

Promoting the Asia Pacific Platforms for Geospatial Information Sharing

5 November 2020

Information and Communications
Technology and Disaster Risk
Reduction Division



Starting Point

1. In November 2018, ESCAP (SAS/IDD) was mandated as the Permanent Secretariat of the UN-GGIM-AP.
 - ESCAP has also played as a Secretariat of the Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development (called RESAP) since 1994
2. Since then, Director of IDD (and Chief of SAS) keep considering
 - how we Secretariat can contribute better to member countries in Asia Pacific region

Directions

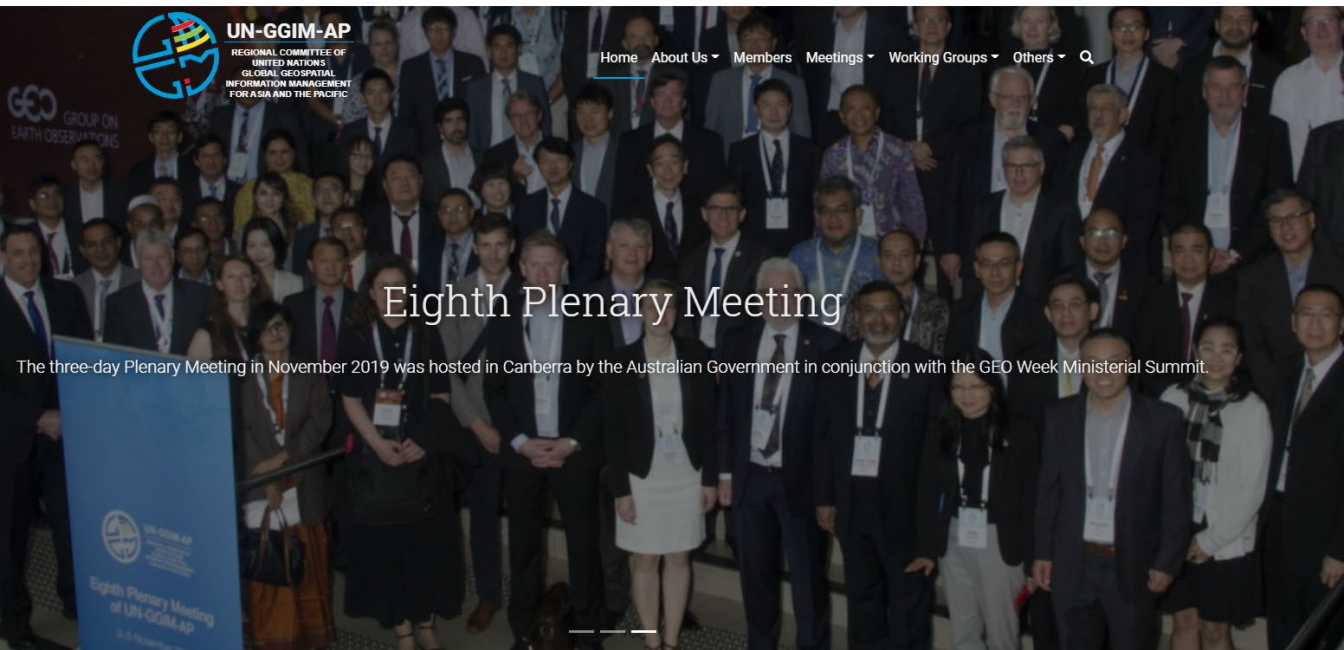
As Secretariat of UN-GGIM-AP,

1. Support **capacity building** of member countries (South-South cooperation)
 - under the UN-GGIM-AP framework and under the Asia Pacific Plan of Action for Space Applications (2018-2030)
2. Promote **regional sharing of geospatial information** among member countries through the UN-GGIM-AP
 - for example, digital disaster map for disaster-affected areas and country
3. Strengthen the UN-GGIM-AP platform **in partnerships with other UN agencies and regional mechanisms such as RESAP.**

Outputs so far since 2019 (UNGGIM-AP)

1. ESCAP (Secretariat) mobilized a project to support member countries from 2020 to 2022 **through promoting the Geospatial Information Platforms in Asia Pacific region.**
2. ESCAP (Secretariat) launches the **new website of the UN-GGIM-AP** for better information sharing.
3. Organized / supported plenary meetings, EB meetings, WG meetings, capacity building events (webinars)
4. Consulted with key stakeholders on **idea to establish a regional geospatial service center** to support better the member countries of UN-GGIM-AP
 - The idea was proposed by a member country of UN-GGIM-AP

New Website of UN-GGIM-AP



UN-GGIM-AP
REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF
UNITED NATIONS
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Home About Us Members Meetings Working Groups Others

Home

Plenary Meetings

Once a year the Committee is organising a Plenary Meeting, hosted by a member country. Delegates from the member countries, technical advisers and invited observers come together to discuss issues relevant to geospatial information management in the Asia-Pacific region. The Executive Board, Working Groups as well as related international organizations report on their progress and plans. Working Group technical meetings, workshops or seminars on particular topics can also be included.

