



Reporting on the UN-GGIM: Europe Work Plan 2022-2025

Introduction

The aim of UN-GGIM: Europe is to contribute to the more effective management and availability of geospatial information in Europe and ensuring that the work of the Regional Committee is aligned to the global UN-GGIM programme¹. At its eleventh plenary meeting in June 2024 the Regional Committee confirmed its support and commitment to implementing the UN-GGIM: Europe Workplan 2022-2025², which is the blueprint to putting into practice the UN-GGIM Europe Strategy adopted at the eight plenary meeting.

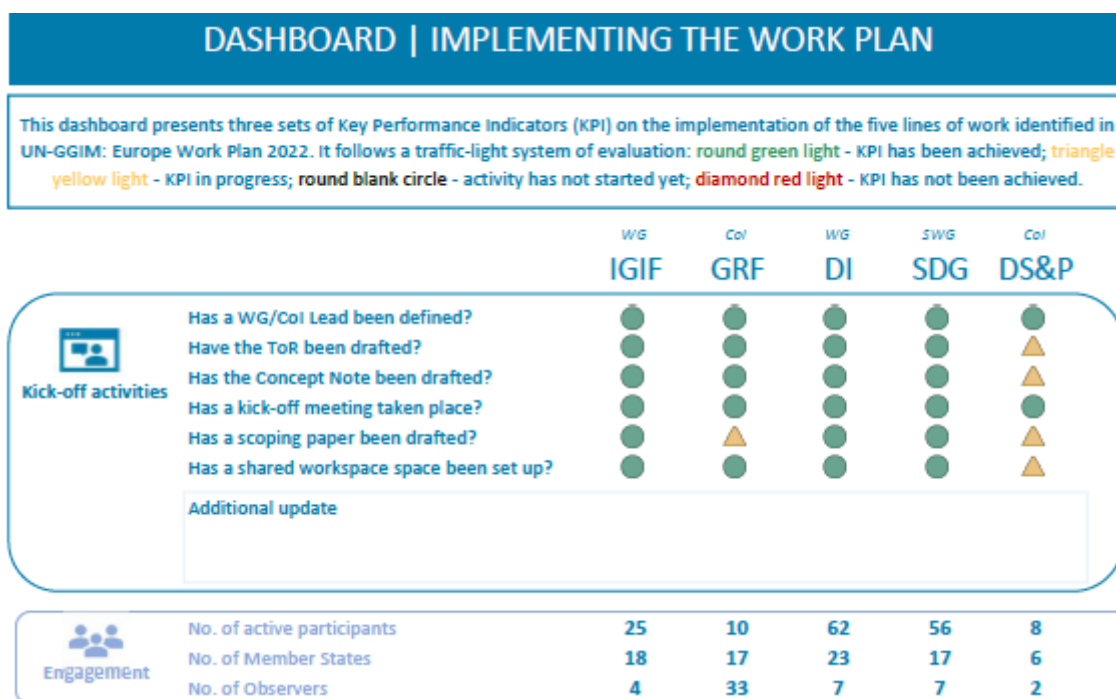
The UN-GGIM: Europe Work Plan 2022 – 2025 focused on the five key priority areas which had been agreed by the Regional Committee at its eighth plenary session as meeting the strategic needs and requirements of Europe within the global programme of the Committee of Experts:

- Data Integration
- Sustainable Development Goals
- Data Strategy and Policy
- United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework
- Geodetic Reference Frames

The rational and aims for each of key priority area then were translated into five lines of work with proposed activities and expected outputs outlined in the work plan the Regional Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe planned to focus on for the next three to five years starting from 2022. Following its adoption at the ninth plenary implementation of the work plan started by the newly established Lines of Work, the working groups, to realise the ambitions of the five lines of work.

