

Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information Seventh Meeting, 1-2 December 2022, ECLAC, Santiago

Session 3 - Strengthening Geo-Statistical Coordination and Coherence

The Mandates of the Expert Group

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United Nations Statistics Division
United Nations, New York



INTEGRATION

- **Organizations**: Leadership, Purpose, Relevance, Impact
- **Data**: Collection, Quality, Accuracy, Sustainability, Impact
- **SDGs**: Frameworks, Implementation, Measuring, Impact
- **Through**: Partnerships, Collaboration, Cooperation, Coordination, Interoperability, Shared Purpose, Benefits, Impact



THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EG-ISGI



The establishment of a “Statistical-Geospatial Expert Group” was requested by the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) at its 44th Session in March 2013 (through its decision 44/101) and endorsed by the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) at its Third Session in July 2013 (through its decision 3/107). This established the United Nations Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (EG-ISGI). Since, the EG-ISGI has reported to both UNSC and UN-GGIM at their annual sessions.

Further, in March 2017 (through its decision 48/108) the UNSC strengthened the mandate of the Expert Group for it to become the overall coordination group for all activities in the area of the integration of statistical and geospatial information.

THE NEED TO STRENGTHEN GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION IDENTIFIED BY GLOBALLY AGREED MANDATES

E/RES/2022/3: Ensuring that the work in the field of statistics and data is adaptive to the changing statistical and data ecosystem

- *“Emphasizes the importance for Member States to build resilient, agile, relevant, responsive and robust statistical and data systems adhering to the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics that fully integrate geospatial information and to seek improved coordination across national statistical and data systems through an expanded role of the national statistical offices in the changing data landscape, where they are increasingly assigned data stewardship responsibilities in the national statistical and data systems”*

E/RES/2022/24: Enhancing global geospatial information management arrangements

- *“Reiterates the importance of strengthening and enhancing the effectiveness of the Committee of Experts, particularly for the achievement of its operations focused on the Sustainable Development Goals and the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework, to strengthen and ensure its continued effectiveness and benefits to all Member States”*

<https://ggim.un.org/Mandates/>



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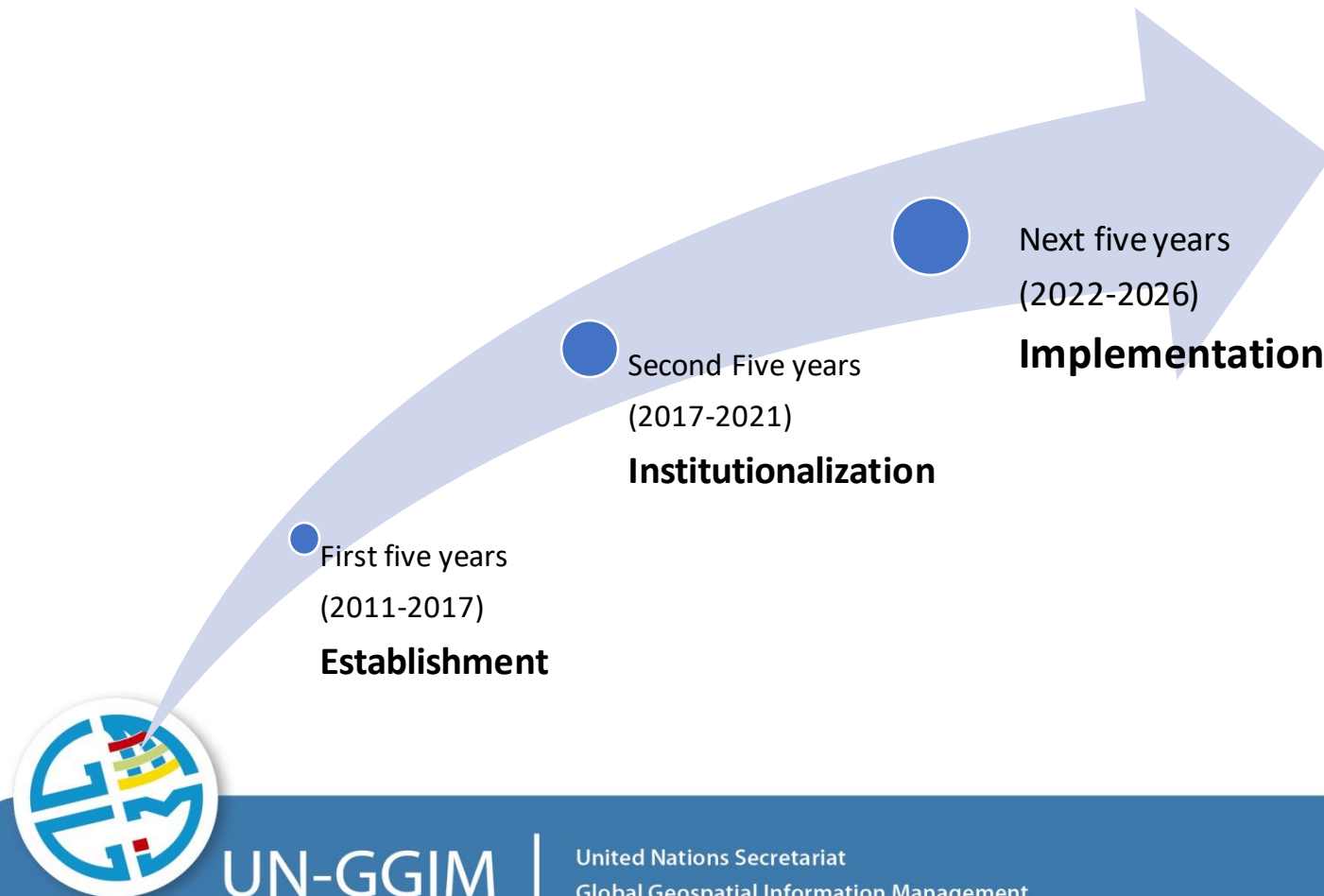
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UN-GGIM, ITS MANDATE AND EVOLUTION

