



**UN-GGIM:Americas**

REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF UNITED NATIONS  
ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION  
MANAGEMENT FOR THE AMERICAS

# Regional Report **UN-GGIM: Americas 2023 -2024**

**XI**  
SESSION

**OCTOBER 7TH,  
2024**

MEXICO CITY

**Sofía Nilo Crisóstomo**  
President UN-GGIM: Americas

# INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

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# OBJECTIVE OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

- ❑ Determine the relevant regional issues for the management of geospatial information, and take necessary measures to maximize the economic, social and environmental benefits derived from its use.
- ❑ The previous, based on the knowledge and the exchange of experiences and technologies by Member States, which allows promoting the establishment of Geospatial Data Infrastructures in the Americas and other national initiatives, in addition to contributions to debates in UN- GGIM.



# UN-GGIM AMERICAS MEMBER STATES (36)



Antigua and Barbuda



Argentina



Bahamas



Barbados



Belize



Bolivia



Brazil



Canada



Chile



Colombia



Costa Rica



Cuba



Dominica



Dominican Republic



Ecuador



El Salvador



Grenada



Honduras



Guatemala



Guyana



Haiti



Nicaragua



Jamaica



Paraguay



Mexico



Saint Maarten



Panama



Saint Vincent and  
the Grenadines



Perú



Suriname



Santa Lucia



United States



Saint Kitts and  
Nevis



Uruguay



Trinidad and Tobago



Venezuela

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS UN-GGIM: Americas (2021-2025)



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# WORK PLAN FOR UN-GGIM AMERICAS 2024

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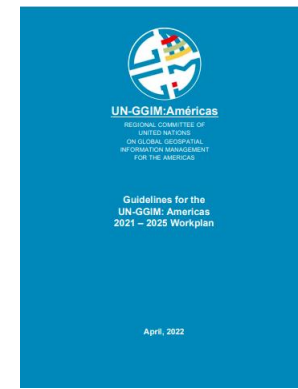


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# Guidelines for the UN-GGIM: Americas 2021 – 2025 WORKPLAN



Support the implementation of Global Frameworks at the country level



Follow up on national geospatial information management processes



Strengthen capacities in all lines of work that are considered a challenge



Increase the collection of information through the management of geospatial knowledge



Support the implementation of standards at the national level



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# WORK PLAN UN-GGIM: AMERIAS 2024



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# ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE WORKING GROUPS



## WG Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (GT UN-IGIF)

- Survey to assess the implementation of the UN-IGIF and development of a dashboard to visualize results.
- Virtual discussions on the strategic pathways of the UN-IGIF.
- Development of a newsletter on UN-IGIFI (last quarter 2024).



## WG Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (GT-IIEG)

- Compiled use cases and technical documentation related to the GSGF.
- Virtual workshops on the first four GSGF principles (Sep 2023 - Jun 2024). Translation support from ECLAC.
- Developed a technical specifications document for updating MEGA levels to include new disaggregated geographic information.



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# ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE WORKING GROUPS



## WG Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters (SF-GISD)

- Creation of a "GEOHUB of disaster events" to raise awareness of natural disasters in the Americas, available since October 2023.
- Identification of focal points in Member States to monitor and validate the information in the HUB.
- Development of the "Catalog of potentially hazardous natural and anthropogenic phenomena of the Americas," version 1.0, for consultation by Member States.



## WG Geodetic Reference Framework for the Americas

- 15 GNSS stations were added to the SIRGAS network, bringing the total number of stations to 503.
- The XIV International School on Geoid was held, gathering 40 students from 15 countries.
- A successful webinar on the SIRGAS Project was organized, and participation took place in the UN-GGCE Listening World Tour.



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# ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE WORKING GROUPS



## GW Effective Land Administration

- In October 2023, this regional working group for Effective Land Administration was established, led by Honduras and Chile.
- An introductory conversation was held, featuring prominent experts, where key concepts of Land Administration were discussed, and the current situation in the Americas was analyzed, establishing guidelines for the group's future.



