



Ninth Session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

The Global Statistical Geospatial Framework

Monday, 5 August 2019

11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Venue: Conference Room 6 (CR-6, GA Building)

United Nations Headquarters, New York

DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE

Purpose

The objective of this side event is to provide an overview of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF), which is being tabled for adoption by the Committee of Experts at this session, and overview of the GSGF journey. The side event will also include a panel discussion to examine lessons learned and advantages gained through the adoption of the Framework's five principles within national and regional contexts.

Background

The 2020 Round of Housing and Population Census and the 2030 Agenda will guide how we collectively manage and transform the social, economic and environmental dimensions of humanity and our planet. The data needs for censuses and to make progress on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, targets, and global indicator framework require new data acquisition and integration approaches to improve the availability, quality, timeliness and disaggregation of data at all levels. These data needs, particularly for national implementations of the SDGs, present both a challenge and an opportunity for national statistical, geospatial, and other information systems.

The statistical and geospatial communities are at the nexus of these agendas, and are a crucial foundation to understanding, sustaining, and developing a nation's economy, society and environment. The interrelations between these three pillars are critical to sustainability and can only be uncovered and advanced through data driven, evidence based, decision making in both the public and private sectors. The increasing complexity of national and global challenges, digital transformation, and other issues have been recognised at the highest levels, and that the integration of statistical and geospatial will improve the relevance of the evidence on which decisions will be made - **Put simply, accurately locating information on people and businesses, can result in a fuller understanding of social, economic and environmental issues, than is possible by viewing statistical or geospatial information in isolation.**

“This is an open side event and all Session Attendees are invited”



As such, the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF) provides: (i) a common approach to integrating socio-economic and environmental information, (ii) five principles to guide and inform the spatial enablement of statistical data, and (iii) acts as a bridge between the statistical and geospatial communities to integrate statistical and geospatial standards, methods, workflows, and tools. It will enable more integrated information for analysis and decision-making processes; comparisons within and between countries in a more harmonised manner; increased information on smaller geographic areas; the development of common tools/applications to support the integration and sharing of data; commercial development of geospatial tools that will further support data integration; and, ultimately, more efficient production of information.

The GSGF has been developed and elaborated through a process of collaborative engagement by the United Nations Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information with experts from Member and Observer States and regional entities. Following the drafting of the GSGF, a global consultation was initiated in May 2019. The outcome of the global consultation was overwhelmingly positive, with 76 responses from 67 Member and Observer States, and three responses from regional entities. In many cases joint submissions were received from both National Geospatial Information Authorities and the National Statistical Offices. 31 responses were received from developed countries and 42 responses received from developing countries. These responses ranged from full support to detailed comments, recommendations, and adjustments. Amendments made to the GSGF were mostly cosmetic in nature, with broad agreement on the technical substance and refinements made by the Expert Group. Moreover, the feedback noted the urgent need to implement the GSGF and for implementation materials to support this effort.

Now, the GSGF is tabled for adoption by the Committee of Experts at this ninth session.

Proposed Agenda

11:30 – 11:50	<p>Introduction</p> <p>This segment will introduce the GSGF, setting the scene, providing the journey from the endorsement of the GSGF’s five guiding principles at the 48th session of the Statistical Commission and UN-GGIM at its sixth session in 2016, through to the present day where the GSGF is tabled for adoption at this ninth session.</p> <p>Co-Chairs:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>Overview of the GSGF</i> Mr. Martin Brady <i>Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australia and Co-Chair, Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>The GSGF Story to now and into the Future (including consultation and the proposed adoption of the GSGF)</i> Ms. Paloma Merodio <i>INEGI, Mexico and Co-Chair, Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information</i></p>
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11:50 – 1:00

Panel on National and Regional Perspectives in Statistical Geospatial Integration

This panel segment will discuss national and regional perspectives of statistical geospatial integration using the GSGF. Discussants will provide brief comments on their current experience implementing or support the implementation of the GSGF to prime discussion in a question and answer format with national delegates and observers. Regional implementation initiatives of the GSGF will be represented through: the MEGA project in Latin America and the Caribbean, GEOSTAT3 in Europe that complements the overarching aims and objectives of the GSGF, and how the GSGF is being applied in Africa. National discussants who are implementing the GSGF will include: Australia, Egypt, and Mexico.

Moderator: Ms. Deirdre Bishop
Chief, Geography Division, US Census Bureau, United States of America

Panellists: ***Australia and the GSGF***

Mr. Martin Brady
Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australia and Co-Chair, Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information

Implementing the GSGF in Egypt

Ms. Nahla Sadek
CAMPAS, Egypt

Mexico and the GSGF

Ms. Paloma Merodio
INEGI, Mexico and Co-Chair, Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information

Europe and GEOSTAT3

Ms. Rina Tammisto
Statistics Finland

The GSGF in Latin America and the Caribbean

Mr. Alvaro Monett
United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Followed by moderated discussion

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