

United Nations Geographic Information Working Group

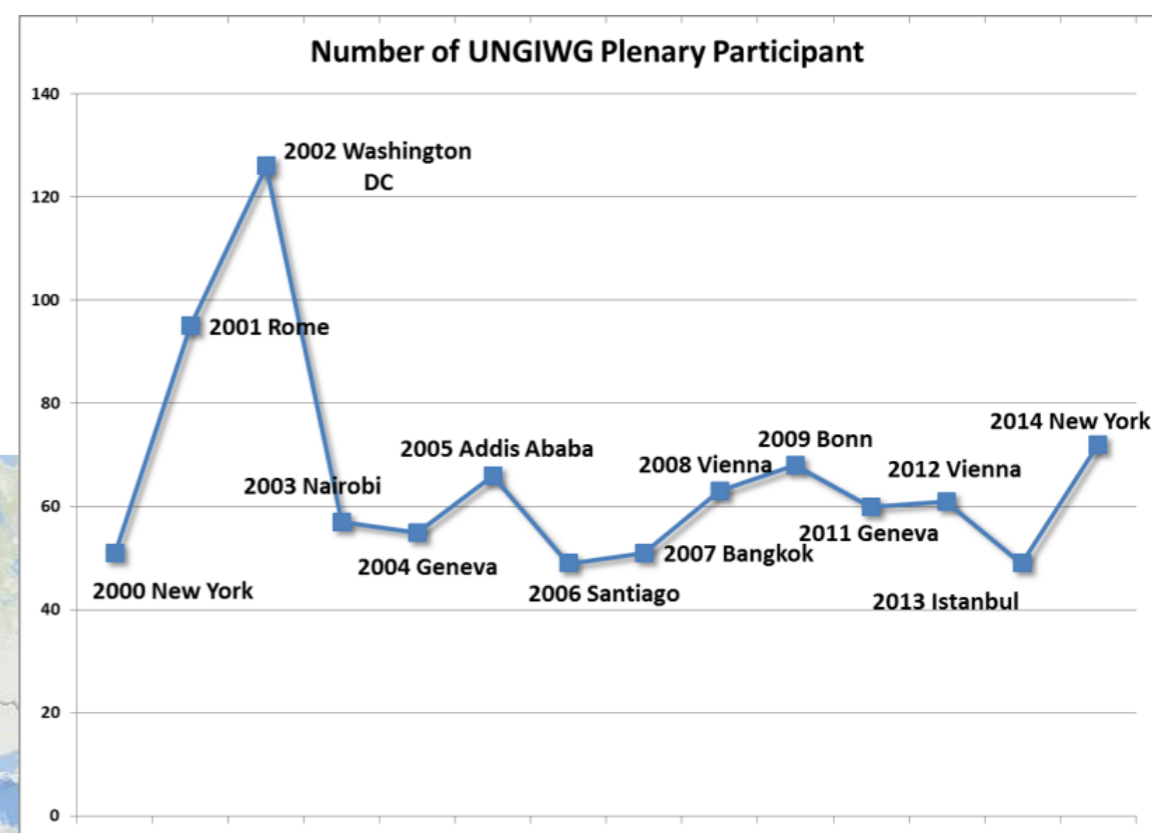
Report to the UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (GGIM)

New York, August 2015

The United Nations Geographic Information Working Group (UNGIWG) is a voluntary network of UN professionals working in the fields of cartography and geographic information science.

Since 2000 UNGIWG has been able to facilitate inter-agency cooperation and coordination on specific issues in the fields of cartography and geographic information science and promote the use of geographic information within the United Nations System in the delivery of various mandates

