

Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information

The Global Journey so far



United Nations
Statistical
Commission



UN-GGIM
UNITED NATIONS INITIATIVE ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

United Nations Global Forum on
**The Integration of Statistical and Geospatial
Information**

4-5 August 2014, UN Headquarters, New York



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Background

Increasing demand for location based information about places, people, human activity, business, economic growth, wellbeing,

Recognition of the value of linking socio-economic information to location.



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The challenge ...

‘The work on global geospatial information management over the past two to three years has confirmed that one of the key challenges is a better integration of geospatial and statistical information as a basis for sound and evidence-based decision-making.’

Secretary General of the
UN Economic and Social Council, 2012.



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UNSC Programme Review - Main findings

- Significant growth in the **demand** for geo-statistical information – all sectors.
- Geospatial **capabilities in NSOs highly variable** as are the Institutional arrangements between NSOs and geospatial agencies.
- General **agreement on the benefits** of linking socio-economic information to a precise location, and implementation in many countries.
- **Geographic boundaries** used to release statistics are mostly administrative, with some functional geographies and grid-based systems.
- Recognised **need for standards and frameworks** for the creation and release of geo-statistical information.



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... a new partnership

UN Economic and Social Council
(ECOSOC)

UN Statistical Commission
(UNSC)

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

UN Expert Group
Statistical-Geospatial Integration

UN Expert Group
Meeting 30 October- 1
November, 2013, New York.

International workshop on
Integrating Geospatial and
Statistical Information. 9-12 June
2014, Beijing, China

UN Global Forum
Statistical-Geospatial
Integration



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UN Expert Group Meeting

30 Oct. - 1 Nov. 2013, New York.



Countries

- Statistical and Geospatial Experts
- Statistical Experts
- Geospatial Experts

Sources: ESRI, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, and the GIS User Community
Projection: Robinson

UN Expert Group Meeting Objectives

- **Promote dialogue and coordination** among representatives of both statistical and geospatial communities with a view to developing a global framework.
- **Propose work plans and guidelines** to advance the implementation of a global framework.
- **Address technical, institutional and information policy issues** of a global framework.
- **Pursue the implementation** of the framework in the 2020 Round of Censuses, and other censuses and other global data initiatives.



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UN Expert Group Meeting

Work Program

- Further develop the proposal for an International Conference (**Global Forum**).
- Report on
 - ✓ international geographical classifications and practices, and **geocoding practices**
 - ✓ advantages and disadvantages of **grid-based and population/administrative geography**.
- Reach out to the **metadata standards groups** in both the statistical and geospatial communities.
- Discuss within the UN how the Expert Group can engage with the **2020 Census Round** developments.
- Begin work on common **terminology**.



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International Workshop on Integrating Geospatial and Statistical Information

9-12 June 2014, Beijing, China



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International Workshop

- Session 1 - **Integrating statistical and geospatial information** using geography Country Experiences (Bangladesh, Oman, Seychelles, Turkey, China, Fiji, United Arab Emirates, Mongolia, Ghana)
- Session 2 - Approaches to determine and represent **geographical units, including geocoding, for statistics** (Australia, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Philippines, Nigeria, Sri Lanka)
- Session 3 - **Grid-based and administrative approaches** to the collection, compilation and dissemination of statistics (France, Mexico, Indonesia, USA, China, Kenya)



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International Workshop

- Session 4 - Statistical **analysis of geospatial information**, and relevance of SDIs and international standards (Brazil , ESRI, Singapore, Nepal, Egypt, Australia)
- Session 5 - **Positioning for the future**: Trends in technology, big data, 2020 round of Population censuses, and the Post-2015 Development Agenda (USA, Sweden, China, Australia, India)



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International Workshop conclusions:

We are on a journey

- This is the start of an important journey to unite our professions and our business.

Users want information
not data

- Users want information/knowledge. We need to transform data into information. Collection, processing, analysis and operations are a means to an end - not the end in themselves

Collaboration

- Collaboration is essential Statistics and Maps are parts of an overall information management framework They don't exist in isolation

Cooperation

- Cooperation is essential. Between communities, Between countries. Regionally. Internationally. For capability building. To lower costs. To turn data into information.

Coordination

- Coordination between the statistical and geographic offices within a country is an important step.

Commitment

- Institutional integration provides the political will within a country to support statistical and geospatial

(C) Harmonization

- **All of this takes commitment**

Population Census is an
enabler and opportunity

- Population Censuses are KEY enablers for demonstrating statistical and geospatial integration - but its more than just input. Its all parts of the production chain: input – throughput – output, statistical cycle, and should be reusable for other collections and data sources. Build in a sustainable and repeatable way.



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