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# ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE THEMATIC NETWORKS



## Academic Network of the Americas (ANA)

- ANA completed the migration of its site to UN-GGIM: Americas and developed a publication plan.
- ANA conducted a project on ethics in geographic data and participated in educational initiatives on Ethics, SDGs, and AI.
- ANA promoted cooperation with various networks and organized parallel events during the Tenth Session of UN-GGIM: Americas.



## Private Sector Network of the Americas (PSN-A)

- Increased membership from 32 to 44 members (28% growth) and established a new Regional Committee.
- Actively participated in the 4th UN SIDS Conference and workshops, and collaborated on the Caribbean Geospatial Development Initiative (CARIGEO).
- Launched the “Mapping the Conversation” podcast, and initiated programs like the Virtual Internship Program and a Regional Student Competition in spatial thinking.



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# ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF SUBREGIONAL VOCALS



## North America, Central America, Caribbean and South America

- Support the participation and commitment of the countries of the subregion.
- Support the activities of the working groups and initiatives of the Regional Committee in the subregion.
- Conducting virtual workshops to enhance the technical capacities of Member States in the Americas and promote the efficient use of geospatial tools.
- Organization of events and programs to strengthen geospatial capacities, promote communication, and raise awareness of the use of geospatial information, including participation in conferences and regional activities.
- Support and follow-up to the requirements of the UN-GGIM Executive Secretariat: Americas and continuous communication with the focal points on activities and events of the Regional Committee.



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# OTHER REGIONAL INITIATIVES UNDERWAY



## Geospatial AI Community of Practice UN-GGIM: Americas

- The Tenth Session of UN-GGIM: Americas (18-20 October 2023) in Santiago highlighted the importance of regional collaboration and the potential of Geospatial Artificial Intelligence (Geo-AI). A Community to support the adoption of Geo-AI among member states and the private sector was proposed, with commitments from several countries and organisations.
- An inaugural meeting will be held to discuss the needs and use cases of Geospatial AI, which will serve as the foundation for a work plan to foster a collaborative community of practice.



## Community for women's empowerment in the geospatial field

- Recognising the gender disparities in women's participation and leadership in the geospatial field, UN-GGIM: Americas committed to support initiatives that foster a more inclusive and diverse environment, recognising the valuable contribution of women in this field and addressing the challenges to reduce these gaps.
- During the last quarter of 2024, they will hold a conversation and disseminate activities that promote women as leaders in the geospatial field.



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# INVOLVEMENT OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE IN GLOBAL INITIATIVES

- UN-GGIM: Americas engages in the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework and its Working Groups through the participation of several of its Member States
- Member of the International Advisory Committee (IAC) of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Innovation and Knowledge Center.
- Member of the Advisory Committee of the Seventh High-Level Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management of the United Nations



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# SOME CHALLENGES FOR THE OPERATION OF THE COMMITTEE IN 2025

## COMUNICATION

### Effective Communication:

- Further strengthen the role of the regional Vocals to improve representation and information flow.
- Develop activities with translation into at least the two main languages of the region to ensure inclusion and participation from all stakeholders.
- Define a communication plan aimed at high-level authorities in the region, ensuring visibility and understanding of priority issues.



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# SOME CHALLENGES FOR THE OPERATION OF THE COMMITTEE IN 2025

## PARTICIPATION

### Effective participation:

- Strengthen the active role of regional representatives and focal points to promote internal awareness in countries about the committee's actions.
- Encourage the participation of key stakeholders from member countries in regional groups, fostering greater collaboration and representation.
- The Board of Directors supports participation by mobilizing resources to facilitate attendance at meetings and events, and by providing platforms that ensure efficient and inclusive connectivity.



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# SOME **CHALLENGES** FOR THE OPERATION OF THE COMMITTEE IN 2025

## **STRENGTHENING THE COMMITTEE**

- Establish a clear and defined role for focal points in the committee's statutes, ensuring their proper function and representation.
- Strengthen the functions of the members through the Committee's statutes.
- Strengthen issues of equity, inclusion of women and diversities.



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# THANK YOU!



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