UNGIWG Annual Plenary Meetings



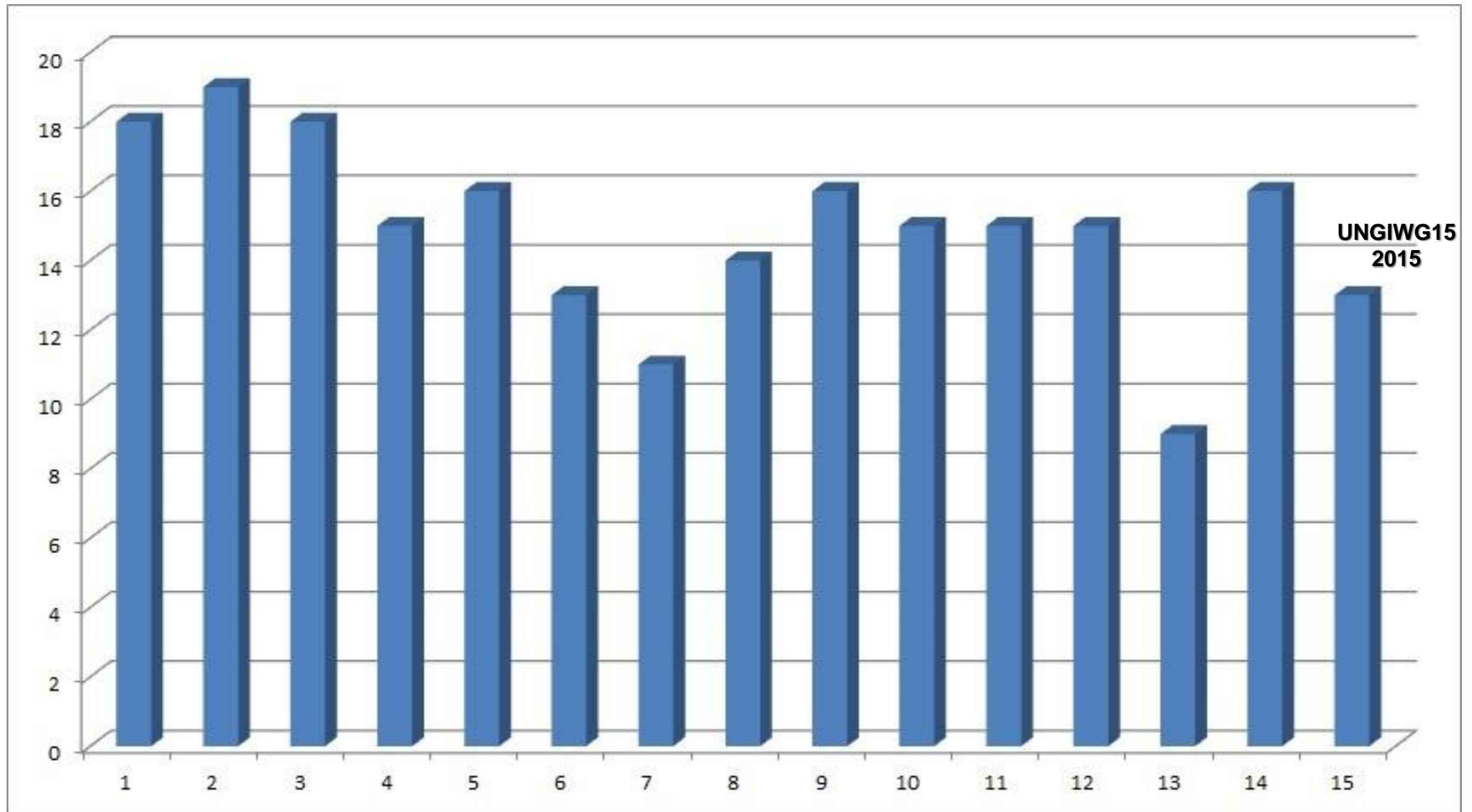
- To review the progress of Task Groups and Special Interest Groups
- To establish and revise the goals and the priorities of the UNGIWG
- To identify the specific tasks or issues to be addressed



Achievements

- Geographic Information Strategic Plan for the United Nations, with OGC, request of Deputy Secretary General (2003)
- OGC Principal Level membership (2002-2006, 2009-present)
- Hosted three OGC Plenaries at UNHQ (2004, 2005) and in Bonn (2011)
- Class A Liaison with ISO/TC211
- UNOOSA MoU with DigitalGlobe (2015) - aiming to support UN-wide needs for commercial very high resolution satellite imagery

UNGIWG Plenary attendance by confirmed member organizations



15th Plenary Conclusions

Need to move the voluntary best-effort approach to a next level

Need to formalize this geospatial coordination mechanism in the UN system, building on models such as UN-Water, UN-Space or the EMG

