

Agenda Item 3

Outline of the conceptual research of Asia Pacific Geospatial Information Platform and the Service Center



UN-GGIM-AP

Regional Committee of United Nations
Global Geospatial Information Management
for Asia and the Pacific

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Resolution of the 9th Plenary meeting of UN-GGIM-AP

- ✓ *Recognizing* the need to provide member States with an integrated geospatial data hub through the operation of an **Asia-Pacific geospatial information platform** across countries to leverage innovative technologies, data and tools for big data and evidence-based decision making to support achieving the Sustainable Development Goals
- ✓ *Encourage* the Secretariat to explore possible options (in a cost neutral manner) for building **UN-GGIM-AP geospatial information service centre** with all interested member States for practical provision of geospatial services and products to member States of UN-GGIM-AP, and to consider cooperation with the UN Global Service Centre in Brindisi, Italy, and
- ✓ *Appreciate* the organisation of **regional Webinars** on the Asia Pacific Geospatial Information Platform (formerly called Asia Pacific Networked Geospatial Data Platform) and *support* ESCAP's initiative on the platform (in a cost neutral manner), including further information sharing and discussions within UN-GGIM-AP.



Work done by the Secretariat

- Consulted with colleagues from OICT and UN Geospatial Network to learn the experiences on establishment of United Nations Global Service Centre in Brindisi, Italy
- Collaborated with experts of Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) to develop the draft outlines of the conceptual framework for:
 - ✓ Asia-Pacific geospatial information platform
 - ✓ UN-GGIM-AP geospatial information service center
- Shared with EB members for review and comments



I. Asia-Pacific geospatial information platform



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I. Asia-Pacific geospatial information platform

Remaining gaps

- Data are scattered among data holders, users, and data sharing networks at country/regional levels;
- At country level, data are not often shared, sometimes partial, and managed by various organizations/sectors in silos;
- At regional level, no entity exists to coordinate among data holders, platforms, and data sharing networks;
- No intergovernmental agreement or framework arrangement exists that sets out the scope, benefits and responsibility of regional data integration;
- Limited awareness about the benefits from collaborative education, training, and capacity development.



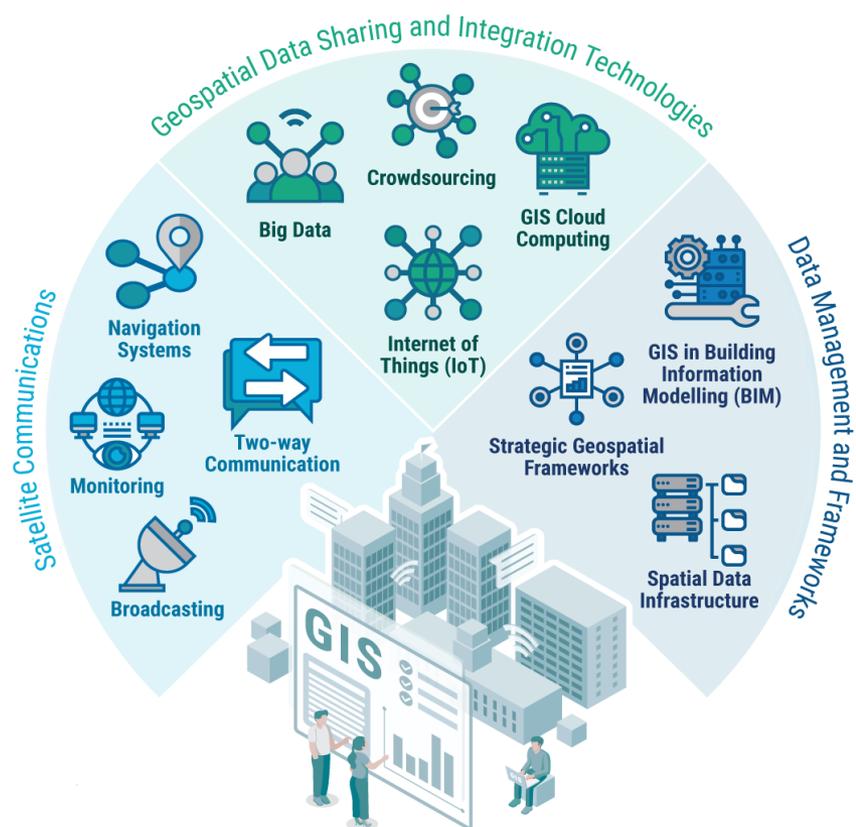
Goals

- To develop an open and orderly data sharing platform among space-faring data-providing countries and data-users in the Asia-Pacific region;
- To bring enhanced problem-solving capacity that can lead to long-term solutions in meeting the Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) and Targets;
- To integrate data across a network of countries as well as geospatial and statistics community hubs over the next 10 years from 2020 to 2030.

