



Wrap up and decisions from the twelfth plenary meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe

UN-GGIM: Europe:

- Welcomed 60 participants from 23 Member States and 12 international bodies and observer organisations to the twelfth plenary meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe, held at Albert Borschette Conference Centre, Brussels Belgium the 24 – 25 June 2025.
- Appointed Carol Agius from the UN-GGIM: Europe Secretariat rapporteur for this twelfth plenary.
- Delighted to have representatives from UN-GGIM Africa, UN-GGIM Arab States joining in person, and appreciate the warm greetings from UN-GGIM Americas. Pleased with this interregional cooperation which is enabling cross collaboration, and encouraged delegates to join and participate in the road to the fifteenth session of UN-GGIM, which inclines a series of inter-regional webinars.
- Thanked EuroGeographics for continuing to provide the Secretariat for UN-GGIM: Europe, and notes with appreciation the group of Member States – Belgium, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Sweden and the United Kingdom - that agreed to form a coalition willing to contribute to collectively cover the cash costs of the Europe Secretariat from 2026 while EuroGeographics will continue to cover the human resource cost.
- Welcomed and thanked Eurostat for hosting this twelfth plenary, and their continued support to host the Europe Plenary every other year. Also appreciated the collaborative relationship with Eurostat and their commitment in bringing the statistical and geospatial communities together through activities and grants.
- Noted with appreciation the progress made by the regional working groups towards advancing the tasks of the lines of work and priority areas of UN-GGIM: Europe. Thanked and recognised the leads of the Lines of Work and Secretariat, for their effective leadership which is the backbone of the implementation of our regional strategy. Noted the clear call for action to participate in the lines of work - the strategy can only be achieved if all the Community in Europe come together.
- Thanked Armenia and the Netherlands for sharing their national examples with the Plenary. Welcomed the proposal from the Netherlands, supported by Saudi Arabi, for *a global hub regarding land administration for knowledge exchange, capacity building, and technical support that would accelerate implementation of frameworks like the FELA, helping countries systematically manage land rights and advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*.
- Noted the appreciation expressed by the UN-GGIM Co-Chair to the UN-GGIM: Europe Committee for their assistance in advancing the UN-GGIM Strategic Framework in preparation for the fifteenth session of the Committee of Experts.
- Noting the progress, opportunities and also the challenges shared by the UN-GGIM Africa, UN-GGIM Arab States and UN-GGIM: Europe within their regions and the continuing efforts to advance the inter-regional collaboration and cooperation. Noting that given the current resources issue at the Secretariat in NY, UN-GGIM is at a crossroads and it is up to the Centres of Excellence and the Regional Committees to help implementation of the agenda of the Committee of Experts regionally to supplement the efforts.



