

# Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information

## Report from the 49TH Statistical Commission



**UN-GGIM**  
UNITED NATIONS  
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT



# International Mandate



UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

UN Statistical Commission (UNSC)

- Endorsed the Global Framework - March 2017

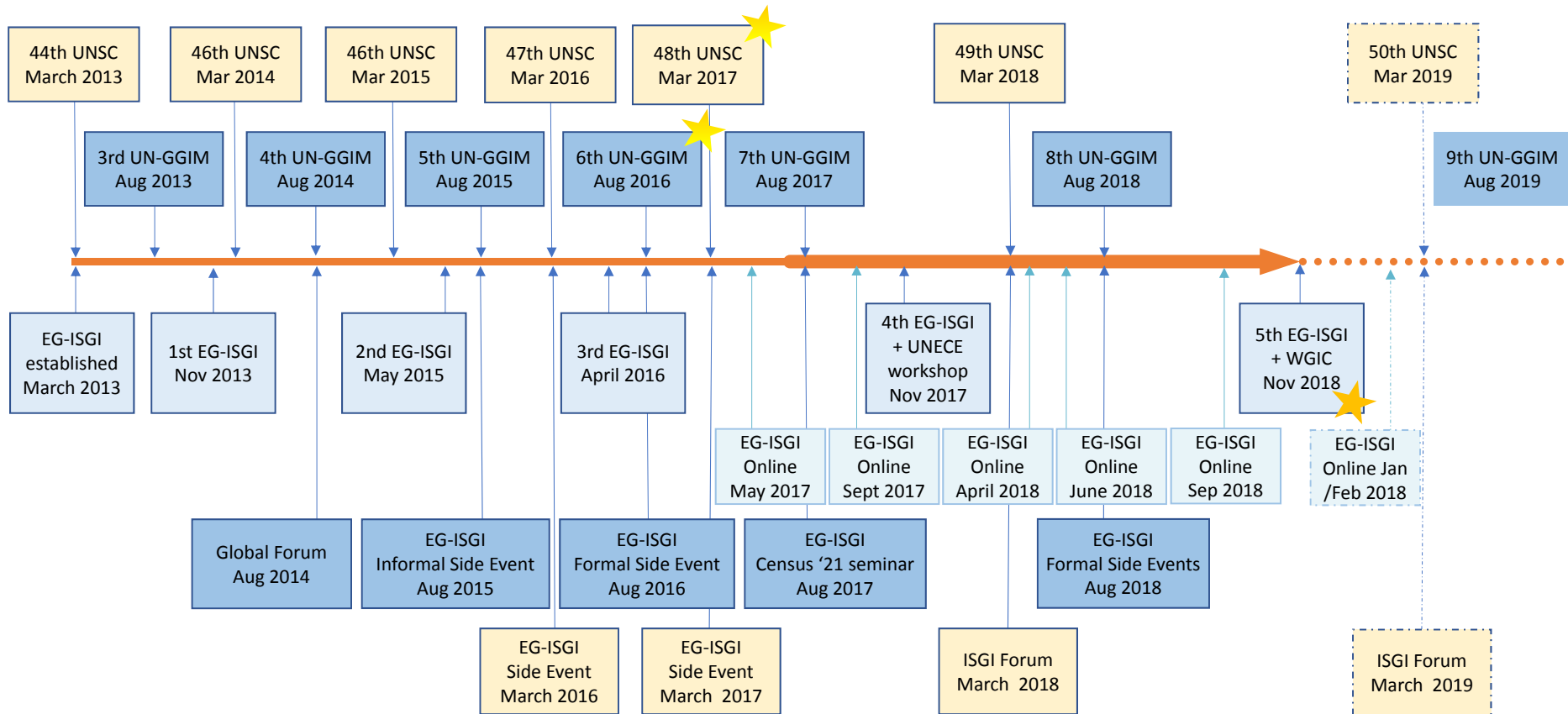
UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM)

- Adopted the Global Framework - August 2016

UN Expert Group – Integration of Statistical Geospatial Information

.... both communities

# EG-ISGI: Timeline



## Side Events at the 49TH Statcom



- **The Data Revolution in Action: Building a Federated System of SDG Data Hubs and Collaborative Platforms for Innovation**
- **Statistical-Geospatial Integration Forum “Integrating Statistical, Geospatial, and other Big Data to Leave No-One Behind”.**

## Report to the 49TH Statcom



### Meetings Reported:

- **Seventh Session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, 2-4 August 2017, UNHQ**
- **Fourth meeting of the EG-ISGI, 9-10 November 2017, Stockholm, Sweden**
- **Workshop on Integrating Geospatial and Statistical Standards, 6 and 8 November 2017, Stockholm, Sweden**

## Report to the 49TH Statcom



- Conveyed the simple message “that all statistical unit record data should be collected or associated with a location reference, and that ideally it should allow for geospatial coordinates with x- and y-values to be produced for each record”
- Provided information on the consolidation and implementation of the Five Principles of the GSGF and on the EG-ISGI assuming the overall coordination role for activities in the area of the integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information by The Committee of Experts on UN-GGIM;
- Provided the Commission with Short- and Long Term proposals, subsequently endorsed at the Eighth Session of UN-GGIM

## Report to the 49TH Statcom



- The Commission:
  - The Commission considered item 4 (m) of its agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 8 and 9 March 2018. It had before it the report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (E/CN.3/2018/33).
  - At its 7th meeting, on 9 March, the Commission took note of the report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (E/CN.3/2018/33) (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 49/121).

## Looking Forward – Short Term, High Impact



- a) Draft a beginner's guide to using standards from both communities;
- b) For both the geospatial and statistical communities, develop communication materials that simply describe the interrelationships between their frameworks, models and standards;
- c) Conduct a pilot to determine options for persistent identifiers to link aggregate statistical outputs to standard geographies;
- d) Seek opportunities to work on semantic interoperability issues, such as an ontology for addresses and buildings;
- e) Improve the discoverability of geospatial tools that are based on standards;
- f) Develop guidance on how to store geospatial reference objects and links in existing statistical databases;
- g) Map the data exchange process between statistical and geospatial organizations;
- h) Examine comparative use cases for the application of traditional geography and emerging grid technologies, in particular for the dissemination of statistics;
- i) Examine pathways and interest within the statistical community to move to formal International Organization for Standardization standards for models and frameworks, in addition to using existing ones, such as those issued by ISO technical committee 154 on processes, data elements and documents in commerce, industry and administration;



## Looking Forward – Longer Term Proposals



- (j) In the reviews of the generic statistical business process model and the generic statistical information model, consider how geospatial processes and information can be represented;
- (k) Include statistics among the global fundamental geospatial data teams of the Committee of Experts;
- (l) Encourage greater collaboration on activities relating to address and building registers;
- (m) Consider common core metadata for geospatially enabled statistical data;
- (n) Continue to communicate and collaborate on materials to explain the different models, frameworks and standards across the two communities, using practical projects as the basis.