



UN-GGIM:Americas
REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF UNITED NATIONS
ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION
MANAGEMENT FOR THE AMERICAS

X SESSION UN-GGIM: AMERICAS

October 18, 19 and 20 - 2023
Santiago de Chile, ECLAC



ECLAC



Concept Note
Side Event: "Industry and academia bridge the gap"
UN-GGIM Americas PSN & ANA Side Event
(October 17, 10 am)
(Medina, ECLAC)



UN-GGIM: Américas
PRIVATE SECTOR NETWORK

The role of Academic Network and Private Sector in UN-GGIM: Americas

Over the past ten years, UN-GGIM Americas has crafted a legacy of growth and transformative achievements, a testament to its unwavering commitment to collaboration. Central to this success has been the steadfast partnerships with both the Private Sector Network Americas (PSNA) and the Academic Network Americas (ANA). Together, these networks represent a harmonious synergy between the private sector, academia, and Member States, each bringing their unique strengths and perspectives to the forefront of regional geospatial initiatives.

The PSNA has been instrumental in ensuring the private sector's voice is heard and integrated, establishing a bridge for collaboration and communication with Member States. The dedication to fostering open dialogue has been paramount in harnessing the collective power of the private sector and UN-GGIM Americas.

Complementing this has been the pivotal role of the ANA, infusing academic rigor, research excellence, and innovative thinking into our collective endeavours. The ANA has been working hard to include the thematic of the ethical use of geographical information in the national and academic agenda, with conferences/ webinars and researching projects.

The collaborative relationship between the ANA and PSNA has paved the way for the co-creation of knowledge, ensuring that technological advancements are grounded in research and geared towards practical, real-world applications.

Reflecting upon this decade, these partnerships have expanded the region's capacity to leverage geospatial information, equipping nations with the necessary tools, expertise, and academic insights to navigate an evolving technological landscape.

Celebrating ten years of this dynamic collaboration, we look ahead with optimism and excitement. May the next decade witness even deeper integrations, groundbreaking discoveries, and a continued drive to unlock the immense potential of geospatial information, technologies, and services for the benefit of society.

Objective

There is a need to improve the effectiveness of collaboration between private sector and academia to ensure sustainable commercial outcomes. To this end there must be a bridge between school and the world of work by connecting students with companies based on their interests and professional goals, thus giving students hands-on projects to gain real world experience! Humans are curious and naturally learn while trying to solve problems. Academic institutions should work with industry to create a natural critical learning environment where there are mechanisms that facilitate experiential geospatial learning.

Connecting companies with institutions so that students can work on projects based on current business challenges will provide powerful learning experiences for students, but to also provide strategic insights to industry partners. Industry and academia must work to answer questions like:

1. How can we stimulate students to build new mental models to engage 'deep' learning as opposed to the 'surface' learning in which they are remembering to pass examinations?
2. How do we create safe environments in which students can try, fail, receive feedback and try again?
3. What models of engagement will ensure that geospatial learning will produce sustained influence in the way students think, act and feel?

Main expected Impact of Session

Industry relies on academia to educate, train, prepare and nurture the next crop of bright young geospatial talent. Industry provides real-world problems with which to challenge students. The panel will highlight how Academia and industry can benefit from the synergistic relationship when they work together and support one another. It will show how as an industry we can better engage with academia to bring quality talent, diversity, and innovation. It will highlight the benefits of having opportunities to interact with industry and the value of mentorship. It will also show how collaborations between industry and academia can support access to the latest Technology.

Agenda

5 mins	Welcome and overview of the side event	Rosario Casanova – Valrie Grant
40 mins	Pannel: Academic Examples Moderator: Rosario Casanova	Panelists: - Jaime Ortega: “Proyecto Centro Regional Copernicus para America Latina y el Caribe”, Centro Regional Copernicus en Chile. - Macarena Pérez: “Plataforma de datos para la resiliencia ante desastres”, Directora de vinculación Itrend, Chile. - Rosario Casanova: “Proyecto Ética en el uso de los datos geográficos”, Senior profesor Geomatics,

		Facultad de Ingeniería, Universidad de la República, Uruguay.
40 mins	<p>Pannel: Bridging the Gap</p> <p>Moderator and presenter: Valrie Grant</p>	<p>Panelists:</p> <p>-Linda Peters, Business Development and Executive Program Director, Esri</p> <p>-Andres Vallina, Operations Manager, Riegl USA</p> <p>-Julia Martinuzzi, Chief Operating Officer Kan Territory & IT</p>
40 min	Open Discussion: Gaps and opportunities	Valrie Grant - Rosario Casanova
30 mins	Summary and Closing remarks	

Organizers

Valrie Grant and Rosario Casanova
Private Sector and Academic Network UN-GGIM: Americas