Reporting on the Lines of Work

The Lines of Work are reporting on their work and progress in implementing the work plan to the UN-GGIM: Europe Regional Committee at this Twelfth Plenary Session. The dashboard below provides a high-level overview of activities and progress for each of the five lines of work:



¹ Article 2 - Purpose and Activities of the [Rules and Articles of UN-GGIM: Europe](#)

² [UN-GGIM: Europe Work Plan 2022](#)



This dashboard presents three sets of Key Performance Indicators (KPI) on the implementation of the five lines of work identified in UN-GGIM: Europe Work Plan 2022. It follows a traffic-light system of evaluation: **round green light** - KPI has been achieved; **triangle yellow light** - KPI in progress; **round blank circle** - activity has not started yet; **diamond red light** - KPI has not been achieved.

Line of Work - Data Integration



No. of web/physical meetings	●
No. of webinars	●
No. of webinar summary reports	●
Has an online dissemination page been set up?	●
No. of conferences/workshops/seminars	●

Line of Work - SDG



No. of web/physical meetings	●
No. of webinars	●
No. of webinar summary reports	●
Has an online dissemination page been set up?	●
No. of conferences/workshops/seminars	●

All four planned webinars have been conducted
All webinar evaluation reports have been compiled

Community of Interest - IGIF



Initial activities discussed and agreed	●
Identify sub-group leads for task activities	●
Regular meetings with HLG-IGIF Working Groups	●
Interregional collaboration	▲
Contribute to HLG-IGIF tasks	▲

The Working Group has made good progress in consolidating its actions.
A key objectives is to support the HLG-IGIF. All three HLG-IGIF groups have active Europe engagement
The Working Group is planning on hosting an in-person workshop in 2025/26

Community of Interest - GRF - Europe



No. of web/physical meetings	●
Create contact register	▲
Prioritization of proposed work packages	●
Agreement on 2025 work plan	●
Contribute to UN-GGCE	●
Engaging with regional stakeholders	▲

Priorities for proposed work packages will be set in June 2024
Work Plan will be finalized in June 2024
Scoping paper will be finalized in August 2024
Implementation of work plan will start in September 2024
Engagement numbers are unclear, will become clear by end of 2024

Line of Work - Data Strategy & Policy



No. of web/physical meetings	●
Engaging with regional stakeholders	▲
Has an online dissemination page been set up?	▲

ToRs agreed by the LoW
Participating in the INSPIRE Conference



As can be seen from the dashboard all the five Lines of Work have progressed significantly in implementing their respective work plans. Following further in this report are details provided by the lines of work, reporting on the work carried out since the last plenary meeting in June 2024 to achieve the allocated tasks.

The Executive Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank the leads of these lines of work and their Member States for supporting their contributions to implementing the UN-GGIM: Europe work plan. The Regional Committee also acknowledges and appreciates the engagement and involvement of the Member States and observer organisations that contributed to the work being reported in this document.

Updating the UN-GGIM: Europe Work Plan

It should be noted that the Work Plan 2022 – 2025 aims to put into practice the UN-GGIM Europe Strategy adopted at the eighth plenary meeting. As can be seen from this report most of the aims and tasks of the lines of work outlined in the 2022 – 2025 work plan have been achieved and delivered.

A revised UN-GGIM: Europe Strategy is being brought before the Regional Committee for approval. This revised strategy will provide the vision and direction of UN-GGIM: Europe for the next 4 – 5 years, and will need a work plan to implement it. This new work plan will serve as the bridge between the strategic aim and operational reality, enabling the Europe Regional Committee execute its strategic vision into tangible results.

The revised workplan will be developed in consultation with our working groups, lines of work and interested members in the coming months. It will be presented to the Regional Committee at the Thirteenth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe.

Given that all the lines have progressed or even delivered on the tasks outlined in the Work Plan 2022 – 2025, an update to the work plan is being proposed. These updates are either building on the outputs already delivered by the Lines of Work or a result of progress being made in the global programme of work of the Committee of Experts.



Data Integration

This report summarises the outcome and findings of the line of work on Data Integration since the last plenary meeting.

A tasks and priorities list for data integration is provided as an additional and separate document.

General management issues

The Line of Work on Data Integration was led by Germany until 2024, from 2025 has been led by Belgium. An organising team is composed of Belgium as leader, Austria as co-leader and Germany as secretariat.

