



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



Panel discussion 1

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

2 May 2023

Moderated by Sungjae Choo
Vice-Chair, UNGEGN



**United Nations Group of Experts
on Geographical Names (UNGEGN)**

Panelists:

1. Mr. Mohamad Arief Syafi'i, Deputy of Basic Geospatial Information at Geospatial Information Agency (BIC) of Indonesia;
2. Mr. Charles Brigham, Lead account manager at the Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI);
3. Mr. Cole Kelleher, United States Representative to the Standing Committee on Antarctic Geospatial Information (SCAGI);
4. Mr. Guillaume Le Sourd, Geographic Information Officer at United Nations Office of Information and Communications Technology (OICT);
5. Mr. Francisco Moneo, Group Product Manager, Google Maps; and
6. Mr. Kohei Watanabe, Steering Member, Joint IGU/ICA Commission on Toponymy.





Group of Experts on
Geographical Names

UNGEGN

Strategic Plan and
Programme of Work
2021 - 2029



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Strategy 2: Relationships, links and connections

- I. Collaboration with other UN activities, e.g. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, UNECA, UNESCO, UN-GGIM, UNPFII, etc.;
- II. Collaboration with non-UN scientific, technical, and academic bodies; and
- III. Creation of new strategic partnerships with different stakeholders (both UN and non-UN bodies) to address needs of UNGEGN as new challenges emerge.

The 2023 ECOSOC High-level Political Forum on sustainable development



**HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**Sustainable Development Goal
number 17, “Partnerships for
the Goals.”**

**17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS**



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Thematic issues/questions:

1. What is the current status of the relationships, links and connections of your institute, group or organization to geographical names standardization and to UNGEGN?
2. What does "strengthening" mean to you? What are the reasons for strengthening? Are there any barriers or measures to achieve it?
3. Do you think strengthening relationships, links and connections in geographical names standardization will contribute to sustainable development or pandemic recovery? If yes, can you give an example?
4. What are your suggestions to UNGEGN, in order to accommodate interests of your institute, group or organization?



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Decision 1/2021/5

National and international standardization of geographical names

The Group of Experts

- g. Took note of problems occurring in the use of geographical names by the providers and platform of maps and encouraged the Group of Experts to find measures by which to be involved in line with the UNGEGN Strategic Plan and Programme of Work 2021-2029;

