



UNGEEN

United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

Geographical names standardization supporting national development

Tuesday 31 August 2021
from 10:00 am -12:00 EDT (New York)

Cecille Blake
UNGEEN Secretariat, UN Statistics Division,



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CARIGEO

Caribbean Geospatial
Development Initiative

GEO-EMPOWERING THE CARIBBEAN

an Initiative implemented by the Americas Regional Committee of
United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial
Information Management (UN-GGIM)

CARIGEO'S PURPOSE



To improve Spatial Data Infrastructures at the national and regional levels in the Caribbean

- building on recent and on-going developments*
- leveraging indigenous skills and resources*
- utilising external resources and technical expertise*

PARTNERS



UN-GGIM
UNITED NATIONS INITIATIVE ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT



UN-GGIM:Americas
REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF
UNITED NATIONS
ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
FOR THE AMERICAS



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UNITED NATIONS



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Universidad Nacional
Autónoma de México



United
Nations

Department of Economic and Social Affairs



ACS AEC
ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN STATES
ASOCIACION DE ESTADOS DEL CARIBE
ASSOCIATION DES ETATS DE LA CARAIBE

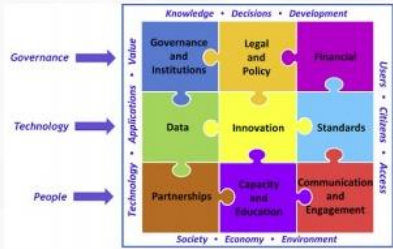


IDB Improving lives

CARIGEO Scope of Work

Aligned to UN-GGIM Frameworks

Integrated Geospatial Information Framework



Global Statistical Geospatial Framework



Objectives

1. Governance and Policies
2. Collaboration and Partnerships
3. Datasets and Tools
4. Capacity Development
5. Communication and Engagement

Main Activities

1. Assessment of current situation
2. Development of national and regional fundamental geospatial datasets
3. Implementation of regional and national Web-based GIS services to improve data sharing
4. Establish a regional strategy to better connect data to decision making
5. Establish a study on geospatial information policy: recommendations and good practices
6. Capacity building, Communication and Engagement



Strategic Framework for Disasters



Global Geodetic Reference Frame



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**A MAP,
A NAME,
AN
IDENTITY**

NEW YORK

NIUJORKAS นิวยอร์ก NJU JORK
NOWY JORK NÝU-ÝORK نیویورك
न्यूयॉर्क NUEVA YORK ÑUJORKA
EFROG NEWYDD NOVA IORQUE
NUA-EABHRAC 纽约 НЬЮ-ЙОРК



UNITED NATIONS
GROUP OF EXPERTS ON
GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES



Welcome to UNGEGN
Standardizing geographical names matters

Join a community of experts
dedicated to promoting the collection,
standardization and dissemination of
geographical names.

Start connecting, collaborating and communicating

Website: <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/default.html>

E-mail: geoinfo_unsd@un.org

twitter: [@UNSD_GEGN](https://twitter.com/UNSD_GEGN)



UNGEGN

**United Nations Group of Experts
on Geographical Names**



UNGEEN- UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names

- A subsidiary body of ECOSOC
- Promotes standardization of geographical names in response to national requirements
- Provides a forum for discussion – geographers, linguists, administrators, GIS specialists, cartographers ...
- **1959 – Resolution 715A (XXVII) of ECOSOC**
 - To bring together experts to advise on geographical names for use in UN Cartography
- **1960 – 1st meeting of experts in New York**
 - USA, France, UK, Iran, Guatemala, China
- **1967 - First Conference held in Geneva**



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on Geographical Names

What UNGEGN is NOT

- Decision maker on feature names
- Point of arbitration on disputes over names
- Place to air political issues, even if they are related in some way to place names
- Decision maker on what processes, legislation or policy is correct for any country