Currently, 20 European UN Member States comprising 25-30 National Mapping and Cadastral Authorities or National Statistical Institutes are members of both Lines of Work data Integration and SDGs. Eurostat, DG REGIO, the European Environment Agency (EEA) as well as the Joint Research Centre (JRC) actively cooperate in two Lines of Work Data Integration and SDG.

The organising team of the LoW Data Integration is observing an increasing dynamic within the topic of the LoW Data Integration. The need of data integration in a new data- and ecosystem remains relevant, but ongoing developments are challenging, especially in relation with other global and regional activities. The Line of Work found some difficulties in accomplishing all the tasks outlined in the work plan for 2024-2025.

Given that the new revised UN-GGIM: Europe Strategy will lead to the development of a new work plan that will support it, the organising team of the Line of Work Data Integration feels that this would be a good opportunity to launch a debate among the geospatial and statistical communities to clearly identify the tasks and activities which will further the objectives of the strategy and the topic area.

Progress according to the new work plan 2022 – 2025

The status of the tasks assigned to the Line of Work for 2024-2025:

- a. Evaluate previous recommendations from the reports since 2014, identify obstacles and prepare/communicate them in a new/simpler way for political decision-makers.

Achieved: The report, *Relevance of Data Integration Line of Work*³, has been published and presented at the GISCO meeting in March 2025.

- b. Prepare a use case template to describe successful data integration. Also describe obstacles and risks.

Achieved: A formal use case template (or storyboard) for one- or two-pages description has been set up.

- c. Carry out a questionnaire campaign to query data integration methods in other domains (such as agriculture, environment, transport, libraries, etc.). The example could/should be exemplary taken from climate change.

Partially achieved: The call for to the geospatial and statistical communities to provide potential use cases yielded low results so far. The reasons for this lack of success might be: no real interest, not the communities' responsibility raising the point that the invitation to contribute should have been also extended to other communities dealing more specifically with Climate Resilience.

However, an alternative course of action is to consider a different scenario, such as the security domain (civil emergency services and defence), and for example, a use case aiming at conciliating wind turbine locations with aerial navigation.

Based on those statements and, previous findings and recommendations, in 2025, the organising team has been considering new approaches to the development of future activities for the Line of Work Data Integration and how these activities could engage the community. It has drafted a paper on this topic, which has been discussed and agreed by the LoW SDG. This document is provided as an additional paper to this report. In order to validate these ideas, the organising team launched a questionnaire among the members of the LoW Data Integration. If the feedback is in line with the future activities document; the work plan for this line of work will be drafted in line with the revised UN-GGIM: Europe strategy and the survey results.

Related Activities of the Line of Work supporting the work plan 2022 – 2025

According to the Work Plan the Line of Work continues to contribute to following activities.

- **Contribution to the UN EG ISGI**
- **Support of European coordination activities**

³ https://un-ggim-europe.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/2025-03-17_UN-GGIM-Europe_Relevance-of-DI-Line-of-Work_SummaryPaper_v1.0.pdf

The Line of Work Data Integration presented at the:

Conferences	Dates
11th JOINT UN-GGIM: EUROPE – ESS – UNECE MEETING	25/03/2025

Call for action

The Plenary is kindly asked to acknowledge the following call for action by the Line of Work on Data Integration:

- Plenary is requested to note the progress made by the Data Integration Group and consider how to grow the number of active participants in the Working Group.
- Agrees that the working group reviews its tasks and activities as part of the wider refresh of the work plan 2026 – 2030. The organising team has drafted a new approaches to the development of future activities to guide this discussion.

SDG Sustainable Development Goals

This report summarises the outcomes of UN-GGIM: Europe – Line of Work on Sustainable Development Goals (LoW SDG) for period 05/2024 to 06/2025. From the organisational point of view, Portugal, represented by Statistics Portugal, chairs the LoW SDG, while Germany, represented by BKG is the co-chair.

