

Masai-Nairobi Declaration

“One United Nations Geospatial for People, Places, and Planet

We, the participants of the coordination conference on “Building the One UN (United Nations) Geospatial Situation Room for People, Places and Planet” held by the United Nations Geospatial Network, coordinating geospatial information management across 40 entities of the United Nations system, in Nairobi, Kenya, from 13 to 15 June 2023 hereby issue this *Masai-Nairobi Declaration on One UN Geospatial for People, Places and Planet*, and serves, has being held in Africa, as a voice of empowerment of the global south, the least developed countries, the developing countries and the most vulnerable people and nations of our world, as well as indigenous and local communities, towards *The Future We Want*¹ and *Leave No One Behind*².

Recalling the Secretary General’s words that we face a triple planetary emergency – a climate crisis, a nature crisis and a pollution crisis which are causing profound suffering: lost lives, lost jobs, rising hunger, declining health and widening damage from disasters.

Considering the world and our nations are facing unprecedented challenges and change, the near future until the end of 21st century is likely to bring more complexity, instability, and uncertainty. Humanity is likely to face increasing challenges ranging from violence and conflicts, stunted sustainable development, water scarcity, air pollution, digital divides, climate change adaptation and mitigation, pandemics and epidemics, population dynamics and displacement, and several other humanitarian challenges.

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015³, in which it adopted “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, which recognizes the need for new data acquisition and integration approaches, to improve the availability, quality, timeliness and disaggregation of data to support the implementation of the new development agenda at all levels, benefiting from the contribution to be made by a wide range of data, including Earth observations and geospatial information, while ensuring national ownership in supporting and tracking progress;

Recalling the Secretary-General’s Data Strategy⁴, the report on ‘Our Common Agenda’⁵, the Secretary-General’s Strategy on New Technologies⁶ and the ‘Roadmap for Digital Cooperation’⁷, which call to make better use of data, grounded in the United Nations Charter, and recognizes the importance of the need for long-term transformation so everyone, everywhere nurtures data as a strategic asset for insight, impact and integrity to better deliver on our mandates for people, places and planet;

Considering the enabling power of Geospatial data, analytics, technologies and services toward the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and for transforming, and improving the interconnectedness between *People, Places and Planet*;

Recalling the United Nations Geospatial Network continued implementation of its five-year strategy document “*Blueprint: Geospatial for a better world – transforming the lives of people, places and planet.*” and its mission to strengthen the coordination and coherence of geospatial information management within the United Nations system, including its overarching trends, technology, practices, data, needs, capacity building, and partnerships, ultimately to promote synergies and enable the United Nations system to “Deliver as One”; and

Recalling the Decision 12/104 of the UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) which “welcomed [...] the initiative of the United Nations Geospatial Network to build [the] geospatial component” of the SG Data Strategy, and “noted the One United Nations

¹ [A/RES/66/288 - The Future We Want](#)

² [UNSDG | Leave No One Behind](#);

³ [General Assembly resolution 70/1](#), of 25 September 2015

⁴ [Secretary-General’s Data Strategy](#)

⁵ [Our Common Agenda](#)

⁶ [Secretary-General’s Strategy on New Technologies](#)

⁷ [Secretary-General’s Roadmap for Digital Cooperation](#)

Geospatial Situation Room initiative as a component of the United Nations Geospatial Network Data Hub”;

We resolve to implement the following strategic priorities:

One Map

- Launch and maintain collectively the *One UN Geospatial Situation Room*, our collective Geospatial data hub platform for humanity.
- Leverage the power of Geolocated data for supporting decision-making and action, and further bring to bear its Priority Themes for added value services.
- Use *One Map* (powered by UN Maps service) as the enabling power of one geospatial unifying map services, of our world geographies and places for impact at global, regional, national, and local levels.
- Agree to pool resources, activities, and initiatives from across the 40 UN entities to identify how the One UN Geospatial Situation Room can be implemented.

One UN

- Contribute to Global Agendas, as the Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals⁸, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change⁹, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030¹⁰.
- Establish synergies across the UN Geospatial Network leveraging the guidance of UN-GGIM and contribute to the implementation of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework.
- "Deliver as One", in accordance with the mandates of the 40 entities across the whole UN system, its Secretariat, Funds Agencies and Programmes, and Specialized Agencies which compose the United Nations Geospatial Network for the benefit of Members States,
- Use a forward-looking *Future's* approach, leveraging the enabling power of Data, Digital and Communication, Strategic Foresight and Behavioural transformation as essential drivers for "Our Common Agenda" and aligning with the Summit of the Future of the UN to be held in 2024.

One Humanity

- Organize ourselves around the *Nexus* approach to ensure cross-cutting and added value approach across the five pillars of the United Nations (Peace and Security, Sustainable Development, Humanitarian Action, International Rule of Law and Human Rights).
- A common agreement for action is to pool resources, activities, and initiatives from across the 40 UN entities of the UN Geospatial Network to identify how these synergies can be exponentiated.
- The *Nexus* approach will allow for cross fertilisation of synergies across the different areas of the United Nations. But more importantly, it is focused on the impact on the ground, directly impacting of the lives of People, Places and Planet.
- To collaborate with the private sector, the academic world, geospatial societies, the other international organizations and non-governmental organizations, as well as civil society to deliver geospatial for a better world, transforming the lives of People, Places and Planet and serve Humanity.

The UN Geospatial Network
Nairobi, Kenya, Africa
15 June 2023

⁸ [Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals](#)

⁹ [Paris Agreement on Climate Change](#)

¹⁰ [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Management 2015-2030](#)