EB Meeting of the UN-GGIM-AP
Sydney, 6th May 2024

Facilitating the Operation of UN-GGIM-AP by Access to Geospatial Research and Education

UN-GGIM Academic Network
Mission, Organization and Proposed Contribution to UN-GGIM-AP

http://unggim.academicnetwork.org
UN-GGIM Academic Network—Background

• Academic Network is a **Strategic Knowledge, Research and Training Arm of UN-GGIM**. The Academic Network was established officially at the 6th session of UN-GGIM in 2016.

• The 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 Network, 68 members

**Recommendation 1, Membership:**
Encouraging AP Members main Geospatial/Surveying/Land Universities to join the Academic Network.
Our Objectives

• Promote and foster collaboration between universities/research entities to support UN-GGIM Plan and Activities;

• Encouraging Members to undertake work that can contribute to the UN-GGIM and its Regional Committees, and contributing to UN-SDGs as well as UN-IGIF;

• Forum of geospatial academics and researchers to advance competencies and qualifications needed for the UN-GGIM and supporting Member States;

• Communication Platform for member countries to bring to the attention of the Network key needs, problems, and areas of research needs and advancements;

• **Capacity Building** and developing an inventory of international education programs open to and recommended for UN-GGIM actors.
Strategic Activities

• Strategic alignment with UN-GGIM Agenda and UN-IGIF Framework
  - Academic Network Contributes across all IGIF Components
Strategic Activities

- Collaboration and joint Activities with other Functional and Thematic Groups;
- Annual UN-GGIM Side-events and Regional events, eg:
  - 13th UN-GGIM Session 2023, “GeoAI- Opportunities and Challenges”, jointly with PSN-Private Sector Network,
  - 12th UN-GGIM Session 2022 “Trustful and Ethical Use of Geospatial Data: the Role of Academics”
  - 2nd WGGIC in Hyderabad, India 2022, “Bridging Academia and Industry in Geospatial Research, Education and Training”

- Publications:
  - Book on SDGs Connectivity Dilemma, Launched at UN-GGIM 2019 (Open Access)
  - Book on COVID-19 Pandemic, Geospatial Information, and Community Resilience, Global Applications, Launched at UN-GGIM 2021 (Open Access)

  - Book on ‘Mapping for a Sustainable World’ was published 2020 applicable to UN-IGIF: All kind of visualization developments can be useful at some point in time in some of the 9 UN-IGIF Components.

- Special Issue : IJGi Trustful and Ethical Use of Geospatial Data, 2023
- Special issue of ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information; deadline for manuscript submissions: 31 July 2023
- Mapathon (with UN Geospatial Network), 2022
Strategic Activities

Facilitate **access to Education** via curated collection of resource contributed by UN-GGIM AN’s members:

http://unggim.academicnetwork.org/educational-material/
Strategic Activities

• Facilitate discussion on *Ethical use of Geo-AI* via:
  • Series of side-events organized at 11th, 12th and 13th UN-GGIM Sessions;
  • Series of webinars on e.g. **Geospatial Entablements**, GeoAI for Good - three examples:
    • Workshop on ‘**Building a foundation for geospatial AI: defining a syllabus and body of knowledge**’
    • Members participating in ‘**GeoAI Challenge**’.
    • A webinar with panel discussion on **GeoAI Education**
Recommendation 2 - Collaboration with WGs:
A joint Team with AN to identify the needs of all WGs and opportunity to closely collaborate to support WGs’ WorkPlans by developing joint Events e.g. **Seminars, Workshops, Short Term Trainings** to address the **Strategic Directions of WGs**.
Recommendation 3:
Opportunity to closely collaborate with UN-GGKIC in Deqing, China to support UN-GGIM-AP by developing a series of Seminars, Workshops, Training and joint Events to address the strategic Direction of UN-GGIM-AP and its priorities.
Thank You!

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