



Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
Statistics

International Workshop and Seminar on  
United Nations Global Geospatial Information  
Management

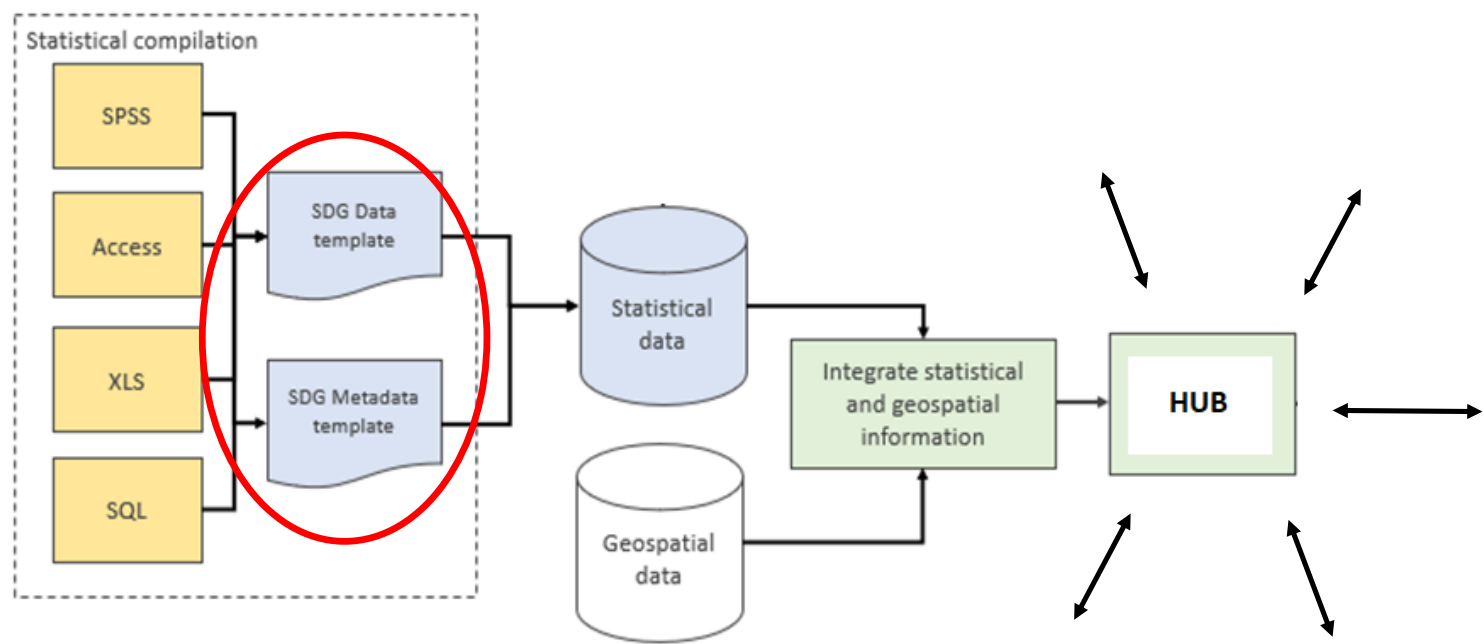
“The Data Ecosystem for Sustainable Development”

### Statistical Data and Metadata Management in the FIS4SDGs platform



Technical learning event on Data Ecosystem for Sustainable Development - Integrative Technologies and Processes  
17 - 19 October 2019, Deqing International Convention Centre  
Deqing, China

# SDG compilation process



## Metadata: a working definition

“Data about the nature and characteristics of digital information resources published on the web...

- structured according to standardized schemas, and ...
- encoded following commonly agreed rules and vocabularies

that enhances their findability, searchability, integrability and usability”

→ Additional information useful for the filtering, search, and integration of published data resources

## Metadata management for web dissemination

- The web is now the most important dissemination tool for official statistics, and metadata is the fabric of the web
- Metadata enhances the value to users by better organizing the vast space of information resources on the web
- The automatic creation of metadata at the moment of publication is key to ensure the findability and usability of data services
- The goal is to better describe web resources so they can be more easily targeted to particular uses and be better integrated

## Data management: some good practices

- Provide homogeneous presentation of resource descriptions
- Provide a self-explanatory item names
- Always include an informative thumbnail image
- Add user-friendly aliases to field names
- Turn-off unimportant fields that can be confusing to data consumers
- Use tags from a controlled vocabulary
- Use categories

## Data license

- Provide a data license under “access and use constraints”
  - It is important for users to know how they can work with the data and who to give credit for it
  - Many providers use links to their existing data policies or use a Creative Commons license

## SDG Metadata management

- Develop and maintain authoritative SDG knowledge organization systems
- Effectively enrich, express and utilize metadata about existing SDG datasets
- Develop tools and applications that consume rich, structured metadata to find, access, interoperate with, and re-use geo-spatially enabled statistical datasets

## Challenges

- The survival and adoption of particular SDG data and metadata standards depends on how easy/costly they are to implement by practitioners
- The value of a specific data collection is increased when users are able to establish and exploit links with other data collections
- References to external knowledge organization systems require mechanisms to keep those references up-to-date
- Data producers need to learn how to link their vocabularies and classifications to those of other communities
- Build on existing data standards (e.g. SDMX) instead of starting from scratch when publishing SDG data as linked data



## Performance considerations

- Maximum record count should be less than 5,000
- It is better to organize data in multiple services (with no more than 20 layers per service)



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**Thank you.**

Questions or inquiries?  
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