UN-GGIM is the apex intergovernmental mechanism for making joint decisions and setting directions with regard to the production, availability, and application of geospatial information within national, regional, and global policy frameworks.



UNSC 2022 – DECISION 53/127

53/127 Integration of statistical and geospatial information – UNSC

- a) Welcomed the report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, and noted the important role of the integration of statistical and geospatial information, and other data sources, for informed decision - making in response to the **coronavirus disease (COVID-19), climate change, natural disasters, security issues, food production and other thematic areas of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** at both the national and local levels;
- b) Recognizing the many national experiences of how the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework had been implemented, **endorsed the Implementation Guide of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework as an excellent resource for supporting the implementation and operationalization of the Framework** for the production and dissemination of geospatially enabled statistical data, and encouraged statistical offices to collaborate with their national geospatial information agencies to ensure that the Framework is implemented to its potential based on national circumstances;
- c) **Urged the continued implementation and operationalization of the Framework**, and noted that several countries, especially developing countries, **still lacked adequate capacity to integrate statistical and geospatial information**;



UNSC 2022 – DECISION 53/127

53/127 Integration of statistical and geospatial information – UNSC

- d) Welcomed the increased focus on the coordinating role of the Expert Group and its efforts to strengthen interlinkages with relevant groups in both the statistical and geospatial communities, and encouraged the Expert Group to strengthen its collaboration with the regional committees of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management and regional commissions of the United Nations and other relevant stakeholders;
- e) Noted the execution and analysis emanating from the global survey on readiness to implement the Framework and the Expert Group workplan for the period 2022–2024, and welcomed **its continuing efforts to provide guidance to Member States to support the adoption and implementation of the Framework**, including continuing the development of key statistical standards and processes to strengthen the integration of statistical and geospatial information;
- f) Noted the suggestions for the Secretariat to provide more technical support to Member States in the implementation of the Framework, to strengthen statistical and geospatial integration at the national level, and to facilitate this through the organization of workshops and other technical assistance mechanisms.



UN-GGIM 2022 – DECISION 12/108

12/108 Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information - UN-GGIM:

- a) Welcomed the report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information and the continued efforts to support statistical and geospatial integration to realize national priorities and global development agendas;
- b) **Urged Member States to continue to implement and operationalize the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF)** as a tool for attaining geospatially enabled statistical data for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 2020 round of population censuses, and recognized that addressing the many data integration challenges presented by the global COVID-19 pandemic and other complex issues, such as climate change and disaster resilience, requires the full implementation of the GSGF at the national and regional levels;
- c) **Noted the endorsement of the GSGF Implementation Guide by the Statistical Commission (53/127)** as a practical means to implement the GSGF and to create, disseminate, and utilise geospatially enabled statistics, and welcomed the many use cases and good practices describing how the GSGF has been implemented and operationalized within national and regional contexts;
- d) Noted that the Expert Group has completed its work plan for 2020 – 2022 and welcomed the newly developed work plan for 2022 – 2024 and, in this regard, **stressed the importance of leveraging the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF) for the statistical domain, to strengthen the interlinkages between the GSGF and the IGIF to enhance the transformative role that geospatial information can have in the statistical production process;**



