

# Recent developments

- Ms. Marie Haldorson, Statistics Sweden has stepped aside as co-Chair of the Working Group on Geospatial Information and has been replaced by Mr. Kevin McCormack, from Central Statistics Office, Ireland.
- The co-Chairs, Working Group, and Secretariat offered thanks to Marie for her leadership and conveyed their well wishes in her new role and responsibilities within Statistics Sweden.
- The Terms of Reference (ToR) has been updated by the IAEG-SDGs (25 July 2019) and is intended to bring about better coordination and working relationship between the IAEG-SDGs, the Working Group and custodian agencies with regards to the production of indicators.
- The ToR provides the objectives, governance, tasks, membership of the Working Group

# ToR - Specific objectives

- Provide expertise and advice to the IAEG-SDGs, custodian agencies and the larger statistical community as to how geospatial data, Earth observations and other new data sources can reliably and consistently contribute to the production and dissemination of the indicators.
- Review options and provide guidance to the IAEG-SDGs, as to the role of national statistical offices (NSOs) in considering geospatial data and Earth observations, as a mean to contribute to and validate datasets as part of official statistics for SDG indicators.

# ToR - Tasks

## **Identify and share:**

- common standards required for the use of geospatial data as a source in the production of official statistics.
- national and regional level experiences, guidelines and best practices in geospatial data production and analysis to measure leaving no one behind.
- frameworks and tools for linking statistical and geospatial data for further contributing to the effort of advancing the use of Geospatial Information System (GIS) for the SDGs.
- guidelines and international standards on existing geospatial information platforms to facilitate data exchange and maximize interoperability (open geospatial consortium standards, SDMX information model, etc.).

# ToR – Tasks, ctd.

Showcase how geospatial data can contribute to the indicators and metadata:

- as a direct indicator in itself,
- to support and augment statistical data,
- to improve the production process of statistical data,
- to validate national statistical data inputs,
- to communicate and visualize the geographic dimensions and context of the indicators where appropriate,
- to provide granularity and disaggregation of the indicators where appropriate.

# ToR – close cooperation

- Work in close cooperation with the custodian agencies to propose strategies for undertaking methodological work on specific areas for improving either the calculation of some indicators or disaggregation by geographic location concepts for national and sub-national reporting, including to the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building (HLG) and to the Statistical Commission.
- It is envisioned that the Working Group will build on existing work and ongoing working mechanisms among stakeholders, especially the work of custodian agencies, and will consult widely regarding the status of methodologies and geospatial data collection and input tools as a starting point

# ToR – Review

- Review the agreed indicators and metadata through a ‘geographic location’ lens and identify existing geospatial data gaps, methodological and measurements issues, as well as advise on the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technologies for monitoring the achievement of the SDGs.
- To the initial indicator analysis of geospatial inputs and metadata presented to the IAEG-SDGs for consideration (Shortlist), the WG will consult with the IAEG-SDGs to assess what progress exists and where further work needs to be focused.

# ToR – Governance

- The Working Group on Geospatial Information will work under the auspices of the IAEG-SDGs group and will report regularly to the group.
- The IAEG-SDGs will review the work of the Working Group and may revise these terms of reference based on the work this group has completed and any new items that the IAEG-SDGs would like the group to consider.

# ToR - Membership

- The Working Group will be chaired or co-chaired by a member of the IAEG-SDGs and consist of IAEG members and international organizations, who have considerable experience in this area of work. All custodian agencies will be invited to participate. To ensure broad expertise and effectiveness, experts from the wider geospatial and earth observations communities should be drawn into the group, namely from the UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), the Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics, the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (EG-ISGI), and the Group on Earth Observations (GEO).
- A few countries not presently members of the IAEG-SDGs can be invited to join the group as appropriate, noting that Working Group members should have technical expertise and practical experience in applying geospatial methodologies and tools within a monitoring context. The WG may invite experts, as appropriate, from academic, civil society, and the private sector to contribute their expertise and experiences on geospatial information and related data methods.
- The United Nations Statistics Division will be the secretariat of the Working Group; the secretariat of the IAEG-SDGs will also be involved in the Working Group to ensure communication within the interested parties: IAEG-SDGs, UN-GGIM and Member States.



