



UN-GGIM:Americas

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



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X SESSION

UN-GGIM:

AMERICAS

October 18, 19 and 20 - 2023
Santiago de Chile, ECLAC

Caribbean Vocal Report

Session 8: Vocals

Friday October 20, 2023

Simone M. Lloyd, GISP
Caribbean Vocal



Caribbean Member States



Antigua and Barbuda



Bahamas



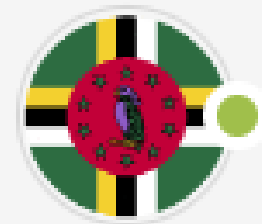
Barbados



Belize



Cuba



Dominica



Dominican Republic



Grenada



Guyana



Haiti



Jamaica



St. Kitts and Nevis



St. Lucia



St. Maarten



St. Vincent and the Grenadines



Suriname



Trinidad & Tobago



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CARIGEO

Caribbean Geospatial
Development Initiative

GEO-EMPOWERING THE CARIBBEAN

an initiative implemented by the
Americas Regional Committee of United
Nations Committee of Experts on Global
Geospatial Information Management
(UN-GGIM: Americas)





National Mapping Agencies

&

National Statistical Offices



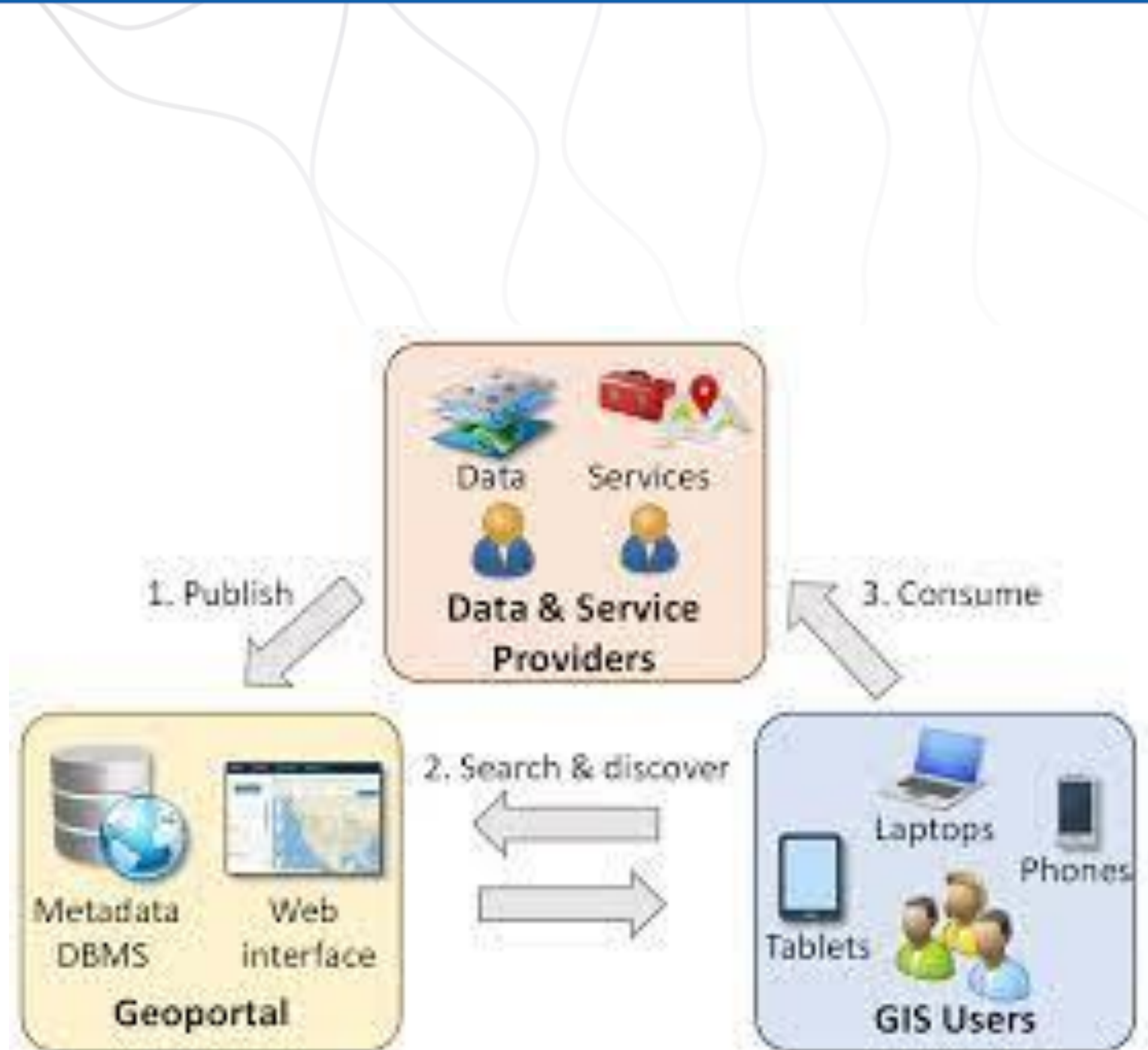
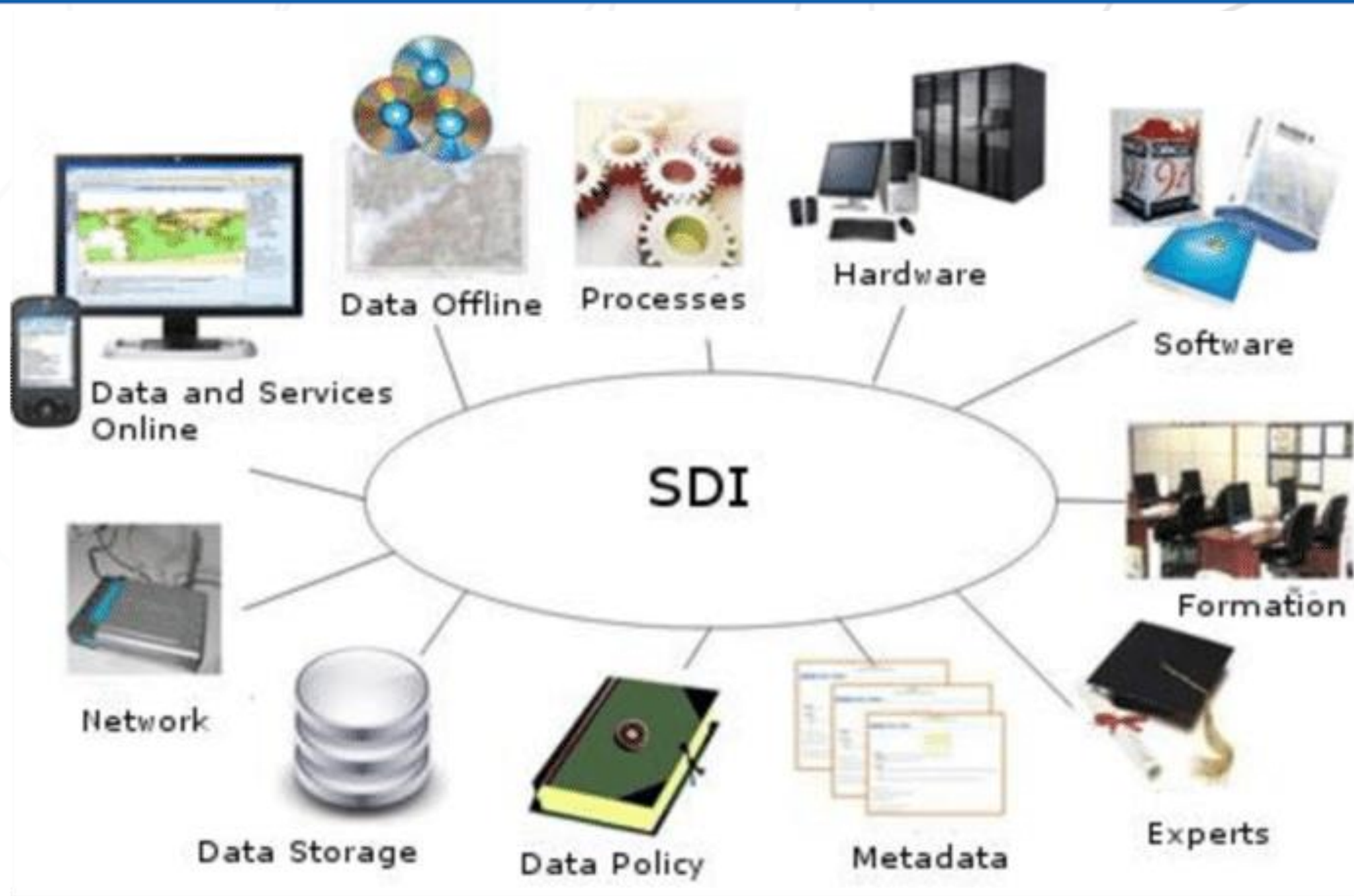
CARIGEO's PURPOSE

