

# Year in Review



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

UNITED NATIONS  
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

*Eighth Plenary Meeting October 2021*



# Annual Regional Session



- Held the Seventh UN-GGIM: Europe Plenary June 2020 overlapping with the 68th Plenary Session of the Conference of European Statisticians as a virtual event with participation from 34 Member states and 11 International Originations
- Session included practical examples of how National Statistical and Geospatial Agencies have risen and responded in their national response to the Covid-19 crisis. The pandemic has reinforced the importance of connecting people and place.
- Recognise that the virtual platform enabled wider participation in the regional event, strive to find a balance in the future.
- Encouraged the regional support of the global programme of UN-GGIM, especially the IGIF and the GGCE



<https://un-ggim-europe.org/past-meetings/plenary-meetings/seventh-plenary-un-ggim-europe-june-2020/>



# Governance of UN-GGIM: Europe

- UN-GGIM: Europe is coordinated and managed by an Executive Committee approved at Regional Plenary Meetings
- The current Executive Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe:

## Chair

- Tomaz Petek, Slovenia

## Vice-Chairs

- Francisco Vala, Portugal
- David Henderson, United Kingdom

## Members

- Ingrid Vanden Berghe, Belgium
- Paul Becker, Germany
- Frank Tierolff, Netherlands
- Janusz Dygaszewicz, Poland
- Susanne Ås Sivborg, Sweden

- 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 which has been renewed for another two years until the end of 2022.



# UN-GGIM: Europe – Work plan



- [Working Group on Core Data](#) is focusing on increasing data interoperability and harmonisation by proposing core geospatial data which meets essential user needs
  - provide recommendations for content for core data, based on user needs and requirements, especially those related to SDGs, and on INSPIRE data specifications, making use of the outcomes and specifications of other initiatives, such as the European Location Services project, and carrying out an extended consultation with the geo-statistical community.
- [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.
  - Analysing further SDG indicators – focusing on Earth Observation, and can include as part of a sub-task 'Requirements and practices from National Statistical Offices for the use of earth observation data for national statistics'
  - Advisory Group for global and European data integration issues
  - Analysis of (future) trends in data capture, creation, maintenance and management – using Linked (Open) Data methods to enhance data integration





# 2020 GEO SDG Award

- UN-GGIM: Europe received a 2020 GEO SDG Award as part of the Earth Observations for Sustainable Development Goals (EO4SDG) Initiative.
- The award was in recognition of the efforts of the Regional Working Group on Data Integration to analyse the contribution of geospatial data and its integration with statistical data to calculate SDG indicators 11.3.1 (land use efficiency), 15.1.1 (forest area), and 15.3.1 (land degradation).

 **Group on Earth Observations (GEO)** @GEOSEC2025 · Nov 4, 2020  
Congratulations to @UNGGIMEurope for receiving the 2020  #GEOAwards  in the "GEO Observers" category for using #EO data to move forward #SDG indicators for land use efficiency, forest area & land degradation. #SDG11 #SDG15 #GEOWeek2020 #EO4SDG @EO4SDG



# Collaboration agreement between UN-GGIM: Europe and UNECE

- The collaboration agreement between UN-GGIM: Europe and UNECE concluded at the end of 2020, collaboration has been successful, producing tangible results.
- The focus of the collaboration agreement is capacity development, identifying areas of collaboration include data integration, developing the concept of core data for geospatial and statistical communities, promoting easier access to data, and developing wider communication networks.
- In December the collaboration agreement between UN-GGIM: Europe and UNECE was renewed for a further two years until the end of 2022.



# Strategic areas for future collaboration

UN-GGIM: Europe and the UNECE Secretariat have identified the following strategic areas as priorities for future collaboration, which are in line with the latest directions of work from the UN-GGIM Committee at global level:

- Geospatial information for Sustainable Development
- Building networks and promoting communication
- Integration of geospatial, statistical and other information, including capacity development
- Involvement of other UNECE work programmes





# Joint UN-GGIM: Europe – ESS – UNECE

- The [seventh edition of the Joint UN-GGIM: Europe – ESS – UNECE](#) meeting, traditionally hosted by Eurostat in Luxembourg City was organised, for the second time, as a virtual event in March 2021.
- Representatives from European Statistical and Mapping Authorities gathered online to follow the progress of the work being carried out by the region's statistical and geospatial communities.
- The meeting was jointly organised together with Eurostat and UNECE.





