-GGCE

### UPDATES

In adopting resolution 2022/24 entitled 'Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements' on 22 July 2022, ECOSOC recognized *"the sustained efforts of UN-GGIM to establish the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre in Deqing, China, and the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence at the United Nations Campus in Bonn, Germany, each of which will, in an open, inclusive, participatory and transparent manner, provide opportunities to develop and expand global geospatial capacity, competence and capability, and to strengthen geospatial information management arrangements in countries, especially developing countries."*



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## UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION CENTRE (UN-GGKIC), DEQING, CHINA



**The Overarching Goal** is to develop and promote the required innovation, leadership, coordination, and standards to strengthen the adoption of geospatial information to support the implementation of national development priorities and the SDGs.

**Leveraging the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework**, Member States will have the ability to integrate and deliver national geospatial information policy, data, systems, services and capabilities into national government development policies, strategies, and arrangements.



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## UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION CENTRE (UN-GGKIC), DEQING, CHINA





The objective of the Centre is to strengthen and advance the geospatial information management capacity development capabilities of Member States.

**Initial priorities will include:**

- Technical assistance and capacity building.
- Knowledge centre.
- Innovation and technology hub.

A **Steering Committee** will provide strategic advice on the annual work plan, programme implementation and the usage of funds.

An **International Advisory Committee** will provide the required guidance and advice on the development, implementation and review of the substantive annual programme of work of the Centre.



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## UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL GEODETIC CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE (UN-GGCE)

UN CAMPUS, BONN, GERMANY





The Overarching Goal of the United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence is to assist Member States and geodetic organizations to coordinate and collaborate to sustain, enhance, access and utilize an accurate, accessible and sustainable Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF) to support science, society and global development.

The objective of the Centre is to support the implementation of General Assembly resolution 69/266 through strengthening and advancing: global geodetic cooperation and coordination; worldwide geodetic infrastructure; standards, policies and conventions; education, training and capacity building; and communication and awareness, while also coordinating measures and overseeing their implementation.

<https://ggim.un.org/UNGGCE/>



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## UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL GEODETIC CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE (UN-GGCE) UN CAMPUS, BONN, GERMANY



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The priority is to initially focus on 5 key elements to maximize the benefit of ongoing geodetic efforts, ensure coherence, and avoid duplication of effort:

- Governance.
- Geodetic Infrastructure.
- Policies, Standards and Conventions.
- Education, Training and Capacity Building.
- Communication and Outreach

A **Steering Committee** will provide strategic advice on the annual work plan, its implementation and the reporting of the budget.

An **International Advisory Committee** will provide the required guidance and advice on the development, implementation and review of the substantive annual programme of work of the Centre.



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**DECADE  
OF  
ACTION**

## Fourth Expert Meeting of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information 30 January to 3 February 2023