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UNGEGN aims



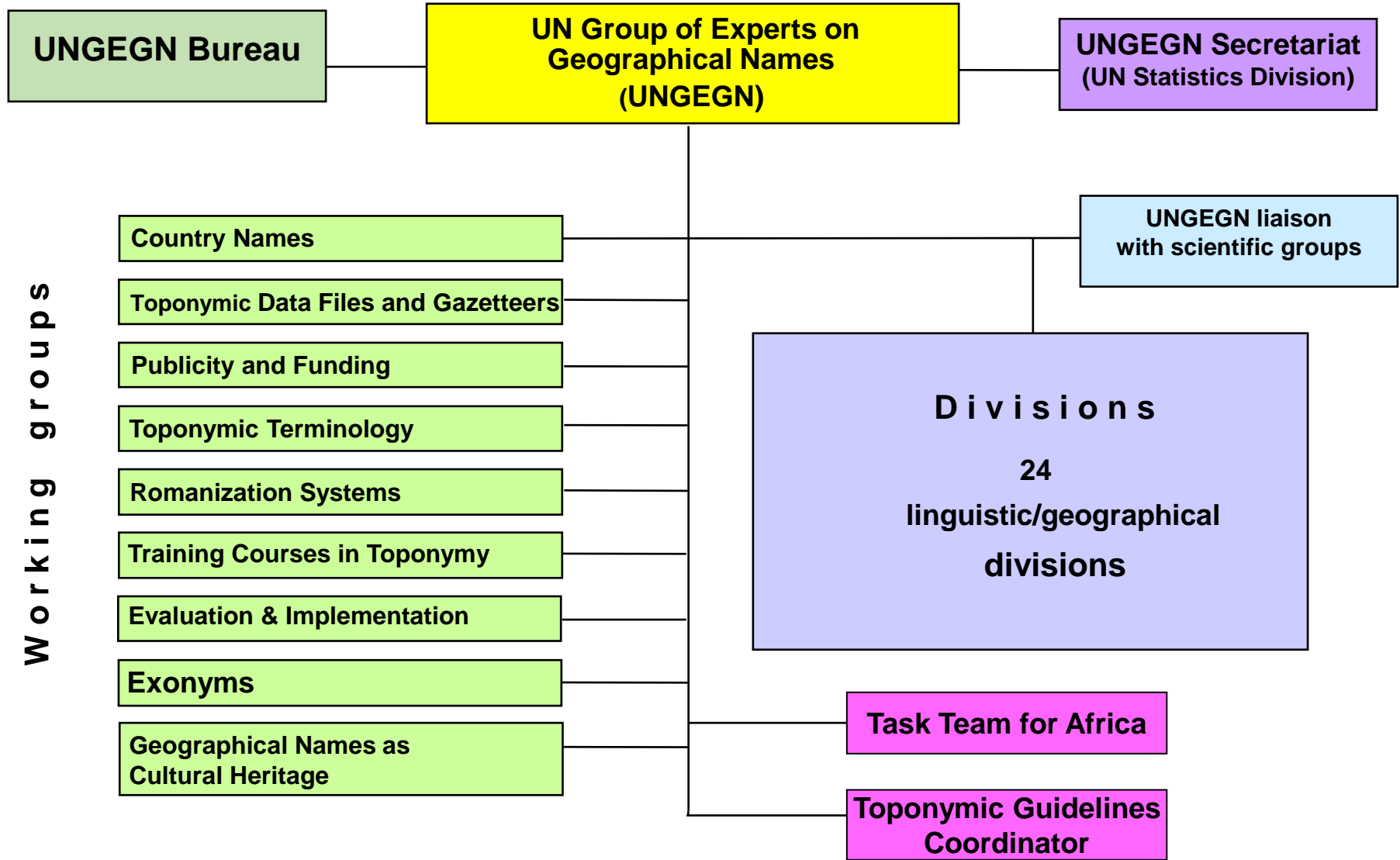
- Encourage the creation of national names authorities
 - backed by legislation
 - respect local usage of names
 - collect, store and disseminate authorized names - for government and public use
- Raise awareness of the value and benefits of geographical names standardization
- Recognize the value of geographical names both to identify place and as elements of cultural heritage
- Develop single scientifically-based systems of romanization
- Contribute to work of UN bodies and collaborate with non-UN organizations



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UNGEGN Structure



Supported by the UN Statistical Division through the UNGEGN Secretariat



UNGEEN Bureau

Officers of UNGEEN

Chairperson

- Mr. Pierre Jaillard, France

Vice-Chairpersons

- Mr. Sungjae Choo, Republic of Korea
- Mr. Hasanuddin Abidin, Indonesia / Ms. Susan Birtles, Australia

Rapporteurs

- Mr. Trent C. Palmer, USA
- Ms. Wendy Shaw, New Zealand



UNGEEN Chairperson



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UNGEEN working groups

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Inuktitut Titirausiq

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Romanization

Training

Data files / gazetteers

Evaluation / implementation



Exonyms



Terminology



Publicity / funding



Country names



Cultural heritage



Task Team for Africa

Coordination of Toponymic Guidelines



UNGEEN Divisions

Africa Central	Baltic	India
Africa East	Celtic	Latin America
Africa South	China	Norden
Africa West	Dutch- and German-speaking	Pacific South-West
Arabic	East Central and South-East Europe	Portuguese-speaking
Asia East (other than China)	Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia	Romano-Hellenic
Asia South-East	East Mediterranean (other than Arabic)	United Kingdom
Asia South-West (other than Arabic)	French-speaking	United States / Canada



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UNGEEN Liaison with other Organizations