- Noted the status and progress of the three UN-GGIM Centres of Excellence and their potential to be 'game changers' in delivering the objectives of the Committee of Experts. It is important to ensure that there is a long-term vision and good governance of how these Centres of Excellence work together. The Europe Plenary also advocated for the community to participate in the IACs of the Centres to provide collective guidance and ensure impactful, active collaboration and participation
- Noted the updates provided by the Private Sector and the Geospatial Societies Networks, and their efforts in advancing the UN-IGIF.
- Appreciated the update from UN-GGIM Secretariat, noting the progress of the various agenda items as they are prepared for presentation to the Committee at its fifteenth session. Noted with concern the resourcing challenges within the UN-GGIM Secretariat in New York and the potential negative impact of the UN80 reform agenda to the UN-GGIM program of work. Asks all to consider discussing the impacts within your Member States including Permanent Missions and decide what response you would like to take in the lead up to UN budget decisions in December 2025.
- The Plenary welcomed the revised UN-GGIM: Europe Strategy 2025- 2030. The revision has not changed key elements of the previous strategy but was more of a refresh through regional consultation and an alignment with the direction of the UN-GGIM Strategic Framework 2025 - 2030. Ensuring that the vision and direction of UN-GGIM: Europe for the next 4 – 5 years remains relevant. The Executive Committee thanks all the UN-GGIM: Europe members for their engagement and response to the survey ensuring that the revised strategy is a community document that reflects the needs and objectives of the region.
- Noted that the next step following the adoption of the UN-GGIM: Europe Strategy 2025- 2030 will be a revision of the work plan to implement this new strategy. Welcomed that the work plan will be developed in consultation with our working groups, lines of work and interested members in the coming months, and will to be presented to the Regional Committee at the Thirteenth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe in 2026.
- Noted that that the new work plan needs to be impactful, and that this may lead to a discussion on how the Regional Committee should rationalise and prioritise activities. The other key elements included identifying which activities were foundational to the success of UN-GGIM: Europe and which activities are “applications”. There was an underlying theme that geodesy, supporting the global perspective, and linking to UN Policy and Frameworks should form the backbone of activity. And understands that we need to step outside our geospatial ‘bubble’ and be more adept at communicating to different audiences.
- Welcomed the overview of the policy landscape in the European Union, understanding how this impacts a resilient geo-information domain in the Europe region.
- Noted the process and progress of the future geospatial ecosystems information report as this is finalised in preparation for the fifteenth session of the Committee of Experts.
- Welcomed the presentation illustrating the topic of climate crisis, noted that there is an urgent need for robust temporal and spatial modelling of future risks.
- Noted the current risks to the accuracy and reliability of satellite services and the impacts to critical infrastructure, national economies and national security due to weaknesses in the global geodesy supply chain. Asks regional members to consider discussing the impacts within your Member States including the European Commission and reach out to the UN-GGCE for assistance

with advocacy and awareness raising. And welcomed that the UN-GGCE will circulate a summary of the presentation along with a draft briefing package to help you by 27 June 2025.

- Welcomed the session on data, noting the importance of trust in geospatial and statistical information for policy and decision makers.
- Noted the progress of the EG-ISGI and the update of the workplan, noting the two key papers from the Expert Group which will be present as background documents at the fifteenth session. Asks regional members to support the second edition of the GSGF and to express their views on the Expert's group strategic vision supporting the advocacy of geospatial within the statistical community and StatCom.
- Welcomed the written intervention from the UNECE Statistical Division and the continued collaboration between the Conference of European Statisticians and UN-GGIM: Europe. And we look forward to the joint day at the plenary sessions of the two committees in June 2026 and to working together in developing the agenda with topics of common interest.
- Welcomed the confirmation of external contractual to help the UN-GGIM Secretariat in light of the reduced resources. Noted their recognition of Stefan Schweinfest, Director of the Statistical for his work in advancing UN-GGIM.
- Endorsed the report of the implementation of the UN-GGIM: Europe Work Plan 2022 – 2025
- Endorsed the adoption of the UN-GGIM: Europe Strategy 2025 – 2030 and gave a 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 Session next year
- Confirmed the renomination of Frank Tierloff to the role of co-chair of UN-GGIM: Europe, and Darko Vucetic, and Janusz Dygaszewicz to further three-year terms on the Executive Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe. And confirmed the nominations of Neoclis Neocleous from Cyprus, Mikko Lindholm from Finland and James Norris from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as new members on the Executive Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe with three-year terms.
- Expressed their appreciation to David Henderson for his leadership and contribution to the Executive Committee UN-GGIM: Europe, recognising his valued guidance and knowledge to the Regional Committee during his time on the Executive Committee.
- Thanked Eurostat, for hosting the Twelfth UN-GGIM: Europe plenary and also thanked the Secretariat of UN-GGIM: Europe - EuroGeographics for organising the twelfth plenary meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe.
- Encouraged the Member States and Observer Organisations to continue to advocate and advance the work of UN-GGIM: Europe.

25/06/2025

Documentation from the the twelfth plenary meeting is available online: <https://un-ggim-europe.org/past-meetings/plenary-meetings/twelfth-plenary-meeting-un-ggim-europe/>

A list of participants of the twelfth plenary meeting in available online: https://un-ggim-europe.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/UNGGIME_ParticipationList_TwelfthPlenary_V2.pdf