- **To improve Spatial Data Infrastructures at the national and regional levels in the CARIBBEAN**

- ❑ *building on recent and on-going developments*
- ❑ *leveraging indigenous skills and resources*
- ❑ *utilising external resources and technical expertise*



CARIGEO's PURPOSE

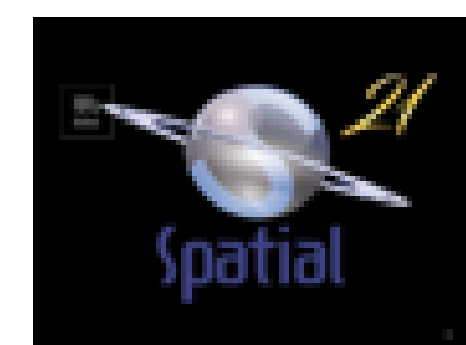
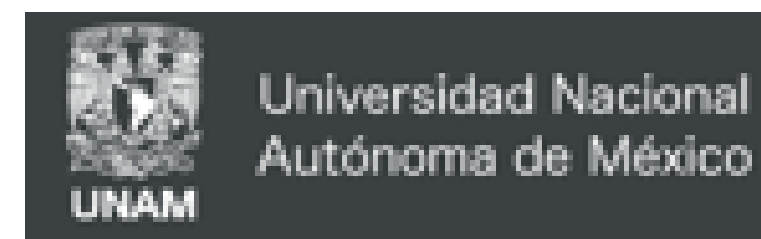