1. International Cartographic Association (**ICA**)
2. Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (**ICANN**)
3. International Council of Onomastic Sciences (**ICOS**)
4. International Council on Indigenous Place Names (**ICIPN**)
5. International Hydrographic Organization (**IHO**)
6. International Organization for Standardization (**ISO**) Technical Committee 211 (TC/211)
7. Pan-American Institute of Geography and History (**PAIGH**)
8. Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (**SCAR**)
9. Unicode Consortium



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UNGEGN Website

<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/>

Very large reference source

- UNGEGN Bulletin
- [Manuals, UNSD — United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names](#)
- World Geographical Names Database
- Resolutions/recommendations
- [Web-based training](#)
- Events, Links, Tweets, and more

United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

UNGEGN Publications | Bulletin | Media kit | Other reference material | Graphics | Postcards

Glossary of Terms for the Standardization of Geographical Names (Revised)

Available languages:

Note:
The 2007 Addendum in the six languages of the UN is included in this revised version.

Geographical names as vital keys for accessing information in our globalized and digital world

Available languages:

Manual for the National Standardization of Geographical Names

Available languages:

Technical reference manual for the standardization of geographical names

Available languages:



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Capacity building

- Coordinates toponymic training courses
 - UNSD – given the availability of funds - sponsors 3-5 participants and 3 trainers in support of Toponymy training courses.
 - 2017 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in collaboration with IBGE and
 - 2018 Manila, Philippines in collaboration with NAMRIA
- Maintains UNGEGN-ICA web course in Toponymy – released in July 2012

[UNGEgn-ICA webcourse on Toponymy \(1st release, July 2012\) \(un.org\)](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEgn/docs/_data_ICAcourses/index.html)

unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEgn/docs/_data_ICAcourses/index.html

unstats.un.org UNGEGN-ICA webcourse on ... x

UNGEgn-ICA webcourse on Toponymy (First release July 2012)

1st Release

WELCOME TO PARTICIPANTS
INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON TOPONYMY

Participants of 2006 UNGEGN toponymy course in Malang, Indonesia

Click [here](#) to enter course



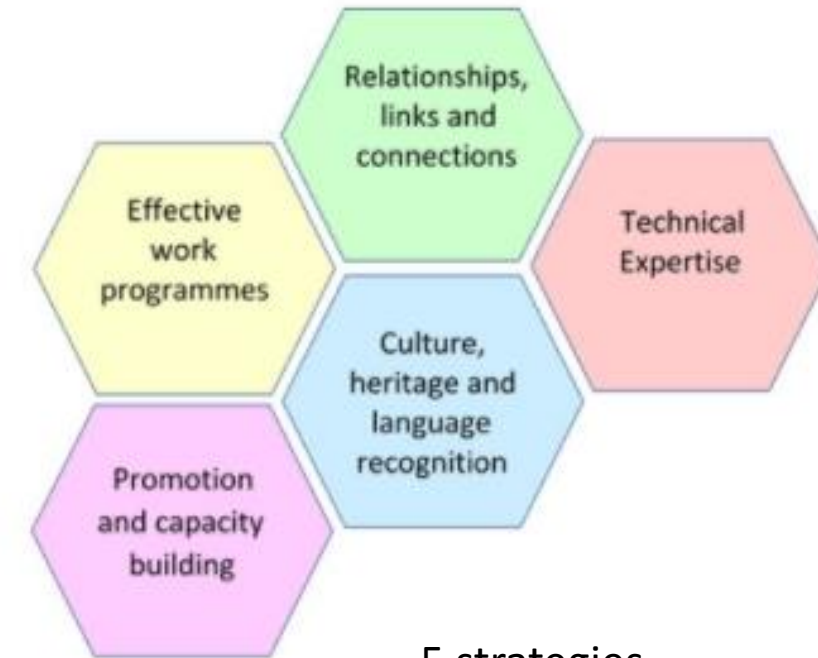
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Evolution of UNGEGN – recent history

- **2017 – Reorganization to “new” UNGEGN**
 - To convene every 2 years starting in 2019
 - Reports to ECOSOC
- **2019 – Creating Strategic Plan**
 - Including Programme of Work
 - Document (CRP.94) for approval at this session (Agenda #7)
- **2021 – Strategic Plan Approved at 2021 session**
 - Inviting Member States to become involved in the implementation of the Programme of Work



5 strategies



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Join in the standardization of geographical names

Contribute	Contribute to advancing the UNGEGN work programme
Engage	Actively engage with your Divisions:- activities
Join in	Participate in UNGEGN meetings and working groups
Write	Contribute your national experiences and articles to the Bulletin
Monitor	Monitor the UNGEGN website for latest geospatial activities https://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/default.html
Tweet	Tweet, retweet and follow at @UNSD_GEGN



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**UNGEGN Secretariat
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New York**

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