



**Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial
Information Management for Asia and the Pacific
(UN-GGIM-AP)**

Established by a United Nations Resolution



**Executive Report of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global
Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific 2015-2018**

*At the Seventh Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP
22 November 2018
Deqing, Zhejiang Province, China*

1. Summary

1. This report highlights the activities carried out by the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP) for 2015-2018 since the Twentieth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (UNRCC-AP) in conjunction with the Fourth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP held on 6-9 October, 2015 in Jeju Island, Republic of Korea.

2. Background

2. The Committee was established as the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP) pursuant to resolution 16 of the 13th United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (UNRCC-AP) (Beijing 1994), and rebranded as the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP) pursuant to resolution 8 of the 19th UNRCC-AP (Bangkok 2012).
3. The Committee operates under the purview of the UN-GGIM and submits its report as well as recommendations to the UN-GGIM.
4. The Committee works to identify regional issues concerning geospatial information management and facilitate relevant discussions among the member countries, and contributes to the discussions in the UN-GGIM, so as to maximize the economic, social and environmental benefits of geospatial information in Asia and the Pacific region.
5. The Committee elects its Executive Board and reestablishes its Working Groups every three years at the triennial plenary meeting in accordance with its Statutes. At this Seventh Plenary Meeting, the Committee completes its term 2015-2018 and begins the term 2018-2021.

3. Major Achievements

6. During the past three years, UN-GGIM-AP has been working to implement the resolutions adopted at the Twentieth UNRCC-AP through its four working groups. The Committee convened three annual plenary meetings in Jeju Island, Kuala Lumpur and Kumamoto City to follow up on the progress as well as to share best practices and experiences. All the meeting materials and update of the UN-GGIM-AP activities are available at the UN-GGIM-AP website. The major achievements through these activities

are summarized below.

a. Geodetic Reference Frame

7. Resolution 1 of the Twentieth UNRCC-AP recommended actions taken to support global geodetic development agenda with regional contributions, encourage multilateral cooperation to reduce national infrastructure gaps, enhance open and free data sharing for addressing global issues, advocate the construction and maintenance of national geodetic infrastructure, promote international cooperation with relevant organizations, and build up technical capability through training and cooperation. In accordance with this resolution, projects including Asia Pacific Reference Frame (APREF), Asia Pacific Regional Geodetic Project (APRGP), Asia Pacific Regional Height System Unification Project (APRHSU) and Asia-Pacific Geodetic Capacity Building Project (APGCB) have been conducted during the past three years.

b. Disaster Risk Management

8. In accordance with Resolution 2, projects were carried out to enhance member countries' capacity in utilizing geospatial information for disaster risk reduction with a view to the effective implementation of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) in the region. Major results include: 1) developed the List of Geospatial Community Contribution Areas for SFDRR; 2) studied the present roles of disaster management authorities and NGIAs; 3) collected Best Practices on the Use of Geospatial Information for Disaster Risk Reduction; 4) compiled Guidelines for Disaster Risk Management Using Geospatial Information and Services; and 5) advocated relevant data sharing among the member countries.

c. Regional Spatial Data Infrastructure

9. In accordance with Resolution 3, actions were taken to promote evenly developed, interoperable, and sharable geospatial information in the region. Major activities include: 1) investigated and assessed the member countries' status of national spatial data infrastructure (NSDI) development; 2) identified the common data standards; 3) conducted pilot projects for regional SDI service interoperation; and 4) organized related seminars and workshops to enhance regional SDI capacity.

d. Cadastre and Land Management

10. In accordance with Resolution 4, Working Group on Cadastre and Land management was established to promote knowledge sharing, good practices, capacity development, cooperation and partnership to improve national and provincial land governance, management and administration in the region. Activities were carried out as an endeavor to establish a framework for land management and land information development methodology, including: 1) identified regional land issues, 2) proposed and promoted affordable frameworks and good practices, and 3) conducted training.

e. Strengthening the subsidiary machinery of the Economic and Social Council in the area of geospatial information