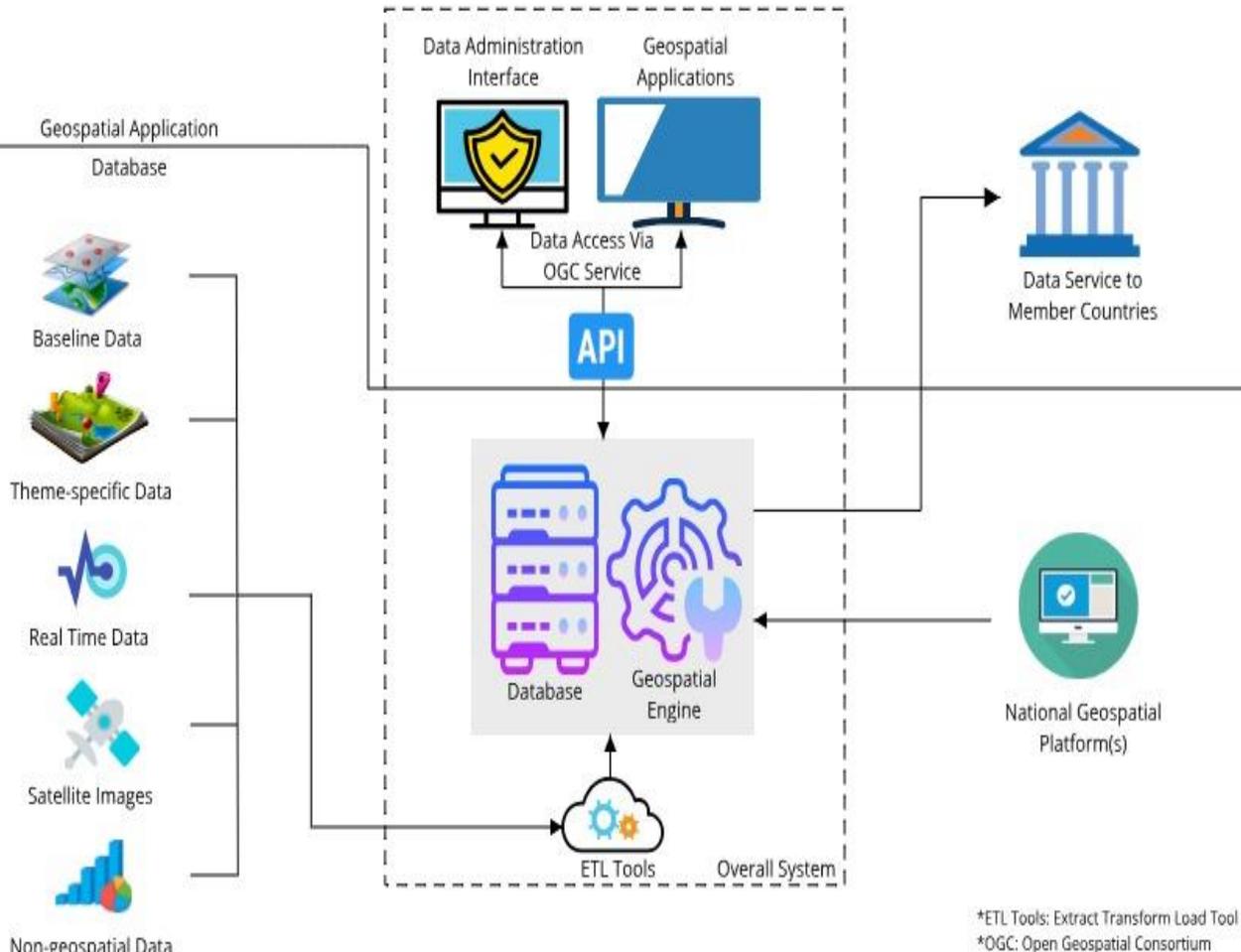


What are the benefits?

- Enhance **regional cooperation and coordination** across member States on geospatial data sharing;
- Assist member States in developing their **geospatial data findable, accessible, and reusable**;
- **Facilitate a single window** for accessing all freely available data and arranging specific data at low cost.
- Provide a **gateway to existing platforms** in member States and beyond for mutually beneficial utilization.
- Promote **flexible and open-source technology** and provide digital-collaboration toolset.
- Improve **communication among member States**, breakdown traditional silos and share best practices.



Schematic Overview



- The platform will integrate a wide range of geospatial data from different sources;
- All input data will be extracted, transformed, and standardized in a user-friendly format;
- Link to the national geospatial platform(s) that can be integrated to the platform.
- The platform will have several working API, for accessing the data and services.