# ToR – Organisation of Work

- The Working Group will work through electronic exchanges and periodic meetings.
- Where feasible, the annual meetings of the Working Group will be conducted in conjunction with the annual meetings of the IAEG-SDGs. Additionally, to ensure close collaboration, the Working Group will be invited to participate in other IAEG-SDGs meetings, where the Working Group will deliver their regular reports on their progress.
- Other meetings will be convened on the basis of need and with specific tasks to be accomplished.
- The Working Group will benefit from other expert group meetings held by the United Nations Statistics Division in collaboration with partners.
- The group will conduct its work in an open, inclusive and transparent manner.

# ToR – Work Plan

- Based on the objectives and tasks, the Working Group will decide on its detailed work plan and internal organization of work, its communication and coordination with other groups and countries, and its methods of work, also taking advantage of the preparatory efforts and progress made by UN-GGIM, EG-ISGI, GEO, the GWG on Big Data and other various related groups, in the development of geospatial information and Earth observation data inputs into the Global Indicator Framework.
- The work plan will be presented to the IAEG-SDGs for endorsement.
- The Working Group may consider preparing papers, including status reports of their work, to the IAEG-SDGs, to the Statistical Commission and UN-GGIM as appropriate.

# ToR – Expected duration

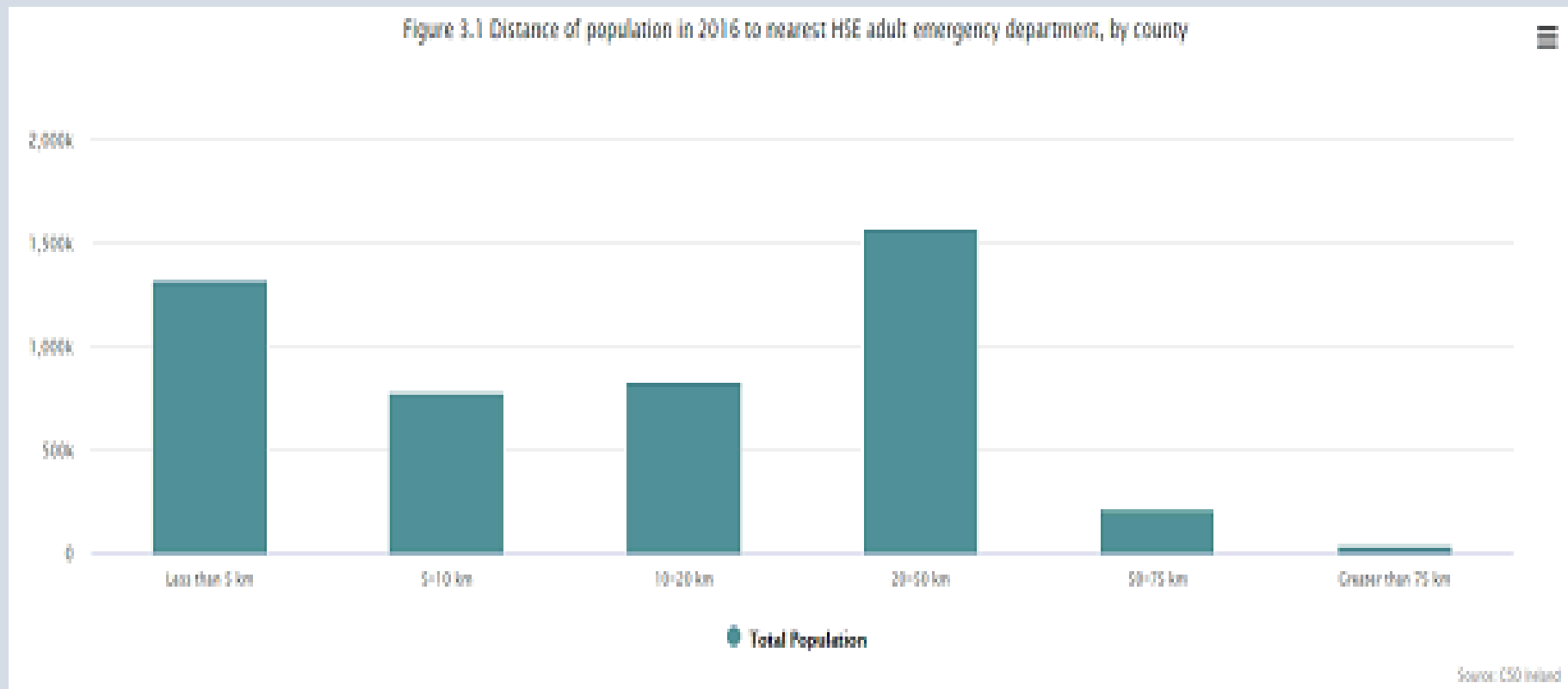
- The Working Group will identify its main milestones and conduct its activities until completion of its tasks, these milestones and deliverables will be communicated to the IAEG-SDGs.
- The Working Group and the IAEG-SDGs will agree on a time frame for their completion.

