

Geospatial Excellence and Innovation Subcommittee Report



National Geospatial Advisory Committee Meeting
September 7, 2022

Geospatial Excellence and Innovation Subcommittee

Membership:

- Vasit Sagan (Chair), Siva Ravada (Vice-Chair), Clio Andris, Byron Bluehorse, Jack Dangermond, Bill Haneberg, Tony LaVoi, Kathleen Stewart

Subcommittee Role:

The subcommittee will assess and identify approaches and opportunities for the U.S. geospatial community to enhance key geospatial capabilities and initiatives.

These may include:

- UNGGIM Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF)
- Geodesy and other basic geospatial science capabilities
- Emerging technologies (AI/ML, 3D AR/VR, Big Data)
- Datum modernization
- Risks to U.S. geospatial competitiveness
- The feasibility and need for creating a national center for geospatial sciences
- A dedicated, federal funding program to support geospatial R&D

Geospatial Excellence and Innovation – Timeline/Next Steps

- Determine subcommittee topic(s) of focus for 2022
- Finalize deliverables format, topic, approach, and team/work structure

Name	Date
Subcommittee Kick-Off meeting	July 22, 2022
Subcommittee Meeting	Aug 24, 2022
September 2022 NGAC Meeting and subcommittee status report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sessions on Datum Modernization and Geodesy 	Sept 7-8, 2022
Subcommittee Meeting(s)	TBD
Collaborate with FGDC on IGIF Workshop	Oct 2022 (TBD)
December 2022 NGAC Meeting and subcommittee status report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Session(s) on key topics (TBD) 	Dec 6-7, 2022
Subcommittee Meeting(s)	TBD
Subcommittee paper with findings and recommendations	TBD

Objectives

1. Identify and examine issues critical to U.S. geospatial competitiveness, excellence and innovation.
2. Host NGAC sessions and workshops to explore key issues and engage with thought leaders.
3. Document NGAC findings with case studies on the topic
4. Develop recommendations for the U.S. geospatial community to enhance key geospatial capabilities and initiatives.

Approach & Timeline

- Phase 1 (12 months) – Develop and prioritize study topics
- Phase 2 (24 months) – deeper dive into the study topics, organize workshops and gather feedback from various stakeholders including national and international experts; initial recommendations by the end of 2023
- Phase 3 (years 2 and 3) – progress update
- Phase 4 (end of year 3) – Final recommendations

Deliverables

- Framing document for each study topic with overview and background
- Workshops and sessions with thought leaders from the proposed topics of study
- Summaries of discussions from workshops
- Case studies to showcase challenges and suggestions
- Report on emerging trends, opportunities, and challenges for each topic, initial findings by end of 2023
- Action plans and recommendations to FGDC agencies

Discussion Questions

1. Is the time frame appropriate? Or too long and losing the window of opportunity?
2. What other topics should we look at?
3. Are the approaches (workshops and presentations to NGAC) appropriate? What else should we do?
4. How do we engage U.S. Government agencies and international agencies like UN-GGIM in the process?
5. How specific should the recommendation be?