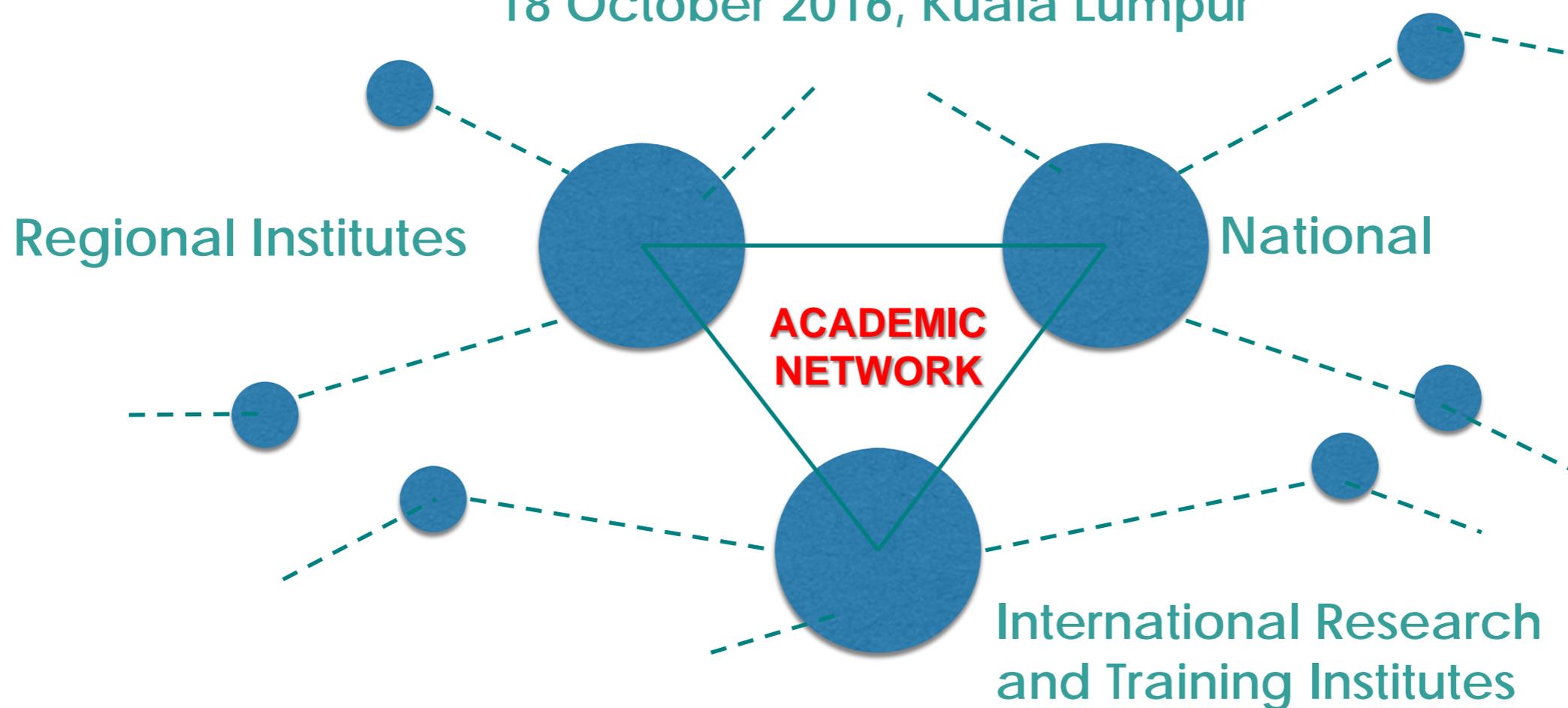


# REPORT by Academic Network

Chair Professor Abbas Rajabifard  
18 October 2016, Kuala Lumpur

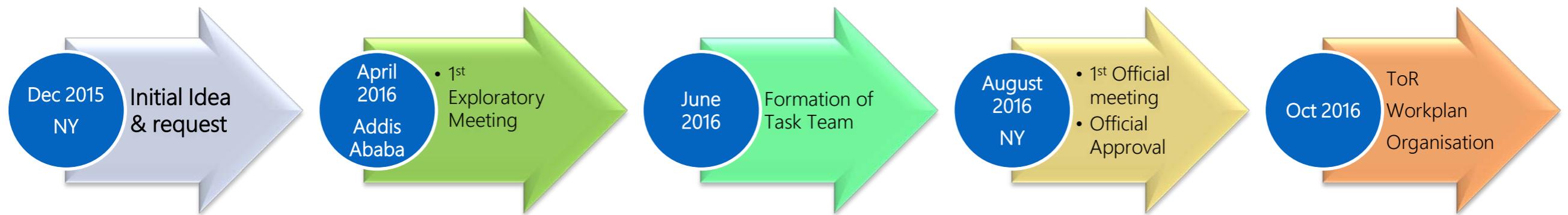


UN-GGIM-AP, Malaysia, October 2016

# Academic Network

- The **UN-GGIM Academic Network** is a **coalition of recognized universities, research and education centers** or equivalent involved in the research, development and training on geospatial and land information and related matters.
- The **Academic Network** **will be a platform** for the academic community to provide input and to support UN-GGIM in achieving its vision and goals by generating a platform for academic community to input to the UN-GGIM process in the form of strategic knowledge, research, education and training, and **will be a strategic arm** to empower UN-GGIM to achieve their vision and goals.
- The **Academic Network** will provide both **research and education capabilities** for UN-GGIM, its Regional Organisations, WGs and affiliated members to identify and response to challenges and opportunities in which UN-GGIM can achieve their visions.