UN-GGIM 2022 – DECISION 12/108

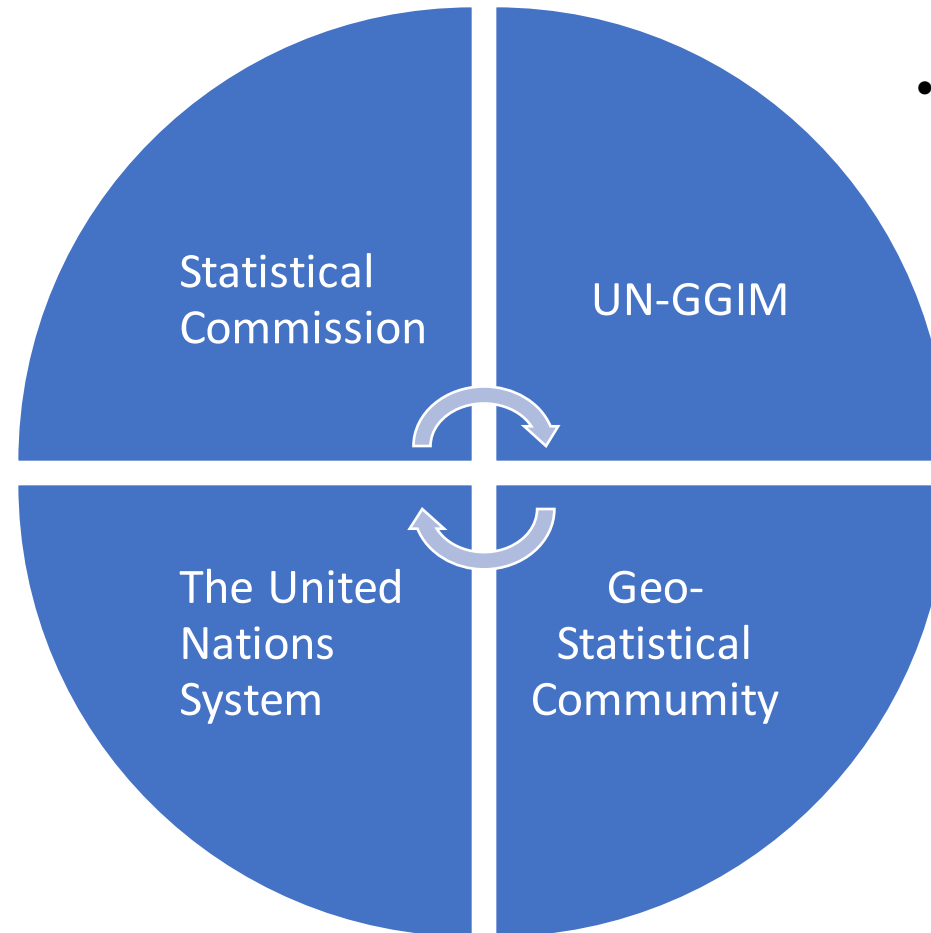
12/108 Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information - UN-GGIM:

- e) Recognizing that the enhanced demand for the integration of geospatial, statistical and other forms of data requires strengthened participation and institutional coordination between geospatial and statistical agencies, **urged greater participation in the work of the Expert Group, in particular by developing countries, to enable deeper knowledge exchange and lessons learned;**
- f) Welcomed and encouraged efforts to **strengthen coordination, engagement and interlinkages with the regional committees of UN-GGIM, the United Nations Regional Commissions, and other regional stakeholders** to improve the coordination of successful projects at the regional level, and expressed its appreciation for the ongoing implementation of the GSGF at the regional level;
- g) Encouraged the Expert Group to undertake an **examination of the broader needs and demands it may face in the future**, identifying needs and common gaps, disseminating best practices, finding opportunities to share insights to build and sustain a robust support framework and to continue the development of guidance materials to assist Member States with their efforts in the implementation of the GSGF together with the IGIF;
- h) Thanked Germany and Namibia for their leadership in co-Chairing the Expert Group during the COVID19 pandemic period, noted the expressions of interest from Brazil and Ireland to lead the Expert Group, and welcomed the offer by the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLAC) to host **the next in person meeting of the Expert Group** in Santiago, Chile.



