

# UN-GGIM: Europe Year in Review



**UN-GGIM  
EUROPE**

UNITED NATIONS  
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

*Sixth Plenary Meeting UN-GGIM: Europe  
Brussels, Belgium 5 – 6 May 2019*



# Fifth Plenary Meeting UN-GGIM: Europe

Brought together senior executives and experts from the national geospatial information and statistical authorities of 24 Member States, and 12 international and observer organisations. The meeting was held on the 6 - 7 June 2018 in Brussels and was hosted by EuroStat. The wider UNECE Member States were invited to participate in the meeting.

## **Twin main themes emerging discussions:**

- Cooperation AND coordination between the statistical and geospatial communities is need.
- Data retains its importance regardless of the impact of disruptive technologies, and social, economic and environment changes.



<https://un-ggim-europe.org/past-meetings/plenary-meetings/fifth-plenary-un-ggim-europe-june-2018/>



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# Governance 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 Regional Plenary Meetings
- Changes to ExCom at the Fifth Plenary Meeting:
  - Bengt Kjellson, Sweden stepped down as Chair of UN-GGIM: Europe
  - New Chair is Tomaž Petek, Slovenia
  - New Committee Member is David Henderson, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- The Netherlands is responsible for providing the secretariat to UN-GGIM: Europe. The function of the Secretariat of UN-GGIM: Europe is funded and executed by EuroGeographics AISBL through a Service Level Agreement with Kadaster Netherlands. SLA renewed for another two years until the end of 2020.



# UN-GGIM: Europe – Regional Working Groups

- [Working Group on Core Data](#) is focusing on increasing data interoperability and harmonisation by proposing core geospatial data which meets essential user needs
  - issued recommendations for content for four themes since last plenary
- [Working Group Data Integration](#) works to ensure that the regional entity focuses on how geospatial data can enhance sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda in Europe.
  - Delivered on all scheduled tasks outlined in work plan
- [Working Group on Geodetic Reference Frame - Europe](#) has a close connection to the various geodesy-related organisations in Europe, and actively contributes to the of the SCoG.
  - Currently reviewing its scope to avoid regional duplication



## Regional Activities: Annual meeting with NMCAs & NSIs

- Continuing what has now become a tradition, representatives from European Statistical and Mapping Authorities congregated in Luxembourg. The fifth edition of the meeting was this year also organised together with Eurostat and UNECE.
- The Fifth Joint UN-GGIM: Europe - ESS - UNECE Meeting was hosted by Eurostat in Luxembourg on the 29th March 2019.
- Focus was on capacity development in the statistical and geospatial communities



<https://un-ggim-europe.org/past-meetings/other-meetings/5th-joint-un-ggim-europe-ess-unece-meeting-march-2019/>



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# Regional Activities: Further events

- XI. Regional conference on cadastre and spatial data infrastructure, May 2018, Budva, Montenegro
- INSPIRE Conference, September 2018, Antwerp
- European Forum for Geography and Statistics Conference, October 2018, Helsinki
- Joint UN-GGIM: Europe – UNECE – Eurostat – EFTA workshop on data integration, May 2019, Belgrade, Serbia



# Participation in Eight Session UN-GGIM

- Active participation of European Member States in plenary session of UN-GGIM8
- Organised regional side meetings and meeting on Fundamental Data Themes
- Coordinated interventions from Europe on all agenda items
- Meeting of Un-GGIM: Europe ExCom
- Participation of UN-GGIM: Europe in Expanded Bureau meeting



# Some outcomes from GGIM8

Session outcomes include:

- New bureau for UN-GGIM

Co-chairs :

- Dorine Burmanje, the Netherlands
- Li Pengde, China
- Fernand Guy Isseri, Cameroon

Rapporteur:

- Macarena Perez Garcia, Chile

- Adoption of Overarching Geospatial Framework in collaboration with the World Bank
- Agreement of the high-level descriptions of the 14 Fundamental Data Themes
- Agreed to the Sixth High-level Forum on GGIM in the UK in April 2020 (first HLF in Europe)
- Revising the Future Trends report over the coming 18 months, taking into account new and emerging technologies



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# Contribution to UN-GGIM - Fundamental Data

The Experts Committee mandated UN-GGIM: Europe to establish and lead a Global Working Group to draw together current projects from different UN-GGIM regional bodies to determine global fundamental geospatial data themes. The Working Group continued with its work, and successfully fulfilled its mandate and terms of reference. A report on work of the UN-GGIM WG on Fundamental Data was submitted to the Committee of Experts at its Eight Session.



Global Geodetic Reference Frame



Geographical Names



Addresses



Functional Areas



Buildings and Settlements



Land Parcels / Properties



Transport Networks



Elevation and Depth



Population Distribution



Land Cover and Use



Geology and Soils



Physical Infrastructure/Service Points



Water



Imagery



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# Contribution to UN-GGIM – IAEG-SDG WGGI

UN-GGIM: Europe continues with its active participation and contribution to Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals Indicator (IAEG-SDGs) Working Group on Geospatial Information. Participating in the meetings and aligning the work of the regional Working Group on Data Integration to provide European input to the Expert Group.



# Contribution to UN-GGIM – First United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress

UN-GGIM: Europe members, participated in the first United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress ((UNWGIC) held in Deqing, Hanzhou Province, China in November 2018.

In his welcome address, the UN Secretary General gave a clear statement on the global importance of geospatial data, particularly for SDGs. The three-day event focused on strengthening national geospatial information management and systems, as well as national implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The UNWGIC Geospatial Technology and Application Exhibition was also held as an important part of the Congress. It showcased state-of-the-art technologies, products and application solutions from the world-leading geospatial companies, academic and research institutions, as well as other related organizations from across the globe.



