

Geography and the Geospatial Ecosystem: Enabling Opportunities for a Digital Generation

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SUMMARY

This presentation will provide context to the role of geography and the geospatial ecosystem in ‘sustainable development’ over the past decade. It will then on one hand, provide insights into some of the systemic challenges and impediments countries continue to face that limit their ability to address the adverse impacts of climate change, inequality, limited resources, vulnerability to external shocks, geographic remoteness, and institutional challenges. On the other hand, the presentation will consider how the wave of technological change and digital disruption is providing us with significant opportunities to make change, especially for developing countries, both real and impactful. Finally, the presentation will demonstrate some of the enabling opportunities that the SDG Data Alliance is applying for developing countries and SIDS, seeking ways in which our ‘location-based’ data value chain can be mobilized and applied in such a way that countries can make better, more informed decisions, and take action that has impact.

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FIG Working Week 2025
Collaboration, Innovation and Resilience: Championing a Digital Generation
Brisbane, Australia, 6–10 April 2025