



Thirteenth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe

Session 5: Breakout Session - 24 June 2026 11:15 – 12:15

Towards an Integrated Data Framework for the Next Global Development Agenda: Opportunities and Priorities

Concept Note

1. Context and rationale

The Sustainable Development Goals have created unprecedented global focus on evidence-based policy and monitoring. This achievement, driven by strong statistical frameworks, provides a solid foundation.

Today, we have an exceptional opportunity. Multiple complementary data sources are now available at scale: geospatial intelligence, earth observation, real-time monitoring, and AI-enabled analysis, alongside traditional statistics. When orchestrated together, these sources create richer, more granular, and more equitable evidence than any single source alone. Each reveals different dimensions of development: spatial patterns, place-based inequality, real-time change, resilience, and opportunity.

In June 2024, a Common Day was organised at the convergence of the eleventh plenary meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe and the 72nd Session of the Conference of European Statisticians. The event highlighted the importance of integrating geospatial and statistical data to enhance national and international development programmes. It emphasized the important opportunity in drafting the post-2030 Development Agenda and strongly encouraged the geospatial and statistical communities to actively contribute to its development to maximise the impact that geospatial and statistical data have in national and global development programmes.

Although formal negotiations on a post-2030 development framework have not yet begun, discussions on future global priorities are gradually emerging across the United Nations system and among Member States. Experience from previous development agendas demonstrates that concepts, priorities and measurement approaches are often shaped well before formal negotiations commence. This provides an opportunity for the geospatial community to engage early and help ensure that integrated data approaches are recognised as a strategic enabler of future development outcomes.



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The Sustainable Development Goals built on the foundations of the Millennium Development Goals. As we look ahead to what comes after 2030, we have a critical opportunity to ensure that integrated, multi-source data approaches, including geospatial, are built into the next global development framework from at the onset, not an additional afterthought. This requires Member States to understand how geospatial data strengthens development outcomes, identify strategic priorities for engagement, and develop clear positions on how integrated, multi-source data approaches can support the next global framework.

2. Purpose

This session invites members of UN-GGIM: Europe to explore how geospatial information and integrated data approaches can strengthen the next global development framework, identify priority areas for engagement, and discuss Europe's role in advancing this agenda globally.

3. Session objectives

- Understand the strategic opportunity: how can integrated, multi-source data approaches strengthen the next development framework?
- Identify priority areas where geospatial data can add distinctive value to development monitoring and policy-making
- Discuss how Member States and stakeholders can position geospatial within their own governments and in regional/global policy forums
- It is proposed that the UN-GGIM: Europe Work Plan 2026-2030 will have a Working Group focused on 'Data in response to global agendas'. These discussions will help inform the priorities and tasks for the proposed Working Group

4. Session Structure and Timing

Format: 60-minute breakout session with opening framing, three parallel discussion groups, and plenary synthesis

10 min	Opening / Framing <i>Strategic opportunity: integrated data sources for the post-2030 agenda</i>	Session Chair
30 mins	Three parallel discussion groups	Breakout facilitators
20 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plenary Synthesis • Wrap up 	Spokesperson per breakout Session Chair wrap-up



5. Breakout Discussion Topics

Discussion Group 1: Priority Opportunities for Geospatial in Development Monitoring

Where can geospatial data and integrated approaches add the most distinctive value in monitoring and understanding development outcomes? Which use cases offer the strongest evidence?

- Guiding question: What are the 2–3 most compelling use cases for geospatial in the next development framework, and where is the supporting evidence strongest?
 - *Participants are encouraged to share examples of where they have had successes in using geospatial information to achieve national development outcomes.*

Discussion Group 2: Positioning Geospatial in Governments and Global Forums

How can member states and UN-GGIM: Europe most effectively position geospatial as an integral part of development policy-making and future frameworks?

- Guiding question: What are the key barriers to geospatial integration in development policy-making, and what approaches would help overcome them?

Discussion Group 3: Europe's Global Contribution

What distinctive assets, expertise, frameworks, and experience does Europe have that can inform the global conversation on integrated geospatial data for development?

- Guiding questions: What are Europe's strengths in geospatial integration? How can UN-GGIM: Europe leverage these strengths to contribute to the global conversation in post-2030 processes?
 - *A key priority here will be to discuss how geospatial is viewed as part of national policy making processes - rather than technical barriers around geospatial creation, maintenance and use.*

6. Expected Outcomes

- Shared understanding of where geospatial can add distinctive value to the next development framework



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- Identification of 2–3 priority themes for UN-GGIM: Europe engagement (e.g., place-based equity, integrated data ecosystems, real-time monitoring)
- Basis for future discussion within UN-GGIM: Europe on how to support advocating for and positioning geospatial strategically across government and international forums
- Insights on how to sensitise policymakers and diplomats to the value of geospatial data and integrated approaches, and on positioning UN-GGIM's agenda within the broader UN framework