



# UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Strengthening relationships, links and connections in geographical names  
standardization and for sustainable development and pandemic recovery

2023/3rd session UNGEGN | 1-5 May 2023 | @unsd\_gegn



## The Implementation of the UNGEGN Strategic Plan and Programme of Work 2021-2029

Second Meeting of UNGEGN Bureau and Division Chairs  
December 9, 2022

UNEGN Bureau



# UNEGN

United Nations Group of Experts  
on Geographical Names

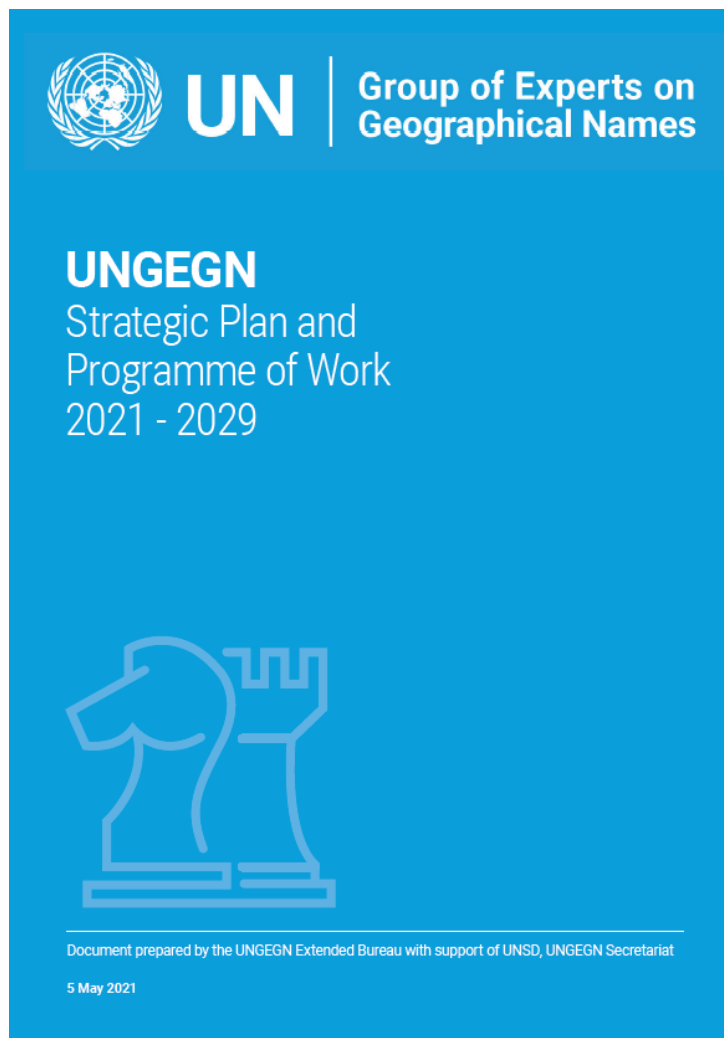


“a living document intended to guide the work of the Group of Experts over the period 2021-2029”

- providing a forward and focused vision;
- directing the prioritization of activities;
- allowing for more effective communication;
- strengthening the Group’s accountability;
- deepening the impact of its work.

[SP&PoW, UNGEGN website](#)

[Two-page leaflet](#)



UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names

**UNEGGN**  
Strategic Plan and  
Programme of Work  
2021 - 2029

Document prepared by the UNGEGN Extended Bureau with support of UNSD, UNGEGN Secretariat

5 May 2021



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# Five Strategies

	No. Objectives	Total Action Items
1. Technical expertise	3	10
2. Relationships, links and connections	3	10
3. Effective work programmes	4	12
4. Culture, heritage and language recognition	4	12
5. Promotion and capacity building	4	7
	<b>18</b>	<b>51</b>

- ✓ Each action item assigns responsible actors with expected output and time frame.



# Monitoring the implementation since the 2<sup>nd</sup> session

- Coordinators designated for each Strategy;
- Regular monitoring at the Bureau meetings;
- Involving the Bureau, Working Groups, Divisions, Member States;
- Reports expected at the 3<sup>rd</sup> session, regarding the progress, issues, proposed amendments and additions, etc.;
- Announcement made through the [Documentation](#) for the 3<sup>rd</sup> session;
- Revision of the Agenda for the 4<sup>th</sup> session being considered to properly align UNGEGN tasks to the Strategic Plan.



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# Divisions' involvement

## *From the 2<sup>nd</sup> session*

Recommendation 1. The Economic and Social Council:

(e) Encourages Member States, **divisions**, working groups and task teams of the Group of Experts to report on their activities to implement the strategic plan and programme of work at the sessions of the Group of Experts.

## *From the Documentation (National reports)*

(e) An update on actions taken to support the implementation of the [UNGEEN Strategic Plan and Programme of Work 2021-2029](#), with particular attention to Strategy 2: Relationships, links and connections.



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# Divisions' inputs suggested (1)

Action item	Content	Division input
1-iii-9	Organize workshops on innovative research and/or technical issues	Divisions could propose topics, and if appropriate provide input
2-i-3	Work with UNECA ... to increase national standardization, re-activate the Gaborone Action Plan, re-activate Africa GeoNyms project	Although this requires Bureau leadership, Divisions in Africa should be encouraged to actively participate in the re-activation
2-i-4	Explore links with UNESCO to b. Cooperate in recognition of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (IDIL), 2022-2032	Division chairs could determine whether any Member States have plans for recognition. If UNGEGN has its own plan, Divisions should be involved



# Divisions' inputs suggested (2)

Action item	Content	Division input
2-iii-7	Encourage collaboration with academia to ensure continued availability of expertise in fields required to strengthen geographical names standardization	Where Division chairs etc, are from academia, this could be taken in hand.
2-iii-9	Establish cooperation with sub-groups/ initiatives of UN-GGIM to help create or enhance national standardization of geographical names worldwide	As a workshop was organized with CARIGEO, this could be repeated with other divisional areas
3-iii-7	Review functions and operations of ... Divisions and consider any changes with organizational structure of UNGEGN	Some Divisional chairs could be invited to participate in any discussion of organizational structure of UNGEGN



# Divisions' inputs suggested (3)

Action item	Content	Division input
3-iii-9	Encourage .... and Division Chairs to share and develop ideas of linking and cooperating with each other	In Division reports, projects and cooperative ventures should be presented
3-iv-12	Elaborate measures to increase the number of Member States that have functioning authorities for geographical names standardization	Chairs of Divisions where countries are inactive in geonames standardization should be actively giving encouragement. Some division chairs could be invited to discussion on elaborating measures
4-ii-7	Encourage presentations and discussion relevant to current key cultural aspects of naming /renaming	Division chairs could be in a good position to propose such presentations





# Divisions' inputs suggested (4)

Action item	Content	Division input
5-i-1	Develop plans for awareness raising and increase promotion of UNGEGN geographical names standardization	Divisions/their chairs could well be included in developing such plans
5-ii-4	Ensuring relevance, development and dissemination of UNGEGN Bulletin	Divisions could suggest topics of interest for themes for the UNGEGN Bulletin – themes that interest their Division to make contributions
5-iii-5	Toponymy training – 3. implement online courses and workshops on specific topics for training relevant to national geographical names standardization	Divisions should be encouraged to put forward their needs and topics for such courses and workshops





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