

# Report from the Executive Committee: A year in review

Kristian Møller,  
Member of the Executive Committee, Denmark



**UN-GGIM**  
**EUROPE**

UNITED NATIONS  
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT



*3<sup>rd</sup> Plenary Meeting*  
*5<sup>th</sup> October 2016*  
*Budapest, Hungary*

# The aim of UN-GGIM: Europe

The aim of UN-GGIM: Europe work is to ensure that the **national mapping and cadastral authorities** and **national statistical institutes** in the **European UN Member States**, the **European Institutions** and **associated bodies work together** to contribute to the more effective management and availability of **geospatial information in Europe**, and its integration with other information, based on user needs and requirements

- The intention of UN-GGIM: Europe is to build on the existing frameworks in Europe by:
  - avoiding duplication of efforts;
  - improving the joint response to user needs and requirements;
  - encouraging geospatial data interoperability, harmonisation and sharing;
  - optimising the overall management of geospatial information in Europe.



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Plenary Meeting UN-GGIM: Europe

- 7th October 2015 in Belgrade, Serbia
- 110 delegates from 34 Member States and 9 observer organisations
- Progress of regional working groups
- Approved the work plan for 2015 - 2018



# Executive Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe

- UN-GGIM: Europe is coordinated and managed by an Executive Committee of nine: one chair, two vice-chairs and six members nominated and approved at the inaugural meeting in 2014
- Held five times over the past 12 months:
  - Work plan
  - Regional working groups,
  - Global agenda of Committee of Experts,
  - Strengthen the integration of geospatial information with statistics
  - Increase the cooperation with the wider geospatial community in Europe



# Regional working groups

UN-GGIM: Europe has three regional working groups:

- Working A - Core Data
  - identified the 14 core data themes as the most frequently required by SDG use cases
- Working Group B – Data Integration
  - reported on how evidence based decision making can benefit from geospatial information in combination with other information at regional, national and sub-national levels, reflecting the UN and the European goals
- GRF-Europe
  - build a close connection to the geodesy-related organizations in Europe, and actively contribute to the work of the global GGRF Working Group



# UN-GGIM: WG Fundamental Data

## UN-GGIM: WG Fundamental Data

- Global Working group
- UN-GGIM: Europe mandated at GGIM5 to establish and lead a Global Working Group to determine global fundamental geospatial data themes
- Global consultations at international events and with different UN-GGIM regions carried out
- Aim to present a final report to the Committee at GGIM7



# Global Coordination

- UN-GGIM Extended Bureau: UN-GGIM co-chairs, Chairs of the Regional committee, the Secretariat and leads of the UN-GGIM networks
- Three UN-GGIM Extended Bureau meetings held over the course of the year.
- The focus of these meetings is to organise the work of the Committee across the regions.
- Particular focus this year was given to the preparation for the Programme Review of the work of the Committee of Experts over the past five years.



# Programme Review of UN-GGIM

In July 2016 ECOSOC adopted a draft resolution entitled "*Strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management*"

- With this resolution the mandate of UN-GGIM is strengthened
- Committee is now well placed to contribute to:
  - The 2030 Agenda
  - The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction,
  - The Paris Agreement on Climate Change



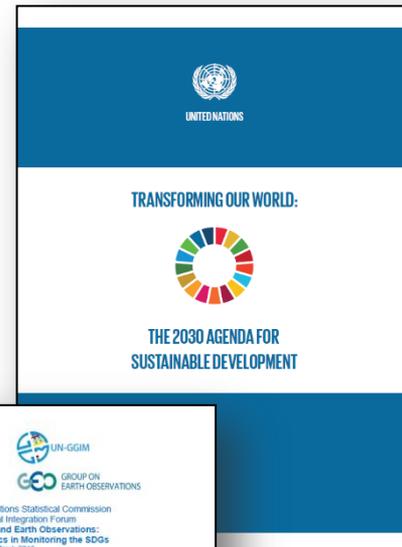
# Sixth Session of the Committee of Experts

- UN Headquarters in New York 1–5 August
- 300 delegates from 93 UN Member States, and 49 international organisations & observers
- 24 European UN Member states
- European Statistical and Geospatial Communities represented (Eurostat & EuroGeographics)
- 26 Side events during GGIM6 week
- UN-GGIM: Europe organised three side meetings



# Geospatial context for the SDGs

- 'Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development' - Earth observation and geospatial information were specifically mentioned in the area of follow up and review.
- IAEG-SDGs to develop the global indicator framework - 17 SDGs and 169 targets.
- UN-GGIM Task Team to represent the Committee as a geospatial expert to the IAEG-SDGs showing how geospatial information can significantly enhance the SDG indicators
- IAEG-SDGs recognize that the integration of geospatial information and statistical data is key
- Statistical-Geographic Integration Forum on 'Geospatial Information and Earth Observations: Supporting Official Statistics in Monitoring the SDGs' at the 47th Statistical Commission
- IAEG-SDGs Working Group on Geospatial Information
- UN-GGIM: Europe will Working Group on Data Integration to interact and contribute to this WG.



