



Committee on Earth Observation Satellites

## WGDisasters-14 Meeting

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Location [Virtual]

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**United Nations Committee of  
Experts on Global Geospatial  
Information Management (UN-GGIM)  
Working Group on Geospatial  
Information and Services for  
Disasters (WG-Disasters)  
Overview & CEOS Collaboration**



- Development
- Leadership & Membership
- Vision & Objectives
- Functions
- Structure
- Work & Achievements
- Future Plans & Collaborations



United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) in August 2015, under decision 5/110 supported the proposal to establish a working group to further develop and implement a strategic framework that would be:

Focused in a practical manner;

Aligned with the outcome and follow-up to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and its implementation;

Able to take into consideration the special needs of developing countries, especially with respect to capacity building and knowledge sharing and;

Broadly representative of different regions of the world and taking into account regional experiences.



- **Co-chairmanship:** Jamaica and Japan (*August 2019 – Present*)



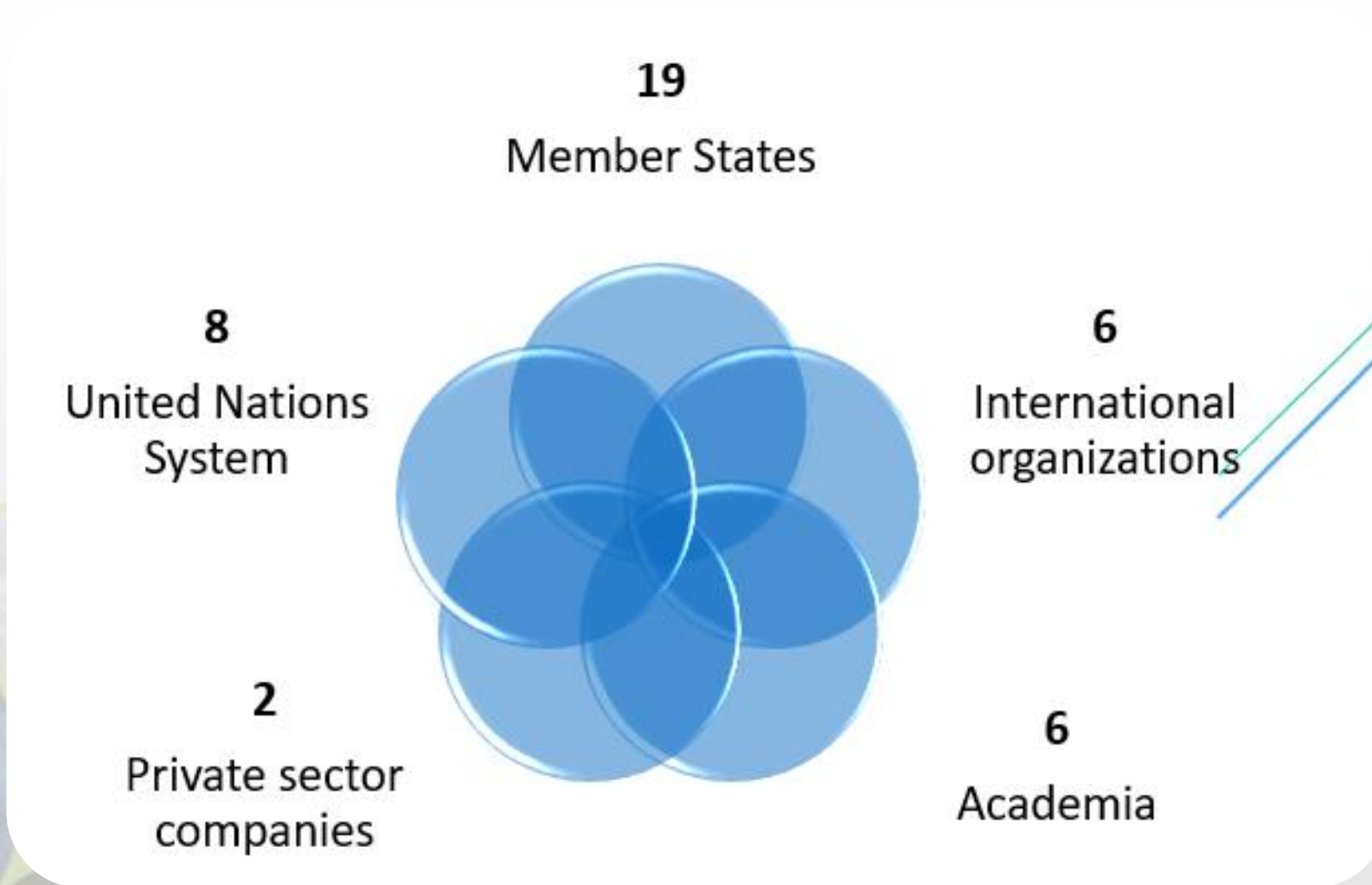
- **Previous Co-Chairmanship:** Jamaica and Philippines (*2016 – 2019*)

