



Fourth Meeting of the United Nations Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (EG-ISGI)

**9-10 November 2017
Statistics Sweden, Stockholm, Sweden**

Announcement

Invitation

The Co-chairs of the United Nations Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (EG-ISGI) are pleased to inform all Expert Group members and other relevant stakeholders that the **Fourth Meeting of the EG-ISGI will take place in Stockholm, Sweden from 9-10 November 2017 and kindly hosted by Statistics Sweden**. The EG-ISGI meeting will immediately follow the joint UNECE/UN-GGIM: Europe Workshop on Integration of Geospatial and Statistical Standards to be held from 6-8 November 2017, also hosted by Statistics Sweden.

Please mark your calendars accordingly and confirm your participation with Ms. Vilma Frani (Tel: 1-917-367-2903; Fax: 1-212-963-9851; Email: frani@un.org) and Ms. Yuka Matsudaira (Tel: 1-212-963-5267; Fax: 1-212-963-9851; Email: matsudaira@un.org) in the UN-GGIM Secretariat.

We look forward to working with you and seeing you in Stockholm.

Martin Brady and Rolando Ocampo
Co-chairs of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information

Objective

The objective of the Fourth EG-ISGI is to create an opportunity to review and consider the recent (2016 and 2017) decisions of UN-GGIM and the UN Statistical Commission relating to the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF), the 2020 round of Population Censuses, and the activities of the Expert Group going forward.

Background and Context

At its sixth session in August 2016, UN-GGIM adopted decision 6/107, in which it agreed to the amended terms of reference of the Expert Group with regard to its composition and terms of office, and adopted the five guiding principles of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework. It also reiterated that the 2030



Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 2020 Round of Population Censuses are important drivers for the integration of geospatial and statistical information in support of evidence-based decision-making across many sectors.

The Expert Group brought the five guiding principles of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework before the 48th session of the UN Statistical Commission for endorsement. In making decision 48/108, the Statistical Commission expressed its gratitude to the Expert Group for the significant progress achieved in the work on the integration of statistical and geospatial information, and for the subsequent formulation of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework. In endorsing the five guiding principles of the Framework the Commission had a view to the full framework being developed as an international standard at an appropriate time.

The Commission also recognized the importance of the continuing work of the Expert Group and its focus on the consolidation and implementation of the Framework, including in the preparation of country level examples. Recognizing the increasing role of statistical and geospatial integration, particularly with regard to the SDGs and the 2020 Round of Population Censuses, the Statistical Commission agreed that the mandate of the Expert Group be strengthened for it to become the overall coordination group for all activities in the area of the integration of statistical and geospatial information. In this respect, the Commission emphasized the need for the regional statistical bodies to develop and strengthen partnerships with the regional bodies of UN-GGIM, given their growing importance in the context of integration of data from surveys, administrative sources and geospatial information for the SDGs, and also emphasized the need to streamline statistical production processes.

At its seventh session in August 2017, UN-GGIM adopted decision 7/107, endorsing the Statistical Commission's emphasis on strengthening the mandate of the Expert Group to become the overall coordination group for all activities in the area of the integration of statistical and geospatial information, and for regional statistical bodies to develop and strengthen partnerships with the regional committees. UN-GGIM encouraged the continued refinement and implementation of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework and supported the proposal that the Expert Group should actively contribute to the work of the 2020 Population and Housing Census to promote the integration of statistical and geospatial information and the implementation of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework.

Draft Agenda

We are considering the following draft agenda:

1. Review of UN-GGIM and UN Statistical Commission activities relating to the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF) and the Expert Group.
2. Overview of Expert Group plans to promote awareness, capacity building and implementation of the GSGF.
3. Progress reports from GSGF principle working groups.
4. Review outcomes from the Workshop on Integrating Geospatial and Statistical Standards.
5. Consideration of plans to manage and prioritise a new coordination role for the Expert Group.
6. Reports from Expert Group members in other key UN and International Groups.
7. Prioritisation of other Expert Group work program items.

A detailed agenda will be finalised and provided closer to the date of the meeting.

