Project: Advancing Role of Geospatial Knowledge Infrastructure in World Economy, Society and Environment
PROJECT GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING

3rd April, 2020
Minutes of Meeting

Attendees

1. Sanjay Kumar (Geospatial Media)
2. John Kedar (Geospatial Media)
3. Anamika Das (Geospatial Media)
4. Megha Datta (Geospatial Media)
5. Albert Momo (Trimble)
6. Rolando Ocampo (UN-CEPAL)
7. Alvaro Monett (UN-CEPAL)
8. Basanta Shrestha (ICIMOD)
9. Derek Clarke (WGIC)
10. Greg Scott (UN-GGIM)
11. Michael Lutz (JRC)
12. Paul Janssen (Geonovum)
13. Francois Robida (BRGM)
14. Carl Shapiro (USGS)
15. Dr Zaffar Sadiq Mohamed-Ghouse (Spatial Vision)

Apology from
16. Tan Boon Khai (SLA)
17. Francesco PIGNATELLI (JRC)

Key Points of Discussion

A. Overview
1. CEO GMC, Sanjay Kumar, and Inter-Regional Advisor UN-GGIM, Greg Scott, extended their welcome to everyone and thanked them for joining the project, and this meeting, at this difficult time. Both noted that the current global pandemic demonstrated the importance of GKI and that our initiative is increasingly relevant for today's and tomorrow's society.

2. The three year 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, is an initiative trying to look at Public-Private-Processes for bringing more capabilities and expertise in an inclusive manner to countries

3. The partners for the initiative are a diverse group of stakeholders from geological agency, to standards organizations, to space agency etc. Efforts are also underway to involve statistical or health related organizations to incorporate their view and to strengthen the link between geospatial and statistics and to demonstrate value of GKI for health

4. We agreed that statistics was part of the GKI concept in developing geospatial knowledge and Rolando expressed that ECLAC would give good insight regionally and that Columbia and Mexico might be good at national level in this respect. He offered his

support in discussions with INEGI Mexico. We seek help from our partners for getting involvement of a leading health sector agency, like the WHO.

5. Geospatial Media is preparing a metadata of geospatial knowledge for combating COVID-19 providing comprehensive overview of solutions that are descriptive, predictive or prescriptive in nature that is already rolled out by different agencies. Good indication is that national governments have started recognising the power of real-time monitoring and using location information for predictive models

B. Training & Online Courses

6. In view of the current global scenario of COVID-19 crisis, provided the situation doesn't improve, we may push the training program from October to December 2020. The decision with this regard will be taken in June-July. However, the 5-day intensive training program cannot be done digitally, as it is too intensive, and it is an opportunity for us to take feedback, knowledge/expertise for and from the audience, which is not very feasible in online platform. However, the delay will enable students to gain from our increasing understanding and definition of GKI.

7. Separately, the project can consider using some digital platforms for knowledge exchange, like webinars, podcasts, short capsule courses etc.

8. Since many countries face challenges of patchy internet connections or load shedding, we need to make sure the online content is downloadable and not only relying on real-time meetings/seminars/webinars etc.

C. GKI Concept & Roundtable Meetings

9. The first priority for the project is to flesh out GKI, for which work is already underway. By the month of May, first draft of the white paper will be shared. This will be a living document which will imbibe inputs from all our meetings/roundtables/trainings and the final document shall perhaps be ready by November 2020.

10. The country roundtables are a 25-30 people meeting of National Geospatial Agencies, and other relevant stakeholders. The agenda is two-fold. One is to share with them what we are doing and second is to understand what that country is doing in terms of geospatial policies, infrastructure, etc and what their experiences have been so far. These are learning opportunities for us to flesh out definition of GKI

11. Efforts will be made to have such roundtables at regional level as well, for example, at European INSPIRE conference at EU level. Our relationships with JRC and CEPAL help open regional doors for these important regional discussions but this is complementary to the national roundtables.

12. At the time of the country roundtables, Geospatial Media team will also meet stakeholder organizations for much deeper engagement

13. Current COVID-19 crisis is changing the world's approach. While the developed world is going more and more on-line, the developing world is going to be left further behind. GKI will capture some of these elements and communicate what countries are doing to take this opportunity, and what is stopping them.

D. Readiness Index

14. It was suggested to include in the capacity development slide in the readiness index how countries are working at school level to attract attention and talent to the geospatial domain

E. Project Governance and Budgets

15. There is a deficit of about USD 5,000 in the projected budget, which will be filled by either generating more revenue or reviewing the budget in June. GMC will see what best can be done without compromising on the project

16. John Kedar was unanimously elected as the Chairperson of the Program Committee Group

17. Next call will be held in about 45 days' time and the agenda will be to discuss the initial White Paper on GKI framework