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<http://ggim.un.org/unwgic/>

## Contribution to UN-GGIM – cont.

- UN-GGIM: Europe contributed to the participation at 6th Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Arab States in Jeddah in February 2019, sharing experiences and knowledge with the Regional Committee of Arab States.



# Concrete proposals for collaboration activities in 2018-2020

The UNECE Secretariat and the Executive Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe have agreed to pursue the following collaboration activities in the period 2018-2020:

- Geospatial information for sustainable development
- Building networks and promoting communication
- Integration of geospatial, statistical and other information
- Capacity building
- Involvement of other UNECE work programmes
- Cross-representation in the activities of the other body
- Reporting on progress / work accomplished



**By:**

Establishing reciprocity and participating in each other's regional meetings, organising joint events on topics of mutual interest, collaborating in producing outputs on relevant topics, collaborating on exchange of good practices, developing joint capacity building activities in member states, developing the concept of core data for geospatial and statistical communities, promoting easier access to data, and developing wider communication networks



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# Realising the Potential of Statistical and Geospatial Data

- A Workshop on Data Integration brought together close to 100 experts from the statistical and geospatial communities to share their experiences on realising the potential of statistical and geospatial data.
- The workshop was a collaboration between UN-GGIM: Europe, UNECE, Eurostat, the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) and the Serbian Statistical Office.
- The three-day international event provided experts with insights into the benefits of data integration, practical examples and case-studies, challenges and innovations in the field and also opportunities to discuss and explore future collaboration.



# Collaborating with 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
- Engage with the observer organisations to integrate their participation in UN-GGIM: Europe activities



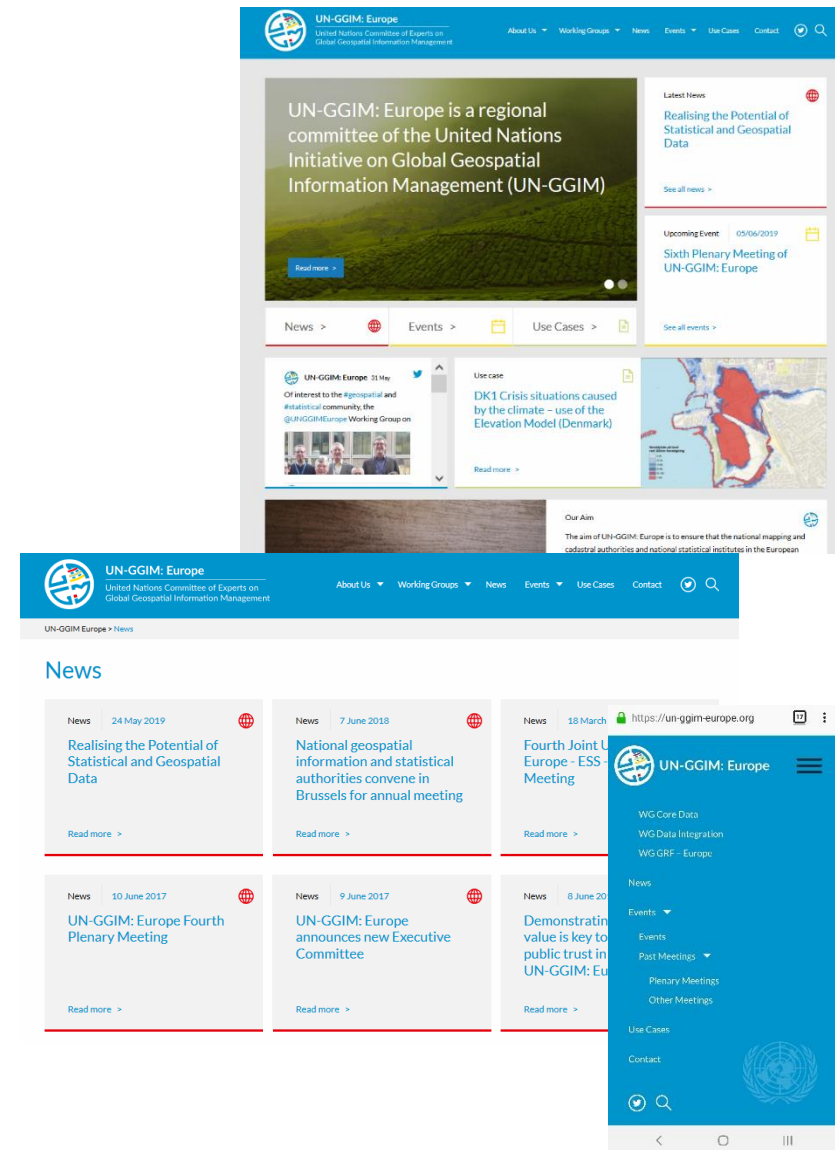
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# A fresh new look website

- Updated and relaunched the UN-GGIM: Europe website
- Providing a modern interface for the Regional Committee's website on a secure platform
- Optimised to work well across different device types



# Looking forward - Activities 2019

UN-GGIM: Europe is planning to organise/actively participate in the following future events in the next twelve months:

- Sixth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe, June 2019, Brussels, Belgium
- Ninth Session of the Committee of Experts, August 2019, New York
- Balkans Regional Conference, September, Sarajevo
- European Forum for Geography and Statistics Conference, October 2019, Manchester



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## Priority Issues and Challenges

The Executive Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe consider that some of the priority issues for the coming period include:

- The Sustainable Development Goals
- Improved collaboration between the statistical and geospatial communities
- Capacity Development
- Concluding the work on Fundamental Geospatial Data Themes
- The Integrated Global Geospatial Framework



**Thank you for  
contributing to the  
success of  
UN-GGIM: Europe!**



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