UN-GGIM: Europe Work Group A
Core / fundamental data

Peter ter Haar, United Kingdom
on behalf of
François Chirié, France

In today's presentation …

- Background and purpose
- Approach to the task
- Progress to date
- Issues identified
- Proposed actions
- Projections

Background and purpose

- Decision 4/104 of the Committee of Experts agreed action to establish fundamental geospatial data themes
- UN-GGIM: Europe Work Group A aims to propose core geospatial data for Europe
- Core data is the minimum set of authoritative data … needed to meet common requirements for applications at cross-border, European and global levels

Approach to the task

- Assess data needed to support UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in three groups:
  - Technological and natural hazard prediction
  - Availability of natural resources & maintenance of biodiversity
  - Sustainable economy and facilities

- Review relevance of INSPIRE themes and specifications
  - Use INSPIRE use cases to justify user requirements
  - Select core data themes, feature types and attributes within INSPIRE data specifications
  - Define quality criteria beyond current INSPIRE specifications in order to foster data homogeneity

- Take into account existing national interpretations of core/fundamental data

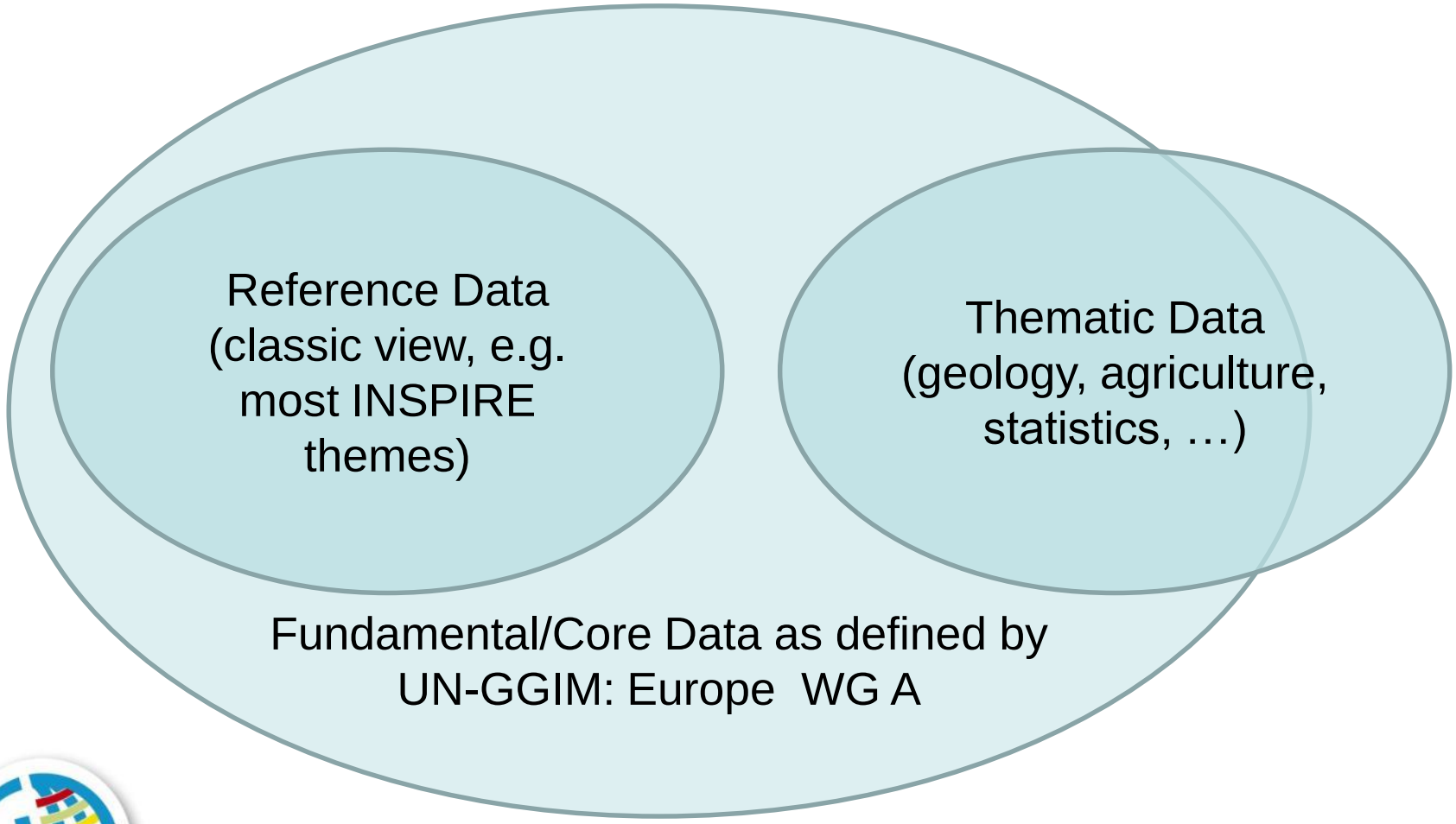
Progress to date

- Assessed data needed for monitoring SDG targets
- Developed first draft descriptions of core data requirements
- Identified key issues
- Produced report for Executive Committee of UN-GGIM:Europe

Issues identified

- How broadly to interpret core/fundamental data?
- How far does the concept extend beyond reference data to include selected thematic data?
- Inclusiveness – how to incorporate statistical data needs?
- Spatial and temporal resolution of data

How far does the concept extend beyond reference data to include selected thematic data?



How to incorporate statistical data needs?

- Limited representation of national statistical institutes in work group
- Integration must go beyond combining final information products (plotting stats on maps)
- Ideally geocoding of statistical data should take place at record level at the moment of collection

Spatial and temporal data resolution

- Spatial resolution: three levels defined:
  - International and strategic level (small scales)
  - National and management level (medium scales)
  - Local and action level (large scales)

- Temporal resolution
  - Some relevant data is volatile - e.g. meteorology, tides – but even population varies between night and day at high spatial resolutions
  - Important to understand data maintenance regimes within the scope of core data

Proposed actions

- WG-A Plenary Meeting (October/November)
  - Consolidate the core data list, taking user requirements as the basis for deciding which core data themes to retain or to remove

- Circulate the core data list to other departments and organisations
  - Actions for WG-A members and national UN-GGIM representatives within their respective countries

Plans

- Planned for the next six months:
  - Consolidated core data scope and core data list

- Delayed to 2016:
  - Specifications of core data