

# Advancing Role of Geospatial Knowledge Infrastructure in World Economy, Society and Environment

A Partner Alliance Project

## About Project

### **Vision**

Our sustainable future, empowered by the geospatial ecosystem

### **Mission**

Project the value, enhance adoption, evolve understanding of geospatial knowledge for social, economic and environmental development in the Digital Age

The 'Geospatial Way' is the future. It is the most efficient and effective way to collect, process, integrate and utilize information for overall global, national and individual development. Geospatial Knowledge is the result, enabling us to identify, contextualize and understand the many challenges and opportunities facing society within a geographic context. However, realizing the potential of this future state, particularly for developing countries, requires three key enablers – partnerships, knowledge sharing and capacity building.

Therefore, in October 2019, the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) and Geospatial Media and Communications (Geospatial Media) agreed to develop a collaborative approach towards advancing the role of geospatial knowledge infrastructure in global society and economy. This partnership is mutually beneficial. UNSD facilitates the coordination of international geospatial activities and supports the functioning of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM). With Member States, UN-GGIM has developed the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF), aiming to help all nations benefit from geospatial information. Geospatial Media, as an internationally recognized communications organisation, is committed to 'making a difference through geospatial knowledge in world economy and society'. The Geospatial Readiness Index<sup>1</sup> clearly indicates that countries with better geospatial institutional infrastructures and policies benefit most across almost every key socio-economic sector, furthering their sustainable development.

Number of similarly minded international partners from governments, industry and civil-society have joined this collaboration, together helping to project value, enhance adoption

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<sup>1</sup> GeoBuiz Report 2019 – Global Geospatial Outlook and Countries Geospatial Readiness Index

and evolve understanding of geospatial knowledge for social, economic and environmental development in this fast-changing digital age.

With the objective to project the value proposition of Geospatial Knowledge, forecast its relevance and connectivity with fundamentals of next generation economy and society and to redefine the role of stakeholders: government, industry and civil society, the project on **Advancing Role of Geospatial Knowledge Infrastructure in World Economy, Society and Environment** was launched in January 2020. This is a three-year long project, looking at assessment in a broader frame for the first year, detailed strategy development in the second year and transformation in the third year.

## Objectives

1. Projecting value proposition of Geospatial Knowledge Infrastructure
2. Forecasting its relevance and connectivity with fundamentals of next generation economy and society
3. Evolving collaborative business and functional models
4. Redefining the role of stakeholders: Government, industry and civil society
5. Developing national, regional and global strategies

## Key Deliverables for 2020

1. Assessment of the prospective roles of geospatial knowledge in national and global society and economy
2. Advocate, communicate and promote the value and utility of geospatial knowledge infrastructure and enabling technologies for sustainable development
3. Based upon the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, enhance global understanding of the methods, guidelines, architectures and policy frameworks for the adoption, utilisation and benefits of geospatial knowledge infrastructure
4. Facilitate collaborative knowledge exchange and engagement to support the development of partnership models for innovative geospatial knowledge infrastructures
5. Enhance human resource capacities by developing and delivering training courses and material

## Activities for 2020

Activity	Global GKI: An Outlook Report	Roundtables	Panel Discussion on PPP	Training Program	Showcase and Webpage
Scale	Global	National	Global	Global	Global
Description	Assessment of the prospective roles of	Based upon the UN-IGIF, enhance global	Facilitate collaborative knowledge	Enhance human resource capacities by	Communicate and promote the value and

	geospatial knowledge in global society and economy	understanding of the methods, guidelines, architectures and policy frameworks for the adoption, utilisation and benefits of geospatial knowledge infrastructure	exchange and engagement to support the development of partnership models for innovative geospatial infrastructures	developing and delivering training courses and material	utility of GKI and enabling technologies for sustainable development
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## Partner Alliance