REGIONAL AND PROGRAMMATIC COORDINATION

- Functional Groups



- Regional Working Groups on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information

- Regional Commissions
- Funds and Programmes (UNFPA, ILO etc)

- Regional Groups (i.e. Eurostat)
- IGOs (i.e. OECD, Paris21, ICA)
- Private Sector
- Standards Organisations

<https://ggim.un.org/Mandates/>



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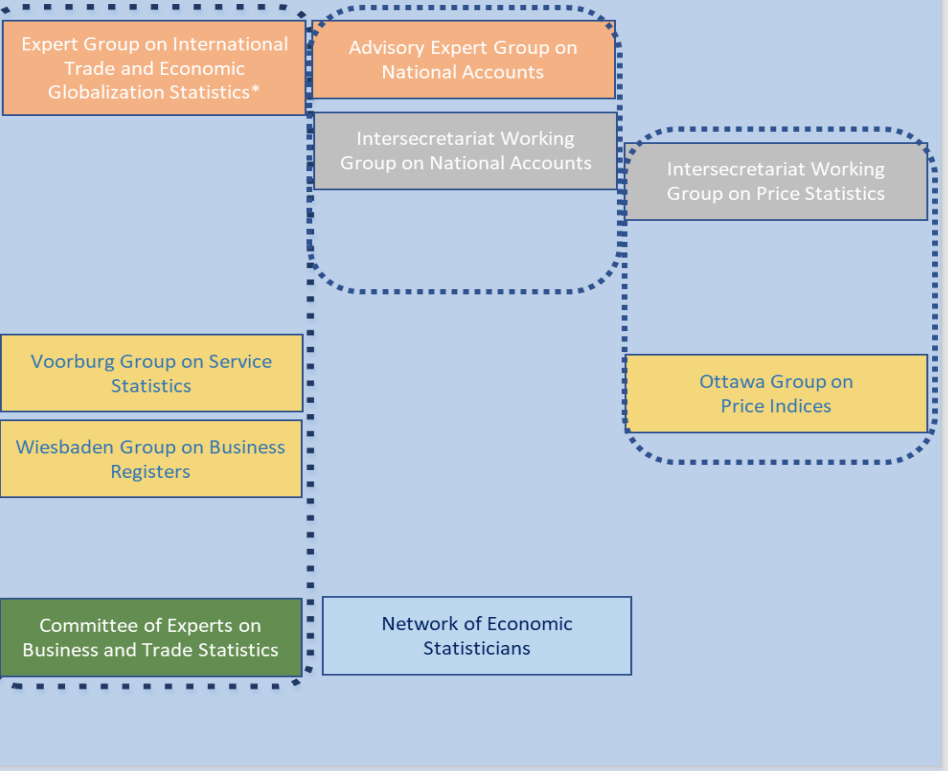
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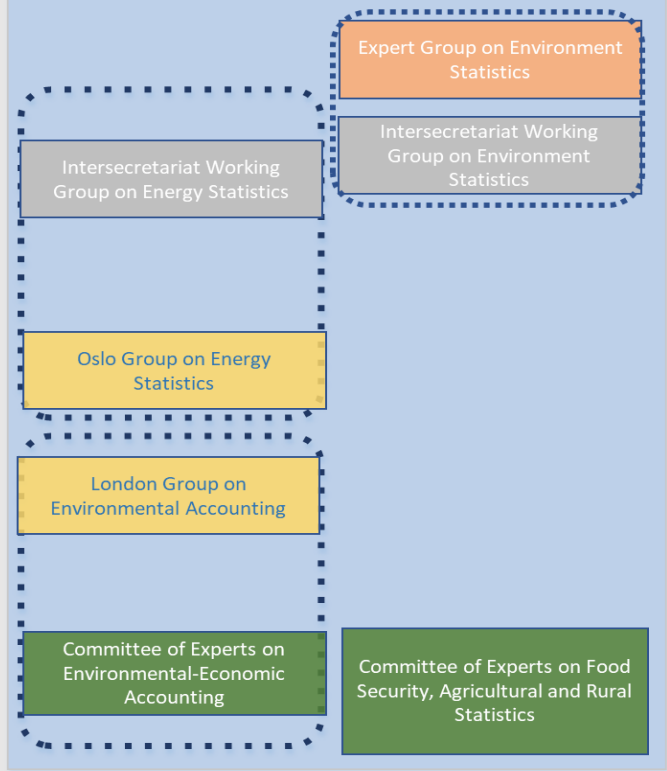


