Maximising the use of geospatial information in Europe for a safer and more sustainable world.

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Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe
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Major changes over the last year

Now, more than ever, there is global awareness of the importance of having location-based data available to face the social, economic and environmental challenges that societies face. The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, and more recently the COVID-19 pandemic have shown us the critical need for trusted and authoritative location-based data and information to be accessible, usable and time-relevant.

In the last year alone:

• The IPCC have released their latest flagship report on the state of the climate
• The SDGs have entered the Decade of Action recognising that with 10 years to go there needs to be a tremendous global effort to deliver the Goals by 2030
• The Covid-19 pandemic has impacted all of our lives and bought geospatial information to the forefront for many people.
UN-GGIM leads the way:

UN-GGIM has created frameworks in response to these global challenges:

- Integrated Geospatial Information Framework
- Global Statistical Geospatial Framework
- Framework for Effective Land Administration
- Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters
- The SDG Geospatial Roadmap

Each of these has a different area of focus but at their core promote geospatial and statistical data.
UN-GGIM: Europe responds to these challenges by…

• Identifying that the time is right to refresh the current Regional Strategy and Work Plan. UN-GGIM has continued to grow and change over the last ten years. As a Region we need to respond to these changes.

• Translating these global challenges into actions and activities that are relevant for Member States across our region.

• Recognising that it is not just about data, but about how the frameworks make the data applicable to us all.

• Showcasing our successes and aligning regional activities to the global UN-GGIM agenda.

And ultimately:

• Ensuring UN-GGIM: Europe is fit for the future.
To achieve this UN-GGIM: Europe Executive Committee

- Refreshed the Regional Strategy (which was agreed at the Eighth Plenary last year); and
- Agreed the new Work Plan which was adopted at the Ninth Plenary yesterday.

Vision & Mission Statement

Building on the overarching vision of UN-GGIM of *positioning geospatial information to effectively address global challenges*, UN-GGIM: Europe mission is:

Maximise the use of geospatial information in Europe for a safer and more sustainable world.

Through identifying opportunities, understanding and solving common challenges across the Europe Region. By collaborating with partners to enhance the use of geospatial data and its integration with statistics to inform and drive action.
The Strategy is supported by three pillars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pillar</th>
<th>Aim</th>
<th>Focus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sharing knowledge</td>
<td>Providing the tools for society</td>
<td>Prioritising contributions and informing the work plan to take action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raising awareness</td>
<td>Bringing everything and everyone together</td>
<td>Determining relevant partnerships and initiative to leverage the work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic leadership</td>
<td>Providing strategic alignment, and showcasing the added value</td>
<td>Setting out the core areas of work focus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Strategy is delivered through a Work Plan

### Integrated Geospatial Information Framework
- Activity lead – United Kingdom. ExCom lead – Sweden

### Global Geodetic Reference Frames
- Activity lead – to be confirmed. ExCom lead – Germany

### Data Integration
- Activity Lead – Germany. ExCom lead – Germany

### Sustainable Development Goals
- Activity lead – Portugal. ExCom lead – Portugal

### Data Strategy and Policy
- Activity lead – Poland. ExCom lead – Slovenia

The five ‘Lines of Work’ reflect priorities for the Regional Committee over the coming few years, and align with the objectives of UN-GGIM.

“Data Integration and ‘Sustainable Development Goals’ have been carried over from the previous Work Plan. The others are new activities.”
Activities with in the Work Plan: IGIF

Integrated Geospatial Information Framework

- Provides support and input to European Members of the HLG-IGIF
- Contribute to the global tasks of HLG-IGIF making sure regional concerns are raised and addressed
- Understand issues and obstacles the Regional Members may face when looking to implement IGIF

ExCom Lead: Sweden
Activity Lead: UK

Interested in: Albania, Belarus, Belgium, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands, Ukraine, United Kingdom.
ConsultingWhere, Esri, EuroGeographics, EuroSDR.
Activities with in the Work Plan: GRF

Geodetic Reference Frames

• Contribute to the activities of the Subcommittee of Geodesy
• Focus on growing and sustaining the geodesy profession

ExCom Lead: Germany
Activity Lead: tbc
Interested in: Belgium, Finland, Germany, Greece, Luxembourg, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom.
Activities with in the Work Plan: DI

Data Integration

- Maintain the active contribution on data methods and showcasing the value of integrating geospatial data with other data
- Explore ways to support activities promoting geospatial and statistical data integration

ExCom Lead: Germany
Activity Lead: Germany
Interested in: Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Israel, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, The Netherlands, United Kingdom.
Esri, EuroGeographics, EEA, Eurostat.
Activities with in the Work Plan: SDG

• Showcasing the added value of integrating geospatial data with other data to address SDG indicators
• Explore further requirements and practices on the use and integration of Earth Observation data

ExCom Lead: Portugal
Activity Lead: Germany & Portugal

Interested in: Austria, Albania, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom.
ConsultingWhere, DGREGIO, EEA, Eurostat.
Activities with in the Work Plan: DSP

Data Strategy and Policy

- Contribute to the development of relevant policy and data strategies
- Understand the links between European policy and the IGIF

ExCom Lead: Slovenia
Activity Lead: Poland
Interested in: Albania, Belarus, Finland, Germany, Greece, Lithuania, Portugal, Republic of Serbia, United Kingdom.
ConsultingWhere, Esri, EuroGeographics, EuroSDR.
Share of those who considered the lines of work relevant (points 5 and 6) by line of work and type of organization (NMCA/NSI)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line of Work</th>
<th>NMCA</th>
<th>NSI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data Strategy and Policy</td>
<td>57,1</td>
<td>63,6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG</td>
<td>51,5</td>
<td>61,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Integration</td>
<td>33,3</td>
<td>66,7</td>
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<tr>
<td>GGRF</td>
<td>61,9</td>
<td>75,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IGIF</td>
<td>61,9</td>
<td>72,7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Share of those who would like to participate actively by line of work and type of organization (NMCA/NSI)

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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Data Strategy and Policy</td>
<td>16,7</td>
<td>18,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG</td>
<td>15,6</td>
<td>33,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Integration</td>
<td>11,1</td>
<td>28,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GGRF</td>
<td>34,4</td>
<td>38,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IGIF</td>
<td>37,5</td>
<td>37,5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
So, what next?

• If you're not already connected to your counterpart in your national statistical office/national mapping agency, reach out... they're probably sat next to you!
• Be part of the conversation and activities of UN-GGIM: Europe.
• Contact UN-GGIM: Europe Secretariat (carol.agius@eurogeographics.org) to get involved.

.... Get Engaged
UN-GGIM: Europe Strategy Project Team

Executive Leadership
Francisco Vala (PT)
David Henderson (UK)
Carol Agius

Member State Representatives
Catia Nunes
James Norris
Pier-Giorgio Zaccheddu
Anders Sandin
Jerker Mostrom
Joep Crompvoets
Berny Kersten

Special thanks
To all the individuals and organisations who took the time to respond to our surveys and contribute to the discussion!
Thank you

Contact UN-GGIM: Europe Secretariat (carol.agius@eurogeographics.org) to find out more
Links and references

UN-GGIM: Europe Website
UN-GGIM: Europe Strategy
UN-GGIM: Europe Work Plan

Integrated Geospatial Information Framework
The SDG Geospatial Roadmap
Global Statistical Geospatial Framework