1. [Geospatial Media and Communications](#) (Facilitating Partner)
2. [United Nations Statistical Division](#) (Jointly Organized By)
3. [BRGM France](#)
4. [Geonovum, The Netherlands](#)
5. [International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development \(ICIMOD\), Nepal](#)
6. [Joint Research Centre, European Commission](#)
7. [Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia](#)
8. [National Institute of Applied Sciences, India](#)
9. [Singapore Land Authority](#)
10. [Space Reconnaissance Centre, UAE](#)
11. [Spatial Vision, Australia](#)
12. [Survey of India](#)
13. [Trimble](#)
14. [UN-CEPAL](#)
15. [Foundation for Ecological Security \(FES\)](#)
16. [Department of Science and Technology, Government of India](#)
17. [World Geospatial Industry Council \(WGIC\)](#)

## Partners Roles and Responsibilities

Each partner organization is expected to provide the following:

1. Consent to be member of partner alliance of the project
2. Nominate a senior executive to be member of program management committee and contribute at least 15 working days in the year 2020 to design, develop, implement and monitor the project
3. Financial contribution as a co-creating funding mechanism to support above programs
4. Institutional support towards travel and human resource cost of its executive nominee on program management committee

Geospatial Media shall in return provide:

1. Promotion and acknowledgement to the organization as a Partner through marketing collaterals of overall program
2. Engage with partner's team and organize one seminar/workshop showcasing value of geospatial infrastructure
3. Support capacity development of select team members of the partner
4. Develop, Design, and showcase the partners' programs and activities through the showcase
5. 2 delegate registrations for the global training program
6. Extend 5 full delegate registration to the partner for GeoSmart India

## Membership Benefits

**Thought leadership** Members get to be a part of the project program committee that will guide and play an influential role in:

- Building the concept of Geospatial Knowledge Infrastructure
- Unlocking the way national mapping is done and utilised for the next 5-10 years horizon which will bring out the technological evolutions, demand and supply dynamics and innovation in integration of technologies forming base for strategies for the next decade
- Aligning its strategies with other members of global alliance network especially towards supporting SDG 2030 agenda
- Conceptualising, strategizing and implementing a Geospatial Knowledge Infrastructure within their countries/organizations/ecosystems that will reap multiple social, economic and environmental benefits

**Access to new thinking and good practices** The project involves a diverse group of experts coming together to build this concept, which will ensure:

- Rich intermingling of ideas and new thinking
- Bringing out global good practices on various aspects of Geospatial Knowledge Infrastructure, its implementation, data ecosystem, collaborations and partnerships and usability, which can be used as a resource

**Unlocking New Collaborations** The project through its various components like in-country roundtable, training will ensure:

- Exposure to an array of like-minded leaders from the geospatial ecosystem and networking with the training participants through which new markets and collaborations can be established
- Opportunity to directly interact and network with domain experts, users, and potential clients furthering business interest
- Better understanding of the value chain as technology evolves and various models of involvement (public-private partnership), both in terms of monetary or value-based

**Capacity Development** Members of the partner alliance will get first-hand exposure to the process of GKI concept development and free passes to the training program, which will highlight and put in motion the movement towards building a Geospatial Knowledge Infrastructure, beyond just a data infrastructure with an emphasis on incorporating the application and beneficiary communities into its gamut. It will help the participants to

manage, utilise resources for community development, enhance processes used in the existing systems and lend greater value for their investments.

**Global visibility** Through the implementation phase of the project, as many as 20 in-country seminars will be held. In addition, a training program targeted at 50+ international participants will be organized where in the partners will take a leading role in delivery of the training components. These engagements will enable global visibility and recognition for the partners. Through the exhibition showcase, partners will get an opportunity to present their technologies and case studies and how they enable development of GKI in their contexts.

**Branding and Positioning** Partner organizations will benefit from:

- Branding in international arena as the global report will be circulated extensively both through print and online platforms
- Positioning as domain leader. As the membership to the partner alliance is by invitation only, by becoming part of the alliance, one gets to position themselves as domain leaders and experts

**Value for Money** The overall benefits in terms of new learnings, collaborations, showcase and direct involvement in GKI concept development will provide organizations a good return on their investments.

## Membership Fee

For joining the project as a member, please contact:

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