



The Sixth Session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

SIDE EVENT **Geospatial Information and the Sustainable Development Goals**

Tuesday, August 2, 2016
2:00 pm - 3:45 pm
Venue: Conference Room 12 (CR 12), GA Building
United Nations, New York

BACKGROUND

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will guide how we collectively manage and transform the social, economic and environmental dimensions of humanity and our planet over the next 15 years. Anchored by 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 169 targets and a global indicator framework, the 2030 Agenda specifically demands the need for new data acquisition and integration approaches to improve the availability, quality, timeliness and disaggregation of data to support implementation at all levels – to exploit the contribution to be made by a wide range of data, including Earth observations and geospatial information.

We note in Goal 17, in the area of data, monitoring and accountability, there is an imperative need to *“By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.”*

It is clear that data, as the basis for evidence-based decision-making, monitoring and accountability, will be critical to the success of the 2030 Agenda and the global indicator framework will be the primary conduit to guide and inform Member States, based on individual national circumstances, on how they measure, monitor and account on the SDGs and related targets in the coming years.

Earth observations and geospatial information are able to provide and support new and consistent data sources and methodologies to integrate multiple ‘geographic location’ variables to contribute and inform official statistics and the global indicator framework for SDG. The use of integrated data sources, including geospatial information, allow for better decision-making in finding solutions to address many of the challenges such as hunger, poverty, disease, urban development, deforestation, land management, transportation, environment degradation, disaster risk management, to name some. Existing and new data sources and methodologies

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are able to improve the spatial and temporal aspects of data, fill data gaps and enhance consistency, bringing together information from various sources and scales.

OBJECTIVES

This side event will consider activities and updates of the UN-GGIM Task Team on the 2030 Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, the IAEG-SDGs and its newly established Working Group on Geospatial Information. The side event will also discuss development and progress in utilising Earth observations, geospatial information and other new data sources that are able to reliably and consistently contribute to the global indicator framework on how these integrated information can measure, monitor and account on the SDGs and related targets that's relevant within national, regional and global contexts in the coming years.

Moderator: Mr. Bengt Kjellson, Chair, UN-GGIM: Europe, Sweden

PROPOSED AGENDA

- 1) Welcome, Introduction and Overview (10min)
Mr. Bengt Kjellson, Chair UN-GGIM: Europe, Sweden
Mr. Stefan Schweinfest, Director, United Nations Statistics Division
- 2) Presentations: (60min)
 - UN-GGIM Task Team on the 2030 Sustainable Development Goal Indicators*
Mr. Morten Moller, Denmark
 - GI-18: The GEO approach to Sustainable Development Goal Indicators*
Ms. Barbara Ryan, GEO
 - Joining Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, Geospatial Information and Statistics*
Mr. Tim Trainor, United States of America
 - Data, Imageries and Information for Sustainable Development Goal Indicators*
Mr. Kumar Navulur, DigitalGlobe & Ms. Megha Datta, Geospatial Media
 - Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals and its Working Group on Geospatial Information*
Mr, Rolando Ocampo Alcantar, Mexico
- 3) Open Discussion: (30min)
Moderated and interactive discussion with participants and presenters
- 4) Closing Remark: (5min)
Mr. Bengt Kjellson, Chair UN-GGIM: Europe, Sweden

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