THE STATISTICAL COMMISSION

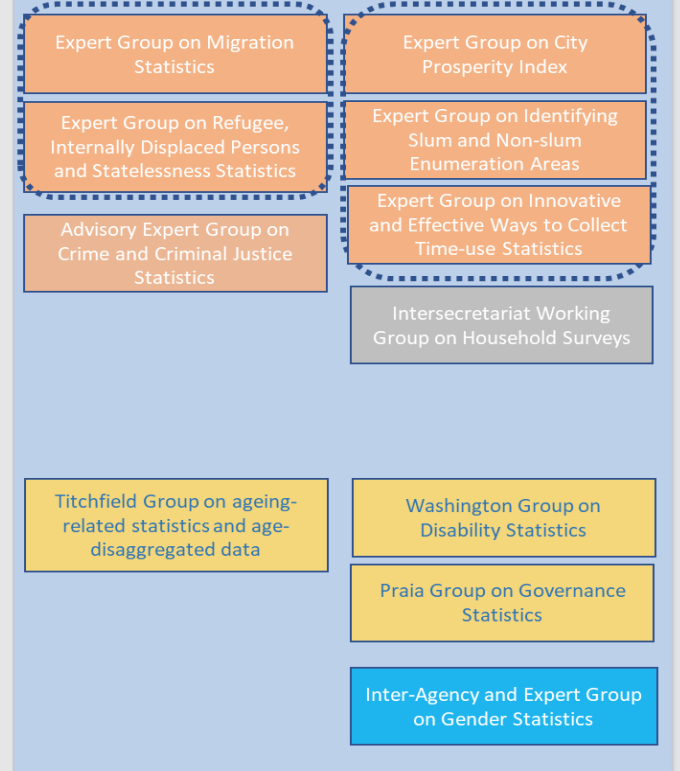
Economic



Environmental



Social



Cross-cutting



- EG
- WG
- TF
- City
- IAEG
- Com
- FoC
- Net

Global Development Frameworks

2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

Paris Agreement on Climate Change

SAMOA Pathway for SIDS
Addis Ababa Action Agenda
Habitat III New Urban Agenda
Our Ocean, Our Future: Call for Action



UN-GGIM Global Geospatial Frameworks

INTEGRATED GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION FRAMEWORK (IGIF)

Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters

Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF)

Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA)

Global Fundamental Geospatial Data Themes
Global Geodetic Reference Frame (GGRF)
National Institutional Arrangements in Geospatial Information Management
Role of Standards in Geospatial Information Management
Compendium on Licensing of Geospatial Information
Statement of Shared Guiding Principles for Geospatial Information Management



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Global Development Frameworks

2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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2015-2030

Paris
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Habitat III New Urban Agenda
*Our Ocean, Our Future:
Call for Action*

Need to include
all parts of the
statistical system
and new data
sources

Need for quality,
accessible, timely,
and reliable
disaggregated
data

Data on a wide
range of topics;
unprecedented
amount of data

Interoperability
and integration of
systems is crucial
to harnessing the
potential of all
types of data



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Interoperability and Integration

Statistics

Geospatial



Observations

Other Data

UN-GGIM Global Geospatial Frameworks

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Global Geodetic Reference Frame



Addresses



Buildings and Settlements



Elevation and Depth



Functional Areas



Geographical Names



Geology and Soils



Land Cover and Use



Land Parcels



Orthoimagery



Physical Infrastructure



Population Distribution



Transport



Water

UN-GGIM Global Geospatial Frameworks

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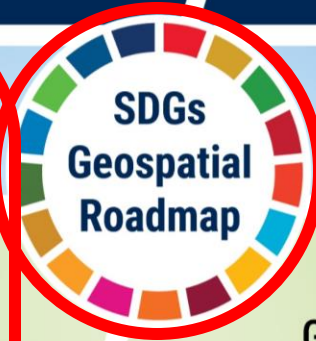
Global Development Frameworks

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UN-GGIM Global Geospatial Frameworks

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THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS REPORT 2022

“ We must rise higher to rescue the Sustainable Development Goals - and stay true to our promise of a world of peace, dignity and prosperity on a healthy planet...”