- **Operations:** guided by a Terms of Reference (TOR)

- **Membership composition:** comprises expert representatives nominated by Member States from their geospatial, risk reduction and statistical communities, international organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academia, and the private sector. The Working Group also invites subject matter experts from relevant bodies within the United Nations System such as the Secretariats of Regional Committees of UN-GGIM, UNDRR, UN-SPIDER, UNITAR-UNOSAT and CEOS.

- **Observers:** The Working Group will liaise, as required, with international organizations and invite their nominated experts as observers that have an interest in disaster-related geospatial information and services.







## Vision

- **Accurate, timely and reliable geospatial information and services** are available, in a coordinated way, to decision makers and operational leads prior to, during and post disasters.

## Objective

- Provide a **forum for dialogue and coordination** among Member States, their relevant government bodies, the United Nations system, international disaster risk and emergency response organizations, non-government organizations (NGOs), private sector bodies, academia, other international organizations and experts, and donors with responsibility for disaster risk reduction and management.

- Improve the availability, accessibility, and timeliness of good quality geospatial information for disaster risk management by **encouraging policies to promote open access to data and reducing data security concerns** at all phases of disaster risk management, at all levels of government and towards the successful achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Encourage greater **coordination and collaboration on geospatial information activities for disaster risk management** with the regional committees and thematic networks of UN-GGIM, the UN regional commissions, the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), the UN Institute for Training and Research's Operational Satellite Application Programme (UNITAR-UNOSAT), the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER), and the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC).



- Implement, monitor and raise awareness of the Strategic Framework for Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters;
- Design and prepare scenario-based exercises on different hazards;
- Provide support to the UN Statistical Commission to advance its programme of work regarding disaster-related statistics;
- Conduct a comprehensive assessment of level of risk and disaster response readiness of Member States by providing a common platform among Member States and their relevant government bodies;
- Encourage Member States to ensure the accessibility and capacity of geospatial information and services in times of disasters;
- Motivate Member States to improve regional and international collaboration on disaster-related geospatial information matters and;
- Align its work with the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework.

- **Four (4) Task Groups** established to execute WG's work programme.

**A: Implementation and monitoring of the Strategic Framework**

- Administering the Strategic Framework Assessment Tool  
(Lead: Jamaica)

**B: Design and implementation of scenario-based exercises on different hazards**, including predictive modelling to test and improve the Strategic Framework per country and or region  
(Lead: Japan)

**C. Support the Statistical Commission to advance a common statistical framework on disaster-related statistics**

**D. Support the preparation of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework**  
(Lead: New Zealand)

- Development of the Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services on Disasters
- Development of the Strategic Framework Assessment tool
- Revision of the WG's TOR
- Global Administering of the Strategic Framework Assessment tool (*extended deadline – October 2, 2020*)
- **The Survey Form**
  - (link) <https://bit.ly/2TxLF0t>



# Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters





- **2017:** The Working Group on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters (WG-Disasters) of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) formulated a Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters, under the then co-chairmanship of Philippines and Jamaica.
- **August 2017:** Strategic Framework adopted by the Committee of Experts
- **July 2, 2018:** Strategic Framework adopted by United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
- **2019:** UN-GGIM WG-Disasters developed an Assessment Survey to monitor the implementation and monitoring of the Strategic Framework across Member States.
- **August 2019:** Committee of Experts endorsed the Assessment Survey as a tool to assist Member States to develop national implementation plans for geospatial information and services in support of disaster risk reduction and management.
- **June 2020 – Present:** Administering of Assessment Survey



Access the Strategic Framework here:

[http://ggim.un.org/documents/UN-GGIM\\_Strategic\\_Framework\\_Disasters\\_final.pdf](http://ggim.un.org/documents/UN-GGIM_Strategic_Framework_Disasters_final.pdf)

## Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters

Working Group on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters (WG-GLSD)  
The United Nations Committee of Experts on  
Global Geospatial Information Management  
(UN-GGIM)

August 2017

The Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters was adopted by the UN Economic and Social Council in July 2018 under resolution 2018/14 ( available in all 6 languages, see below, Documents then 2018)

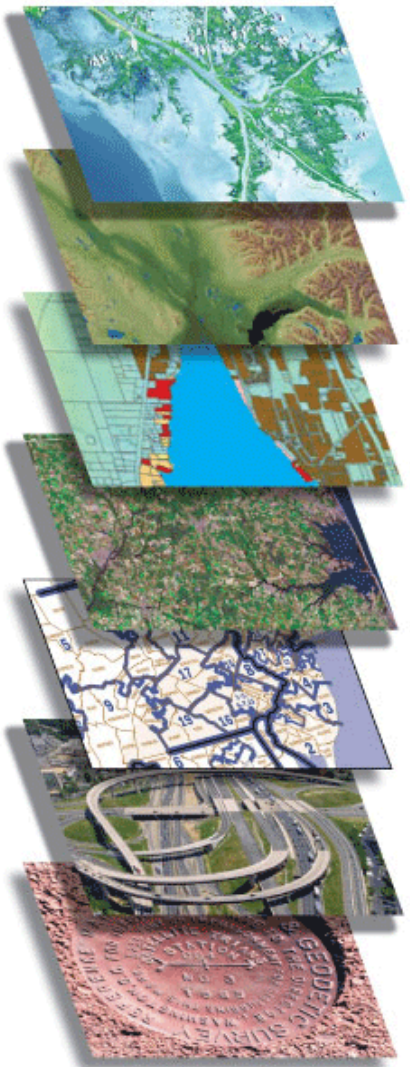
Arabic Chinese English French Russian Spanish



# Use of:



# Member States



- The strategic framework aims to **guide all stakeholders and partners in the management of geospatial information and services** in all phases of Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM).

## Scope & Purpose

- The human, socioeconomic and environmental risks and **impacts of disasters are prevented or reduced** through the use of geospatial information and services

## Expected Outcome

- **Quality geospatial information and services are available and accessible** in a timely and coordinated way to support decision-making and operations within and across all sectors and phases of the emergency cycle.

## Goal



# Guiding Principles

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

International Strategy For Disaster Reduction

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 - 2030

UN General Assembly Resolution on International Cooperation in Humanitarian Assistance in the Field of Natural Disasters

Resolution of the United Nations General Assembly 59/12

Global Geospatial Statistical Framework

Open Data

National Data Infrastructure

UN-GGIM Declaration of Shared Principles for Geospatial Information Management

<http://ggim.un.org/meetings/2017-Kunming/documents/Session%207%20-%20UNGGIM%20WG%20on%20Geospatial%20Information%20and%20Services%20for%20Disasters.pdf>



# Five Priorities for Action



Governance  
and Policies



Awareness Raising  
and Capacity Building



Data  
Management



Common Infrastructure  
and Services



Resource  
Mobilization



**UN-GGIM**  
UNITED NATIONS INITIATIVE ON  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

**WG-Disasters**

# UN-GGIM WG Disasters Achievements & Collaborations



- In its effort to build capacity and strengthen knowledge sharing and technology transfer the Working Group in collaboration Geospatial Information Authority of Japan (GSI), the Regional Committee of UN-GGIM for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP), and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) had planned to convene the **UN-GGIM WG-Disasters Conference 2020 in Tokyo**, Japan from 25 to 27 February 2020. Postponed due to COVID-19.
- The Working Group was invited by UN-GGIM: Americas to participate in the “**UN-GGIM Virtual Geospatial Summit on COVID-19**” on 8 April 2020. planned and staged by UN-GGIM: Americas, the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association Caribbean Chapter and the World Geospatial Industry Council (WGIC) and other partners. The Virtual Geospatial Summit featured the theme “GIS Response to COVID-19”.

- The Working Group collaborated with Jamaica's Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation, National Spatial Data Management Branch and Land Information Council of Jamaica, to host the first **Jamaica Virtual COVID-19 Geospatial Forum on 28 May 2020**, under the theme "Mapping COVID-19 in the Caribbean - Opportunities for the Future".
- UNECA, UNECLAC and UNESCAP, and each related UN-GGIM Regional Committee- Africa, Americas and Asia and the Pacific respectively, with the support of the UN-GGIM Secretariat and technical partners organized and hosted three virtual seminars on COVID-19 strategies for a geospatial response, during May 2020.



