



UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Advancing geographical names standardization through inclusive, culturally-informed and evidence-based solutions to support sustainable development

2025 Session | 28 April – 2 May 2025 | @UNSD_GEGN, #2025UNGEGN



Expanding the data within the World Geographical Name

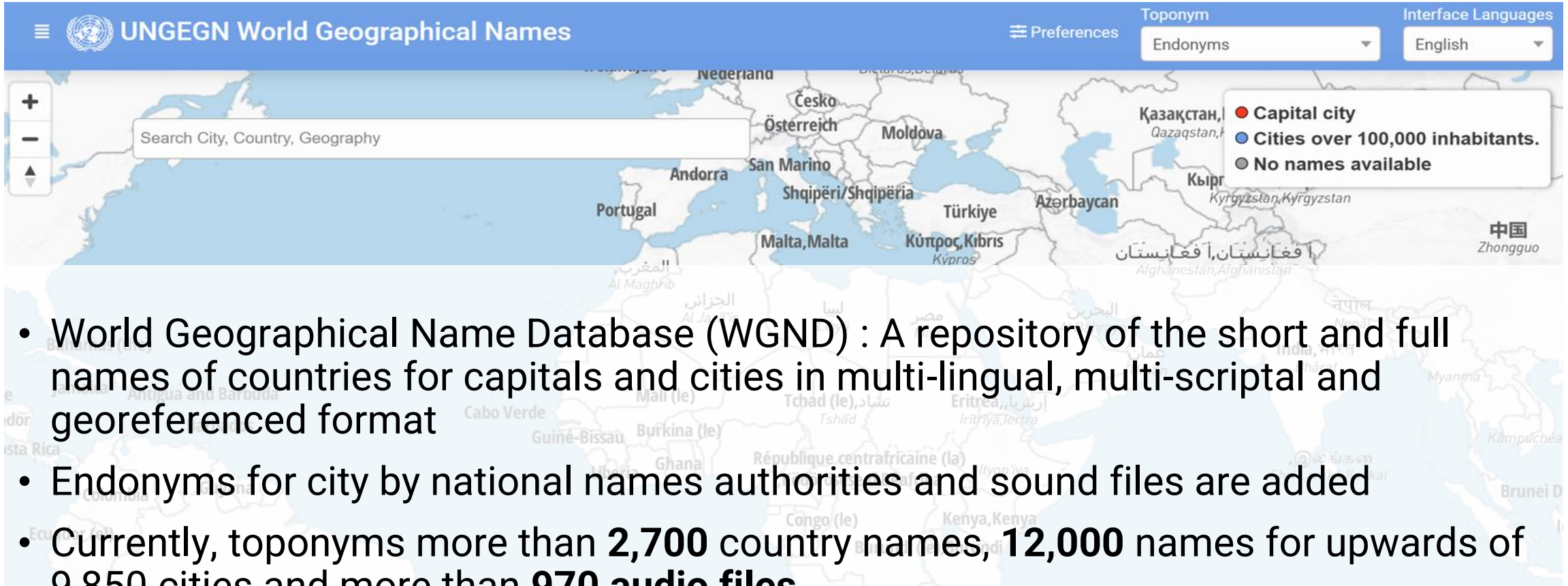
Mina Lee, UN Geospatial Information Section
OICT, UN Secretariat

*Side event : The World geographical Names Database and a Unique Identifier for Cities
UNGEGN, 1 May 2025*



United Nations | Geospatial

Progress in WGND



- World Geographical Name Database (WGND) : A repository of the short and full names of countries for capitals and cities in multi-lingual, multi-scriptal and georeferenced format
- Endonyms for city by national names authorities and sound files are added
- Currently, toponyms more than **2,700** country names, **12,000** names for upwards of 9,850 cities and more than **970 audio files**



Expansion of WGND

Guided by the UNGEGN Decision [3/2023/18](#)

- UN Demographic Yearbook – additional **2,735 cities** (English and French)
- UN Gazetteer – additional **5,550 cities**