... However, significant data gaps still exist in terms of geographic coverage, timeliness and level of disaggregation, making it difficult to fully comprehend the pace of progress towards the realization of the 2030 Agenda, differences across regions and who is being left behind... ”

António Guterres
Secretary General, United Nations

The Sustainable Development Goals Report
2022



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Second United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress

11 October 2022, Hyderabad, India

I am pleased to greet the **second United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress** as you gather in Hyderabad.

This important event brings together experts from across government, geospatial agencies, academia, industry, the private sector, and civil society.

You are united around a common quest: using geospatial data, digital tools, and technological innovation to move towards a better, greener, and safer future for all.

You will share ideas and explore how integrated geospatial information can help advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

We need your geospatial expertise on two fronts: To measure progress – and to make progress.

We need you to drive innovation and action through the power of data – focused on the most marginalized and vulnerable communities and places.

That is why I welcome your theme – “Geo-enabling the global village” – to ensure no one is left behind. And I appreciate your outreach to the next generation with a dedicated youth forum.

Your efforts will also help advance the UN Data Strategy, which is designed to build a whole-of-UN data ecosystem that unlocks our full data potential for people and planet.

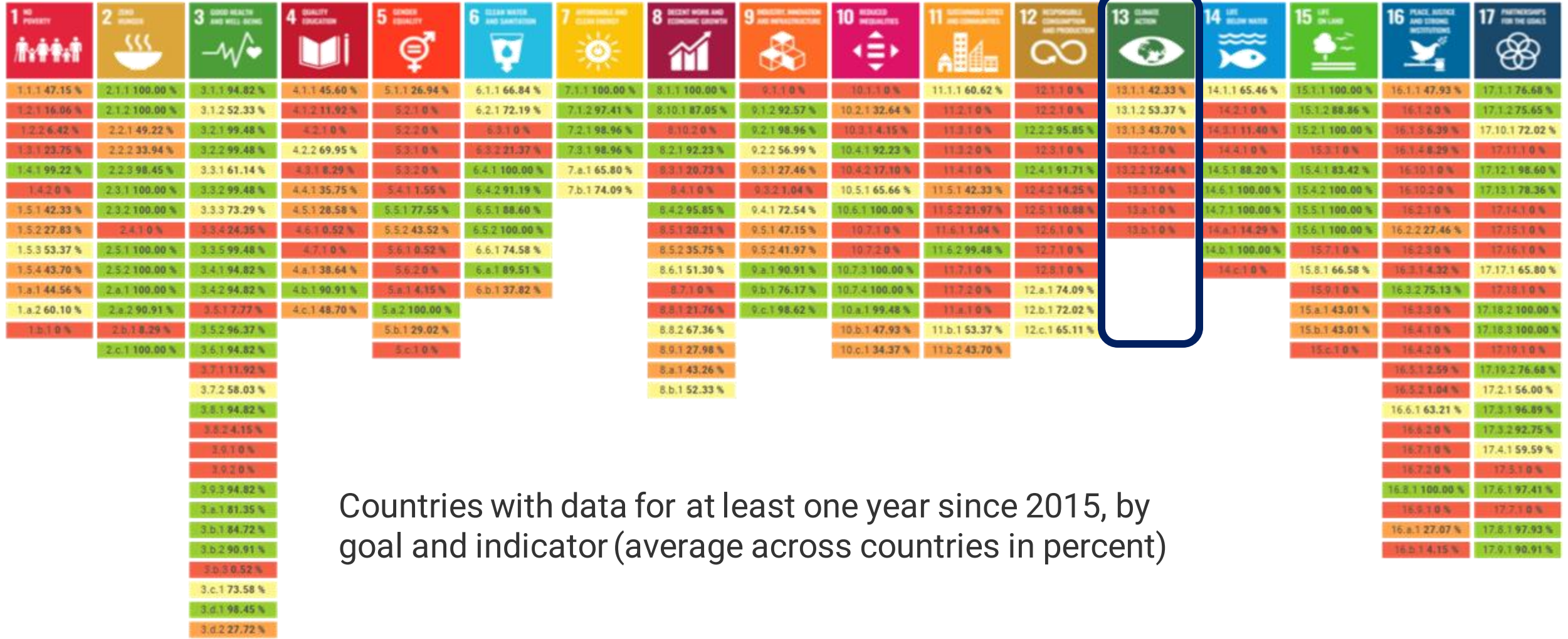
The benefits of more timely, detailed, and accessible data are many: Geospatial information can bridge gaps, provide a clearer picture of where and how we can do better, and deliver deeper insights and smarter decisions.