Steering Committee Membership



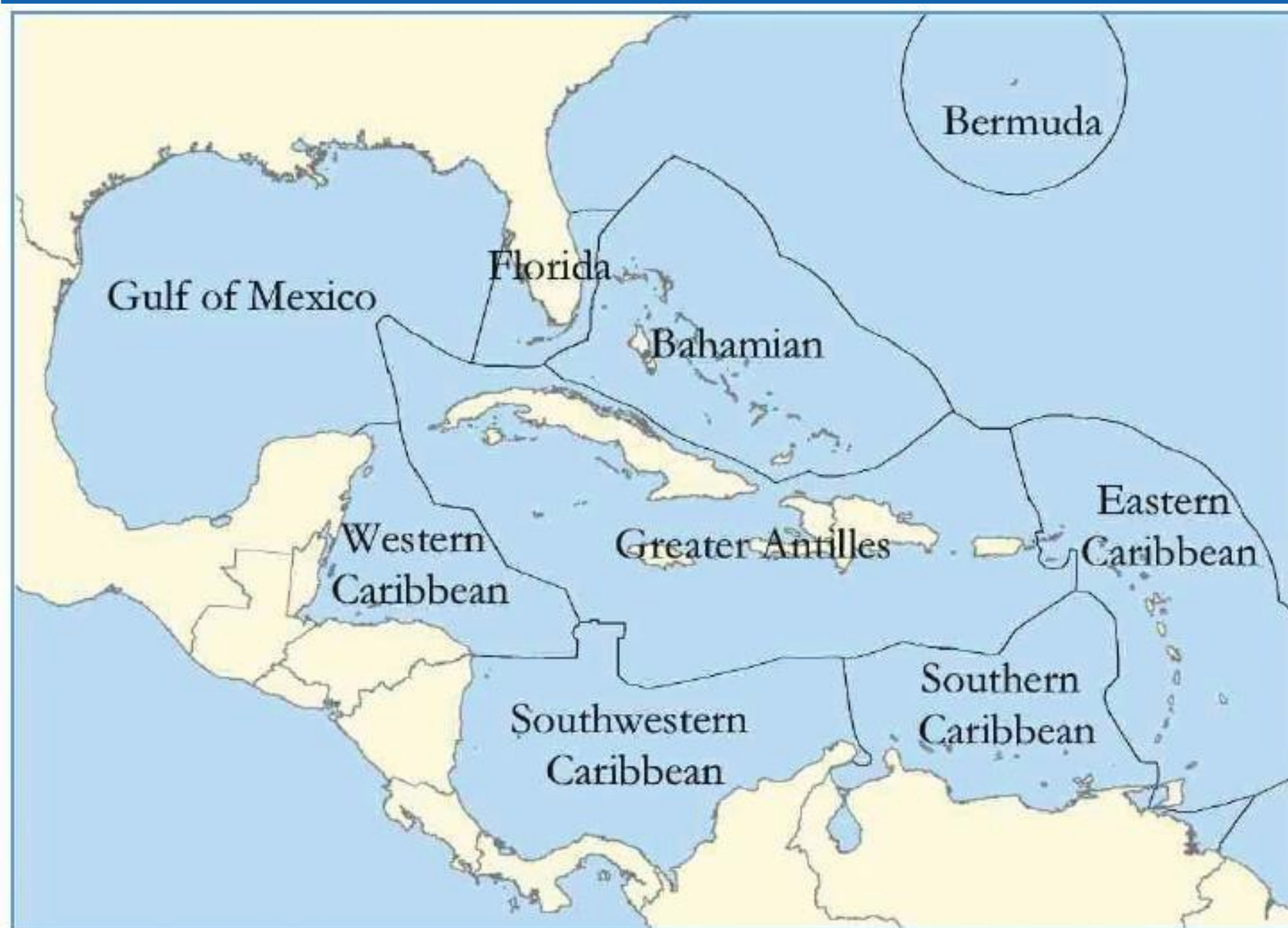
Membership	Representative
Chaired by UN-ECLAC	Alvaro Monet
Member State: Barbados	Michelle St. Claire
Member State: Jamaica & Caribbean Vocal	Simone Lloyd
Member State: Suriname	Denise Muler
Academic Network: UWI, St. Augustine	Bheshem Ramlal
ECLAC Port of Spain	Artie Dubrie and Elizabeth Thorne
Private Sector Network: ESRI	Linda Peters
Private Sector Network: GeoTechVision Ltd	Valrie Grant
Advisor: INEGI (Mexico)	Gabriela Seco
UN-GGIM Secretariat	Cecille Blake

Key Partnerships



The Future We Want





Caribbean comprises **9 sub-regions** broken down into:

- **29 island territories**
- **10 continental territories**



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Geo-empowered Caribbean Region

- CARIGEO, is a collaborative initiative that seeks to **geospatially empower** the countries and territories of the Caribbean to advance the **greater use and sharing of geospatial and statistical information** to support **improved decision making** for **sustainable national** and **regional development**.
- Support countries and territories of the Caribbean in the **implementation of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF)**.





CARIGEO

Caribbean Geospatial
Development Initiative

GEO-EMPOWERING THE CARIBBEAN

A **community** of spatial data producers and users is **formed** and remains **active**

GIS and data management **capacities** are **improved** across the region

Increased funding is available for the creation and updating of **fundamental spatial datasets**

Spatial data is **shared** more broadly and **more openly** in the Caribbean



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CARIGEO

Caribbean Geospatial
Development Initiative

GEO-EMPOWERING THE CARIBBEAN

Development decisions
and **policy-formulation**
take more advantage of
geoinformation

National Legislation to
regulate and promote the
use of geoinformation is
enacted

Agreements are instituted
for **collaboration** and
corporation on the use of
geoinformation regionally



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Scope of Work: Aligned to IGIF