Progress according to the Work Plan 2022 – 2025

The first physical meeting of this current working phase was conducted jointly for Data Integration and Sustainable Development Goals Lines of Work on 15-16 April 2024 at Statistics Portugal headquarters in Lisbon. The main aim was to evaluate the outcomes of the webinar series conducted in 2023, finding gaps and requirements of both Lines of Work and strengthening the link between the members and to other active groups. The contributions of all the institutions and countries represented in Lisbon Meeting, that included European and global stakeholders, allowed the reflection and debate on possible tasks where more efforts were needed and that worth to be tackled until the end of the mandate, in 2025.

Therefore, the participants of SDG LoW agreed upon the following tasks approved on the Plenary of June 2024:

Tasks	Progress
To review what the LoW has done in the past – evaluation and assessment - instead of creating something new.	✓
To consider a possible proposal for a grant. Indeed, the grant “Geospatial Statistics SMP-ESS-2024-GEOS-IBA-H5-S-6722”.	Due to time constraints, it was decided to leave this task as an idea to develop (or not) according to the new strategy.
To share information about future grants, consortiums and other initiatives considered relevant to the work of the LoW on SDG.	✓

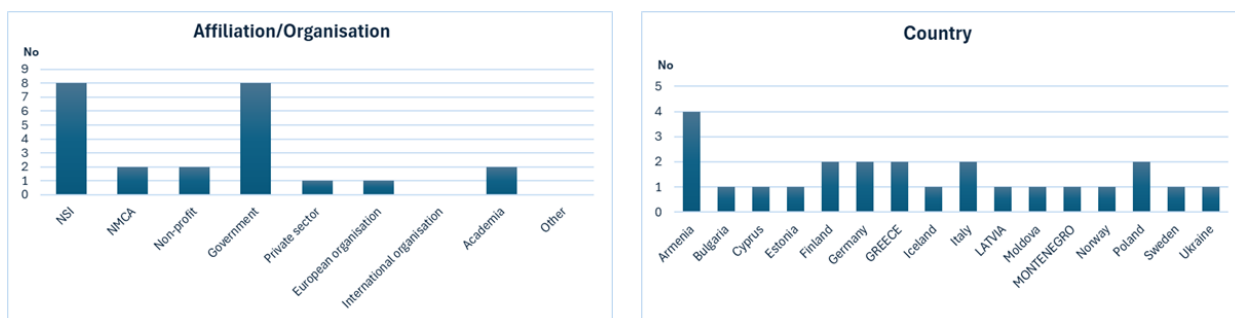
The consideration of a possible grant was unanimously postponed by the active members of the LoW due to time constraints. The task related to the sharing of information about events and initiatives relevant for the LoW was an assumed commitment between the members, being an item of the agenda in all the meetings that have occurred since the Lisbon Meeting (four follow-

up meetings to discuss the execution of the tasks and one General Meeting to present to all members the overview of the work that was being done).

To accomplish the evaluation and assessment task the group decided to implement a short questionnaire on the main interests regarding SDG indicators calculation, inquiring the geospatial and statistical community on the relevance of SDG LoW previous deliverables and on the most relevant topics and indicators to tackle on until the end of the mandate. The indicators listed on the survey were considered, by the institutions actively involved in SDG LoW, the most relevant within the European context among a short list of SDG indicators referenced by IAEG as benefiting from the integration of statistical and geospatial information.

The survey was active between June and September of 2024. We have received 24 answers from different types of respondents, mainly representing National Statistical Institutes and representatives of government institutions.

General characterisation of the respondents of the short questionnaire
on the main interests regarding SDG indicators calculation



Source: UN-GGIM: Europe – SDG LoW, Short questionnaire on the main interests regarding SDG indicators calculation, 2024.

The results of the survey allow us to answer 3 questions: 1) what indicators to tackle on; 2) which topics to approach; and 3) what type of output. Based on the answers to these three questions, the members of SDG LoW have agreed to organised three webinars, each one based on one SDG indicator, to discuss deeply main conceptual and methodological challenges by showing use cases and sharing experiences. The table below presents the indicators approached, the calendar of the webinar series and the identification of all the institutions involved.

