



UN-GGIM

PRIVATE SECTOR NETWORK

Progress Report Summary

UN-GGIM: PSN SECRETARIAT

PSN Board Vision

An active Private Sector Network (PSN) of representatives working in a mutually beneficial collaboration with the members of UN-GGIM to play a leading role in setting the agenda for the development of global geospatial information and to promote its use to address key global challenges, enable citizen services and support the initiatives of the United Nations, particularly the global development agenda.

PURPOSE

This Private Sector Network (PSN) is intended to facilitate a direct connection and communication for the private sector to work with Member States towards achieving success in global geospatial initiatives. The PSN shall facilitate an ongoing dialogue for collaboration between and amongst members of UN-GGIM and participants of the PSN to develop, build and extend the world's capacity to benefit from geospatial information, enabling countries to build capacity in geospatial information, technologies and services. Recognizing the expertise of the private sector, the PSN shall create opportunities for this expertise to assist UN-GGIM in developing policies, processes, practices, capacities and recommendations for geospatial information infrastructure at national, regional, and global levels.

Activities, Areas of Work – Achievements

- During the Seventh session in New York, 31 July to 4 Aug the chair of UN-GGIM PSN Mr Sanjay Kumar was in the panel conducted by academic network highlighting the need to have a collaboration with the academic sector and need to have a joint bureau
- A side event on “Where is the Data?” was organized during the seventh session which comprised of 2 main segments with measuring and monitoring the SDGs as the anchor. One section had panelists from Member States, the United Nations system and custodial agencies who had articulated and demonstrated the geospatial data needs to measure and monitor progress of the SDGs. The second segment

comprised of members from global foundations, partnerships and industry experts that will demonstrate the current status of geospatial data solutions and platforms for the SDGs.

- Under the umbrella of Geospatial World Forum there were two activities organized in partnership with Private Sector Network. One was “Transformation of National Mapping Agencies in Contemporary Economy”. Another program “Construction and Engineering” with theme “Resilient Infrastructure” was being organized under Private Sector Network, Working Group on Geospatial Information and Services for Disaster Management.

- Program on Construction and Infrastructure with the theme “Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure – Key to Economic Growth” was 2-day program on 18 – 19 January in Hyderabad.

The key takeaways from the program were:

- With cutting-edge technology and sophisticated solutions, there is an initial spike in cost that comes down only when the technology is mainstreamed
Geospatial, IOT, BIM, and analytics have emerged as the technologies shaping the future trends in the construction industry and providing an impetus for better infrastructure
- There is an imminent need for greater cooperation and coordination among the various stakeholders and private players in the construction industry for more data gathering
- 3D scanning is becoming a major component in the utility of geospatial in the construction industry
- GNSS global coordinates is now widely used in construction industry and it helps in better compatibility with GPS and geospatial
- BIM and open BIM have already radically transformed the construction sector and bygone are the days of 2D modelling

- GIS industry should provide affordable GIS and BIM tools and the government should promulgate a policy for subsidizing the use of new technologies so that they are widely adopted in construction sector

- The program on “Transformation of Geospatial Agencies in Contemporary Economy” was organized on 16th January in Hyderabad. The objective was to talk about the current technology trend, success stories, build capacities and need to bring in change and transform the organisations and align with current trends for delivering quality content that drive the societies and economies. The points highlighted during the program were:
 - There are different levels of technology adoption in NGAs worldwide but they are moving towards positive direction
 - Some of the mindset issues that hold NGAs from transforming:
 - The infrastructure institutional framework is not able to work as per the changing requirements
 - The agencies shy away from using data for greater good
 - The agencies are overwhelmed with the data
 - The agencies restrain from data sharing
 - Government data is par excellence, but security concerns pose a hurdle to using technologies for better outcomes
 - Public-private collaboration is necessary for growth of the national geospatial agencies and achieving the objective of envisaging public good
 - Lack of concrete policies is an issue that hinders the further promotion and expansion of geospatial technology
 - In developing world, the key challenges remain lack of technical competence, slow adoption rate and lack of understanding among people

- It was the first initiative wherein UNGGIM, Government of Mexico and UN-GGIM PSN together collaborated to deliver the UNGGIM High Level Forum in Mexico in November. It was highly successful. There was industry representative in every session from across the geography. Industry representation constituted of varied

scale of companies ranging from large and medium. The talks by the industry representatives were primarily on potential of the industry which had put-forth a message that industry is going beyond the context of selling a product. Private sector leaders had much more constructive role to play into overall thought leadership at that event. It had set up larger objective and strategy for engagement with private sector.

- UNGIM-PSN - convergence and partnership between PSN of UNGGIM and GEO. GEO is an intergovernmental Group on Earth Observations (**GEO**) is leading a worldwide effort to build a Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) - A central part of GEO's Mission. GEO's expectation from PSN is maximizing any engagement that PSN has with UNGGIM can also leveraged by geo community. This more about sharing experience with GEO.
- UN-GGIM PSN has put forth its comprehensive view and thoughts on the Compendium on Licensing of Geospatial Information

Future Course of Action

- Ways to expand the network by democratic process and representing industry view in the regional activity and thematic groups: To create working group for each region and thematic so that there is body of participation in the process. The Vice-chairs to have 5-6 members from different geographies. These members can participate on that particular subject in the particular geography in a meeting of UN. Further to be discussed during board meeting
- UN-GGIM PSN to discuss on strategies for making specific contributions through organizing webinars and seminars
- To discussion on taking forward the collaboration and engagement of GEO with UNGGIM PSN Board
- Proposed to organize two panels at UN-WGIC. Proposal is under review

CONTACT

Anamika Das

Vice Chair, UN-GGIM Private Sector Network Secretariat

Email: info@unggim-psn.org, Tel: +91-120-4612500

Webpage: <http://unggim-psn.org/index.html>