



UN-GGCE Update

South Africa Geodesy Working Group

1 October 2026



Our Vision

All countries have strong support for geodesy which enables them to – together – accelerate the achievements of the Sustainable Development Goals and derive social, environmental and economic benefits.



**United
Nations**

Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence
Statistics Division – Department of Social and Economic Affairs



United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence

Our Focus

- International Governance
- Capacity Development



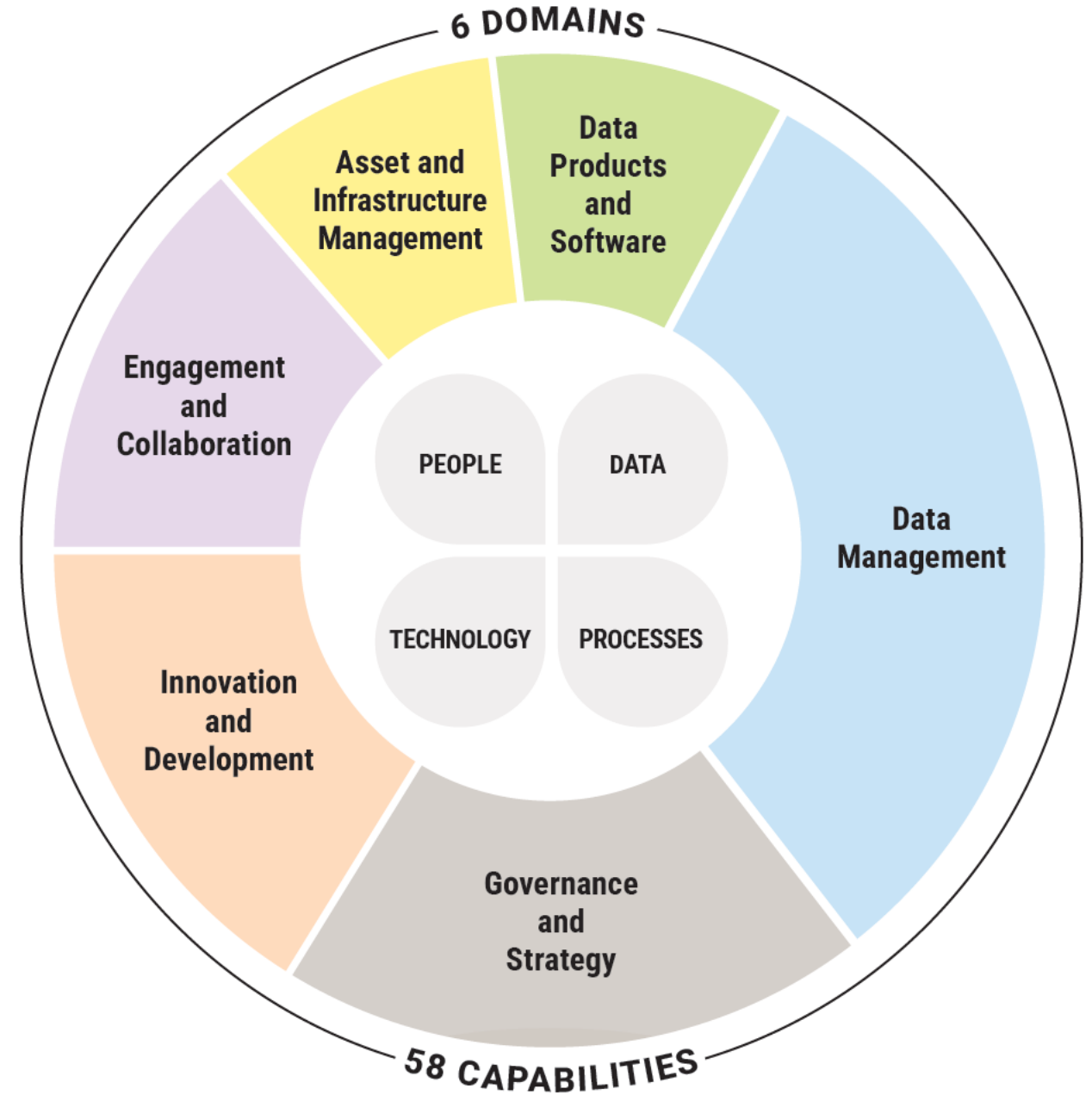
**United
Nations**

Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence
Statistics Division – Department of Social and Economic Affairs