For all of this and more, your knowledge of geospatial data, methods, frameworks, tools, and platforms is essential.

Together, let us leverage your expertise and experience for a more sustainable, inclusive and geo-enabled global village for all.

Thank you.

TAKING STOCK: THE DATA GAP



Countries with data for at least one year since 2015, by goal and indicator (average across countries in percent)

Source: SDG Global Database <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/unsdg>

Legends 0-25% 25-50% 50-75% 75-100% Not Applicable



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THE EG-ISGI: ANCHORED BY THE GSGF



PRINCIPLES

- Accessible & usable
- Statistical and geospatial interoperability
- Common geographies for dissemination of statistics
- Geocoded unit record data in a data management environment
- Use of fundamental geospatial infrastructure and geocoding

KEY ELEMENTS

- Standards and Good Practices
- National Laws and Policy
- Technical Infrastructure
- Institutional Collaboration

INPUT

Geospatial

- Fundamental data
- Supplementary data
- New data sources

Statistical

- Censuses
- Surveys
- Administrative data records
- Big data and other sources

OUTPUT

Integration

Harmonised and standardised information

Interoperability Comparability

Analysis

Diffusion

Decision making

https://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/9th-Session/documents/The_GSGF.pdf



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THE EG-ISGI: ANCHORED BY THE GSGF



The Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF) facilitates the integration of statistical and geospatial information.

A Framework for the world, the GSGF enables a range of data to be integrated from both statistical and geospatial communities and, through the application of its five Principles and supporting key elements, permits the production of harmonised and standardised geospatially enabled statistical data. The resulting data can then be integrated with statistical, geospatial, and other information to inform and facilitate data-driven and evidence-based decision making

https://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/9th-Session/documents/The_GSGF.pdf

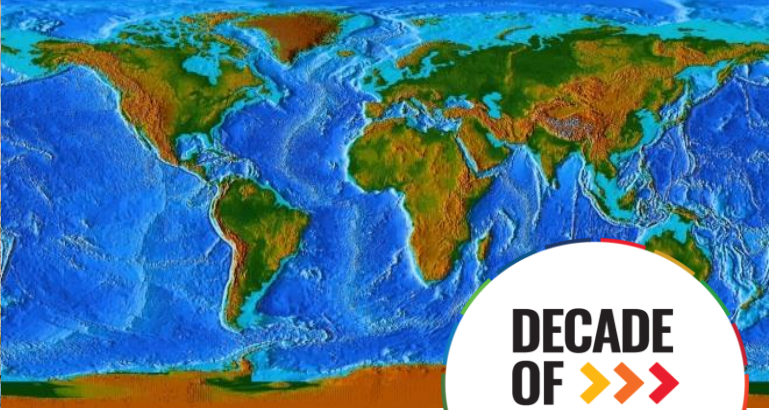


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Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information

Seventh Meeting, 1-2 December 2022, ECLAC, Santiago

Thank You 😊

Mark Iliffe, UN-GGIM Secretariat
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THE FUTURE FOR THE EG-ISGI

Considering:

- EG-ISGI has a broader mandate in integration of statistics and geospatial information.
- EG-ISGI has objective to provide high-level coordination and a forum for dialogue between statistical and geospatial communities.
- The importance of geo-statistical integration is now considered crucial for meeting the demands of our changing data landscape.

THE FUTURE FOR THE EG-ISGI

- How should countries work to strengthen the coordination and cooperation between National Statistical Offices, National Geospatial Information Agencies, and others in the national data ecosystem?
- What strategic actions should the Expert Group undertake to ensure that this transformation nationally and global fulfils its potential?
- What are the challenges beyond the directly census related work, which hinder the integration of statistical and geospatial information and could be addressed at the Expert Group?
- What new opportunities are emerging where a coordinated international approach or contribution will ensure broad benefit to the global community?
- How could the Expert Group help facilitate better knowledge sharing, exchange of best practices and building up of partnerships?