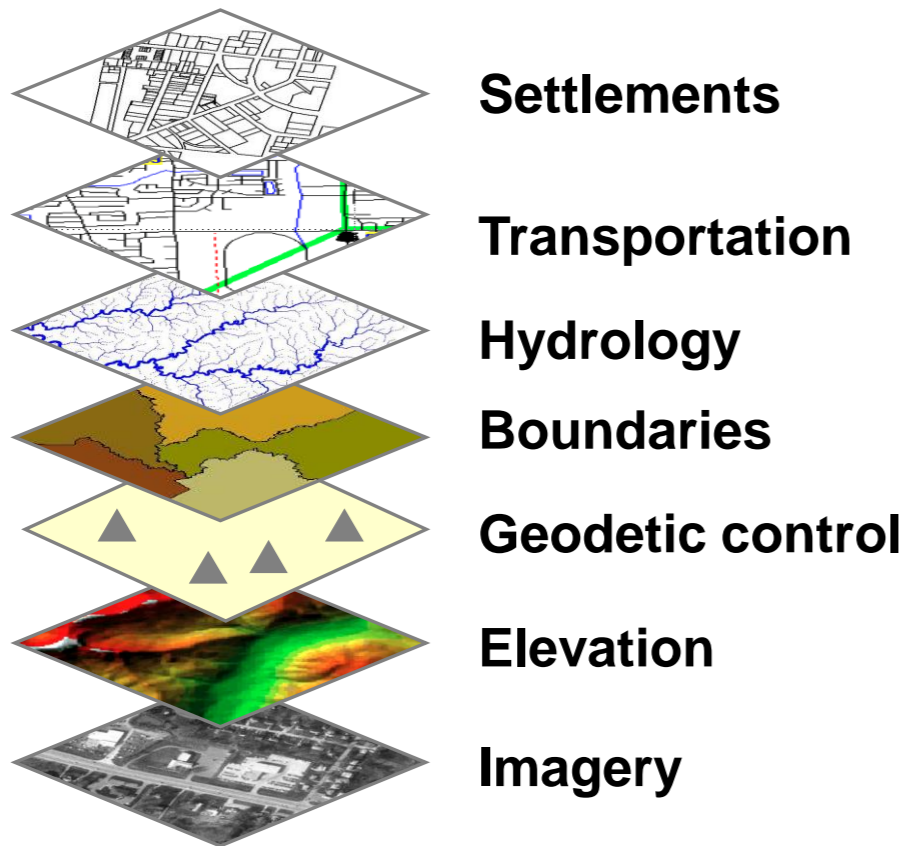
Need for a permanent, dedicated Secretariat for the Working Group

Policy level in addition to technical level coordination required

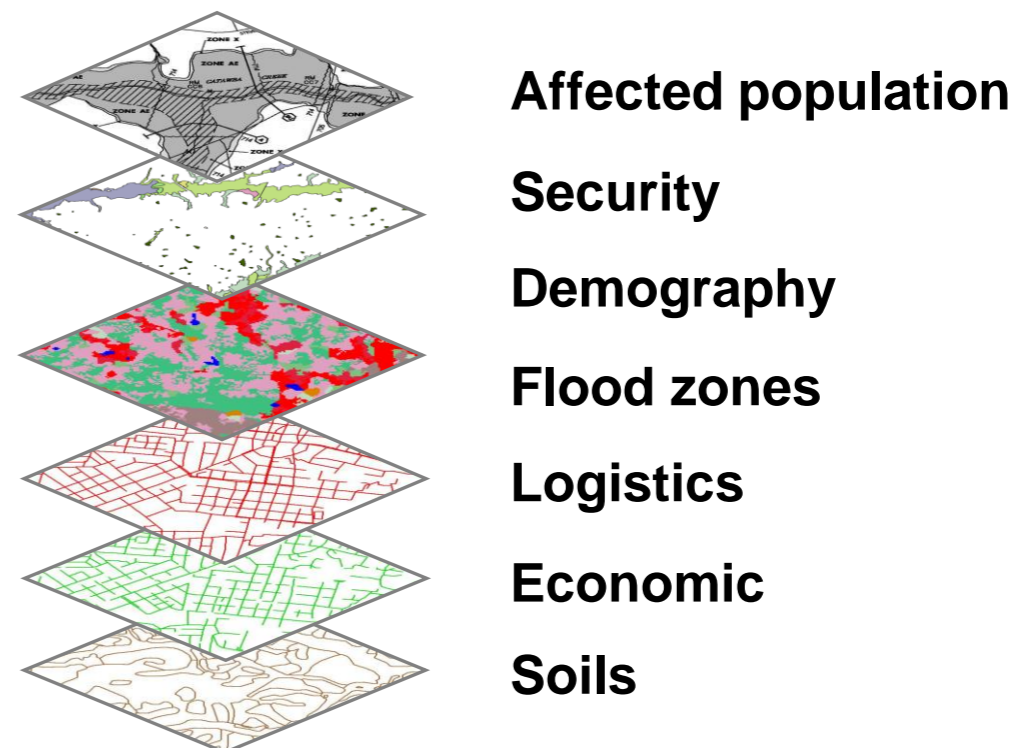
Challenges remain in availability of core datasets and of commercial very high resolution satellite imagery

Core and Thematic Data needs identified by UNGIWG (2005)

Core data



Thematic data



<http://www.fao.org/docrep/008/a0118e/a0118e00.HTM>

Sustainable Development, Humanitarian and Peacekeeping Operations, Security are major focus areas for many of the member entities



Thank you!

**UNDSS and UNOOSA
Co-chairs 2013-2015**