

# Capacity Development Working Group

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# WG Capacity

## Analysis Region- Detect gaps

- **General:** lack of knowledge and use of resources, e.g. data and courses, and value to decision-makers
    - **Caribbean:** lack of knowledge, use and value of geospatial information and services, lack of continuity in programs with government changes, limited access to training
    - **Central America:** limited access to courses, insufficient courses in Spanish vs English, turnover of trained people, lack of continuity in public institutions
    - **South America:** some countries lack nation-wide internet, access to training, unconnected networks, insufficient academic institution participation
    - **North America:** limited internet access by rural populations and Native American communities, uneven use of geospatial information at local scales
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# Priorities in the region - Capacity

- Thematic:
  - biodiversity and ecosystems,
  - Sustainable Development Goals,
  - disaster management,
  - water resource management,
  - statistical data management,
  - urban systems
- Courses:
  - new technologies and approaches for capture and analysis of geographic data,
  - on understanding disaster risk and impacts to urban systems

Specific needs identified in AmeriGEO and UN-GGIM-Americas surveys:

- Integration of statistical and geographic information
- Platforms and analysis for satellite Earth observations
- Geo-services
- Spatial data infrastructure management
- Geographic data quality

# Priorities in the region - Development

- Co-develop specific scientific applications based on national and subnational government priorities
  - Focus on specific strategic areas, e.g. the Corridor of the Eastern Tropical Pacific (CMAR)
  - To elaborate inventories of resources and baselines of environmental systems, Greenhouse Gases, and climate risk analyses at national and local scales
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# Actions to strengthen training & education

- Convert the CD Working Group into a permanent Working group or Committee
- Prepare a TOR for the new CD Working Group
- Develop a needs assessment for the four sub-regions
- Develop projects involving multiple countries with common needs
- Work with countries and groups that are developing alternative data infrastructures like data cubes
- Create regional network of trainers and offer training opportunities
- Build decision-maker awareness of value of EO and GI
- Collaborate with universities to increase and diversify knowledge
- Leverage GEO's flagships, initiatives and community activities, as well as its work on data and knowledge infrastructure

## Capacity Development

Last Name	First Name	Position	Organization
Casanova	Rosario	Co-chair	UNGGIM-A-ANA
Searby	Nancy	Co-chair	GEO CD-WG and AmeriGEO
Hernandez	Betzy	Secretariat	GEO CD-WG and AmeriGEO
Beddow	Christopher	Participant	GEO CD-WG
Borbor-Cordova	Mercy	Participant	GEO CD-WG
Donoho	Natalia	Participant	AmeriGEO
De Garmo	Albert	Participant	AmeriGEO
Frazier	Rich	Participant	AmeriGEO
Handal	Yidda	Participant	UNGGIM-A
Juárez	Jimena	Participant	UNGGIM-A
Lloyd	Simone	Participant	UNGGIM-A
Smith	Charlotte	Participant	UNGGIM-A-ANA
St. Clair	Michelle	Participant	UNGGIM-A
Straub	Crista	Participant	GEO CD-WG and AmeriGEO
Tejada	Isis	Participant	UNGGIM-A
Valdiviezo	Angel	Participant	GEO CD-WG
Urban	Mark	Participant	AmeriGEO

*Our working  
group  
September 2020*

# Aguas Calientes Declaration- September 2020



AGUASCALIENTES DECLARATION  
*Better together: Geospatial information for decision making in the Americas<sup>1</sup>*  
The Joint Virtual Session of UN-GGIM: Americas and AmeriGEO  
9 September 2020

1. Call upon stakeholders to work together to further define joint work strategies and programs with the objective of mutually advancing regional integration of geospatial data in the Americas;
2. Endorse the creation of a permanent liaison committee of members of this declaration, with the input of subject matter experts as needed, with responsibility for coordinating work and reporting their progress at each member's annual plenary meeting;
3. Convene a second joint session, recognizing its value, at a time to be determined by both parties to consider and evaluate the progress made post this 2020 Joint Session;
4. Support the creation of a geospatial data technical library/repository containing relevant regional projects, initiatives, a registry of technical experts, methods, models, good practices, legislation, and policies that are accessible and available to support the work of stakeholders;
5. Work together to advance the sharing, interoperability, and integration of geospatial data and other new and emerging data sources, to reduce the information divide, foster effective crosssector and interdisciplinary global, regional and local collaboration and partnerships in support of national development priorities, and improving partnerships among stakeholders;
6. Promote cooperation, partnership, and collaboration between and among all relevant regional stakeholders in establishing and/or strengthening existing regional capacity-building frameworks, common standards and application of good practices for achieving national development priorities and sustainable development;
7. Define mechanisms to establish effective communication that will strengthen and promote continued exchange and collaboration among stakeholders;
8. Work together to strengthen awareness, the participation of national experts and capacities across the region, particularly for the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and middle income countries, in the benefits, use, management and dissemination of geospatial data to support national, regional and global development priorities.

We, the participants of the UN-GGIM: Americas and AmeriGEO Joint Virtual Session, held on 9 September 2020, having had preparatory discussions and meetings to strengthen and improve collaboration between both bodies on the use of Earth observations, geographic, statistical and other information (hereafter referred to as geospatial data), hereby issue this **Declaration on "Better together: Geospatial information for decision making in the Americas"**.

