



**Europe Regional Committee of United Nations
Global Geospatial Information Management
UN-GGIM: Europe**



Established by a United Nations Resolution

Eleventh Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe -- Draft Agenda

Room H207-209, Building H, Palais des Nations, Geneva

19 June 2024

Morning Session 9:30-13:00 CEST			
Opening of the Eleventh Plenary of UN-GGIM: Europe			
9:30	1	Welcome (and adoption of agenda)	<i>David Henderson, Co-Chair UN-GGIM: Europe</i>
– 10:00	2	Welcome	<i>Tiina Luige, Statistical Division UNECE</i>
Session 1: Implementing the UN-GGIM: Europe work plan			
Session Chair: David Henderson, Co-Chair UN-GGIM: Europe			
This session will report on the work carried out by the Regional Committee including the implementation of the UN-GGIM: Europe workplan, outlining the progress and deliverables of the different lines of work the Regional Committee is engaged in since the past Plenary Meeting. The session will conclude with an overview of the updated work plan and expand on the priorities UN-GGIM: Europe will focus on for the next years.			
10:00	3	UN-GGIM: Europe - Year in Review	<i>Carol Agius, UN-GGIM: Europe Secretariat</i>
– 11:30	4	Lines of work: Data integration	<i>Pier-Giorgio Zaccheddu, Germany</i>
	5	Lines of work: SDGs	<i>Célia Ferreira, Portugal</i>
	6	Line of work: IGIF	<i>James Norris, United Kingdom and Northern Ireland</i>
	7	Line of work: Data & Policy	<i>Ewa Surma, Poland</i>
	8	Line of work: Europe GRF	<i>Johannes Van Geertsom, Belgium</i>
	9	Q&A	
<i>Short comfort break (30 mins)</i>			
Session 2: Underpinning the global agenda with geospatial information			
Session Chair: Darko Vucetic, UN-GGIM: Europe Executive Committee Member			
<i>This session will consider various global challenges and consider how geospatial data and services can be of value in addressing them.</i>			
12:00	10	World Health Organisation	<i>Ravi Shankar Santhana Gopala Krishnan, World Health Organisation</i>
– 13:00	11	WMO and climate change: Opportunities and challenges	<i>Peer Hechler, World Meteorological Organisation</i>
	12	Q&A	
<i>Group Photo</i>			
<i>Lunch break</i>			



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Afternoon Session: 14:00 - 17:30 CEST			
Session 3: UN-GGIM: Europe contributing to the Committee of Experts			
Session Chair: Frank Tierolff, Co-Chair UN-GGIM: Europe			
This session will explore the contribution from the Europe Region to the global UN-GGIM programme taking into consideration the regional priorities.			
14:00 – 15:00	13	Welcome from UNSD Centres of Excellence - introduction	<i>Stefan Schweinfest, UNSD, DESA</i>
	14	Discussion on how to strengthen the global geodesy supply chain	<i>Nicholas Brown, UN-GGCE</i>
	15	United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre	<i>Paul Becker, Germany</i>
	16	Future United Nations Global Centre of Excellence in Riyadh	<i>tbc</i>
15:00 – 15:30	17	UN-GGIM Interregional collaboration - Contributing to the UN-GGIM Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Andre Nonguierma, UN-GGIM: Africa</i> - <i>Najib Benzouina, UN-GGIM: Arab States</i> - <i>Hitesh Kumar S Makwana, UN-GGIM Asia Pacific</i> - <i>David Henderson, UN-GGIM: Europe</i>
<i>Short comfort break (30 mins)</i>			
16:00 – 16:45	18	UN-GGIM: Europe contribution to the substantive agenda of UN-GGIM, Priority Areas for Europe: Getting ready for UN-GGIM14 and Seventh High Level Forum	<i>Co-Chairs UN-GGIM: Europe Moderated discussion</i>
Session 4: Formal Business			
Session Chair: Frank Tierolff, Co-Chair UN-GGIM: Europe			
16:45 – 17:30	19	Presentation & Adoption of updated UN-GGIM: Europe work plan	<i>Co-Chair UN-GGIM: Europe</i>
	20	Appointment of members of the Executive Committee UN-GGIM: Europe	<i>Co-Chair UN-GGIM: Europe</i>
	21	Plenary wrap-up and decisions	<i>UN-GGIM: Europe Secretariat</i>
	22	Closing Remarks	<i>Frank Tierolff, Co-Chair UN-GGIM: Europe</i>
17:00	Close of Plenary Meeting		



**Joint Session Conference of European Statisticians
and Europe Regional Committee of United Nations
Global Geospatial Information Management UN-GGIM:
Europe**



Thursday, 20 June 2024

Room XXI in building E, Palais des Nations, Geneva

**Joint plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians and the Regional
Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for
Europe**

1. Opening and adoption of the agenda (9:30 – 9:40)

The provisional agenda was agreed upon by the CES Bureau at its February 2024 meeting and consulted with UN-GGIM: Europe. The provisional agenda is presented for the approval of the Conference.

2. Strategic directions in the work of statistical offices and geospatial agencies (9:40 – 10:40)

At its February 2023 meeting, the CES Bureau decided that an open discussion on strategic issues should periodically be held at the CES plenary sessions.

The session will include presentations on strategic directions and expected future trends in the work of national statistical offices (NSOs) and national mapping, cadastral and land registration authorities (NMCAs). Presentations will be followed by a strategic discussion on how cooperation and collaboration between NSOs and NMCAs at national, regional and global levels can benefit both communities, the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the post-2030 agenda, and help to address the challenges identified.

3. Linking data across domains and sources (11:00 – 11:30)

The Conference usually discusses one of the topics reviewed in depth by the CES Bureau in detail to collect input for further work. This time the discussion will focus on linking data across domains and sources, based on an in-depth review paper prepared by Canada (ECE/CES/2024/5).

Linking data plays a key role in enabling producing better information and insight for policymakers who seek to address multidimensional issues in society. Increase in the availability of new data types and technology development provides new opportunities for linking and accessing data on scales that are more extensive than ever before. This requires a systematic approach and cultural change among all stakeholders.

One of the ways to link data is through geospatial references. The session will look at the opportunities for this kind of linking together with the geospatial community.

As a result of the review, the CES Bureau agreed that a road map should be developed to support linking data across domains. The discussion will inform further work in this area.

4. Integration of geospatial and statistical data (11:30 -12:30)

This session will explore progress in integration of statistical and geospatial information, taking into account multiple aspects: governance, technology, practical implementation and innovative practices.



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The session will take note of key frameworks and resources relevant in this context, such as the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework and its ongoing review, the targeted work of the Expert Group on Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, the UN-GGIM: Europe Working Group on Data Integration, the High-Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics' Geospatial View of Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GeoGSBPM), and the GEOSTAT projects of the European Forum for Geography and Statistics.

Based on practical implementation examples, the heads of NSOs and NCMA's will be invited to consider the impact, benefits and challenges of collaborating on the integration of geospatial and statistical data at national and regional levels and discuss how to accelerate the progress. The discussion may also identify lessons learnt to be applied in the future integration of other data sources into the business processes of geospatial and statistical organizations.

5. Use of Artificial Intelligence and Large Language Models in official statistics and authoritative geospatial data (14:30-17:20)

This topic was selected for discussion at the CES plenary session by the CES Bureau in February 2024, based on the outcome of an electronic consultation with all CES members and in consultation with UN-GGIM: Europe. The session will be chaired by Canada and Germany.

Machine Learning (ML) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) hold great potential for modernizing the work of geospatial and statistical organizations, streamlining production processes through automation or human assistance, and facilitating the utilization of new data sources such as social media and satellite imagery. The recent developments in AI such as Large Language Models (LLMs) offer new opportunities as they could boost the productivity of staff by assisting in their daily tasks (e.g., generating draft analysis based on a table of numbers), but more importantly, greatly improve the service to the users (e.g., language-based dissemination tools). However, LLMs could also change the way the society obtains knowledge, which raises a question of how providers of official statistics and authoritative geospatial data can remain relevant.

In a joint discussion, the heads of NSOs and NCMA's will be invited to (i) share strategies and practical experiences of applying AI in their organizations; (ii) discuss lessons learnt, opportunities, benefits, challenges and risks; (iii) consider the transformative potential of this technology and its implications for the work of NSOs and NCMA's, and (iv) deliberate how the producers of official statistics and authoritative geospatial data should respond to these developments.

6. Closing of the joint session of CES and UN-GGIM: Europe (17:20-17:30)