- Further to decision 9/109 that called for linkages to other international initiatives and actors in disaster risk reduction and management, the Working Group has commenced discussions & activities with:
  - The Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) Working Group on Disasters
  - UN-GGIM: Americas' Secretariat and its Working Group on Disasters



- Given COVID-19, the 10<sup>th</sup> session of UN-GGIM is being held in a scaled down virtual format, consisting of three two-hour meetings, on **26-27 August and 4 September 2020**, instead of face to face at UN Headquarters, New York.
- Co-Chairs tendered report of the UN-GGIM WG Disasters (E/C.20/2020/30)  
Available at: [https://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/10th-Session/documents/E-C.20-2020-30-Add\\_1-Disasters-20Jul2020.pdf](https://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/10th-Session/documents/E-C.20-2020-30-Add_1-Disasters-20Jul2020.pdf)
- Paragraph 34: reference made to initial introduction and discussion comments regarding collaboration with Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) Working Group on Disasters.
- Introductory Statement (WG Disasters): *“We are encouraged by the collaboration discussions held with the UN-GGIM: Americas’ Working Group on Disasters and the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) Working Group on Disasters and we look forward to reporting on the outcomes of our future collaborations at the 11<sup>th</sup> UN-GGIM Session. Additionally, we welcome CEOS to the Working Group ”.*



- **Decision 10/108: Geospatial information and services for disasters** *(to be passed Sept 4, 2020)*:
  - Endorsed the Working Group's revised Terms of Reference to guide the future operations of the Group.
  - Acknowledged that the **COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the critical importance of access to available and trusted geospatial information to support decision-making during all phases of disaster risk management.**
  - urged Member States to consider implementing the Strategic Framework, particularly given that the COVID-19 pandemic provides a unique opportunity for monitoring and tracking each country's progress across the Framework's five priorities for action





- **Decision 10/108: Geospatial information and services for disasters** (*to be passed Sept 4, 2020*):
- Noted the Working Group's efforts to forge synergies with:
  - the **United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)**,
  - the **United Nations Office on Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) programme on Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UNSPIDER)**,
  - the **Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS)** and
  - the **UN-GGIM: Americas Working Group on Disasters**,
- in order to leverage the work of organizations undertaking disaster risk management activities,

- Stimulating **public awareness**, increasing **sensitization and communication** initiatives, including **collaborations to convene forums** that will showcase the **relevance and applicability of the Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters** and encourage Member States to have it implemented.
- Need to identify DRR organizations and maintain a register of DRR organisations within the UN System and their activities.
- Data from questionnaires on the COVID-19 webinars from the UN Regional Commissions in the Americas , Africa and Asia Pacific will be used to inform the work plan.



**UN-GGIM**  
UNITED NATIONS INITIATIVE ON  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT  
**WG-Disasters**



**CEOS** Committee on  
Earth Observation Satellites  
**WG-Disasters**





# Possible Collaborations with CEOS WG Disasters



*Reference to Dave Borges' 'Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) WG' ppt delivered Day 2 of WGDisasters-14 Meeting (Sept 3, 2020)*

UN-GGIM WG Disasters Functions	Possible Areas for Collaboration with CEOS WG Disasters
<p><b>Implement, monitor and raise awareness of the Strategic Framework for Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters;</b></p>	<p><b>DRR WG Subgroup 1:</b></p> <p>Promote awareness of relevant global policy frameworks across the WP, such as UN GGIM WG Disasters Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services</p>
<p><b>Design and prepare scenario-based exercises on different hazards;</b></p>	<p><b>DRR WG Subgroup 1:</b></p> <p>Promote, including through good practices and impact, sharing of data and knowledge to improve DRR.</p> <p><b>DRR WG Subgroup 2:</b></p> <p>Increase the use of Earth observation data for achieving the Sendai Framework's Global Target E, that is to substantially increase number of countries with national</p>
<p><b>Encourage Member States to ensure the accessibility and capacity of geospatial information and services in times of disasters;</b></p>	<p><b>DRR WG Subgroup 2:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Showcase how Earth observation data can complement data governments already have to assess risk and risk trends over time.</li> <li>• Showcase how Earth observations can be used to describe and visualize vulnerability and exposure.</li> </ul>



Thank You!



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