Ninth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP	03 & 05 Nov 2020	Virtual
Eighth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP	03 - 05 Nov 2019	Canberra, Australia
Seventh Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP	22 Nov 2018	Deqing, China
Sixth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP	17 - 19 Oct 2017	Kumamoto Prefecture, Japan
Fifth Plenary Meeting of UN-GGIM-AP	16 - 20 Oct 2016	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Fourth UN-GGIM-AP Plenary Meeting	06 - 09 Oct 2015	Jeju Island, Republic of Korea
Third UN-GGIM-AP Plenary Meeting	10 - 12 Nov 2014	Bali, Indonesia
Second UN-GGIM-AP Plenary Meeting	28 - 30 Oct 2013	Tehran, Iran
First UN-GGIM-AP Plenary Meeting	01 Nov 2012	Bangkok, Thailand

**If we agree to establish together a Regional Geospatial Service Center
(tentative title) as a vehicle**

to achieve [the Article 5: Objectives](#) in the Statutes of UN-GGIM-AP,

How?

Article 5: Objectives of the Statutes

- To **improve the capacity** of member countries in need of policy direction on the national geospatial information management.
- To **foster and facilitate timely use and sharing of geospatial information** among member countries for regional and global issues including disaster management.
- To **establish frameworks and mechanisms for the purposes of meeting the goal of GGIM** to contribute to promoting and monitoring common principles, policies, methods, research and development and standards for geospatial data and services.
- To **develop strategies and guidelines** for the flow, discovery, access, integration and dissemination of geospatial information to meet the current global challenges, reduce vulnerability and enhance resilience of member countries to disasters.

Discussions on the Center

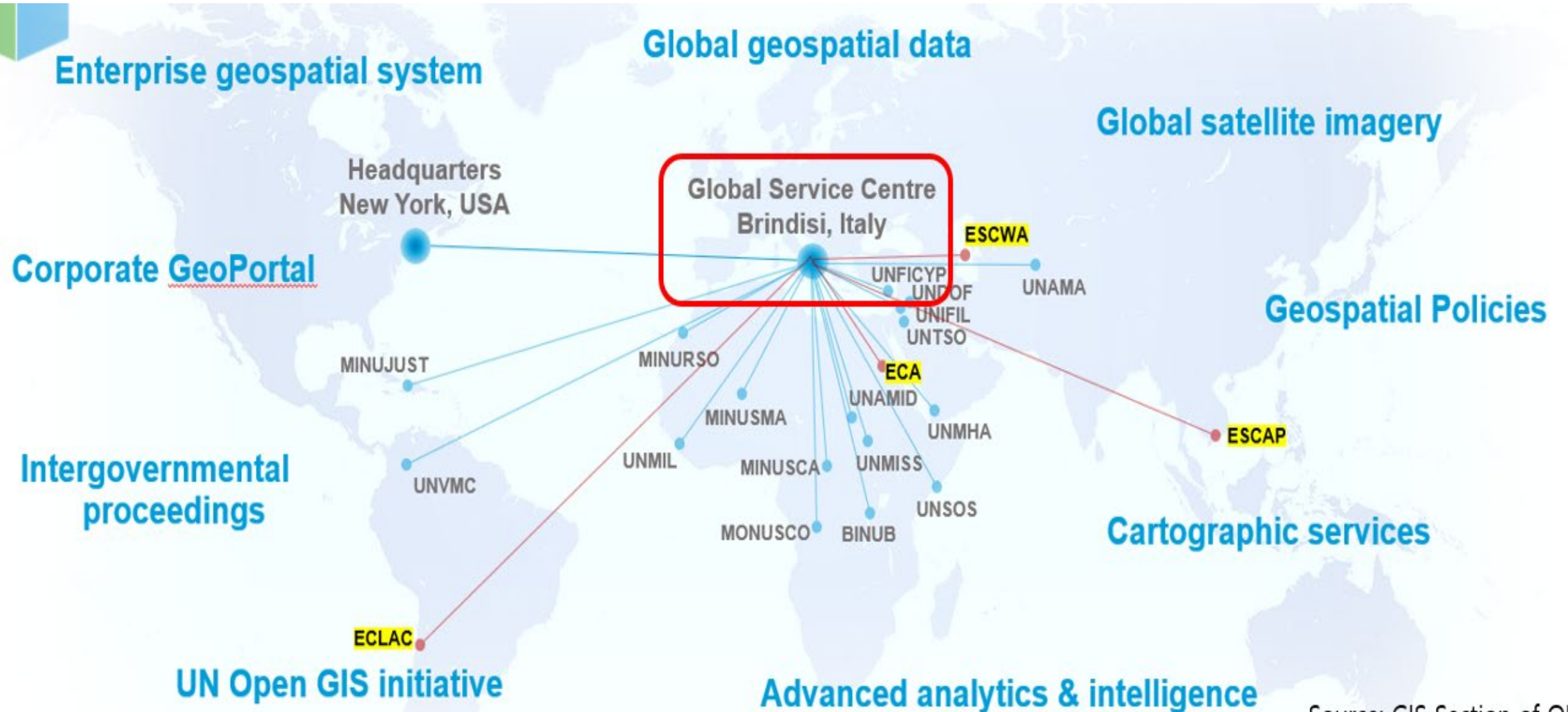
- A member country suggested Secretariat an idea to build a regional service center for member countries
- Secretariat had inner discussions on the possibility and effectiveness to build the center, and concluded that the idea has a worth to be shared with member countries
- Secretariat briefed the President of UN-GGIM-AP regarding the idea on the center
- Secretariat organized a regional workshop to consult this idea with member countries and experts including UN GIS Section in NYHQ
- Now at the plenary meeting, brief member countries as follows:

Why Geospatial Service Center?

1. UN-GGIM-AP may need specific means (instruments) to achieve the objectives of the Statutes of UN-GGIM-AP
2. Provide better service to member countries
 - More substantive information, data, service and capacity building
3. Enhance South-South Cooperation among member countries via the Center
4. Substantive cooperation between UN-GGIM-AP and the UN Global GIS Service Center in Brindisi
5. UN Global GIS Center in Brindisi strongly supports the idea for the Center in the Asia Pacific region
6. Secretariat wishes to support member countries better, however, Secretariat has limited resources and own work.

Idea from UN Global GIS Service Center

Working with GIS Section of OICT in NYHQ



Other Regional Committees of UN-GGIM

UN-GGIM Europe - EU

INSPIRE

UN-GGIM Arab States

Geoportal

UN-GGIM Africa

Price Watch Center

UN-GGIM Asia-Pacific

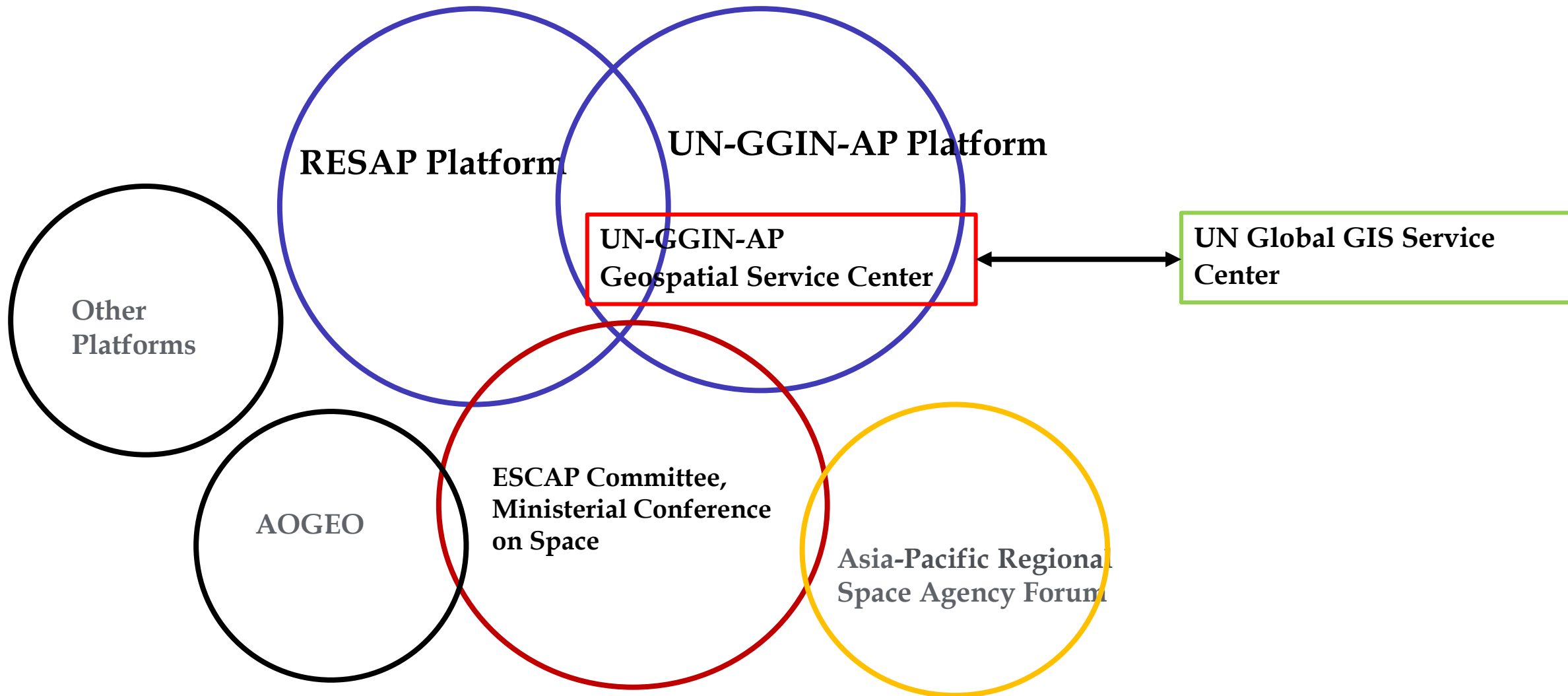
?

UN-GGIM Americas

SDI Interactive Dashboard



AP Geo-Information Platforms and UN-GGIM-AP



FYI: The Platform vs The Center

1. Asia Pacific Geospatial Information Platform

- ESCAP's initiative to support all member countries and stakeholders in the region
- Connect regional platforms
- Not only for members of UN-GGIM-AP, but also for members of Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development (RESAP), partner organizations, research institutes, users in the region.

2. UN-GGIM-AP Geospatial Service Center

- It is mainly for members of UN-GGIM-AP
- The Center is a means or a vehicle to support the achievements of goals of UN-GGIM-AP platform.
- Also contribute to other regional platforms including Asia Pacific Geospatial Platform, AOGEO Platform, Datacube Platform.....

Basic Idea for Geospatial Service Center

1. **Objective: make member countries feel “we are receiving practical service from UN-GGIM-AP”**
 - a. Geospatial statistical data for decision makers of member countries