**CONCLUDING THE REPORTING**

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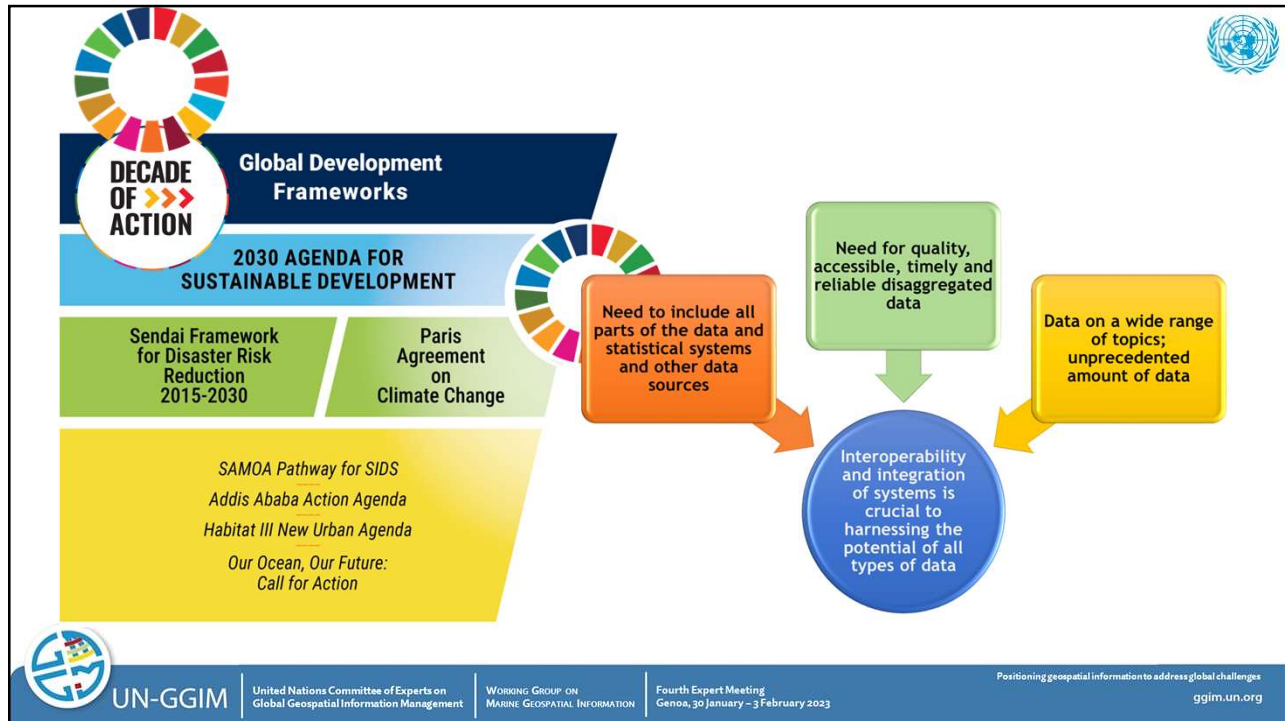
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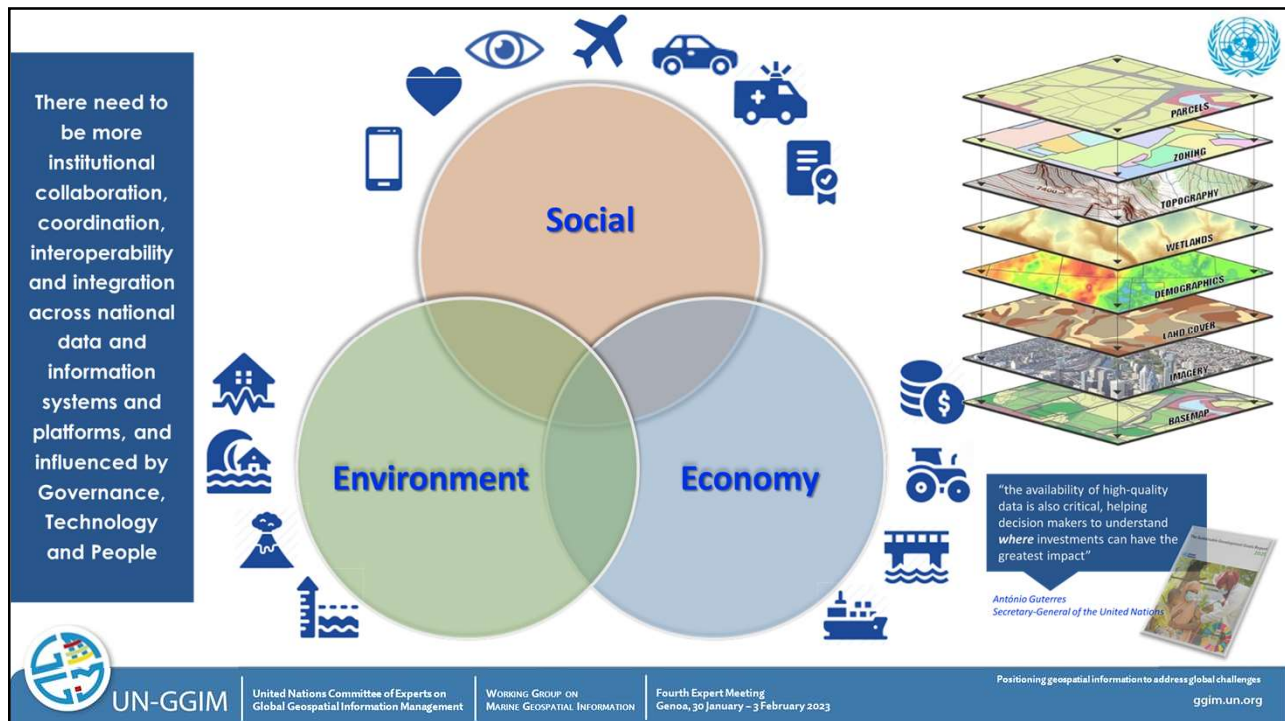
Fourth Expert Meeting  
Genoa, 30 January – 3 February 2023

Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges  
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### Global Development Frameworks

**2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

Paris Agreement on Climate Change

SAMOA Pathway for SIDS  
Addis Ababa Action Agenda  
Habitat III New Urban Agenda  
Our Ocean, Our Future: Call for Action



### UN-GGIM Global Geospatial Frameworks

**INTEGRATED GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION FRAMEWORK (IGIF)**

Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters

Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF)

Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA)

Global Fundamental Geospatial Data Themes  
Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF)  
National Institutional Arrangements in Geospatial Information Management  
Role of Standards in Geospatial Information Management  
Compendium on Licensing of Geospatial Information  
Statement of Shared Guiding Principles for Geospatial Information Management

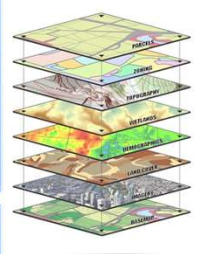
### Integrated Geospatial Information Framework

Why? Part 1

Implementation Guide Part 2

Country-level Action Plans Part 3


How, when, who? Part 3



**Geospatial information is a critical component of the national infrastructure and knowledge economy; a blueprint of what happens where, and the means to integrate a wide variety of government services.**

The UN-IGIF is a multi-dimensional Framework that is aimed at strengthening national geospatial information management in countries, developing countries in particular. It comprises an overarching Strategy - from local to global, Implementation guidance, and Action plans at the country level.

With a focus on the ability for geospatial information to be integrated with any other meaningful data to solve societal and environmental problems, the UN-IGIF acts as a catalyst for economic growth and opportunity and stimulates improved understanding and decision-making for national development priorities and the SDGs.



United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management


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Advance National Development Priorities

Advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Modernize National Geospatial Capacities

Advance Integrated Geospatial Information in Broader Digital Information Ecosystem

Support SDGs Global Indicator Framework and the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (GSGF)



**UN-IGIF**  
INTEGRATED GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION FRAMEWORK

Support Effective Administration of Land (FELA), coasts, seas and oceans (IGIF-Hydro)

Improve Health Care Delivery and Response


Manage Impacts of Climate Change

Facilitate Disaster Risk Reduction and Management

Basis for integrating the terrestrial, maritime and cadastral domains (UN-FELA/UN-IGIF-Hydro)

The United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) provides an overarching paradigm to further strengthen nationally integrated geospatial information management, not only for Member States that were in the early stages of adopting spatial data infrastructures but also for those that had already successfully implemented spatial data infrastructure capabilities

*(Eleventh session, Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, August 2021)*



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**Spatial Data Infrastructures**  
Human centered – A person searches, retrieves, processes and analyses data via a web catalogue to obtain knowledge.

**System of Systems**  
Distributed/federated interconnected systems managed under the control of humans and include advanced machine analytics and AI

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Transforming our world – The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

**DECADE OF ACTION**

**GRAZIE**  
**THANK YOU**

Twelfth Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management  
**3 – 5 August 2022**  
UNHQ, New York

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