Track 1: Assessment of Current Situation in the Caribbean

Track 2: Governance and Policies

Track 3: Collaboration and Partnerships

Track 4: Datasets and Tools

Track 5: Capacity Development

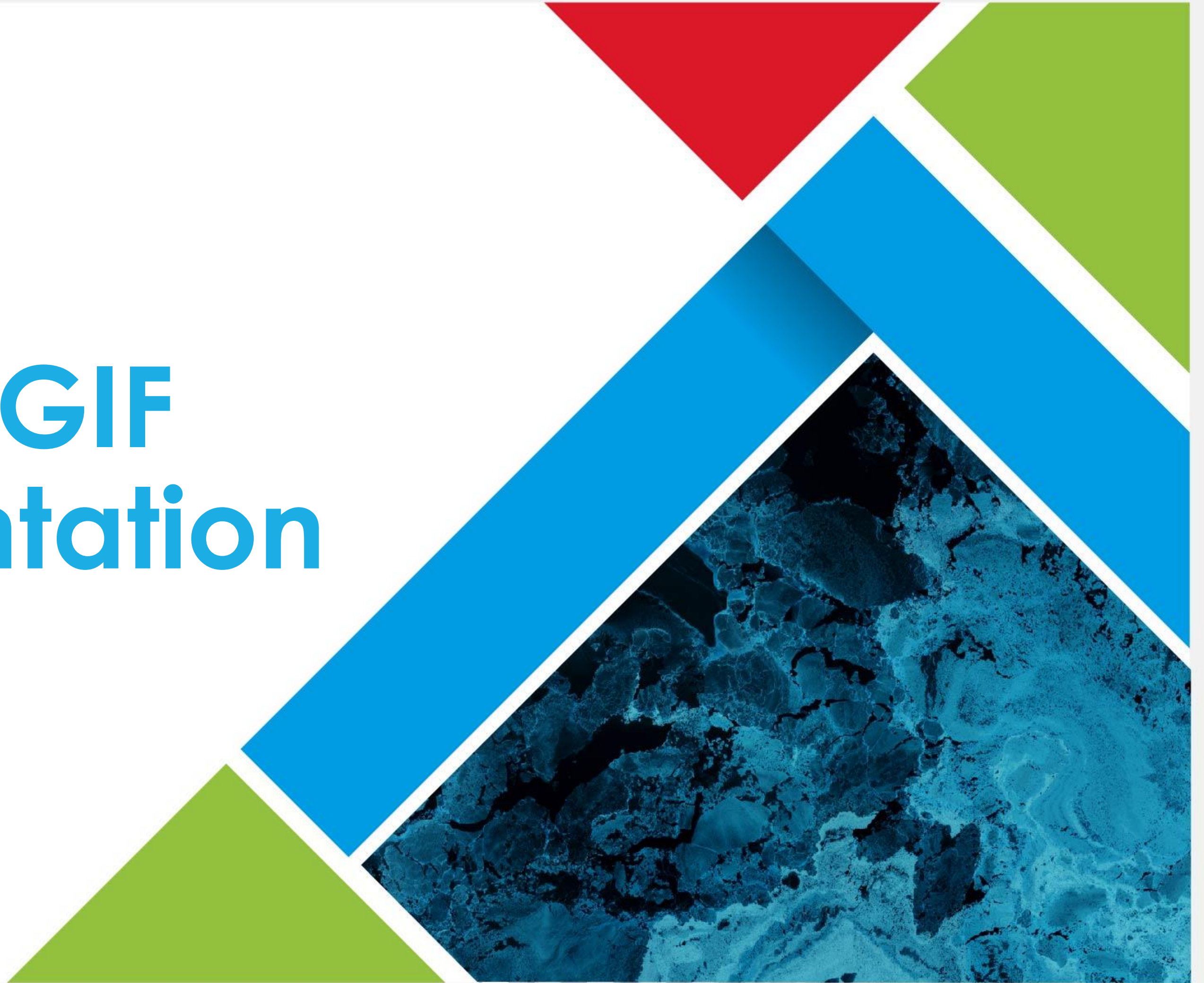
Track 6: Communications



Achievements & Way Forward



Foster IGIF Implementation



“Implementation of Global Guidelines to Strengthen Geospatial Information Management In the Caribbean”

- The diagnoses carried out by the group on geospatial data infrastructures of the United Nations Regional Committee on Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas:
- **For the years 2018, 2019 and 2020, generally low levels of progress reported in national geospatial initiatives, taking into consideration the evaluation of aspects related to institutions, technology, data and human resources.**
- This workshop would be the starting milestone for IGIF implementation process in the Caribbean region, within the framework of the execution of the work plan of UN-GGIM: Americas.



PREPARING FOR THE IGIF WORKSHOP FOR THE **CARIBBEAN**

Briefing Workshop



24
MAR 23



10:00 AM (EST)
12:00 PM (EST)



Organisation of
Eastern Caribbean States
One Community - One Voice

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- Importance of **effective geospatial information management and use**
- **Overview** of the UN-IGIF and its importance in developing and/or **strengthening national geospatial and statistical initiatives**
- UN recommended approach to **design and develop a country-level action plan**
- Consider **existing capacity and capabilities** when implementing the UN-IGIF
- Recommended tasks for the **development of the country-level action plan**, including the related resource materials
- How the tasks are **adaptable to national circumstances** and how the **resource materials are meant to be tailored** to individual national circumstances
- **Pre-work Assignment**



IGIF WORKSHOP FOR THE **CARIBBEAN**

Castries, St. Lucia

April 19 – 21, 2023



UN-GGIM:Americas



UN-IGIF



CARIGEO
Caribbean Geospatial
Development Initiative



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CARICOM



Organisation of
Eastern Caribbean States
One Community - Growing Together



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IGIF WORKSHOP FOR THE **CARIBBEAN**

Castries, St. Lucia

April 19 – 21, 2023

- A workshop on “**Implementation of global guidelines to strengthen geospatial information management in the Caribbean**” was held 19 - 21, April 2023 in Castries, Saint Lucia.
- **Goal:** To encourage and provide guidance for the effective management and utilization of geospatial information in support of economic, social and environmental development priorities, based on the guidance of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF).
- **Attendance:** representatives of the **national geospatial agencies and national statistics offices** from **13 countries and territories (Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Suriname and Trinidad & Tobago)** with the expectation to be the starting milestone of the IGIF implementation process in the Caribbean region, within the framework of the execution of the work plan of UN-GGIM: Americas, under the follow-up of the CARIGEO Coordinating Group and with the collaboration and engagement of these national practitioners.



