

Executive Committee
14 January 2015



UN-GGIM: EUROPE

UNITED NATIONS INITIATIVE ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

3rd High Level Forum

22-24 October 2014, Beijing, China

Observations by Dorine Burmanje



Setting

- Theme : Sustainable development with geospatial information
- Hosted : By NASG, dr Li Pengde, well organised, gracious hospitality
- Attending : 261 participants (44 countries, UN, private sector, NGOs)
- Objective : Positioning geospatial information as enabler for issues in society

“Countries share a common fate, as sustainable development has emerged as a global issue for all of us” Vice Minister Kurexi Maihestu



Observations I

- Post development 2015 agenda is key
- Geospatial information is relevant to enable solutions by decision makers
- Focus on human themes:
 - managing climate change/disasters,
 - sustainable cities and human settlements,
 - science, technology, and innovation to measure and monitor progress,
 - working together across borders and regions.
- Holistic approach
- Geo-information supports:
decision making, the increase of transparency regarding public information, optimises natural resources, environment protection, sustainable urbanisation and monitoring progress of the PD-goals



Observations II

In order to put geospatial information on the political agenda:

- Show its appeal/”make it sexier” or/and
- Raise awareness to support our staff in what they deliver

• Recommendations:

- Seek collaboration with your ministry/ask their geospatial strategy
- Monitor the political agenda and seek opportunities
- Prepare your organisations’ public affairs

• It is about combining data by using technology (3D, mobility, big data, users)

• A fit-for-purpose approach is key (using tools meeting user-requirements)



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Results

- Strengthening the alliance between participating countries and the geospatial community in supporting the PD-goals, hence our connected society at large
- Insight in the current state of affairs regarding innovation, best practices, etc
- A growing sense of urgency to support our political leaders in their decisions
- International coherence in which Europe has a unique and binding role
- The Beijing Declaration

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