# Practical Example - Ireland

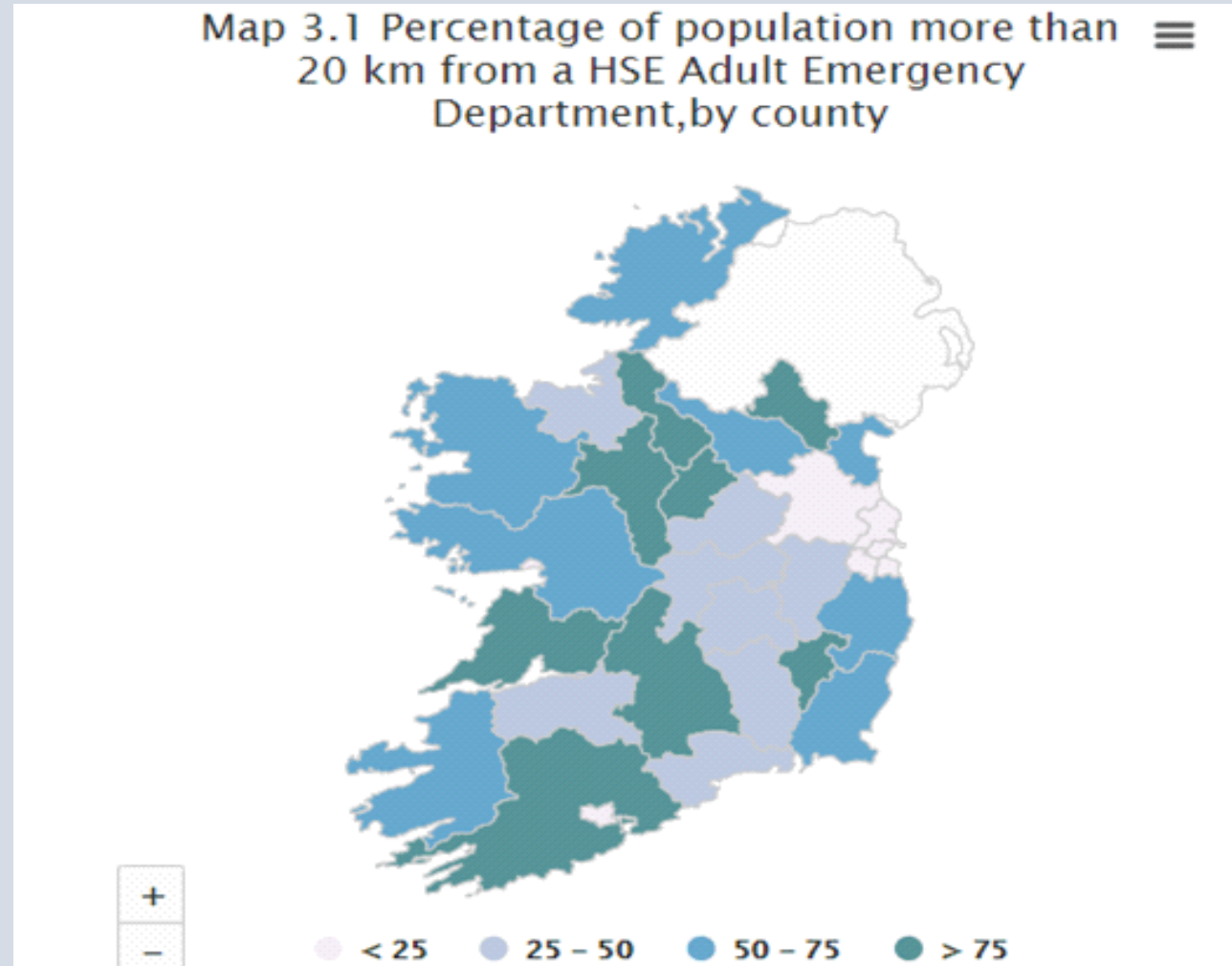
Ireland has just completed a project which combines:

- a CSO geocoded 2016 Census dataset with Ordnance Survey Ireland's (OSi) central database of spatial information, PRIME2,
- to produce a ground breaking geo-statistical dataset which allows us to undertake a proximity analysis, (i.e. nearest distance to services)

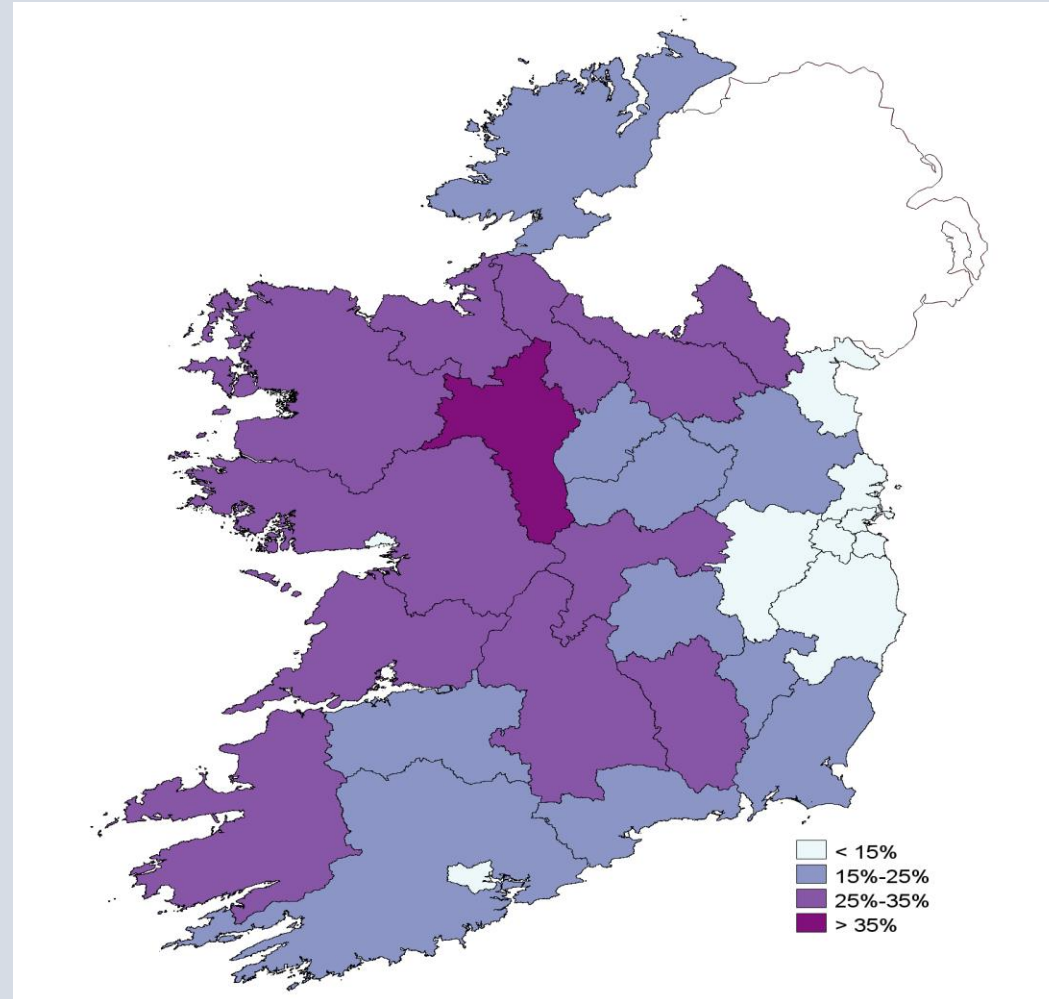
- For example, we transform this, not very interesting, statistical graph on the distance of population to the nearest emergency department,