# European Geodesy Forum



- The UN-GGIM: Europe and the UN-GGIM Subcommittee on Geodesy, convened the European Geodesy Forum June 2021.
- Titled “Towards a sustainable Global Geodetic Reference Frame: European Contribution”, the main focus of the forum was to seek feedback from European Member States, as part of the regional consultation on the two papers prepared by the Subcommittee on Geodesy.
- The aim of the forum was to generate further support for the work of the Subcommittee on Geodesy and the UN Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence in Bonn, Germany.



# Other Regional Events

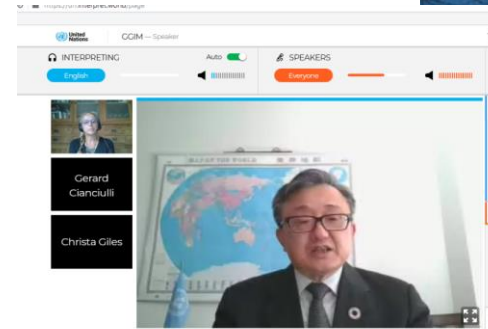
UN-GGIM: Europe actively participated in the following events:

- EuroGeographics General Assembly, October 2020
- European Forum for Geography and Statistics Conference, October 2020
- 11th Iberian Spatial Data Infrastructure Conference, October 2020
- EuroGeographics General Assembly, May 2021
- Joint PCC and EuroGeographics CLRKEN Conference under the Presidency of Portugal, May 2021
- EUREF 2021 Symposium, Ljubljana, Slovenia, May 2021
- UN HABITAT/EC DG REGIO meeting, June 2021
- European Forum for Geography and Statistics Conference, September 2021
- EuroGEO Week, September 2021



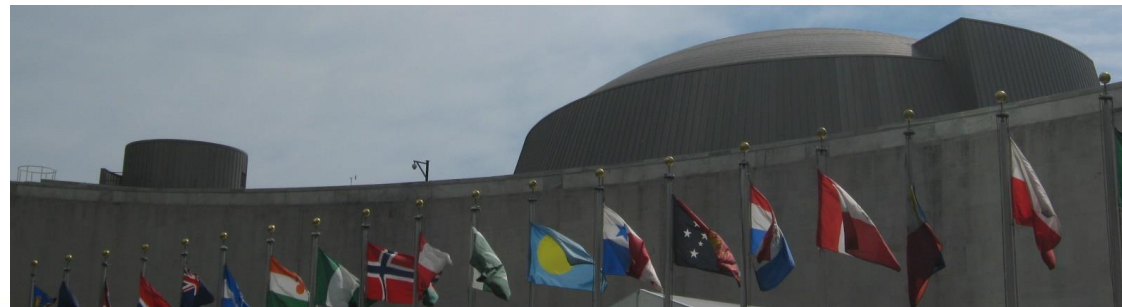
# Annual sessions of the Committee of Experts

- Tenth and Eleventh Sessions organised as virtual events
- Ingrid Vanden Berghe (Belgium), elected co-chair of UN-GGIM
- UN-GGIM: Europe actively participated in the Annual Sessions of the CoE
- All agenda items on the agenda were brought before the Committee of Experts, key items include: IGIF, GGRF & GGCE, data for SDGs and the Strengthening Institutional Arrangements on Geospatial Information Management



# Contribution to UN-GGIM Activities

- UN-GGIM: Europe aligns the tasks of the Working Group on Data Integration towards providing a European input to the IAEG-SDGs WGGI
- Nominated four members from UN-GGIM: Europe to represent the region at the High-Level Group of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (HLG-IGIF)
- Support the process to strengthen geospatial information management and proposed report of the Committee of Experts to be submitted to the 2022 ECOSOC Session





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



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