State of Geodesy 2026

A baseline maturity
assessment

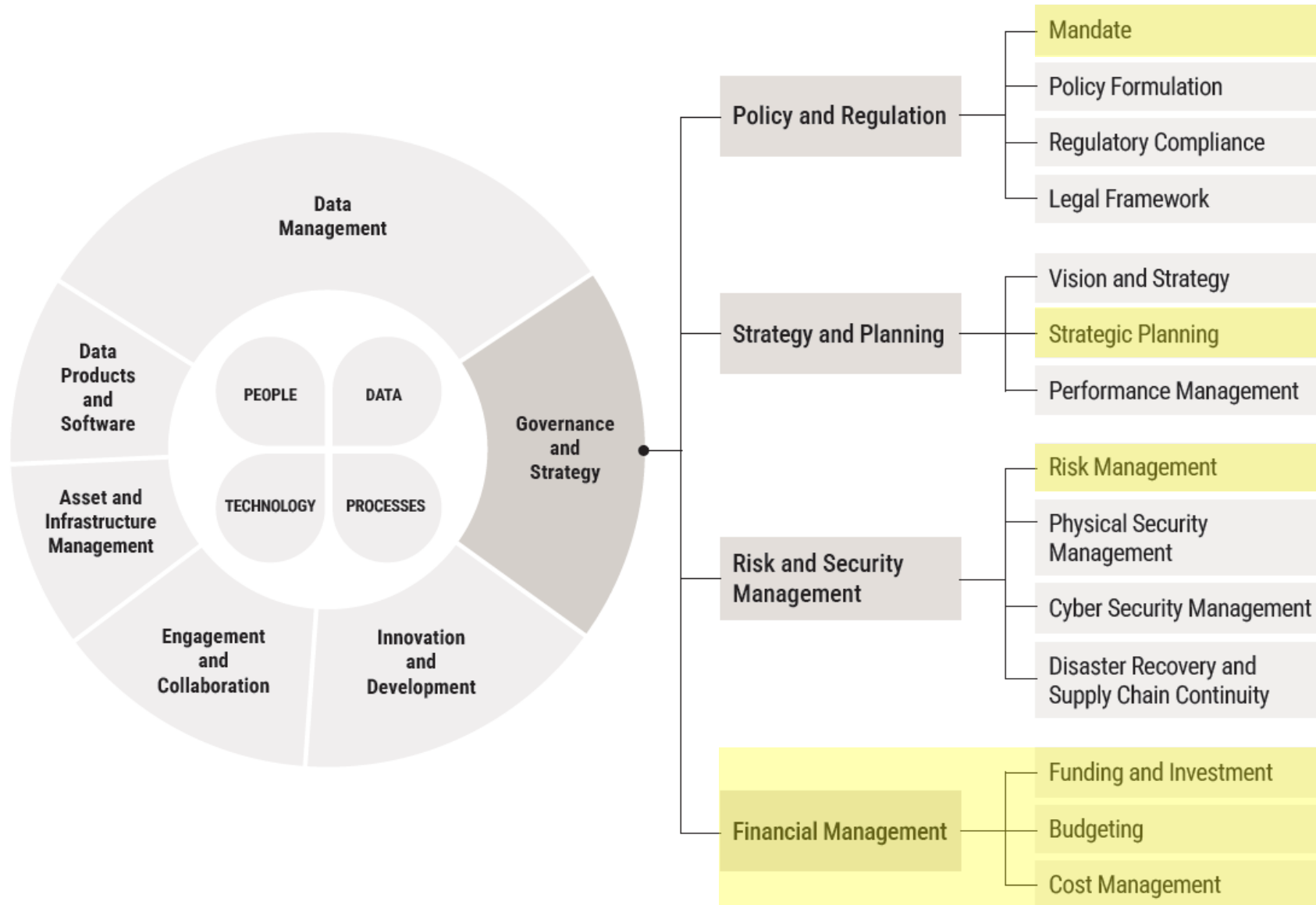


State of Geodesy 2026

Domain	Average Score
Data Management	2.7
Data Products and Software	2.3
Asset and Infrastructure Management	2.3
Engagement and Collaboration	2.2
Innovation and Development	2.1
Governance and Strategy	1.8

Multiple Level 1 capabilities in mandate, policy, strategic planning, and all financial management functions.