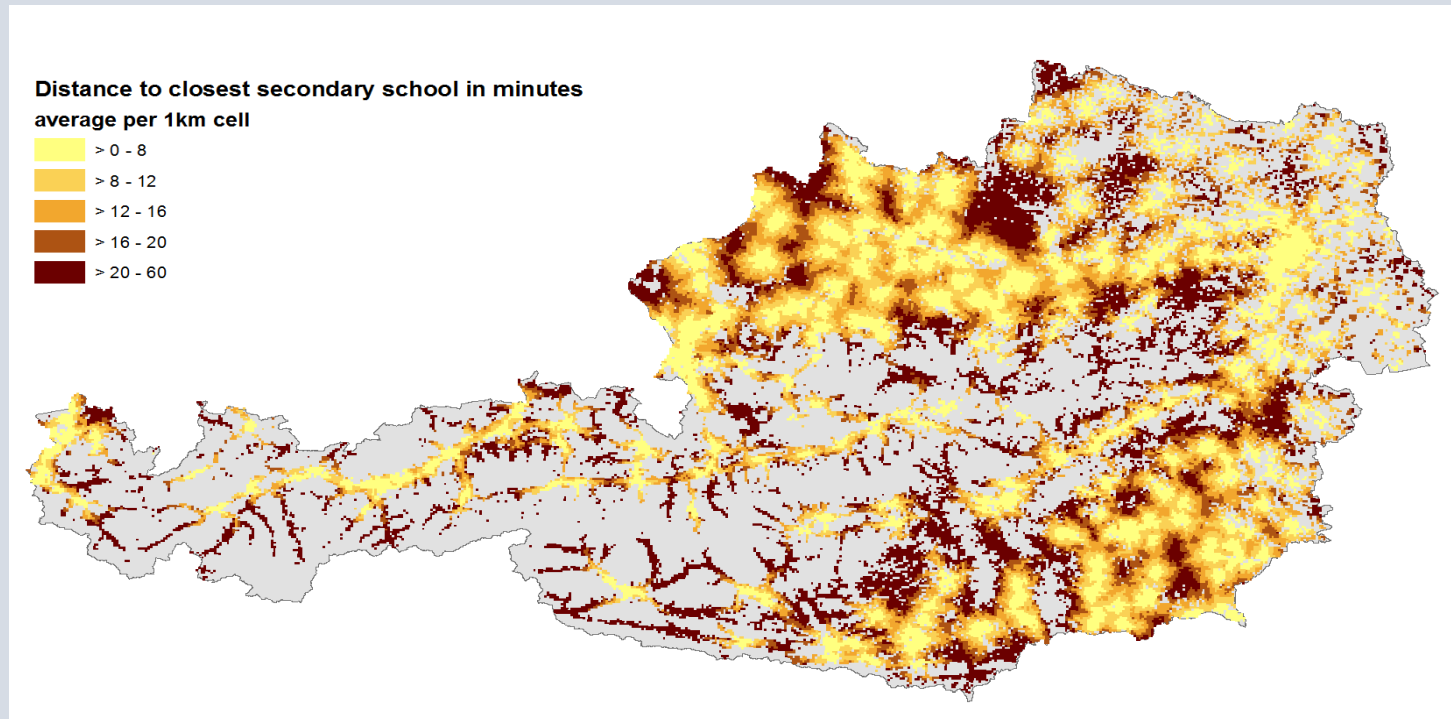
- to this very informative and easily understood map with county as the geography layer.