# Partnerships, Regional and International Collaboration

- UN-GGIM: Europe accepted an invitation from UN-GGIM: Arab states to participate in their the [3<sup>rd</sup> Regional Meeting in Abu Dhabi, UAE in February 2016](#).
- [2<sup>nd</sup> Joint UN-GGIM: Europe and ESS](#) meeting in March 2015 provided forum for feedback on how geospatial and statistical experts can provide support to SDGs indicators
- UN-GGIM: Europe actively participated in the [UN-GGIM Fourth High Level Forum](#) at UNECA's Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in April 2016.
- UN-GGIM: Europe has a continuous, engagement with the region's NSIs & NMCA's through active collaboration with EuroGeographics and Eurostat.



# Publicity and Outreach

- INTERGEO Plenary September 2015, Stuttgart, Germany
- EFGS Conference, November 2015, Vienna, Austria,
- 64th Plenary Session of the Conference of European Statisticians, April 2016, Paris, France
- Two UN-GGIM: Europe Workshops held at GWF 2016, May 2016 Rotterdam, the Netherlands
- 9th Regional Conference on Cadastre and Spatial Data Infrastructure, June 2016 Opatija, Croatia
- ISPRS Congress, July 2016, Prague, Czech Republic
- INSPIRE Conference, September 2016, Barcelona Spain



# Observer organisations

Engaging with the wider geospatial and statistical communities in Europe:

- Encourage a high level of active participation from the wider geospatial community
- Raise interest from observing bodies, relevant professional, research and academic organizations and associations

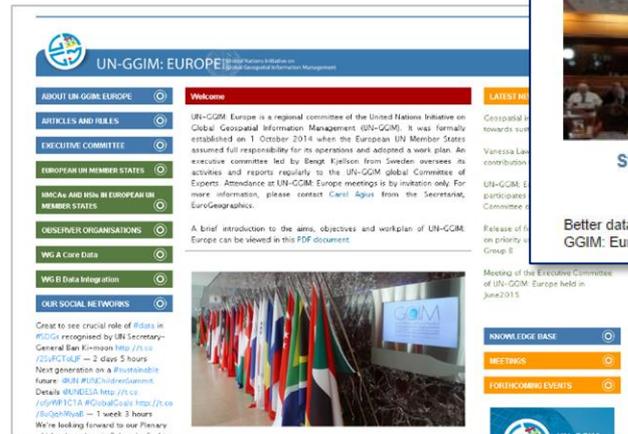


# Media and communication

- Press releases publicising regional and global UN-GGIM activities and achievements
- [UN-GGIM: Europe Newsletter](#)
- Website: <http://un-ggim-europe.org/>
- Twitter account: @UNGGIMEurope



#GGIMEurope



Newsletter 01-16

## Updating you on UN-GGIM: Europe and its activities

It is almost two years since UN-GGIM: Europe was officially established at its first Plenary in Moldova. When I look back over the past 24 months, I never fail to be amazed by the progress that we have made together. Recommendations for meeting priority user needs have been delivered, the data required for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) assessed and initial work on core data descriptions drafted.

In addition, we have seen the UN's adoption of the 2030 Agenda which recognises and provides a global policy mandate for the role of geospatial data in supporting the SDGs. We know however that there is still much that the geospatial community can contribute to create a better future for people and planet. That's why we have introduced this newsletter to keep you up to date on UN-GGIM: Europe activities.

In this first issue, we're reporting on our second joint meeting with the European Statistical System (ESS) as well as the latest news from our working groups on data integration and core data. We're also pleased to announce the establishment of a third working group, GRF-Europe which will to coordinate the region's contribution to the UN's Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF).

Our next issue will report on GGIM6, which will be held at UN Headquarters in New York from 1 to 5 August, and our third Plenary on 5 October. In the meantime, don't forget you can follow us on Twitter @UNGGIMEurope or visit our website [www.un-ggim-europe.org](http://www.un-ggim-europe.org).

Bengt Kjellson  
Chair, UN-GGIM: Europe



Statistical and geospatial experts hear that better data means better lives

Better data can indeed make for better lives, delegates at the second Joint Meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe and European Statistical System (ESS) have heard.



# Priority Issues and Challenges

The Executive Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe will focus on the following priority issues for the coming period:

- The Sustainable Development Goals
- Improved collaboration between the statistical and geospatial communities
- Global Fundamental Data Themes
- The continuation of the work of the Committee of Experts following the adoption of the resolution



The Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe will continue to actively contribute to and promote the work of the UN-GGIM, both at regional and global levels.



**Thank you!**