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IGIF WORKSHOP FOR THE **CARIBBEAN**

Castries, St. Lucia

April 19 – 21, 2023

Workshop outcome: a **Summary Statement** was written and discussed.

- Among its main points, the participants agreed to **champion and promote the adoption of UN-IGIF in the Caribbean**, as a tool to advance national policy and development projects and programmes, provide data for the management and monitoring of Sustainable Development Goals and support the progress towards achieving the 2030 Agenda, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action and other development agendas such as the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the New Urban Agenda.



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UN-IGIF POST WORKSHOP FOR THE **CARIBBEAN**

Webinar

June 21st 2023
11:00 AM – 1 PM EDT

Progress Presentation: Country Representatives' Plan of Action

- Saint Lucia
- Suriname
- Grenada
- Trinidad & Tobago

Main objective: To discuss possible ways to **advance the national geospatial initiatives** based on the guidance of the IGIF, by leveraging available material generated by the United Nations on these matters and by opening spaces for a collaborative work and exchange between the Caribbean countries and territories.

Expected outcome: Participants are able to elaborate a roadmap to guide their national geospatial processes in the short term, by carrying out a number of foundational actions according to what the countries and territories want to achieve.



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<https://www.caribbeangeoportal.com/>



Caribbean GeoPortal

<https://www.caribbeangeoportal.com/>



“ We are deeply committed to supporting innovation in the Caribbean, helping users discover, explore, and understand the vast information available to them through the power of maps ”

Jack Dangermond

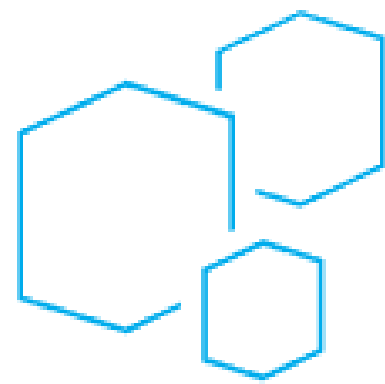
President and Founder of Esri

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Caribbean GeoPortal. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a search icon, a notification bell, and a user profile for 'Linda'. Below the navigation bar is a large hero section with a background image of a map of the Caribbean and three smiling people. The text in the hero section reads: 'The Caribbean GeoPortal' and 'Inspiring communities through geography'. Below the hero section is a yellow banner with the text 'COVID-19 Resources for the Caribbean are now available.' and a button labeled 'Caribbean COVID-19 Response'. Below the yellow banner is a section titled 'Why does geography matter?' with a sub-header 'Location intelligence is the ability to analyze and find spatial patterns in data, to provide powerful insights into understanding our world and communicating our needs. This is possible through a combination of local data and advanced geospatial tools, with training that's included for anyone working on geospatial challenges across the region.' To the right of this text is a small image showing a group of people working together outdoors. At the bottom of the page, there is a grey banner with the text 'Join the community now and start mapping today!'.

Caribbean GeoPortal

Inspiring communities through geography

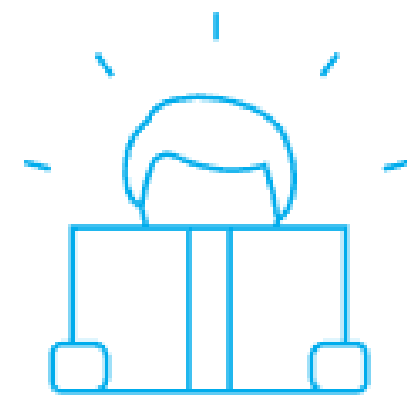
Our
Community
is being
empowered
by the
Caribbean
GeoPortal
and the
CARIGEO
initiative.



Geospatial Tools

Enjoy free access to the best geospatial tools. Make maps, analyze, and create applications. Use our data, bring your own, or combine them.

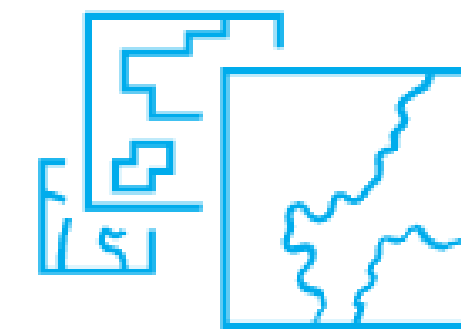
[Learn more](#)



Learning Resources

Make the most of free geospatial tools with online resources. Introductory to expert resources available.

[Learn more](#)



Caribbean Living Atlas

Discover a reliable collection of Caribbean focused geospatial data collected from Esri, Esri partners, governments, and existing open data. Share your data and enrich the

[Learn more](#)

A decorative graphic on the right side of the slide. It features a large blue triangle pointing upwards, composed of several overlapping geometric shapes: a red triangle at the top, a green triangle at the bottom left, and a blue triangle at the bottom right. The blue triangle contains a satellite-style image of a rocky, cratered surface, possibly a planet or moon. The background of the slide is white.

