



UN-GGIM:Americas
REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF UNITED NATIONS
ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION
MANAGEMENT FOR THE AMERICAS

9° SESSION

UN-GGIM: Americas

Session 5: Regional Collaboration

November 28, 29 and 30
Santiago de Chile, ECLAC

AGENDA

12:00-12:10

Introduction to the session

Rosario Casanova

President of the Academic Network for the Americas

12:10-12:20

SIRGAS and the GRFA UN-GGIM Working Group: Americas interactions for geodesy sustainable in the Americas

Sonia Alves Costa

Geocentric Reference System for the Americas, SIRGAS

12:20-12:30

Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) and its concrete actions to support the application of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF) in America

Antonio Campuzano

Secretary General of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History, PAIGH

12:30-12:40

AmeriGEO's Contribution to the Joint Plan: The New Generation of the International Academy American

Angelica Gutierrez

Regional GEO Americas Co-Chair, AmeriGEO

12:40-13:30

Country interventions

Rosario Casanova

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Contribution to the Regional Committee

Objectives Regional Committee UN-GGIM: Americas

As in previous years, the objectives of the Regional Committee for the period 2021-2025 will be governed by Articles 4 and 5 set forth in the current Statutes of UN-GGIM: Americas.

Article 4. General Objective

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

Article 5. Specific Objectives

1. UN-GGIM: Americas will hold annual/regular high-level multi-stakeholder discussions on geospatial data infrastructure and geospatial information management, including by convening annual plenary sessions with a view to promoting dialogue with all Member States of the Americas and relevant topics, groups and stakeholders to share experience, best practices and the state of the art of technologies.
2. Align its work on the geodetic reference frame for the Americas to the United Nations General Assembly Resolution (in note A/RES/69/266) 69/266 entitled "A global geodetic reference frame for sustainable development", adopted on February 26, 2015.
3. Improve the capacities of Member States in the development and establishment of policies for the national management of geospatial information, taking into account the needs and priorities of each Member State.
4. Develop strategies and guidelines to support the development of an authoritative source of geospatial information in each Member State of the Regional Committee.
5. Establish and promote the necessary institutional arrangements and framework to allow the Member States of ONIG (National Organizations responsible for Geospatial Information) to develop and achieve a level of consistency and geospatial maturity, respecting their autonomy in accordance with their national laws and policies.
6. Promote interoperability and ease of use and timely exchange of geospatial information among Member States to regional and global affairs, including disaster management.
7. Develop strategies and guidelines for the flow, discovery, access, integration and dissemination of geospatial information in order to meet current challenges, with a particular emphasis on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the reduction of vulnerabilities and the improvement of the capacity of Member States to deal with disasters.
8. Contribute to the promotion and monitoring of principles, policies, methods, research and development of standards for geospatial data and services in order to achieve the goal of UN-GGIM.

Strategic Focus for the Working Groups

This document proposes to focus the activities of the Working Groups, considering the following focuses as a baseline:

1. Support the implementation of global frameworks at the country level
2. Follow up on national geospatial information management processes
3. Strengthen capacities in all lines of work that are considered a challenge
4. Increase information assets through geospatial knowledge management
5. Support the implementation of standards at the national level

Considering these guidelines, each Working Group will develop its specific plan of activities looking for points of collaboration, support and feedback between one and other.

Contribution Joint Action Plan

**Joint Action Plan (2021 - 2024):
Outcomes of the Aguascalientes Declaration**
Version 1.0

Prepared by:



The first Joint Action Plan was signed at the 44th Directive Council of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) in Buenos Aires (Argentina) in 2012. It was elaborated in a coordinated and effective manner by PAIGH, SIRGAS, CP-IDEA, and GEOSUR. The objective of this first initiative focused on strengthening, harmonizing, and accelerating the development of the Americas Spatial Data Infrastructure.

In 2015, this Plan was updated with a vision to 2020, incorporating some efforts to build the Integrated Map of Central America (MIAC) and prepare the Integrated Map of South America (MIAS).

The second version of the Joint Action Plan was carried out in the Sixth Session of the UN-GGIM Expert Committee held in New York in 2016. As an update of the second version, we considered the [Aguascalientes Declaration](#), signed on the 18th of September 2020. The Declaration stated that the regional organizations in the Americas should work together to define further joint work strategies and programs to mutually advance regional integration to build a Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) composed of diverse information resources, such as **Earth Observations (EO), geographic, statistical and other thematic information (hereafter referred to as geospatial data).**

This Joint Action plan was developed through contributions of the Member States of regional organizations, such as the PAIGH, the United Nations Regional Committee on Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas (UN-GGIM: Americas), AmeriGEO, the Central American Integration System (SICA), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Geocentric Reference System for the Americas (SIRGAS), the Latin American Cooperation of Advanced Networks (RedCLARA) and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). The document sections were designed to address the dimensions of the implementation of the aforementioned Declaration and align to the three founded working groups:

1. Capacity Development (CD),
2. Communication, Cooperation, and Coordination (CCC),
3. Data, Information, and Knowledge Sharing (DIKS).

This input from the three working groups is consolidated in this document, called the **“Joint Action Plan: Outcomes of the Aguascalientes Declaration.”**

The intent of this Joint Action Plan is to improve coordination and dialogue among the Member States and relevant international organizations to share experiences in the application of geospatial data to establish good practices and the adoption and use of technologies to support the decision-making process. The organizations involved have the same goal to increase Member States' capacity to develop and establish user-driven mechanisms for the efficient acquisition, management, and use of geospatial data for a shared and better future. To reduce the geospatial information divide by fostering effective cross-sector and interdisciplinary global, regional and local collaboration and partnerships. All this in support of national development priorities; improving cooperation among governments, academia, industry, the private sector and civil society. Through establishing relationships and cooperation mechanisms with other programs, this action plan aims to promote the integration of geospatial data to formulate a comprehensive approach to solving national and regional issues and challenges.

Purpose: To improve coordination and dialogue among strategic regional partners to share experiences in the application of geospatial data and to promote and achieve the goals outlined in the Aguascalientes Declaration, signed on the 18th of September during the 2020 Americas Symposium.

Duties:

- 1) Work together to further define joint work strategies and programs to mutually advance regional integration of geospatial data in order to build the Americas SDI;
- 2) Support the creation of a common geospatial knowledge repository containing relevant regional projects, initiatives, technology, methods, models, good practices, legislation, policies and experts that are accessible and available to support the work of stakeholders;
- 3) Advance the interoperability, integration and exploitation of geospatial data to reduce the digital divide and foster effective cross-sector and multidisciplinary collaboration in support of national/regional development priorities;
- 4) Promote cooperation, partnership, and collaboration among all relevant regional stakeholders in strengthening existing regional capacity-building frameworks;
- 5) Establish effective communication strategies that will strengthen and promote continued exchange among the various working groups;
- 6) Establish coordination mechanisms between the groups; support the implementation of the working plans of the groups; and
- 7) Define mechanisms that invite other national and regional agencies and stakeholders to participate in the Joint Action Plan and other regional initiatives.



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