

# **The United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) – funding and socio-economic impact assessment**

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## **SUMMARY**

The United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geographic Information (UNGIG) adopted the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) in 2018 to provide comprehensive guidance to Member States on developing and strengthening geospatial information management and related infrastructure to drive sustainable development. While numerous Member States utilized the UN-IGIF to realize substantial benefits and positive outcomes, for some, securing funding for this initiative continues to be challenging. To assist Member States in overcoming these challenges, the High-level Group of the UN-IGIF formed a Sustainable Funding Work Group, comprised of geospatial and financial experts from Member States, Academia, and the Private Sector. Following extensive research and targeted consultations with Member States, financial institutions, and donors, the group has developed a comprehensive Sustainable Funding Guide. The guide provides practical guidance on identifying potential funding sources, estimating budget, and performing cost/benefit analysis. It also shares resources and experiences from other Member States. This paper reviews issues facing developing countries in identifying potential funding sources to support implementation of the UN-IGIF and making the case for investment through socio economic impact assessments. It explores the principles behind socio-economic impact assessment and the techniques and approaches to undertaking these assessments including cost benefit analysis, general equilibrium modelling, multiplier analysis and multi criteria analysis. It explores methodologies for quantifying social and environmental impacts in addition to market outcomes. It then reviews the findings of recent cost benefit analysis. Finally, the paper explores potential ways to reduce the costs of undertaking economic impact assessments that might be explored in the future.

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