11. In response to Resolution 5, the Committee 1) has been supporting the mandate of UN-GGIM to enhance its role and increase its contribution to the work of the United Nations, especially in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction; 2) took active part in the whole consultative process leading up to the ECOSOC's Programme review of the work of UN-GGIM, and to the adoption of the ECOSOC resolution on 27 July 2016 to strengthen institutional arrangements on geospatial information management; and 3) has

been exploring possible approaches to strengthen cooperation and collaboration with the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

f. Meetings and Capacity Building Events

12. The Committee held annual meetings and organized a number of technical workshops as follows:

Annual Meetings

- i. **Twentieth UNRCC-AP & Fourth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP**
6-9 October, 2015 in Jeju Island, Republic of Korea
- ii. **2016 UN-GGIM-AP Executive Board Meeting**
6 May 2016 in Christchurch, New Zealand
- iii. **Fifth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP**
16-20 October 2016 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- iv. **2017 UN-GGIM-AP Executive Board Meeting**
4 April 2017 in Sydney, Australia
- v. **Sixth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP**
16-19 October 2017 in Kumamoto Prefecture, Japan
- vi. **UN-GGIM-AP meetings during the annual Sessions of UN-GGIM**
August 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 at UN Headquarters in New York

Capacity Building Events

- vii. **International Seminar on Geodetic Reference Frame and Location Based Services**
24-27 November 2015 in Nanning, China
- viii. **Seminar on Reference Frame in Practice: Reference Frames, Datum Unification and Kinematics**
1-2 May 2016 in Christchurch, New Zealand
- ix. **1st ISPRS-UNGGIM National Mapping and Cadastral Agencies Forum**
14-15 July 2016 in Prague, Czech
- x. **Forum on Geospatial and GNSS CORS Infrastructure**
16-17 October 2016 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- xi. **Workshop on Fit-For-Purpose and Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM)**
17 October 2016 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- xii. **UN-GGIM International Forum on Policy and Legal Framework for Geospatial Information**
18-19 October 2016 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- xiii. **Kunming Forum on UN-GGIM**
10-12 May 2017 in Kunming, China
- xiv. **Technical Seminar on Reference Frames in Practice**
29-30 July 2017 in Kobe, Japan
- xv. **First International Seminar on Construction and Application of Spatial Data Infrastructure**
15-17 September 2017 in Beijing and 18-22 September 2017 in Wuhan, China
- xvi. **Forum on Regional Challenges, Benefits and Opportunities of Exchanging Geodetic Data**
16 October 2017 in Kumamoto Prefecture, Japan

- xvii. **Special Session on Geospatial Information for Disaster Response**
17-18 October 2017 in Kumamoto Prefecture, Japan
- xviii. **Second International Seminar on Construction and Application of Spatial Data Infrastructure**
2-10 May 2018 in Beijing, China
- xix. **Workshop on Operational GNSS CORS and related Legal / Policy Challenges**
18-20 September 2018 in Suva, Fiji
- xx. **International Forum on the Importance and Role of National Spatial Data Infrastructure towards Sustainable Development Goals**
20-21 September 2018 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

4. Contributions to UN-GGIM

- 13. The Committee has been operating effectively in line with the mandate given by UN-GGIM, contributing to its activities and producing tangible outputs, and has closely cooperated with UN-GGIM as well as the other regional committees, to ensure that the member states are well informed of and involved in the UN-GGIM work.
- 14. The Committee substantively supported the Fourth and Fifth High Level Forum on UN-GGIM, the UN-GGIM International Forum on Policy and Legal Framework for Geospatial Information, the Kunming Forum on UN-GGIM, and International Workshops on UN-GGIM: Licensing of Geospatial Information.
- 15. The Committee supported the UN-GGIM working groups and expert groups including the establishment of the UN-GGIM Working Group on Policy and Legal Framework for Geospatial Information and Sub-committee on Geodesy. Its four working groups have been working in alignment with the UN-GGIM Sub-committee on Geodesy, the Working Groups on Geospatial Information and Services for Disaster, and on Global Fundamental Geospatial Data Theme, and the Expert Group on Land Administration and Management.
- 16. The Committee identified and reported regional issues and made recommendations to the annual UN-GGIM Sessions and Expanded Bureau Meetings.

5. Conclusions

- 17. Representing the largest and most populous region in the geospatial community with possibly the highest economic development potential as well as a high risk of climate change impacts and a variety of natural disasters, the Committee has an important role to play in implementing the global agenda, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, SFDRR and GGRF. The Committee's important achievements and contributions to the global geospatial information community during the past three years root in the collaboration, goodwill and dedication of all the member countries and their great people, as well as the support of all the liaison organizations.
- 18. The Committee will keep on its commitment in making progress by fostering and strengthening national, regional, and global cooperation through the framework of UN-GGIM. To continue the path of progress, nothing is more essential than the guidance and support from the United Nations and the continuous involvement and contributions from the member states. UN-GGIM-AP is determined to move forward and meet the challenges ahead.