

17 January 2025

English

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

2025 session

New York, 28 April – 2 May 2025

Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda *

Technical expertise: Geographical names data management

**Volunteered Geographic Information and Linked Open Data
in national geographical names standardization**

Summary **

Volunteered Geographic Information (VGI) and Linked Open Data (LOD) are relatively new techniques to collect and store geographical data. In the past decade various countries have developed activities in which they applied crowdsourcing to collect geographical names, resulting in VGI use cases. More recently, the first examples of LOD applications have been discussed.

The report summarizes VGI and LOD activities that have been reported to the past UNGEGN sessions and identifies good practices for these techniques.

* GEGN.2/2025/1.

** The full report was prepared by Jasper Hogerwerf, Netherlands, Kadaster. The report will be available under document symbol GEGN.2/2025/115/CRP.115, in the language of submission only, at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/4th_session_2025/