Major Functions

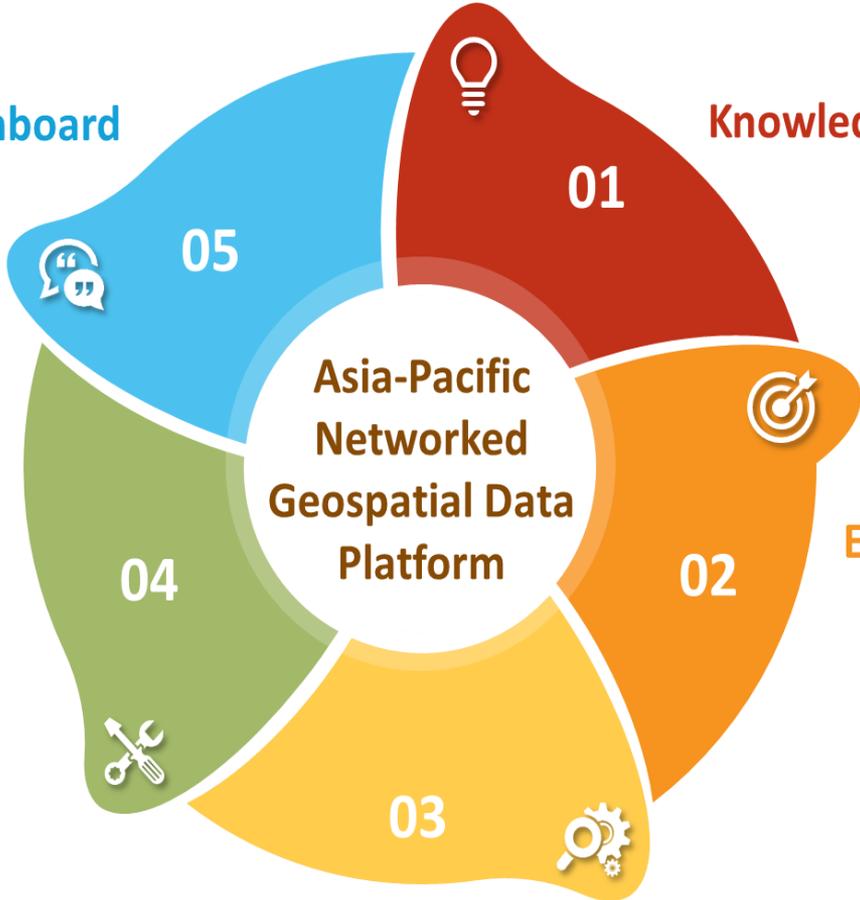
Communication Dashboard

Knowledge Hub

E-Learning Academy

Data and Service Portal

Software and Tool Library





Knowledge Hub

- Digital-collaboration toolset.
- Thematic area, specific best practices.
- External tools and resources.
- Expert community groups.



E-Learning Academy

- Training needs assessment
- Demand-needs training courses.
- Online training courses.
- Knowledge Hub as facilitator.



Data and Service Portal

- Open and free data and information.
- Robust repository of geospatial data.
- Online metadata catalog.
- Data interoperability.
- Web mapping.
- Secure access.



Software and Tool Library

- Web Service-Oriented Architecture.
- Frontend, backend, and mapping API.
- Open-source technologies.
- Cloud-based data processing framework.



Communication Dashboard

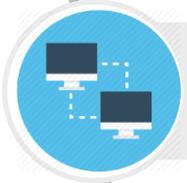
- Case studies, best practices, promotional and communication materials.
- Communication tools.



Next step research



Governance and Institutional Arrangements



Data Sharing Policy



Finance/Operational Budget



Implementation



II. UN-GGIM-AP geospatial information service center



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II. UN-GGIM-AP geospatial information service center

Objectives and role

- Provide geospatial services and products and infrastructure
- Facilitate an operating environment for the geospatial information platform
- Enhance regional cooperation to maximize the benefit of geospatial data and applications for sustainable development
- Strengthen geospatial data applications aiming to enable member States to enhance awareness, knowledge, and practical experience
- Assist member States in making their geospatial data accessible, available, affordable and actionable
- Support education, training and capacity building and improve communication



Functional Arrangement

Benefitted from the draft Concept Paper on Establishing a Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence which was developed by the Committee of Experts requested that the Subcommittee on Geodesy (The Subcommittee).

A range of operational model are available including:

- **A single center which is funded by a number of member States, or**
- **A network of centers hosted by various member States working under a coordinated governance model.**

The center may be established under supervision of the EB or the Secretariat of UN-GGIM-AP through an inter-governmental agreement among the member States as well as a Host Country Agreement.



Framework Plan and Operational Budget

- The framework plan and operational budget will be subject to the provisions in the inter-governmental agreement or the Hosting Country Agreement;
- The operational budget covers the costs of the establishment of the center for the initial period of the operation of the Center.
- Member States may extend necessary support in cash, in kind and service for operation of the center on a voluntary basis.
- A Trust Fund may be established.



Next steps and research

- Mission
- Vision
- Strategy
- Governance
- Infrastructure
- Policies, standards and conventions
- Capacity building and training
- Communications

Ensure: country needs driven, strong governance, open and transparency, accountability and consistency



III. Workplan of the Secretariat



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Workplan of the Secretariat

- Invite comments and guidance from the EB members during and after the EB meeting, by 15 June 2021
- Revise the outlines of the conceptual framework, based on the valuable comments from the EB members, by end of June 2021
- Organize regional workshop(s) to discuss the final outlines of the conceptual framework, by end of August 2021
- Develop initial draft of full conceptual framework of the platform and the service center to UN-GGIM-AP member States for their consideration, by end of September 2021
- Present the conceptual framework of the platform and the service center at the 10th Plenary meeting of UN-GGIM-AP, early November 2021



THANK YOU



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