GeoStats Awareness Programme

GeoStats Awareness

Caribbean Together: Everyone Counts

Join us to launch
Caribbean Statistics Day
Thursday 12th October 2023

Caribbean Statistics Day

Sunday 15th October 2023

Celebration of Caribbean Statistics day that will serve as to springboard awareness on the value of Geospatial technologies and Statistics

GIS Day

Wednesday 15th November 2023

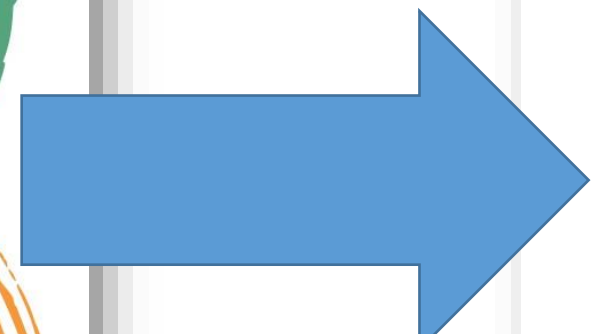
Fun and educational events that share how GIS helps to analyze earth's information, informs decision-making, and teach and inspire others

Student Competition

15th January 2024, due date for final project

Enter the competition, learn how to use geospatial technology and statistics to create interactive maps; gain awards and recognition.

VISIT THE [Caribbean Geportal](#)



GeoStats Awareness

Caribbean Together: Everyone Counts

Virtual Launch Ceremony
Caribbean GeoStats Awareness Programme

Thursday October 12, 2023
10:00 - 11:00 am (GMT-4)

Agenda

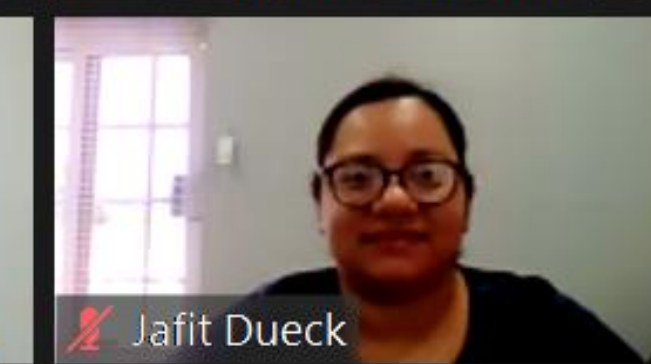
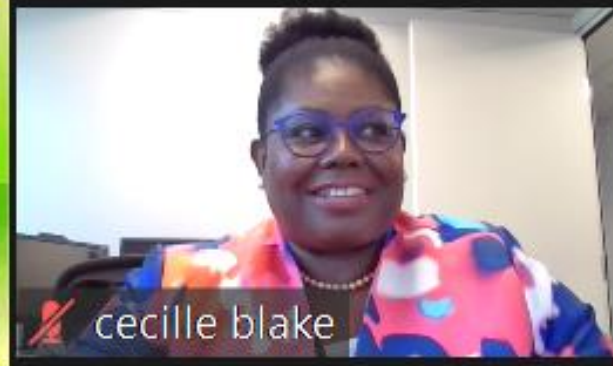
10:00 am	Welcome & Opening Remarks	Simone Lloyd, GSP Caribbean Vocal, UN-GGIM Americas
10:05 am	Remarks	Dr. Didiacus Jules Director General, OECS
10:15 am	Remarks	Alvaro Monett Regional Advisor in Geospatial Information Management, UN-ECLAC
10:20 am	Background and Program Overview	Valrie Grant, GSP President, UN-GGIM Americas Private Sector Network
10:30 am	Website Showcase	Linda Peters Business Development and Executive Program Director, BVI
10:40 am	Launch of Student Competition	Professor Bhessem Ramlal Dean, Faculty of Engineering, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine
10:55 am	Closing Remarks	Simone Lloyd, GSP



GeoStats Awareness Programme Launch

Attendees: (approximately 80)

- Antigua and Barbuda
- St. Lucia
- Guyana
- Jamaica
- Belize
- Barbados
- Trinidad and Tobago
- United Kingdom
- United Arab Emirates



SPECIAL EVENT

GeoStats Awareness Program

The GeoStats Awareness Program "One Voice, One Caribbean - Everyone Counts" is designed to educate youth in the Caribbean region about the importance of geospatial technologies and statistics. This program aims to foster interest, understanding, and active engagement in these fields among young learners.



One Voice, One Caribbean - Everyone Counts

Geography and Statistics are important in problem solving, especially in the Caribbean. Maps show us what was, what is, and what can be... they help us understand "where". Statistics help explain what things may occur...why, how many, how often, understanding when they happen and even help us make predictions for the future. The Caribbean is a magical place, and we encourage you to explore your home through maps and stats and share

GEOSTATS AWARENESS PROGRAM

COMPETITION DETAILS

AGES: 9-12

AGES: 13-18

SUBMISSIONS

EXPLORE, LEARN, GROW ***CARIBBEAN TOGETHER - EVERYONE COUNTS***

Geography and Statistics are important in problem solving, especially in the Caribbean. Maps show us what was, what is, and what can be... they help us understand "where". Statistics help explain what things may occur...why, how many, how often, understanding when they happen and even help us make predictions for the future. The Caribbean is a magical place, and we encourage you to explore your home through maps and stats and share your stories through this competition.