*Bearing in mind* that the global development Agendas, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, and the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, call for globally coordinated action in new data acquisition and integration approaches, employing data and technology for sustainable development and disaster risk reduction;

*Noting* that AmeriGEO is the regional representative of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) in the Americas that seeks to promote collaboration and coordination among GEO members and other organizations, "to realize a future wherein decisions and actions, for the benefit of the region, are informed by coordinated, comprehensive and sustained Earth observations and information". AmeriGEO also seeks to engage non-GEO members, and to work with GEO flagships and Initiatives to address regional needs;

*Noting further* that the Regional Committee on Geospatial Information Management for the Americas (UN-GGIM: Americas) is a Regional Committee of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) with responsibility for determining relevant regional issues for the management of geospatial information, and which takes the necessary measures to maximize the economic, social and environmental benefits derived from its use; that UN-GGIM: Americas also works to establish links and mechanisms for cooperation with other related geospatial information programs.

<sup>1</sup> Americas = all the countries in North, Central, and South America, and the Caribbean

9. Support Member States in their efforts to increase the availability, accessibility and sharing of geospatial data and to leverage existing and available human, technical and financial resources to support the implementation and monitoring of the SDG's and Sendai Framework.
10. Invite interested international/regional organizations, private sector organizations and academia, having similar objectives and interests to partner with AmeriGEO and UN-GGIM Americas and contribute to initiatives and projects that will advance the regional objective of *Better together: Geospatial information for decision making in the Americas*; and
11. Express appreciation to the Joint Virtual Session planning committee and the advisory working groups for their tremendous and valuable efforts in planning and staging of the Joint Virtual Session, for the information made available and training to all participants, establishment of the Academy of the America, to the National Institute of Statistics and Geography, Mexico for providing interpretation services and to participants for their active involvement and interventions.

# Writing group- CD Proposal

## ➤ Goals:

- Create a permanent committee to contribute regarding Capacity Development.
- Prepare a TOR for the new CD Working Group.
- Identify the real needs of each sub-region.
- Assist and support the implementation of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF) / The Global Statistical Geospatial Framework.
- Assist and support the implementation and monitoring of the SDG's and Sendai Framework.

## Specific goals:

- Create a regional network of trainers and contribute with local universities.
- Updated agenda of existing capacity-building/training courses. Inter-American Academy?
- Promote the capacity-building agenda.
- Build decision-maker awareness of the value of EO and GI.
- Leverage GEO's flagships, initiatives and community activities, as well as its work on data and knowledge infrastructure.



# Writing group- “Final draft CD Proposal”

## ➤ Working Group Activities:

1. Formalize the Capacity Development Working Group (CD WG) that will interact and collaborate with the other 2 subgroups (i.e. Data, Information and Knowledge Sharing, and Communication, Cooperation, and Coordination),
2. Prepare a TOR for the CD Working Group (including the collaboration in the development of the Inter-American Academy of Geosciences & Applications),
3. Support the Inter-American Academy
4. Systematically evaluate the needs of each sub-region,
5. Develop and provide specific courses and applications based on national and sub-national government needs/priorities,
6. Assist and support the implementation of relevant frameworks,
7. Assist and support the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs and the Sendai Framework
8. Develop pilot projects involving common needs from multiple countries

# CD Proposal Activities

No	Activities	Sub-Activities	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term
1	Formalize the Capacity Development Working Group (CD WG)		X	X	
2	Prepare TOR for the CD WG	Draft TOR to include the items / activities below	X	X	
3	Support the Inter-American Academy  UN-GGIM decision?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ offering of trainings in the short term (March, April, May 2021)</li> <li>○ provide links to existing resources</li> <li>○ development of an updated calendar of existing capacity building opportunities / training courses</li> <li>○ promotion of a capacity building agenda</li> <li>○ leveraging of GEO flagships, initiatives and community activities, and work on data and knowledge infrastructure</li> </ul>	X	X	
4	Systematically evaluate the needs of each sub-region	<p>Develop needs assessments for the four sub-regions (North America, Central America, Caribbean, South America):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Survey the needs of stakeholders including government agencies, private sector, academia, non-government organizations, local communities</li> <li>○ Identify topics and initiatives that can be strengthened through partnerships</li> <li>○ Identify the state of the art regarding the implementation of each UN-GGIM framework</li> <li>○ Identify the state of the art regarding the monitoring of SDGs</li> <li>○ Develop SWOT analyses for each sub-region</li> <li>○ Identify priorities in each sub-region, including the most urgent needs</li> </ul>		X	X

No	Activities	Sub-Activities	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term
5	<b>Develop and provide specific courses and applications based on national and sub-national government needs / priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Develop a regional network of trainers and researchers</li> <li>○ Develop a basic syllabus for each thematic area</li> <li>○ Look into feasibility of developing a scholarship program</li> <li>○ Look for regional / international financial resources</li> <li>○ Identification of needs regarding the modernization of national geographic institutes</li> <li>○ Develop a directory of regional and subregional stakeholders regarding geospatial information management</li> <li>○ Develop a directory of potential donors for joint projects</li> <li>○ Develop an inventory of ongoing relevant projects in the region (and identify leading organizations, objectives, donors, etc.)</li> <li>○ Compile best practices and common standards</li> </ul>		X	X
6	<b>Assist and support the implementation of relevant frameworks</b>	<p>Disseminate and promote the implementation of UN-GGIM frameworks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF)</li> <li>○ Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF)</li> <li>○ Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters</li> <li>○ Framework for Effective Land Administration</li> </ul> <p>Strengthening of NSDIs</p>		X	X
7	<b>Support the implementation of the Sendai Framework and monitoring of the SDGs</b>	Promote the implementation of the roadmap of the Working Group on Geospatial Information of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators			X
8	<b>Develop pilot projects involving common needs from multiple countries</b>	<p>Work with countries and groups that are developing emerging technologies (e.g. data cubes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Identify key actors / institutions</li> <li>○ Identify potential regional/ international financial resources</li> <li>○ Promote agreements between countries / actors</li> <li>○ Evaluate potential sustainability of each pilot project</li> <li>○ Raise decision-makers' awareness about the value of EO and GI</li> </ul>		X	X