



## UN-GGIM: EUROPE – Secretariat

### Report to Ninth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe

#### Introduction

UN-GGIM: Europe consists of national representatives of European UN Member States, concerned with the management of geospatial, statistical and other information falling within the scope of UN-GGIM activities. In the management of activities, the European UN Member States are represented by the Executive Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe. The Executive Committee is supported by a Secretariat. According to the Articles and Rules the responsibility for providing the secretariat to UN-GGIM: Europe is granted to a member of the regional entity by agreement of the Member States at a plenary meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe. The Netherlands, represented by Kadaster, takes responsibility for the Secretariat, the function of which is funded and executed by EuroGeographics AISBL, the European Association of National mapping, cadastral and land registries, through a Service Level Agreement originally signed in January 2015, and which was extended in December 2020 for a further period of two years.

The role and responsibilities of the Secretariat are defined in the approved articles of UN-GGIM: Europe<sup>1</sup> as well as the work plans approved at the annual plenary meetings of the regional committee.

#### Overview of work

In accordance with its tasks and responsibilities, EuroGeographics, on behalf of the Secretariat, has carried out the tasks listed below in the nine months since the Eighth Plenary Meeting held in in October 2021.

- Support the effective and smooth operation of UN-GGIM: Europe:
  - arranged and acted as secretary to the Executive Committee at their meetings - four regular meetings were held in the past nine months, a number of ad hoc, informal meetings were held during various physical events during this period;
  - maintained and updated the UN-GGIM: Europe website<sup>2</sup>;
  - undertook and managed communication about the activities of UN-GGIM: Europe through news items, direct emails and via a Twitter account<sup>3</sup> which continued to grow and currently numbers over 1600 followers;
  - liaised with the Executive Committee and the Regional Working Groups to communicate the working groups' messages to members and facilitate their work;
  - worked with the Executive Committee to communicate the ECOSOC review process of strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management to Member States;
  - worked with the Executive Committee and Strategic Project Team to launch the regional work plan based on the renewed UN-GGIM: Europe strategy;
  - launched a questionnaire to UN-GGIM: Europe Member States and observer organisations about implementing the UN-GGIM: Europe work plan;
  - forwarded communications and outputs from the UN-GGIM Secretariat and Committee of Experts to the Regional Members and relevant stakeholders;

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<sup>1</sup> <https://un-ggim-europe.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/UN-GGIM-Europe-Articles-and-Rules-v2-Adopted2014.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://un-ggim-europe.org/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://twitter.com/UNGGIMEurope>



- worked in collaboration with UNECE to organise and hold the Ninth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe, which is being organised in parallel with the 70th Session of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) and with include a joint day featuring topics of common interest to the statistical and geospatial communities.
- Assist the Executive Committee in establishing and maintaining cooperation with UN-GGIM and its regional entities:
  - maintained regular contact and liaison with UN-GGIM Secretariat through emails, regular calls and in person meetings to facilitate work at the regional and global levels;
  - participated in the Expanded Bureau meetings;
  - participated in meetings with the UN-GGIM Secretariat and the secretariat support of the committees of the other four Regional UN-GGIM entities;
  - liaised with UNECE to establish, maintain and increase the collaboration between the UN-GGIM: Europe and UNECE as part of the collaboration agreement between UN-GGIM: Europe and UNECE. The focus of the collaboration agreement is capacity development. The collaboration agreement between UN-GGIM: Europe and UNECE was renewed in December 2020 for a further two years until the end of 2022;
  - started preparations for the reporting and participation of UN-GGIM: Europe to the Twelfth Session of the Committee of Experts which will take place in August 2022;
  - provided input, on request, to the preparations for the 2nd UN World Geospatial Information Congress which will take place at Hyderabad, India in October 2022.
- Support general awareness of UN-GGIM: Europe amongst relevant European organisations:
  - communicated with various UN-GGIM: Europe observer organisations throughout the course of the year;
  - communicated with a number of organisations which approached UN-GGIM: Europe for its participation and input in different events; prepared a number of presentations for various events promoting UN-GGIM: Europe;
  - organised and ran a joint UN-GGIM: Europe UNECE<sup>4</sup> meeting in the March 2022 together with UNECE, an annual event that brings together experts from European mapping and statistical organisations, which was once again organised as a virtual event due to the COVID-19 crisis;
  - worked in collaboration with EuroGeographics to organise a webinar to explain the ECOSOC review process of UN-GGIM to heads of NMCAs;
  - worked in collaboration with UN-GGIM: Europe working group on Data Integration to organise a webinar to demonstrate the use of data integration methods to enhancing collaboration across authorities<sup>5</sup>;
  - actively participated and represented UN-GGIM: Europe at various regional events including the European Forum for Geography and Statistics Conference in October 2021, GWF2021 and GWF2022.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://un-ggim-europe.org/past-meetings/other-meetings/8th-joint-meeting-un-ggim-europe-unece/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://eurogeographics.org/calendar-event/webinar-series-data-integration-paving-the-way-for-new-markets-challenges-and-recommendations/>