Webinar series – 2025

- ☐ **6.6.1 – Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time**
12th May (10:00 – 12:00 CET)
- ☐ **15.3.1 – Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area**
14th May (10:00 – 12:00 CET)
- ☐ **11.7.1 – Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex, age, and persons with disabilities**
4th June (10:00 – 12:00 CET)



Each webinar was coordinated by an institution (the webinar on SDG indicators 6.6.1 and 15.3.1 were coordinated by EARSC; the webinar on SDG indicator 11.7.1 was coordinated by an



independent expert mandated by DG REGIO) and framed by a Concept Note. All the webinars were publicised on the social media and disseminated by the emailing list of UN-GGIM: Europe.

All the three webinars had a similar structure. The group intend them to be participative; therefore, they had a first part more focused on a theoretical / conceptual approach and then a second moment oriented to the presentation and discussion of use cases, initiatives and tools. They had the contributions and involvement of several national, European and global institutions and of some custodian agencies. Noteworthy is the involvement of public institutions, private sector and academia.

Webinar	Number of registrations	Number of participants
6.6.1 – Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time	95	63
15.3.1 – Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area	66	35
11.7.1 – Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex, age, and persons with disabilities	103	66

Participation in events

SDG LoW was represented on the following events:

Events	Dates
EFGS Conference 2024, Ljubljana	10 - 12 December 2024
11th Joint UN-GGIM: EUROPE – ESS – UNECE Meeting on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information	25 March 2025
University of Twente Virtual Workshop	7 May 2025

Call for action

- iii. The Plenary is requested to note the progress made by the Line of Work Sustainable Developments and consider how to grow the number of its active participants.
- iv. The Plenary is kindly requested to improve the visibility and usability of the LoW SDGs as an effective way to support the Member States to maximise their awareness of SDG indicators calculation in support of the 2030 Agenda as well as to prepare for the post-2030 Agenda.
- v. The Plenary is kindly requested to continue to promote UN-GGIM: Europe and its lines of work to facilitate knowledge sharing and capacity development within UN-GGIM: Europe community and between different communities.

UN-IGIF

Integrated Geospatial Information Framework - Europe

This report provides a summary of the activities and discussions that have been undertaken by the UN-GGIM: Europe UN-IGIF Working Group since the Eleventh Plenary meeting in 2024. The United Kingdom, represented by Ordnance Survey, Chairs the Working Group. An active community of Member States and Observers participate in the Working Group and contribute to its tasks and outcomes.

A more detailed report on this line of work is provided as an additional and separate document.



Operating context

We recognise and thank all the Member States and Observers who contribute to the discussions and activities of the Working Group. This hard work, commitment and focus is appreciated especially recognising that many Member States are also seeking to implement the UN-IGIF at a national level. Sharing these experiences is a key benefit of the Working Group, and we encourage other Member States and observers to participate, contribute to the deliverables and maximise the benefit that the UN-IGIF can bring at the national level.

The Working Group conducts its meetings virtually and has formally met seven times during the operating period. Where opportunities presented themselves members of the Working Group have met in-person in the margins of other events such as the Fourteenth Session of the Committee of Experts in August 2024, the Seventh UN-GGIM High Level Forum in October 2024, and the Fifth Meeting of the HLG-IGIF in February 2025. This meeting cadence works well for the member of the group.

Work Plan

The work plan has been developed around four main deliverables, these provide guidance to the overarching operating framework and are not designed as individual tasks. Individual tasks and outputs can, and should, cover one or more of the deliverables.

During the operating period 2024-2025 the deliverables were:

1. Expert contributions
2. Avoid duplication
3. Share knowledge
4. Promote regional successes

Activities

The High-Level Group of the UN-IGIF holds regular planning and deliver meetings. The Fifth meeting of the HLG-IGIF was held in February 2025. The main focus of the meeting was to understand the priorities for the UN-IGIF over the next 12 months, and to assign tasks and responsibilities for each of those priorities. The UN-GGIM: Europe Working Group contributed to the discussion by identifying 11 regional priorities which were included in the discussions. A summary of these priorities can be found in the full report. A total of 83 priorities were identified at the global level, these had been summarised and prioritised down to 36 that were discussed at the meeting. It was agreed that many of the activities would be the responsibility of the UN-GGIM: Europe to deliver, but that some key strategic accountabilities would remain with the HLG-IGIF and its Working Groups.