Further,

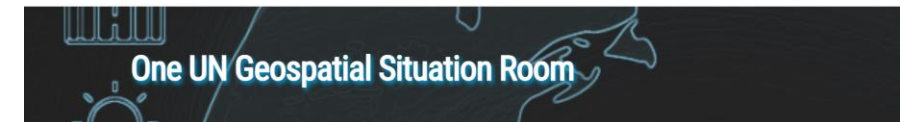
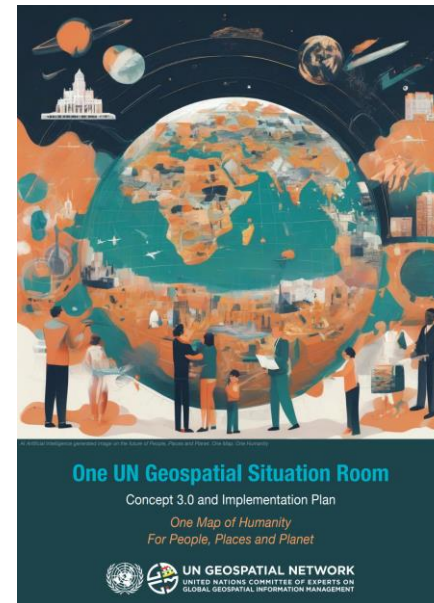
- Coordination with resources in the Secretariat, such as UNTERM database, UN-library, Global Sustainable Development Goal Indicators Database, etc.
- Integration of Universal Unique Identifier (UUID)



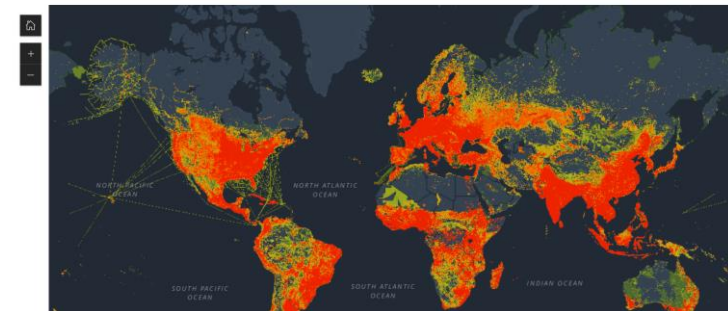
Contribution as a capacity enabler...

UN-GGIM United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

- 14 Global Fundamental Geospatial Data Themes
- UN Geospatial Network - UN One Situation Room ([Concept](#))



One Map. One Humanity.



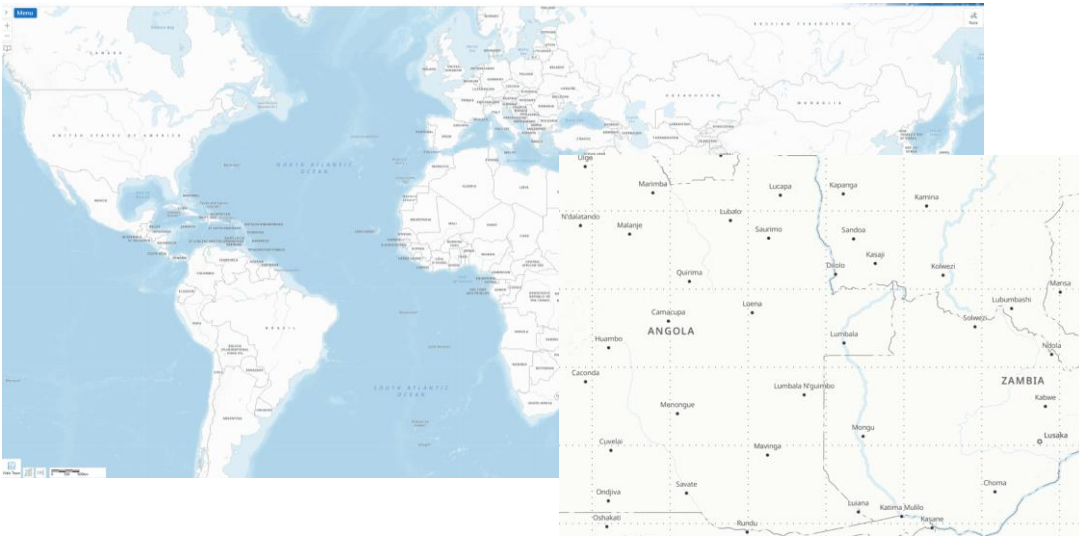
- UN One Map - Web Map Service



Contribution as a capacity enabler...

