



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



UNECE



UN-GGIM
UNITED NATIONS
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT



WORLD BANK GROUP

FIG e-Working Week 2021

Concept Note

JOINT FAO-FIG-UNSD/UN-GGIM-UNECE-WORLD BANK SESSION

The Role of the Geospatial Information in Responding to Crises and Accelerating the Progress on Achieving the SDGs

21-25 June 2021

FIG e-Working Week 2021

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) have under the Letter of Agreement (LoA) agreed to organize at least two joint sessions during the virtual FIG Working Week 2021, each with its specific objective. Under the FAO/FIG Letter of Agreement, the general objective is to disseminate and support implementation/application of the VGGTs raise awareness, develop capacity, engage professional, academic and teaching institutions, and develop partnerships between FAO and FIG surveyors towards improved governance and application of the VGGTs. With the current COVID-19 pandemic development the decision was made that the 2021 FIG Working Week will take place virtually, thus making the protracted uncertainties caused by the pandemic an opportunity for bringing in new prospects of knowledge exchange being accessible from all over the world.

The overall theme for FIG e-Working Week 2021 is Smart Surveyors for Land and Water Management - Challenges in a new Reality.

Session Objective:

To present the role of the geospatial information in responding to COVID-19 pandemic and share good practices for using geospatial information to better respond to future crises and to accelerate the progress on the achieving the SDGs.

2020 was intended to welcome in a new decade of optimism. The decade of action to accelerate progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), while celebrating the 75th anniversary of the United Nations. However, by March 2020, with the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic, optimism quickly deteriorated into an unprecedented global crisis. As a consequence, our world is now being forced to rapidly adapt to confronting social and economic changes and challenges, from local to global levels, across all industries and sectors, and in all areas of supply and demand. The pandemic has not only created new challenges but reinforced the pre-existing obstacles to realizing the SDGs - structural inequalities, socio-economic gaps, and systemic challenges and risks and a lack of timely fundamental data and enabling technologies to measure and monitor what is happening where, when, and how.

Viewed through a geospatial lens, the COVID-19 pandemic has reinforced the unprecedented need for data, geospatial information, enabling technologies, and insights for governments and citizens across the globe, to not only enable decision-makers to inform policies and planning, but to also minimize the risk to people, especially the most vulnerable population groups.

This session will present the geospatial response to COVID-19, the future trends in geospatial information management to better respond to crises and accelerate the progress on the SDGs, the FAO and the World Bank support at the country level. The Bank and the FAO has been providing support to various countries from different regions. One of the countries, which made very good progress during the last several years is Serbia. The Head of the Center of Geospatial Information Management from the Republic Geodetics Authority from Serbia will share their experience, which is encouraging for other countries and regions, who have similar starting point as Serbia 3-4 years ago. The session will present two new studies: 1) Scenario Study on Future Land Administration in the UNECE region 2) COVID-19 Recovery Action Plan for Informal Settlements in the UNECE Region. The participants from other regions can greatly benefit from both studies and use them to adjust to the specifics in their regions or countries.

Expected Outcome:

Shared knowledge, good practices and lessons learned for using geospatial information to support the governments and vulnerable groups during the covid-19 pandemic and the new opportunities to better and faster respond to crises, such as COVID-19 pandemic. It is expected that the session will improve the knowledge about the future trends in geospatial information management and the role of land administration authorities in supporting the post COVID-19 recovery plans towards achieving the SDGs.

E-Session Programme

Co-Chairs: Rумыana Tonchovska, FAO of the UN

Hartmut Mueller, Chair of FIG Commission 3: Spatial Information Management

Rapporteur: Kate Fairlie, Land Equity International, Former Chair of FIG Young Surveyors Network

TIME	DESCRIPTION
10 minutes	Opening: Hartmut Mueller, Chair of FIG Commission 3 and Rумыana Tonchovska, FAO of the UN
10 minutes	COVID-19: Ready to Respond. The Role of the Geospatial Community in Responding to COVID-19, <i>Presenter Gregory Scott, United Nations Statistics Division</i>
10 minutes	World Bank and FAO country level support, <i>Presenters Kathrine Kelm, World Bank and Rумыana Tonchovska, FAO</i>
10 minutes	UN-GGIM: The new trends in Geospatial Information Management, <i>Presenters: Ms. Christin Walter, Geospatial Office, Ordnance Survey of Great Britain on behalf of UN-GGIM</i> <i>Christin is the lead author of the third iteration of the UN-GGIM Future Trends in Geospatial Information Management Report</i>
30 minutes	Case studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAO-Serbia: Geospatial Information in Response to Covid-19 pandemic – Looking Back-Looking Forward. <i>Presenter Darko Vicetic, Head of Center of Excellence for GIM, Serbian Republic Geodetic Authority</i> • COVID-19 Recovery Action Plan for Informal Settlements in the UNECE Region. <i>Presenter: Chryssy Potsiou, on behalf of UNECE</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenario Study on Future Land Administration in the UNECE region. <i>Presenter Fredrik Zetterquist on behalf of UNECE</i>
20 minutes	Open Q&A and discussion and wrap up

For more information see:

Formal Report to the tenth session of UN-GGIM (see Section's VIII and XIV in particular):

http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/10th-Session/documents/E-C.20-2020-23-Add_1-Strengthening-Geospatial-Information-3Aug2020.pdf

COVID-19: Ready to Respond. The Role of the Geospatial Community in Responding to COVID-19:

http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/10th-Session/documents/Covid-19_Ready-to-Respond.pdf

Coming soon:

Draft Scenario Study on Future Land Administration in the UNECE region

Draft COVID-19 Recovery Action Plan for Informal Settlements in the UNECE Region