First Expert Group Meeting
Mexico City
12 – 14 December 2016

A formal inter-governmental UN Committee of Experts to:
• Discuss, enhance and coordinate Global Geospatial Information Management activities by involving Member States at the highest level;
• Work with Governments to make joint decisions and set directions on the use of geospatial information within national and global policy frameworks;
• Address global issues and contribute collective knowledge as a community with shared interests and concerns;
• Develop effective strategies to raise geospatial awareness and usefulness; to develop capacity particularly in developing countries;
• To make timely, reliable and authoritative geospatial information consistently and readily available to support national, regional and global development.
The peak inter-governmental mechanism provides a forum for Member States to make joint decisions, set directions and strengthen geospatial information management capacities for better national and global policy making and decisions.

Regional architecture

UN-GGIM Bureau:
Co-Chairs: USA, China and Mexico; Rapporteur: Burkina Faso

UN-GGIM Regional Committees & Chairs:
- Asia-Pacific: Japan
- Americas: Mexico
- Europe: Sweden
- Africa: Ethiopia
- Arab States: Saudi Arabia

UN-GGIM International Networks:
- JBGIS, Academic Network, Private Sector Network

United Nations Economic and Social Council
Resolution 2016/27 “Strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management” (27 July 2016)

“This resolution acknowledges the considerable achievements and progress made over the past 5 years in the coordination and coherence of geospatial information management. It not only streamlines the work of the subsidiary bodies of the Council in the field of geospatial information management, but it also strengthens and broadens the mandate of this Committee as the relevant body to report to the Council on all matters relating to geography, geospatial information and related topics. In short, this resolution recognizes the increasing role and relevance of the Committee.”

Wu Hongbo
Under-Secretary-General for United Nations Economic and Social Affairs
Sixth Session of the Committee of Experts, 3 – 5 August 2016
Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges

Terms of Reference:

The primary objective of the Working Group on Geospatial Information is to ensure from a statistical and geographic location perspective that the key principle of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind is reflected in the Global indicator framework.

Tasks will include to consider how geospatial information can contribute to the indicators and metadata:

a) as a direct indicator in itself;
b) to support and augment statistical data;
c) to improve the production process of statistical data;
d) to validate national statistical data inputs;
e) to communicate and visualize the geographic dimensions and context of the indicators where appropriate; and
f) to provide granularity and disaggregation of the indicators where appropriate.

TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD:
THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
General Assembly Resolution A/RES/70/1

Para. 76; Follow up and Review

We will promote transparent and accountable scaling-up of appropriate public-private cooperation to exploit the contribution to be made by a wide range of data, including earth observation and geospatial information, while ensuring national ownership in supporting and tracking progress.

The follow-up and review processes at all levels will be guided by a series of principles, one of which is that –

“They will be rigorous and based on evidence, informed by country-led evaluations and data which is high-quality, accessible, timely, reliable and disaggregated, including by geographic locations, relevant in national contexts”.

(Para 74.g).
Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges

Membership of the Working Group

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<th>Co-Chair:</th>
<th>Sweden</th>
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<th>Mexico</th>
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<td>Members:</td>
<td>Botswana</td>
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<td>Denmark</td>
<td>GWG-Big Data (tba)</td>
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<td>UN-GGIM EG-ISGI (United Kingdom)</td>
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Currently: 17 National Representatives (from 16 Member States); and 5 Representatives from 4 multilateral organizations

Terms of Reference:

The Working Group will
(i) identify its main milestones;
(ii) conduct its activities until completion of its tasks; and
(iii) provide a time frame for their completion.

(Regular review of the work of the group will be undertaken by the IAEG-SDGs and the HLG).

The Working Group will decide on its detailed work plan and organization of work, its communication and coordination with other groups and countries.
Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges

2016/2017 Work Plan: Immediate Activities:

The Terms of Reference called for an initial analysis of geospatial inputs and metadata needs for the indicators to be developed and presented to the IAEG-SDGs for consideration in the near horizon. For this 2016/2017 period, the work plan will thus focus on a series of activities as follows –

a) Review the agreed global indicators through a ‘geographic location’ lens;
b) Review the metadata compiled for the global indicators through a ‘geographic location’ lens;
c) Consider and review the tier classifications for the agreed global indicator, their level of “maturity” and appropriateness from a ‘geographic location’ lens;
d) Identify existing geospatial data gaps, geospatial methodological and measurement issues;
e) Consider how geospatial information can contribute to the indicators and metadata;

2016/2017 Work Plan: Initial analysis with geographic lens

Through this kind of analysis, systematically
a) Reviewed indicator by indicator through a ‘geographic location’ lens;
b) Reviewed each set of metadata compiled for the indicators through a ‘geographic location’ lens;
c) Considered the tier classifications for the indicators;
d) Identified existing geospatial data issues and opportunities.

Could conclude for indicator 2.4.1
a) Geospatial information is needed to support and augment statistical and administrative data to inform and monitor progress;
b) Could improve the production process of statistical data;
c) Will provide granularity and support disaggregation according to geographic areas as required.
IAEG-SDGs 
Inter-agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators

Working Group on Geospatial Information

Overview of progress to date

United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

ggim.un.org

Thank You

Global Geospatial Information Management
United Nations Statistics Division
Department of Economic and Social Affairs