[GeoStats Awareness Program \(arcgis.com\)](http://arcgis.com)



GEOSTATS AWARENESS PROGRAM

COMPETITION DETAILS

AGES: 9-12

AGES: 13-18

SUBMISSIONS

AGES: 9 - 12

Every day in textbooks, online, and TV, you explore your world. You as a student experience your community on foot, by bicycle, by bus, and by car. You can collect data by walking down the sidewalk or beachside, gather information from far and wide. What if you could take that data and create a map of your world - what would that look like for you? For your friend, or your neighbor?

GET STARTED



GEOSTATS AWARENESS PROGRAM

COMPETITION DETAILS

AGES: 9-12

AGES: 13-18

SUBMISSIONS



AGES: 13-18

Understanding how the world works, is connected to location. Where we live, what we understand... can be communicated via maps. What impact are we having on our planet? Can you define your island home? Are there mountains? Trees? Crops? A volcano? What city or town do you live in? What is important to you, your community? Can you create a map that tells a story that could have impact on your community?

GET STARTED

GEOSTATS AWARENESS PROGRAM

COMPETITION DETAILS

AGES: 9-12

AGES: 13-18

SUBMISSIONS

THIS EVENT IS ORGANIZED BY:



YOUR CARIBBEAN STORY

We are pleased to announce the
inaugural 2022 CARIGEO Student
Competition

[Your Caribbean Story \(caribbeangeoportal.com\)](http://caribbeangeoportal.com)



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Your Caribbean Story Competition Winners

The competition allowed students to tell their story with GIS while encouraging spatial thinking and promoting research. This competition was designed to increase awareness and improve geospatial capacity toward sustainable development.

Organized by UN-GGIM Americas, CARIGEO, and Esri



1 Best StoryMap: Living in the Fear of Flood



2 Best App: Waste Management In Guyana



3 Best Research: Through Wind and Rain



4 Women in GIS Winner: Portland: The Past and...



5 Climate Change Winner: Planting for Tomorrow...



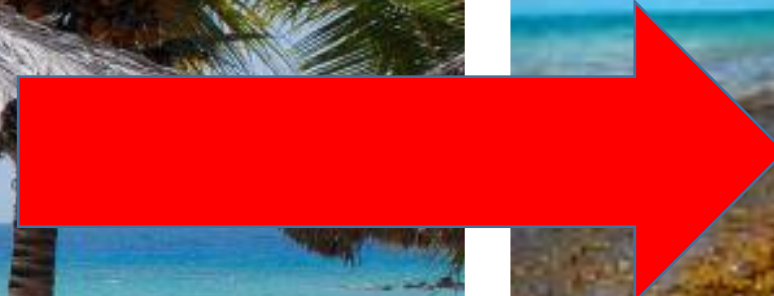
6 Sustainability Winner: Why switch to...



The logo features a large, stylized letter 'X' composed of four overlapping triangles. The top triangle is red, the bottom triangle is green, and the two side triangles are blue. The background of the right side of the 'X' is a blue-tinted photograph of a rocky, textured surface, possibly a coral reef or seabed. The text 'CARIGEO Sargassum Project' is centered over the left side of the 'X'.

CARIGEO Sargassum Project

UNDER THREAT



Sun, Sea & Sand Tourism in the Caribbean threatened by sargassum.



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Sargassum Satellite Early Warning System

- The CARIGEO Steering Committee is proposing to undertake a **Sargassum Satellite Early Warning System**.
- This system proposes to:
 - support Caribbean Member countries in the **monitoring, management, and mitigation of Sargassum impact**.
 - **estimate the arrival of Sargassum based on satellite data and drone imagery.**



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A decorative graphic on the right side of the slide. It features a large blue triangle pointing upwards, which contains a satellite-style image of a rocky, cratered surface. This triangle is bordered by a red triangle at the top, a green triangle at the bottom, and a blue triangle on the right. The overall design is modern and geometric.

X Session UN-GGIM Americas

CARIGEO Side Event #1: Sharing Knowledge and Best Practices

Tuesday October 17, 2023
ECLAC Headquarters, Chile



CARIGEO Side Event #1: Sharing Knowledge and Best Practices

- **Follow up to Saint Lucia Workshop:**

possible ways to move forward in advancing the national geospatial initiatives in the Caribbean based on the knowledge and tools acquired in the UN-IGIF Workshop in the Caribbean

- **Sustainable funding for geospatial information management :**

explore innovative and sustainable mechanisms for funding geospatial information development and management



CARIGEO Side Event #1: Sharing Knowledge and Best Practices

- **Strengthening Public and Private Sector Partnerships: A Pathway to Sustainable Development**

*Examine the **significance, challenges, and potential** of public-private partnerships (PPPs) in driving Geospatial Information Management sustainable development and growth.*

- **Caribbean SIDS Capacity Development:**

*The International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) now supports a **Capacity Development Network (CDN) for the Americas** with focus in the **Caribbean and Latin America**. Examined planned activities specifically in the Caribbean and Mesoamerica (e.g., the Caribbean Plate).*

***Jamaica** currently leads the **Caribbean** focus area.*



CARIGEO Side Event #1



CARIGEO Side Event #1: Outcome

- Member States highlighted **successes and their journey towards IGIF implementation**, in addition to being encouraged to continue their strides and make use of the technical support and materials available via CARIGEO, UNECLAC and HLG-IGIF.
- Need to **understand the geospatial skills gaps**, particularly surveying skills throughout Caribbean by administering an assessment tool.
- FIG Americas Capacity Development Network for Caribbean will **foster awareness of and participation in training opportunities** to upskill Caribbean nationals as we move towards implementation of a Global Geodetic Reference Framework (GGRF).
- Encouraged Member States to **write case studies on how they have been successful in identifying funding sources** for geospatial information, so others can apply similar approach. Eg. aligning with country priority areas and project funding opportunities.
- **Highlighted PPP successes** in Member States and across the region and encouraged identification and forging of such partnerships.