UN-Secretariat

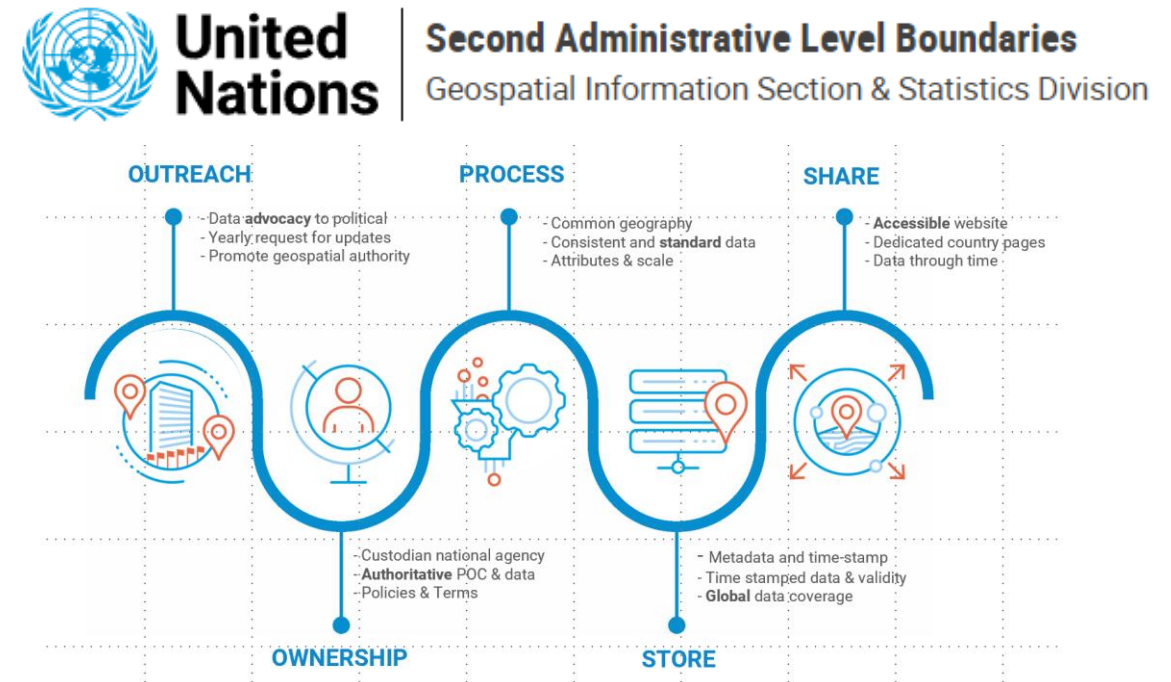
- UN One Map - Web Map Service



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

In accordance with administrative instruction
([ST/AI/189/Add.25/Rev.1](#))

- UN Second Administrative Level Boundary (SALB) Programme



Contribution as a capacity enabler...



Thank you

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Operational Support Division
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The screenshot shows the United Nations Geospatial website. The header includes the UN logo, the text "United Nations Geospatial, location data for a better world", a search bar, and a "A-Z Site Index" link. The main navigation bar has links for Home, Maps & Geoservices, Geospatial mandates, Programmes & Partnerships, and About. The main content area features a large banner titled "STRENGTHEN THE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION AND REVITALIZE THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT" with a sub-header "By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development in developing countries". Below this is a world map with yellow dots indicating data points, accompanied by various statistics and text blocks. A sidebar on the right displays "Tweets from @UN" and "Key documents". The footer includes sections for "Map on SDG17 Partnerships", "Features" (with links to GIS Day and Deployment of Peacekeepers), and "Key documents" (with a link to the Geospatial Strategy for the United Nations).