# Percentage of population more than 5 km from a post office, by county.



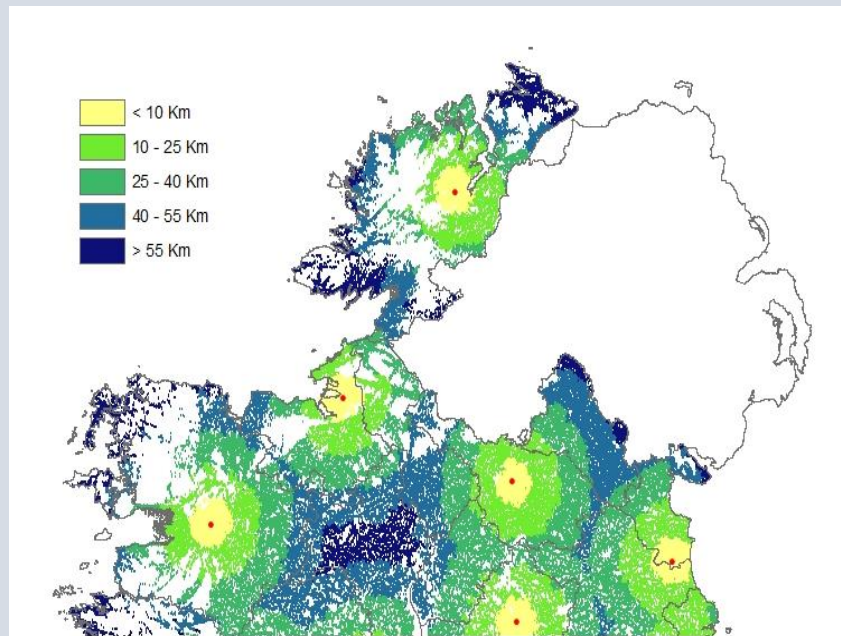
Distance to closest secondary school in minutes Percentage of population more than 5 km from a post office, by county.



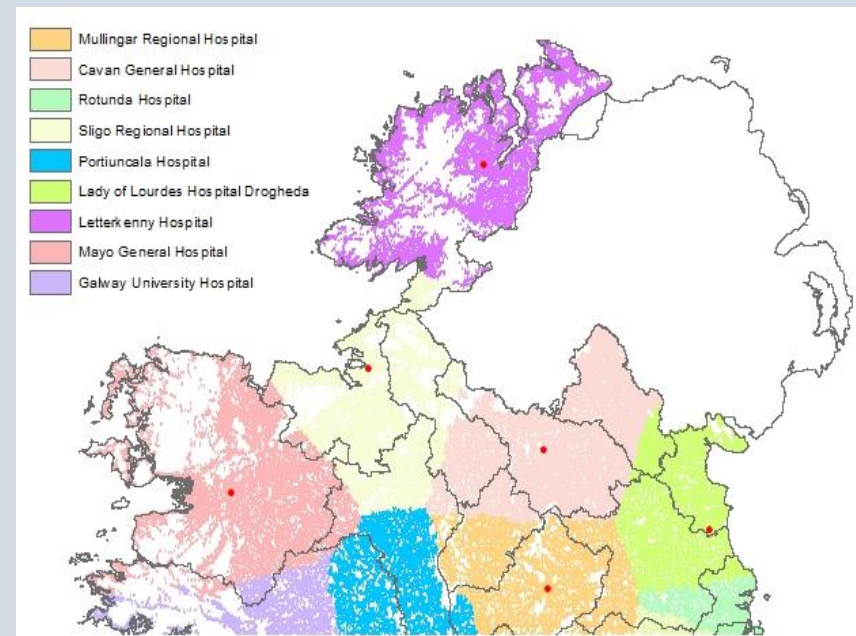


# Maternity Hospitals

Shortest path distance to nearest Maternity Hospital



Catchment Areas of Maternity Hospitals



# IAEG-SDG – Initiatives

- WGGI welcomes the IAEG-SDG commissioning work to be undertaken working group.
- Use of story maps a dissemination channel.