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CARIGEO Side Event #1: Outcome

- *The interlink between geospatial information and **climate change, digital transformation, health-COVID recovery, crime management, refugee management.***
- ***Demonstrating the ROI** (Return on Investment) of investing in geospatial data for national development:*



- ***Current and capital budgets***
- ***Crowdsourcing and public-private partnerships.***
- ***Subscription models and licensing fees.***
- ***Grants focused on geospatial initiatives/ innovations***



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Caribbean Member States meeting

October 18, 2023



Understand the realities of the Caribbean Member States to foster greater benefits and contribution under CARIGEO.



X Session

UN-GGIM Americas

CARIGEO Side Event #2: Moving CARIGEO Forward

Thursday October 19, 2023
ECLAC Headquarters, Chile



CARIGEO Side Event #2: Moving CARIGEO Forward

- Examined CARIGEO Scope of Work
- CARIGEO Structure & Operations
- Potential Strategies to move CARIGEO forward within the Caribbean



CARIGEO Side Event #2: Outcome

- The Member States of the Caribbean recognize the importance of the Caribbean Geospatial Development Initiative (CARIGEO) in driving initiatives that **geospatially empower** the countries and territories of the Caribbean to advance the **greater use and sharing of geospatial and statistical information** to support **improved decision making** for **sustainable national and regional development**.
- As such as Member States of the Caribbean **we commit to becoming more actively involved through membership on the CARIGEO Steering Committee and its project/programme sub-committees**, in addition to supporting the various planned activities through attendance and active participation, virtually or in-person, wherever fiscal space will allow.



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CARIGEO Side Event #2: Outcome

- Member States committed to becoming more involved so that CARIGEO is more member states owned, **learn and become more integrally involved in operations and execution, while being groomed to take on leadership roles overtime** with the approval of their government. This will support a transformed structure overtime.
- Member States agreed to actively **implement a buddy/friend system, whereby they check on other** Member States whose representatives have not been seen or heard from and encourage their participation.
- **Identification of sustainable sources of funding** are key to facilitating Member States being able to participate more and take on leadership roles.
- **Limited human resources** within small islands in particular hinders their ability to contribute more substantially even within the context of having the willingness.



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Additional steps



Obtain funding to support project execution and member states implementation

Seek the support of member states to commit, participate and benefit from the project

Implement strategies to establish communication channels and ways to keep everyone engaged and informed

Projects & Special Project Implementation

Developing mechanisms and capacity for sustainability

Monitoring and Evaluation of Project



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The background features a large, stylized 'X' shape formed by overlapping geometric shapes. The top-left and bottom-right quadrants are red and green triangles, respectively. The top-right and bottom-left quadrants are green triangles. The central area is a blue triangle containing an underwater scene with coral reefs. Two thick blue diagonal bars cross the center of the 'X'.

X Session: Caribbean Resolution *(proposed)*

Championed by Guyana

X Session: Caribbean Resolution *(proposed)*

- The Caribbean Geospatial Development Initiative (CARIGEO),
- **Champions** empowering the countries and territories of the Caribbean region to advance the use and sharing of integrated geospatial, statistical and related information, being core to supporting improved decision making for sustainable national and regional development,
- **Reaffirms** the key role of collaboration and partnerships among UN agencies, Caribbean regional organizations the public sector of Caribbean Member States and Territories, geospatial private sector organisations, academic institutions and civil society representatives to facilitate “Geo-Empowering Caribbean Development”,
- **Acknowledges** the gaps and challenges with current funding for geospatial-related initiatives and the need to identify sustainable and innovative mechanisms for funding geospatial information development and management within the Caribbean,
- **Recalls** the guidance of the UN-GGIM Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF) Strategic Pathways, in particular Pathways 3 (Financing) and 9 (Partnerships),



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X Session: Caribbean Resolution *(proposed)*

- **Encourages** Member States and Territories to assess, identify and adequately fund through national and institutional current and capital budgets and cost sharing arrangements among government agencies, the inevitable underlying geospatial information development and management activities necessary to sustainably support and maximize the economic, social and environmental benefits of prioritized national development goals;
- **Encourages** national mapping and geospatial agencies of Member States and Territories to identify and use appropriate subscription models and data licensing fees;
- **Advises** the deliberate exploration and implementation of strategic public-private partnerships to discover and access cost sharing and financing in win-win collaborations for governments and stakeholders;
- **Recommends** that geospatial-related public-private partnerships be explored and considered to leverage opportunities in data partnerships, capacity development, technology and system integration, advisory and governance aspects and research and innovation;



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X Session: Caribbean Resolution *(proposed)*

- **Further recommends** the exploration of funding partnerships that include loans from lending institutions such as Regional Development banks;
- **Calls** on donor organizations and countries as well as Caribbean states and territories to actively seek mutually agreed on scope and conditions for grant funding partnerships focused on geospatial initiatives and innovations;
- **Strongly encourages** preparation and communication of value propositions and benefits realization of investing in geospatial data for national development.



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CARIGEO

Caribbean Geospatial
Development Initiative

GEO-EMPOWERING THE CARIBBEAN



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Thank You!



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