Following on from the finalisation and publication of the global UN-IGIF Capacity Development Questionnaire a small task team was formed within the Working Group to assess and understand the results of the questionnaire at a regional level. It was interesting to note that whilst many Member States in UN-GGIM: Europe are aware of the UN-IGIF uptake and development of Country-level Action Plans are lower than in other regions. The Working Group is developing a regionally focused questionnaire to understand these reasons in more detail. This will enable the Working Group to develop and shape its future activities to align with regional needs. It was decided that publishing the questionnaire in the lead up to Twelfth Plenary is not the optimum time, especially with the number of global consultations that are also taking place. The questionnaire will be published over the summer and the results will be used to align activities with the refreshed Regional Strategy 2025-2030.



During the series of webinars that UN-GGIM: Europe hosted in 2024, and following the publication of the HLG-IGIF's Sustainable Funding Guide the topic of funding/financing UN-IGIF activities was identified as an area which could be explored in more detail. The Working Group is currently working to develop a Sustainable Financing Podcast series which will be available to all Member States. The short podcast series will cover the sustainable financial development of the UN-IGIF, the importance of financial resources, and the need for sustainable systems. A set of case studies, drawn from countries in UN-GGIM: Europe and other regions will be used to highlight these benefits.

The UN-IGIF is the umbrella framework for UN-GGIM and most of the regional committees have activities which focus on the UN-IGIF within their regional work plans. UN-GGIM: Europe has contributed to a number of webinars which have been organised at the global level. This interregional collaboration is an important mechanism to promote the UN-IGIF as a concept, to provide a coordinated set of activities, and to maximise the impact of webinars and events. Most recently UN-GGIM: Europe has contributed to the "First UN-GGIM Interregional Webinar on the UN-IGIF: Enhancing regional collaboration to support national implementation" this webinar has been organised by UN-GGIM Americas on behalf of all the regional committees. UN-GGIM: Europe is contributing to the event through ExCom representation, providing regional experiences, and supporting the successful running of the webinar by moderating the event.

Call for action

- vi. Plenary is requested to note the progress made by the UN-IGIF Europe Group and consider how to grow the number of active participants in the Working Group.
- vii. Member States are asked to respond to the Regional Survey on awareness and uptake of UN-IGIF
- viii. UN-GGIM: Europe is asked to provide input and support for the development of an in-person workshop and knowledge share event to maximise awareness and adoption of the UN-IGIF across our region.

Data Strategy and Policy

The topic area of Data Strategy and Policy is led by Poland, represented by Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography. The main aim of this is to contribute to the development of relevant policy and data strategies regarding the management and use of geospatial data to maximise its value in addressing the challenges of a green, sustainable and digital Europe, on the one hand, and to understand the linkages of European policy with the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF).

European Parliamentary elections were held in June 2024, the same month as the last plenary meeting. The elections launched a new European Commission cycle with a renewed vision and ambition, where data and digitalisation will play an integral role; while ensuring that the goals of the European Green Deal continue on course. These ambitions are renewing the policy landscape of the region, and during this inter-plenary session the working group has focused on analytical work. The group aims to finish a report by the end of November 2025.

Call for action

- ix. Plenary is requested to note the progress made by the Data Strategy and Policy Group and consider how to grow the number of active participants in the Working Group.



GRF Geodetic Reference Frames - Europe

Since the last plenary meeting, Geodetic Reference Frames - Europe (GRF Europe) has continued to mature as a regional platform for dialogue and coordination on geodetic reference frame topics in Europe. Belgium, represented by National Geographic Institute chairs this line of work. The group has been active in connecting to European organisations working on geodetic topics, an investment in better cooperation in the region. Building on its solid foundations, GRF Europe is expected to receive a strengthened mandate through the UN-GGIM: Europe Strategy Update, enabling the community to actively contribute to European and global initiatives such as the implementation of the UN-GGCE's First Joint Development Plan for Global Geodesy.