 - b. Sharing of geospatial data and products such as digital drought map, COVID-19,
 - c. Capacity building programme

2. **May consider followings as service areas (from Plan of Actions on Space Applications)**
 - Disasters (**drought and flood**); Natural resource management (**land and water**); Connectivity (**city**); Social development (**health pandemics**); Energy (**renewable energy**); and Climate change (**environment and air quality**).
 - Geospatial information and data + socio-economic statistical data

Idea for UN-GGIM-AP Geospatial Service Center

1. In 2020, discuss the idea at the 9th Plenary for consideration. If there is consensus,
2. In early 2021, Secretariat will **open floor to invite a country**, who express interest in hosting the center
3. In 2021, **build a task force team** (Secretariat, host country, a few EB members and experts) to prepare the **draft of detailed building plan**
4. In 2021, **present the draft plan** (location, finance, human resources, TOR..) to EB meetings and the 10th plenary meeting for adoption.
5. In 2022, secure the center space and finance from host country
6. In late 2022, open the center unofficially for test run. Start to provide service
7. In 2023, open the center officially

Idea for UN-GGIM-AP Geospatial Service Center

- The Center will work for decision makers of member countries. It will promote regional cooperation (and South-South cooperation) among member countries.
- There will be many challenges (including funding) in building the Center, but benefits will be great for member countries,
- If member countries mandate Secretariat to study detail plans, the Secretariat will do, and submit it to EB meetings and the Plenary meeting in 2021 for further consideration.
- Propose: Request the Secretariat **to explore possible options (or develop a detail plan)** for establishing the Center and report it to EB and Plenary meeting.

Thank you very much

By SAS / IDD