State of Geodesy 2026



Mandate development (1.0):

Despite over ten years since the UN General Assembly Resolution 69/266, no international organisation has formal authority to develop, implement, or enforce policies for the GGSC.

Strategic planning (1.0):

Plans exist but lack governmental authority for implementation.

Risk management (1.0):

No systematic risk assessment or mitigation at supply chain level.

Financial management (1.0):

No coordinated mechanisms for assessing needs, developing investment strategies, or allocating resources across the supply chain.

Governance as cross-cutting constraint

What is needed to address this:

1. **Shared vision** among governments, satellite operators, space agencies, the scientific community, and the private sector about what constitutes a robust global geodesy supply chain.
2. **Agreement on roles and responsibilities** for maintaining infrastructure, sharing data, and supporting developing countries.
3. **Mechanisms to implement, coordinate, and oversee commitments**, resulting in coordinated decision-making and consistent investment.
4. **Sustainable funding model** to avoid critical infrastructure being dependent on research budgets that fluctuate with political cycles and compete with other priorities.



**United
Nations**

Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence

Statistics Division – Department of Social and Economic Affairs

Mandate

The mandate for International Geodesy Consultation comes from the following two decisions in the Sixteenth Session of the UN-GGIM Committee of Experts where the Committee:

- **agreed to further scope and advance structured and inclusive consultations on options for international governance for geodesy**, emphasized the importance of ensuring diverse views from Member States, the inclusion of the scientific community, in particular the International Association of Geodesy, and the private sector, and recommended that the consultation **process be conducted by United Nations Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence (UN-GGCE)** [Draft decision 16/106 (c)]
- welcomed the efforts of the UN-GGCE to enhance global recognition of geodesy as essential to satellite operations, telecommunications and climate monitoring, and to strengthen global governance arrangements for geodesy, and encouraged the Centre to remain actively involved in the process to be **led by the Subcommittee on Geodesy**, including by **supporting evidence-based analysis and structured consultations** [Draft decision 16/115 (d)]
- **Decision: SCoG Bureau lead the process**
- **Decision: UN-GGCE manage the process under leadership of SCoG**



**United
Nations**

Global Geodetic Centre of Excellence

Statistics Division – Department of Social and Economic Affairs

1. Define and **design a robust global geodesy supply chain?** (and how much will it cost?)
2. What **international governance options** can support a robust global geodesy supply chain? (and how much will they cost?)



Joint Capacity for Geodesy (C4G) Network

An inclusive community forum expanding on and supporting the work of the UN-GGIM SCoG Capacity and Education Working Group



Joint Capacity for Geodesy (C4G) Network

The Joint Capacity for Geodesy Network (C4G) functions as an inclusive community forum expanding on and supporting the work of the UN-GGIM SCoG Capacity and Education Working Group along with geodesy capacity development stakeholders/partners.

This *informal* body will serve as a forum for networking, strategic coordination, resource optimization, and alignment among geodesy education, training, and capacity development stakeholders.



Geodesy for Managers e-learning programme

Target Audience

Policy staff in ministries responsible for lands, infrastructure, critical infrastructure, environment, oceans, science, defence, disaster risk, finance or national development;

Directors and senior managers of national mapping, geodetic, survey, cadastral and hydrographic organisations; and,

UN-IGIF country focal points and managers responsible for cross-government geospatial coordination.



Geodesy for Managers e-learning programme

A complete e-learning programme for policy staff and managers of technical geodesy teams

Understand geodesy essentials

- Policy staff and managers of technical geodesy teams need enough understanding to govern, fund, commission and defend geodetic work without needing to become geodesists themselves.

Tools for communicating geodesy to others

- Modules are designed to help the participants to translate geodesy into the language of economic development, environmental sustainability, resilience, public administration and public value.

Final Project: a tailored business case for geodesy

- Across six modules, participants build a connected set of working documents that culminates in a business case for funding for geodesy to support a national problem they have chosen themselves.