Some achievements:

- **Strategic Positioning:** Continued refinement of GRF Europe's role and identity, developing the community as a platform for policy, coordination, and user-focused dialogue, rather than technical operations.
- **International Collaboration and Capacity Development:** Active contribution to the UN-GGCE capacity development workshop in February 2025, GRF Europe supported the event through a formal presentation and by moderating discussion sessions.
- **Awareness-Raising and Communication:** Members have been engaged in communication efforts to raise awareness about the UN-GGCE, the UN-GGIM Subcommittee on Geodesy, and the strategic importance of geodesy. These efforts have been particularly targeted at national audiences and professional networks.
- **Engagement with related organisations:** GRF Europe has strengthened links with several European geospatial and scientific bodies, including:
 - Active communication with EUREF
 - Presentation at the EuroSDR workshop on reference frames and cross-border data sharing
 - Active participation at the EUPOS plenary (including a dedicated poster session)
 - Enhanced dialogue with the European Committee on Radio Astronomy Frequencies (CRAF) to support alignment between regional and global geodetic efforts
 - Initiated communication with representatives of European geodetic observatories to investigate enhanced collaboration within Europe.
- **Regional Coordination Mechanism:** Progress has been made on developing a European contact point register, which supports improved regional coordination and visibility of geodetic expertise across the region.
- **Strategic Planning and Governance:** GRF Europe has participated in the UN-GGIM: Europe strategy update process and has initiated the review and planning of its own revised work plan and Terms of Reference, informed by ongoing (strategic) discussions and the changing global landscape.
- **Technical Contributions:** A technical report was delivered to EUROCONTROL, the European Organisation for the Safety of Air Navigation, providing guidance on the use and interoperability of various geodetic reference frames in the context of air navigation and safety.



- **Community Engagement and Knowledge Exchange:** A well-attended webinar was organised to discuss the findings of the UN-GGCE's Hidden Risk Report and to explore the development of the proposed European Master of Science in Geodesy.

Call for action

- i. Plenary is requested to note the progress made by Geodetic Reference Frames - Europe and consider how to grow the number of active participants in the Working Group.
- ii. The Plenary is requested to consider, given the significance of the topic matter undertaken by the group Geodetic Reference Frames – Europe to changing from a 'Community of Interest' to a 'Line of Work' or 'Working Group'.

Putting the lines of work into practice

Governance

It is the task of the Executive Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe, the UN-GGIM: Europe Secretariat, and Regional Committee (through working groups and communities of interest) to implement the work plan.

The overarching role of the Executive Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe is to provide guidance and oversight in the implementation of the work plan in accordance of the UN-GGIM: Europe Strategy. The lines of work are not siloed, there is significant overlap and interaction between them, it is the task of the Regional Executive Committee to assume an overarching role ensuring synergies and communications, between and across working groups, and other regional forums.

The Regional Secretariat supports the Regional Executive Committee in the exercise of its function and assistance in the overall achievement of activities of UN-GGIM: Europe work plan. While also actively communicating the UN-GGIM: Europe activities and achievements to all relevant stakeholders across multiple channels.

Call to Action

The implementation of the lines of work and the priority areas is through the contribution and active input of the members of UN-GGIM: Europe. Each line of work has a group of interested members and stakeholder who are working together to deliver the work plan.

The Regional Committee promotes and encourages the collaboration between national mapping and cadastral authorities and national statistical institutes in the European Region, along with European Institutions and observer bodies. Members States and observers are therefore invited to express their interest and join the UN-GGIM: Europe activities and in participating in the lines of work.

Action proposal

The Executive Committee asks that:

1. Plenary is requested to note the progress made by all the Regional Working Groups in advancing the work plan 2022-2025;
2. To consider and note the call for actions noted by the individual Working Groups; and
3. To give the mandate to the Executive Committee to draft a new Work Plan 2026-2030 to implement the new UN-GGIM: Europe Strategy in consultation with the working groups, lines of work and interested members, to be presented to the Regional Committee at the Thirteenth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe.