

Outcome of the Workshop on geospatial information management arrangements and the wider integrated data ecosystem.



UN-GGIM
EUROPE

UNITED NATIONS
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

James Norris
UN-GGIM: Europe Executive Committee
25 March 2026



Background



- Geospatial information and statistical information are key tools to measure progress on sustainable development.
- UN-IGIF and GSGF have been developed as tools to be used.
- Need to extend the reach to countries and organisations not yet involved.



Objectives



- Encourage the use of geospatial and statistical information.
- Understand the current use of UN-IGIF and GSGF.
- Celebrate the work that is already being done.



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Outcomes



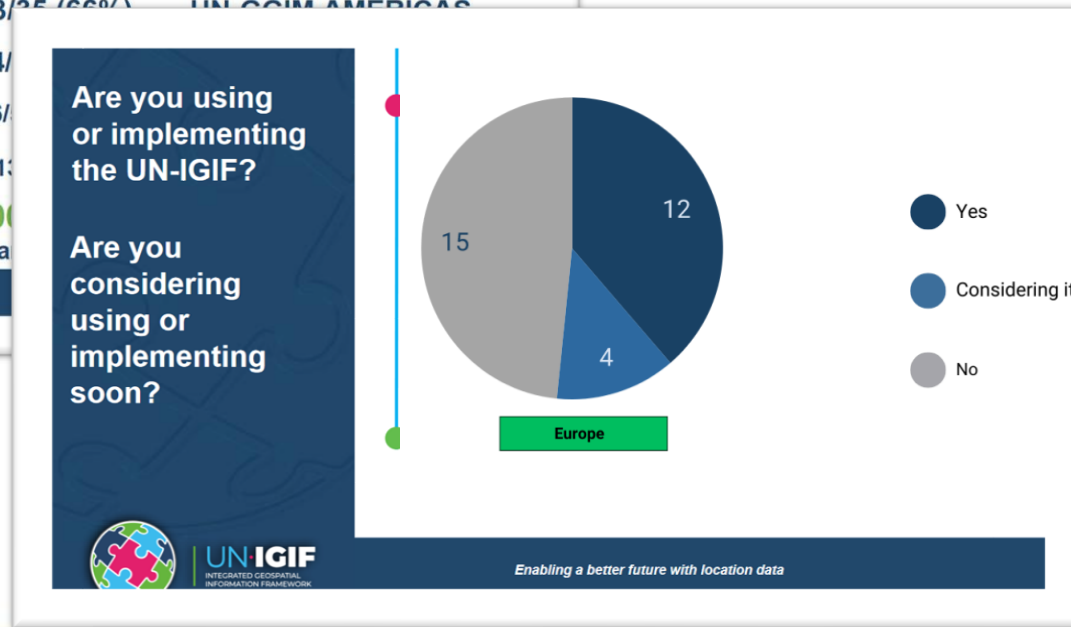
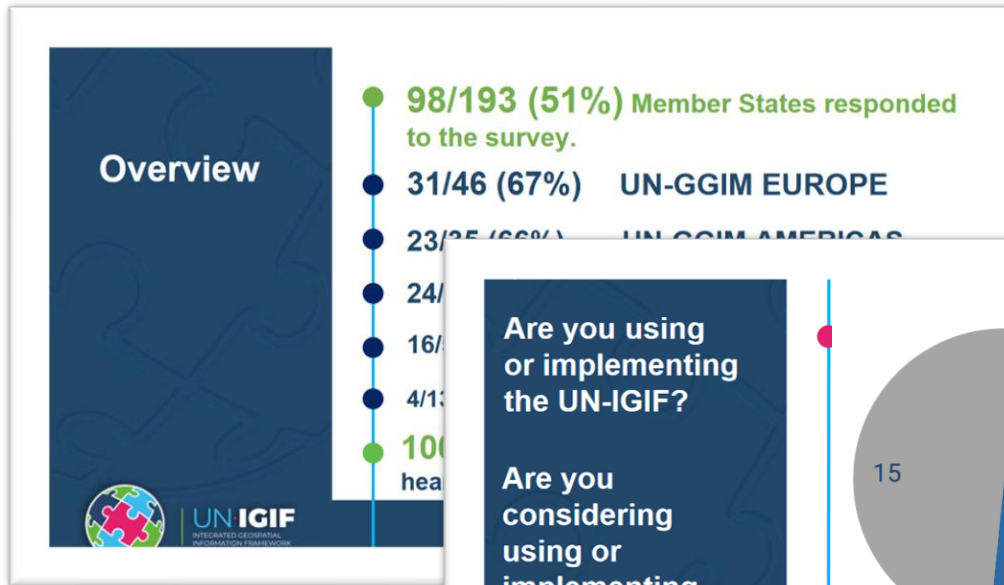
- Workshop report.
- Increase in examples of organisations work together.
- More detailed understanding of our region.



The current state in UN-GGIM: Europe

2022

2026



Regional survey on UN-IGIF and GSGF

- The questionnaire was developed to understand the current awareness and maturity of geospatial and statistical data integration within UN-GGIM: Europe.
- Its focus was on understanding the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) and the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF).
- It was sent to all National Mapping and Geospatial Agencies and all National Statistical Institutes across UN-GGIM: Europe.
- A strong response rate was received.



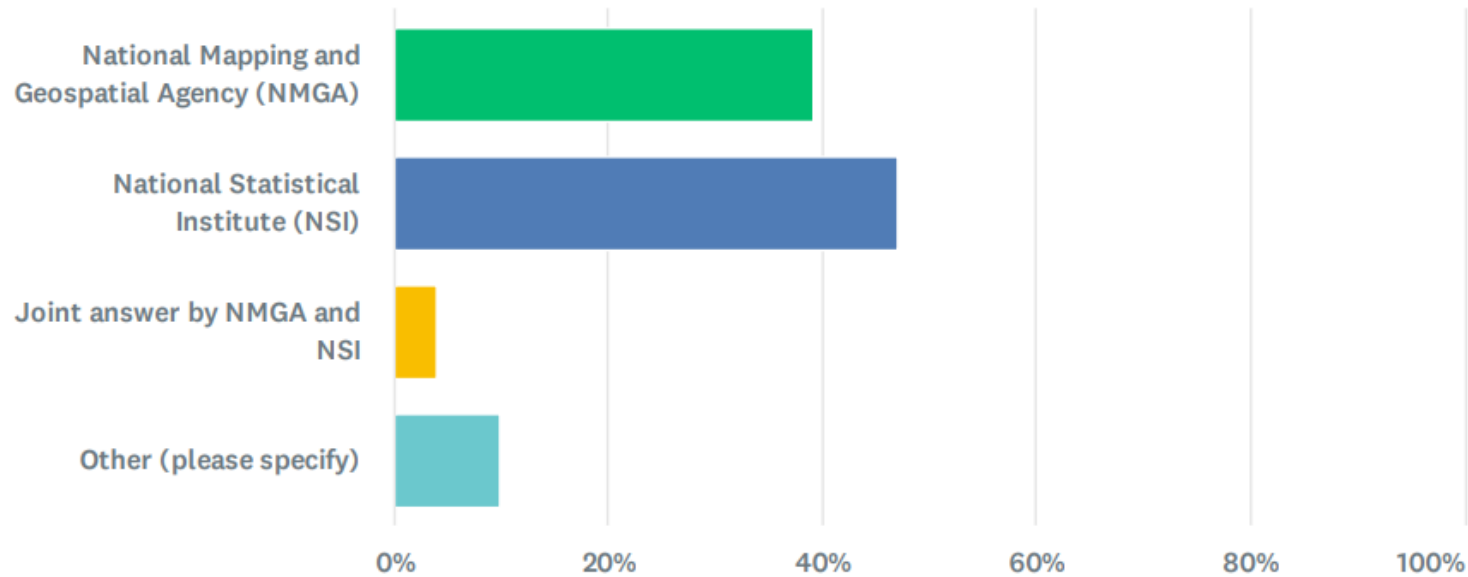
Regional Questionnaire Preliminary Results

- Survey closed on Friday 6 February
- This is a set of preliminary results developed for the workshop
- Data still needs to be cleaned and refined
- If your country or organisation didn't respond, please contact us and we can include your responses in the final report.



Where are we now?

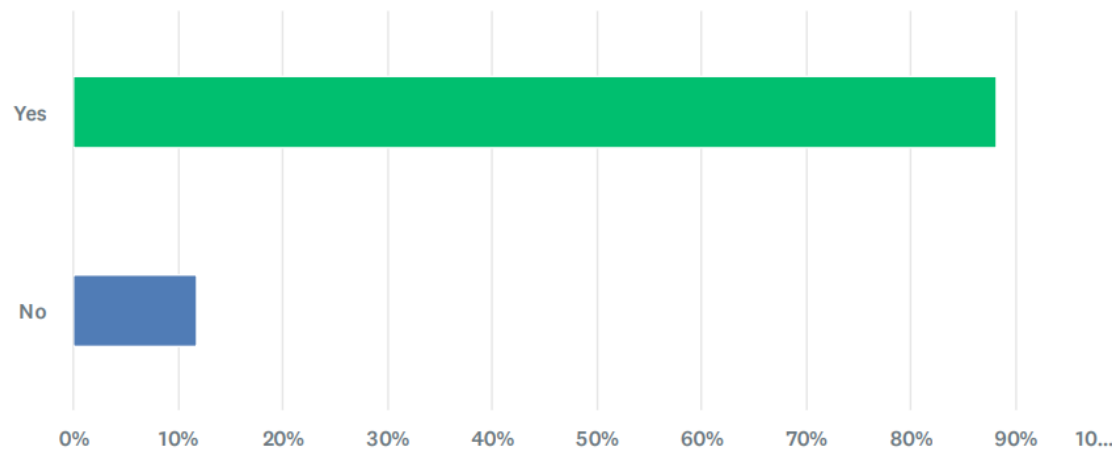
- 52 response from 33 countries



Awareness of UN-IGIF

Q7 Is your organisation aware of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF)

Answered: 51 Skipped: 0



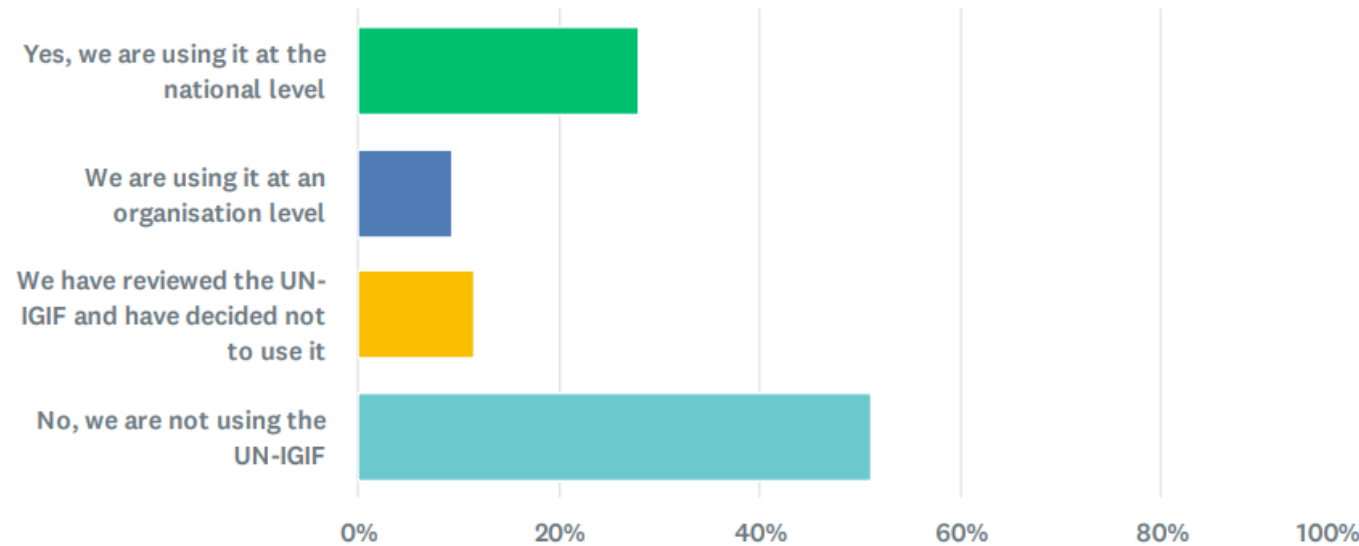
- Awareness has gone down since 2022; however this is due to a wider range of respondents to the survey from organisations who are new to the community.



Use of UN-IGIF

Q9 Are you using or implementing the UN-IGIF?

Answered: 43 Skipped: 8

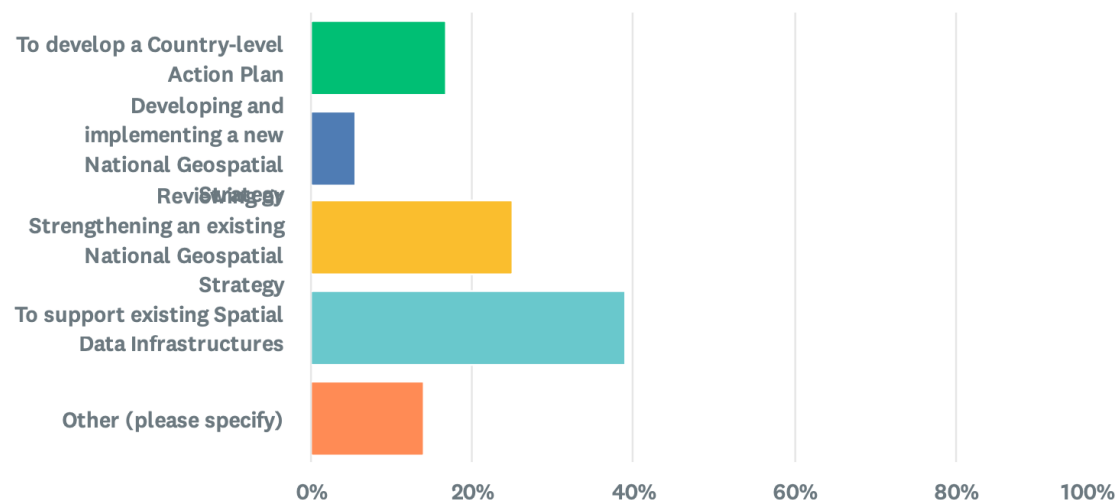


- 60% of respondents (last two columns) are not using or implementing the Framework
- The remaining part is implementing, with a greater preference to the national level



Q11 If you are using or implementing the UN-IGIF how are you using it? (select all that apply)

Answered: 20 Skipped: 37

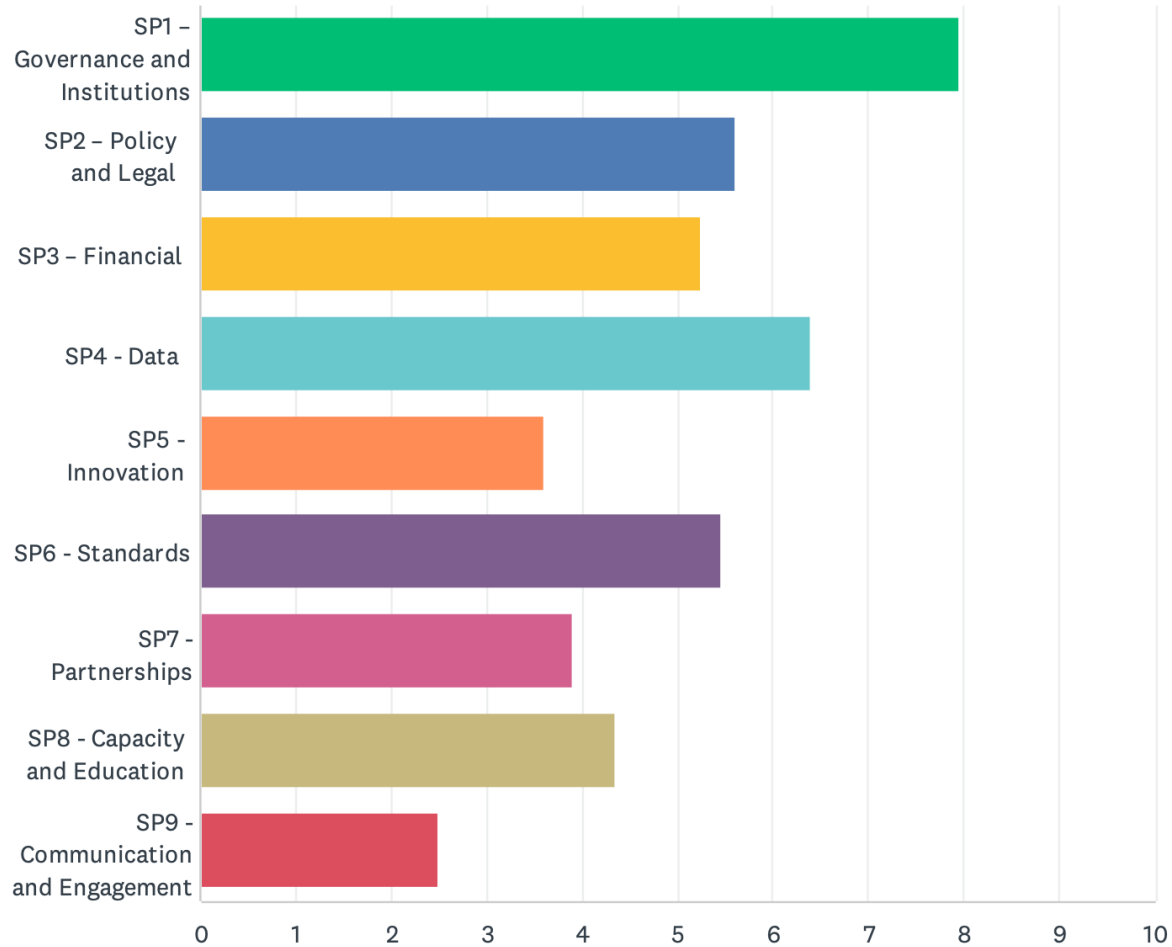


But what about the “Others?”

- Serves as background guidance rather than a formal implementation pathway
- Informs long-term thinking and capability development not applied as a standalone programme or project



Strategic Pathway



Main focus on:

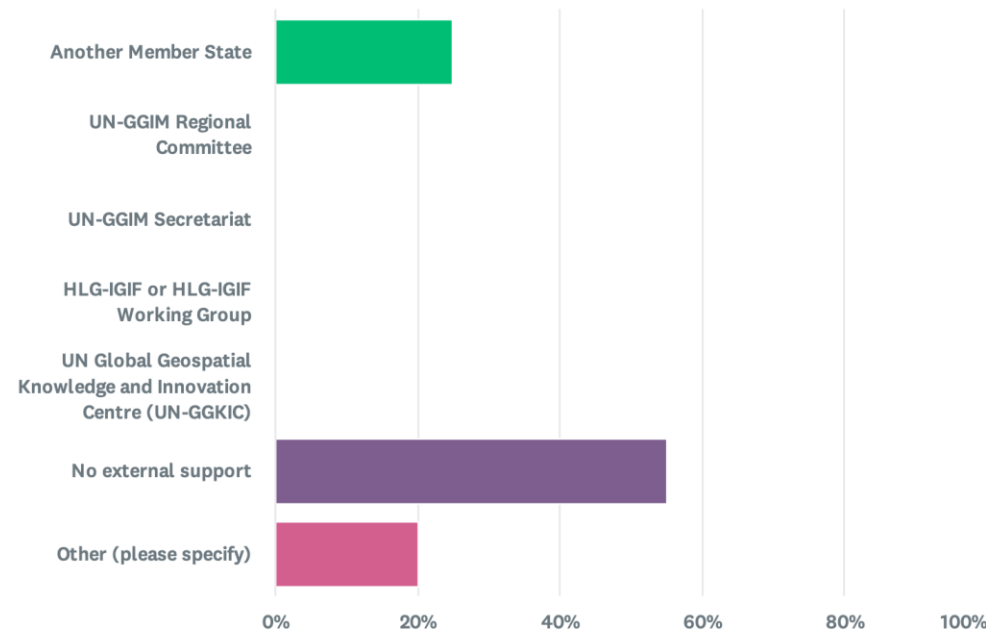
- Governance and Institutions;
- Data;
- Policy and Legal;
- Standards
- Financial aspect



Implementation and approach

Q13 Has your country received support from other Member States or External Organisations to implement the UN-IGIF?

Answered: 20 Skipped: 37



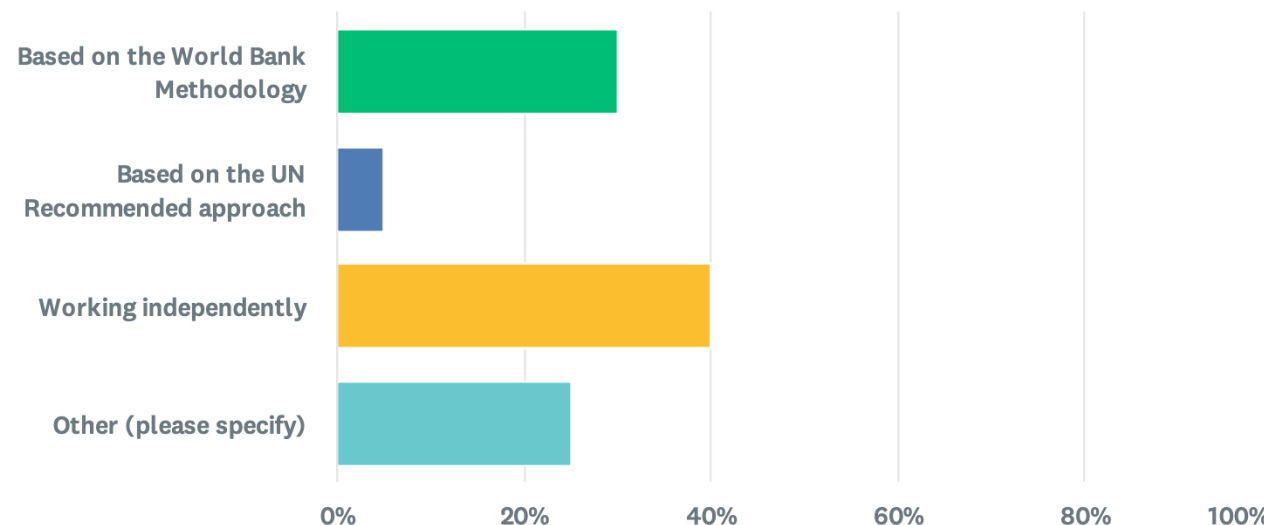
- Mainly done independently;
- In some occasions with the support or in collaboration with other Member States



Implementation and approach

Q14 What approach are you using to implement the UN-IGIF?

Answered: 20 Skipped: 37



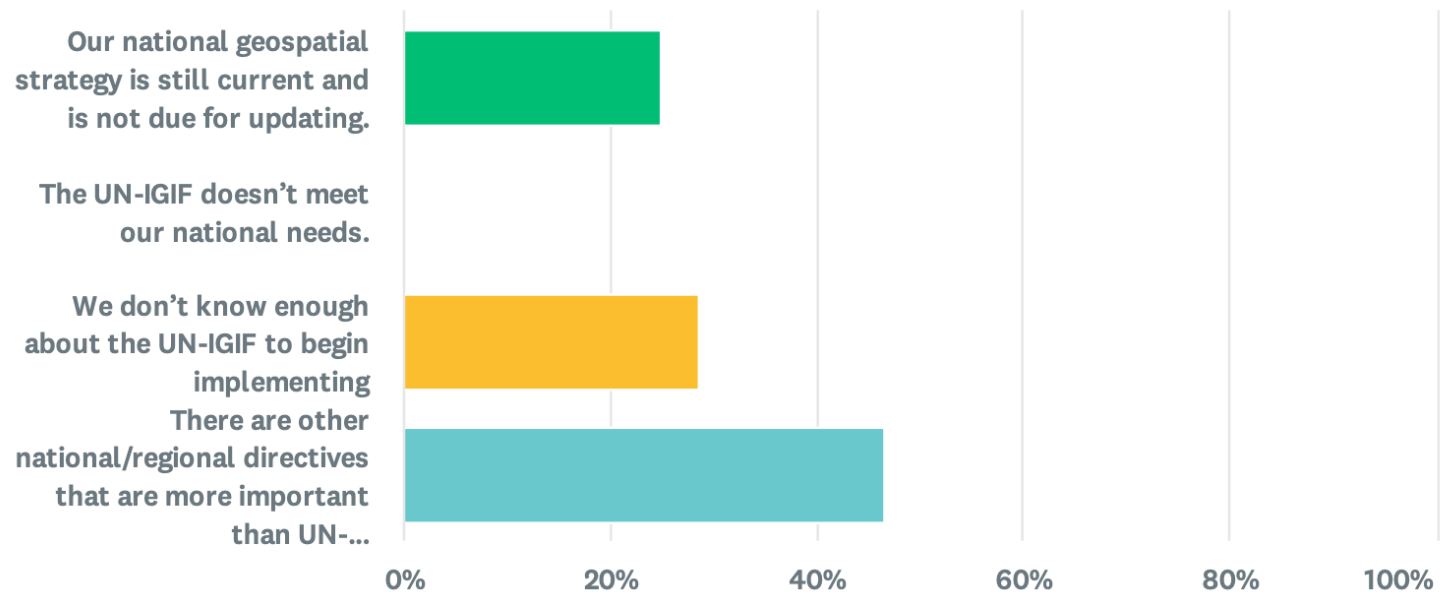
- Most common approach is “Working Independently”, suggesting either an informal adaptation or tailoring it to national needs



Why not?

Q16 If you've reviewed the UN-IGIF and decided not to implement it what are the reasons?

Answered: 28 Skipped: 29



If you're not using the UN-IGIF, why not?

"Existing national geospatial strategies remain current and do not require updating."

"Several countries consider the framework unnecessary because long-standing SDIs already address UN-IGIF principles."

"Existing national or regional directives take priority over adopting a new framework."

"Some report UN-IGIF does not align with their institutional role or mandate."

"Limited awareness or understanding of the UN-IGIF reduces readiness to begin implementation."

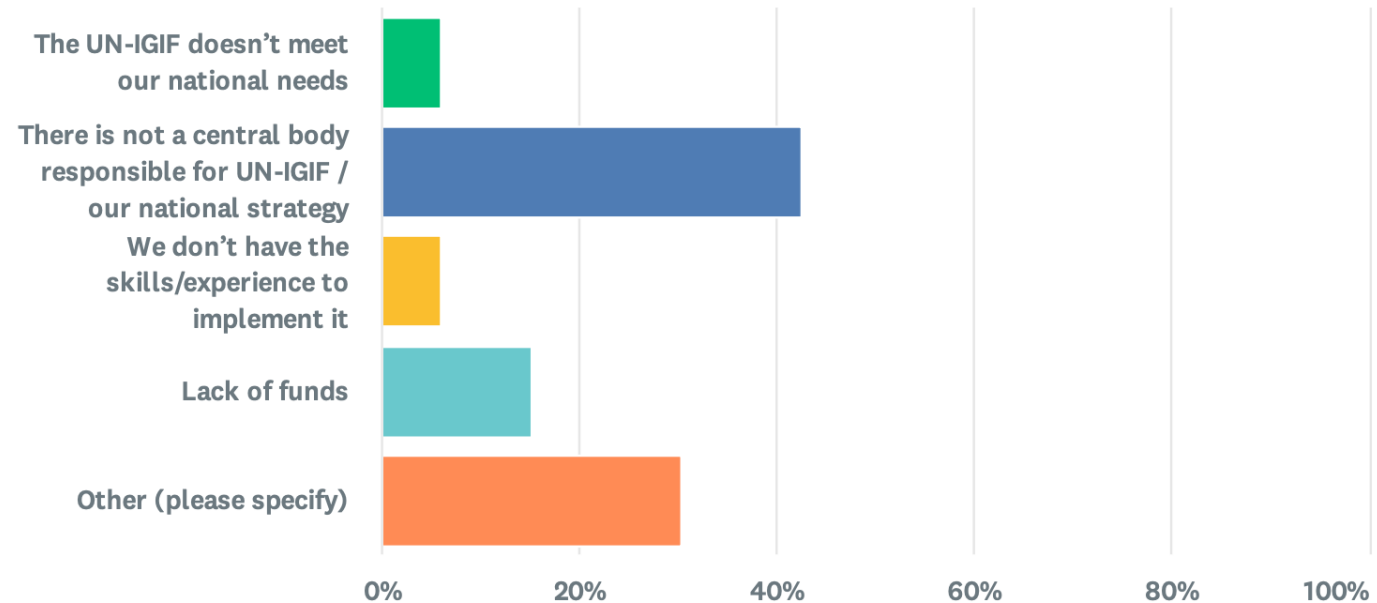
"Low political priority, lack of interest, or insufficient time inhibit uptake."



Why not?

Q17 If you are not using the UN-IGIF what are the reasons? [Select all that apply]

Answered: 28 Skipped: 29



If you're not using the UN-IGIF, why not?

“The absence of a central coordinating body”

“Lack of skills, experience, and dedicated financing.”

“The UN-IGIF doesn't always align with national needs.”

“Existing national strategies are preferred over new frameworks.”

“In some cases, integration of statistical and geospatial information is already happening, making the UN-IGIF redundant.”

“Political or internal mandate issues can reduce the scope.”



Open discussion

Use and integration of UN-IGIF and GSGF

How is your country currently using and integrating the UN-IGIF and the GSGF? Describe current status, key activities, and progress

Value of collaboration between NMCAs and NSOs

What benefits have you observed from closer cooperation between NMA and NSO. Have you done any work to quantify these benefits.

ACTIVITY

10-minute discussion

Report back one or two interesting conversations



Welcome back



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National experiences

Armenia

Azerbaijan

Moldova

Serbia

Slovenia

Türkiye

Ukraine

Open discussion

Networking and collaboration



Armenia



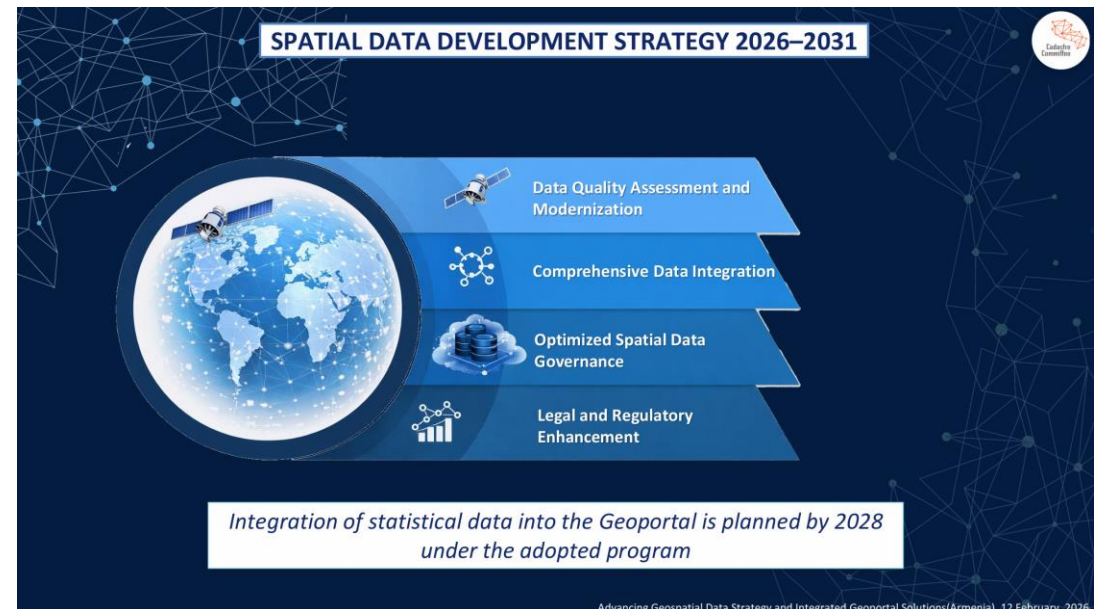
Advancing Geospatial Data Strategy and Integrated Geoportal Solutions (Armenia)

Anna Karapetyan

Cadastral Committee of the Republic of Armenia
Geodesy and land management department
Geospatial data Division



Republic of Armenia



SPATIAL DATA DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2026–2031

- Data Quality Assessment and Modernization
- Comprehensive Data Integration
- Optimized Spatial Data Governance
- Legal and Regulatory Enhancement

Integration of statistical data into the Geoportal is planned by 2028 under the adopted program

Advancing Geospatial Data Strategy and Integrated Geoportal Solutions(Armenia), 12 February, 2026



Azerbaijan



Expert consultation and related meetings on Developing strategies and implementing geospatial solutions for the Sustainable Development Goals

Workshop on geospatial information management arrangements and the wider integrated data ecosystem in Europe and neighboring regions

Sevinj Garagozova | Leading Advisor
State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan
Department of the Sustainable Development Statistics
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<http://www.stat.gov.az>
<https://sdg.azstat.org/en/home>



DEGURBA Project

In 2022–2023, the project titled “Application of the DEGURBA (degree of urbanisation) approach to obtain comparable city data in Azerbaijan” was implemented.

The project was jointly carried out with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the European Commission. Within the framework of the project, international experts conducted training sessions for representatives of relevant state institutions on the calculation of indicators under Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11) — “Sustainable Cities and Communities.”

SDG 11.2.1 indicator is calculated by the Working Group consisting of representatives of State Statistical Committee, the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Digital Development and Transport, the State Committee for Urban Development and Architecture, the Space Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the State Service for Property Issues under the Ministry of Economy, Geodesy and Cartography Agency of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources within the framework of the DEGURBA project based on the methodology of the UN-Habitat.

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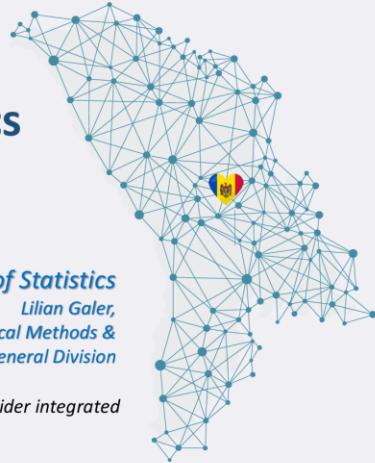
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Moldova



Integration of geospatial information in official statistics of the Republic of Moldova

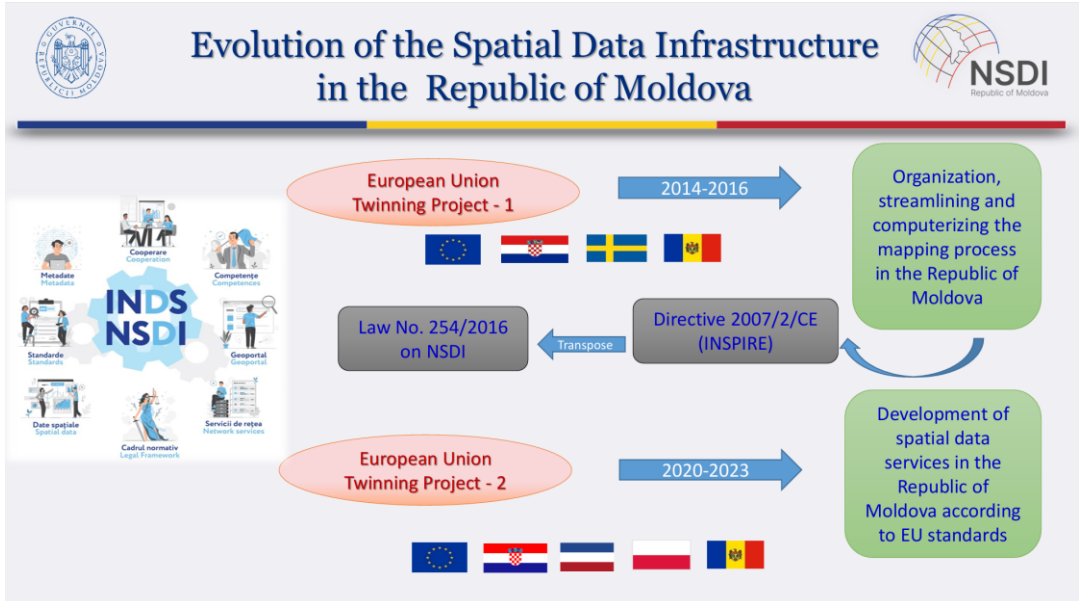


Agency for Geodesy,
Cartography and Cadastre
Ion Cretu,
Deputy General Director

National Bureau of Statistics
Lilian Galer,
Head of Statistical Methods &
Innovation General Division

Workshop on geospatial information management arrangements and the wider integrated data ecosystem in Europe and neighbouring regions,

United Nations Office in Vienna, Austria 11 -13 February 2026



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Serbia



Serbian NSDI **legal**, **organizational** and **technology** frameworks evolve around European and global initiatives and local needs in domain of geospatial data management



For us, IGIF is not primarily about making geospatial data better, more open, or more interoperable.

It is about using geospatial data to fix what has been broken in the state for decades: property relations, risk management, legality, markets, and trust.

If geospatial infrastructure does not change decisions and the flow of public and private investment, then it is not infrastructure – it is just a catalogue.

IGIF ≠ GIS strategy



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Slovenia

REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
STATISTICAL OFFICE

REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND SPATIAL PLANNING
SURVEYING AND MAPPING AUTHORITY
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

Stronger Together:
**"Implementation of the UN Integrated Geospatial
Information Framework and the Global Statistical and
Geospatial Framework in Slovenia"**

APOLONIJA OBLAK FLANDER
DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

TOMAŽ PETEK
DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF SURVEYING AND MAPPING AUTHORITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
AND MEMBER OF UN GGIM EUROPE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

WORKSHOP ON GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND THE WIDER INTEGRATED DATA ECOSYSTEM IN EUROPE AND NEIGHBORING REGIONS,
VIENNA, AUSTRIA 9-13 FEBRUARY 2026

IGIF Country level Action Plan

Governance

Technology

People

Strategija in akcijski načrt IPI



Türkiye

Expert Consultation and Related Meetings on Developing Strategies and Implementing Geospatial Solutions for the Sustainable Development Goals

9-13 February 2025, United Nations Office in Vienna / Austria



Country Experience on the UN-IGIF & GSGF TÜRKİYE

Ministry of Environment, Urbanization & Climate Change
General Directorate of Geographic Information Systems
Turkish Statistical Institute (TURKSTAT)

Delegation of Türkiye: Ömer ALAN (*Director General of GIS*)
Cem GÜLLÜOĞLU (*Head of Remote Sensing Dept., GD of GIS*)
Selin ERTÜRK (*TURKSTAT Expert*)



Workshop on Geospatial Information Management Arrangements and the Wider Integrated Data Ecosystem in Europe and Neighboring Regions

February 2026, United Nations Office in Vienna / Austria

1

NSDI: Two Decades of Progress & the Legal Framework

Since the early 2000s, Türkiye has been developing and managing the components of the NSDI through various initiatives.

Key Regulations & Legal Framework for the NSDI

- 2004, Action Plan on e-Transformation of Türkiye
- 2006-2010, National GIS Policy initiatives
- 2011, Estab. of the Gen. Dir. of GIS as NSDI auth. **July 2011, Estab. of the UN-GGIM*
- 2013, First rel. of Geoportal & Geospatial Data Standards
- 2018, National GIS Strategy & Action Plan (1st release)
- 2019-2021, Pres. Decree on Geospatial Data Infra. & Law on the Regulation of Nat. Geospatial Market
- 2024, Nat. GIS Strategy & Action Plan (Updated for 2024-2030)
- 2025, Updated rel. of the National Geospatial Data Platform tucbs.gov.tr

The Piri Reis map (1513) depicting Atlantic, Western Europe, North Africa and Eastern Coast of South America.



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February 2026, United Nations Office in Vienna / Austria

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Ukraine

STATEGEOCADASTRE
DIGITALIZATION • DEREGULATION • DE-SHADOWIZATION



**UN-IGIF implementation in Ukraine:
challenges, results and perspectives**

Dmytro Makarenko
Chairman
State Service of Ukraine for Geodesy,
Cartography and Cadastre

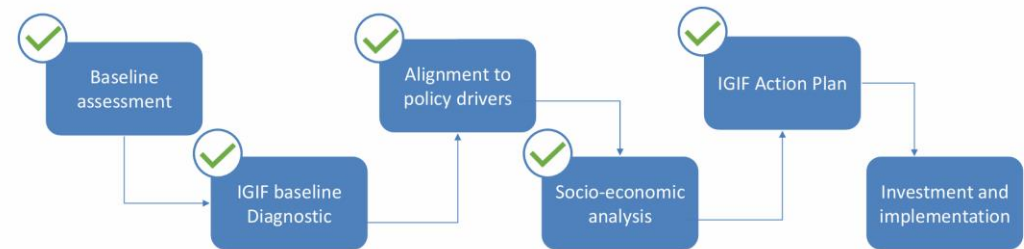
12th of February 2026, Vienna, Austria

IGIF incorporation to the current NSDI process

STATEGEOCADASTRE
DIGITALIZATION • DEREGULATION • DE-SHADOWIZATION

Well received by the Ukrainian geospatial community, but with no clear vision, knowledge and expectation of the final goal

2019 – the first, trial or “internal” IGIF assessment done, but with limited stakeholders
2021 – a complex IGIF assessment supported by the Norwegian Government



Final Reflections



- Understanding and awareness.
- UN-IGIF and GSGF are key, but not the only option.
- Workshop very valuable event.
- Continue to focus on visibility and impact.



Thank you for listening.



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james.norris@os.uk





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Open discussion

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Value of collaboration between NMAs and NSOs

What benefits have you observed from closer cooperation between NMA and NSO. Have you done any work to quantify these benefits.

Benefits of integrating statistical and geospatial data

What benefits has better integration of statistical and geospatial data delivered for your country. Can you share specific case studies.

Challenges encountered

What major challenges has your country faced in implementing or integrating UN-IGIF and/or GSGF?

Approached to overcoming challenges

How are you addressing or planning to address these challenges? Examples may be governance updates, new partnerships, skills programmes etc.



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