# Background Major Steps



# Background

- **Dec 2015, NY:** UN-GGIM Bureau discussed the merits and establishment of an **Academic Network** under the auspices of UN-GGIM as a means to capture and include the role and contributions of academia in global geospatial information management.
- **April 2016, Addis Ababa:** *an exploratory UN-GGIM Academic Network* meeting was convened as a Side Event to the **Fourth High Level Forum on UN-GGIM**, in, Ethiopia, on Tuesday 19 April. It was agreed that **the Academic Network operates along the same lines as the Joint Board of Geospatial Information Societies (JB-GIS)** and is able to "self organise" and contributes to the activities of UN-GGIM in a similar and productive manner.

# Background-2

- **April 2016:** the Addis Ababa Declaration at the Fourth HLF, endorsed **UN-GGIM facilitating the establishment of the Academic Network** as a strategic knowledge, research and training arm to assist its activities and objectives.
- **June 2016:** UN-GGIM Secretariat has formed an **Academic Network Task Team**, with members from different regions, and **has appointed Professor Abbas Rajabifard, from the University of Melbourne to Chair** with a Mandate to start the process and consultation.
- **August 2016, NY:** **GGIM-Academic Network Task Team** has presented its report and initial workplan at the **UN-GGIM Expert Committee** meeting, and **the Committee has approved the establishment.**

# Academic Network Task Team Members

- Prof Abbas Rajabifard, The University of Melbourne, Australia (Chair)
- Prof Huayi Wu, Wuhan University, China
- Prof Joep Crompvoets, KU Leuven, Belgium
- Prof David Coleman, University of New Brunswick, Canada
- Prof Harlan Onsrud, University of Maine, USA
- Prof Menno-Jan Kraak, University of Twente, Netherlands
- Prof Josef Strobl, University of Salzburg, Austria
- Prof Maria Antonia Brovelli, Politecnico di Milano, Italy
- Prof Daniel Páez, University of Los Andes, Colombia
- Prof Jide Kufoniyi, Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria

# Academic Network Task Team

## Initial Tasks and Activities

- Draft "ToRs" for the UN-GGIM Academic Network.
- Develop a process for membership in the Network.
- Draft potential roles and responsibilities for members to be an effective and active Network.
- Prepare an initial workplan for its activities.
- Conducted its first meeting as a Side Event at the UN-GGIM in August in NY.
- Presented its Progress Report at the UNGGIM August Meeting in NY.

# Selected Functions of Academic Network

- **Provide strategic knowledge, research, education and training input** and **be a strategic arm** to empower UN-GGIM and its related organizations to achieve their visions and goals;
- **Provide a forum for coordination and dialogue among academics** and researchers from the geospatial information management community with a view to advance activities related to the administration, management, and use of geospatial information, and to identify and response to challenges and opportunities in which UN-GGIM and related members can achieve their visions;
- **Advise and support capacity building** programs of the UN-GGIM, WGs, and its Regional Organisations (e.g. UN-GGIM-AP, UN-GGIM-Africa, ....);
- Offer advise based on UN-GGIM questions and when we see a gap and inform UN-GGIM of that gap/problem;
- Bring to the attention of UN-GGIM and its regional organizations state-of-the-art research and academic trends on global geospatial information, or write white papers on any of related topics, and also offer training/education in those fields.

# Academic Network

## Membership, Composition and Terms of Office

- **Academic Network** will comprises of relevant universities, academic institutions or research centres (as members) where geographic information, and or land administration research and/or education are carried out.
- **Members** may be involved in matters relating to [surveying](#), [photogrammetry](#), [remote sensing](#), [mapping](#), [cartography](#), [computing](#), [geospatial analysis](#), [web geo-services](#), [socio-economic and environmental modelling](#), as well as application areas such as [infrastructure design and development](#), [water](#), [agriculture](#), [forestry](#), [geology](#), [hydrology](#), [land administration](#), [market research](#), [urban planning](#), [transport](#), and research on the legal and institutional issues associated with the management of geographic information as well as the use of the relevant technologies.

# Academic Network

## Membership, Composition and Terms of Office

- In order to become a member, an Expression of Interest (EoI) with a statement on the capabilities and availability to respond to UN-GGIM academic and research support needs should be submitted to the Academic Network Secretariat.
- A country could have more than one institution accepted in the network. However, each member would nominate one leading academic and up to 2 delegates to the network.
- The **Academic Network** will meet regularly at the UN-GGIM Committee of Experts, High Level Forum, and any formal meetings.
- If considered appropriate, the **Academic Network** will **establish sub-regional groups inline with UN-GGIM Regional Organisations** and or task teams to focus on particular aspects of the programs under its oversight.
- The **Academic Network** will have at least one member in each UN-GGIM Expert Groups and Working Groups.

# Academic Network Workplan

To achieve the Academic Network's objectives, the initial workplan will focus on:

- Review of the current UN-GGIM WGs' workplans to identify the areas for support and input.
- Call and promote for membership and engagement.
- Inventory of current capabilities, training programs, MOOCs, facilities, current projects, etc. relevant to UN-GGIM activities,
- Training and research registry.

# THANK YOU

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