

# ECLAC status report and situational analysis on geospatial information management

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# Where is ECLAC today on enhancing geospatial information?

- ❑ Geospatial information management is settled in the Statistics Division of ECLAC: a **regional advisor** and an **expert in geospatial information technologies** are part of the staff of the division.
- ❑ The Statistics Division is providing **geospatial support to other substantive divisions** within ECLAC, such as Production, Productivity and Management, Sustainable Development and Human Settlements, CELADE-Population, Gender and Other.
- ❑ ECLAC through the Statistics Division is **managing geospatial platforms of regional coverage**, such as CEPALSTAT and its geospatial component, CEPALGEO and SDI Americas.
- ❑ ECLAC through the Statistics Division is assisting Member States for **strengthening their national geospatial initiatives** and the integration of statistical information by disseminating global guidelines such as the UN-IGIF and the GSGF.

# Where is ECLAC today on enhancing geospatial information?

- ECLAC is playing the role of **technical secretariat of UN-GGIM: Americas**, supporting the execution of the workplan, providing venue for plenary meetings, maintaining the website, facilitating simultaneous translation services for meetings and webinars.
- ECLAC has been assisting the **implementation of geoportals in the national statistics offices** in the region, to facilitate the dissemination of statistical data disaggregated by geography.
- ECLAC has been supporting the **Caribbean Geospatial Development Initiative (CARIGEO)** with secretariat assistance.
- ECLAC is part of the High-Level Group on the IGIF, contributing to the task team on capacity building.

# Where ECLAC wants to be in the next 5 years, regarding geospatial information management?

- Having **expanded the regional data ecosystem**, incorporating new data sources and innovative technologies (Big Data, Artificial Intelligence) to better support national and global development agendas.
- Having consolidated a **corporate geospatial data infrastructure in ECLAC**, providing transversal support within the organization.
- Having strengthened a **regional network of geostatistical portals** to interoperate within the regional data ecosystem.
- Having contributed to increase the number of **Member States with robust national geospatial initiatives** based on the implementation of United Nations global frameworks and guidelines.
- Having achieved **strong and sustainable links between the statistical and geospatial communities**, both at the regional level (UN-GGIM: Americas – Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC) and also at the national level.

# What are the main challenges to get there as an organization/entity?

- Promoting **institutional arrangements** to enhance coordination and collaboration between statistical and geospatial communities.
- Establishing partnerships** with other UN entities and global/regional organizations.
- Mobilizing resources** to develop projects to expand data assets and integrate various data types.
- Engaging Member States** to contribute to the regional work agenda in the statistical and geospatial field.
- Contributing to a **better understanding of the value of geospatial information as a crucial tool supporting social, environmental, and economic development.**

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### **Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Data:**

- Critical for informed decision-making at local, national, and regional levels.
- Enhances the ability to address social, economic, and environmental challenges.

### **Technological Innovations:**

- Need for continuous updates and implementations of innovative solutions.
- Utilization of dashboards, observatories, and web platforms for better data visualization.

### **Strengthening National Capacities and Regional Collaboration through ECLAC Initiatives such as:**

- Support for a regional network of geostatistical portals to interoperate within the regional data ecosystem.
- Implementation of statistical geoportals to manage, integrate, and visualize geospatially enabled statistical data.
- Improvement in data dissemination processes through platforms like CEPALSTAT and CEPALGEO.
- Encouragement of collaboration between national statistical offices and international organizations.

### **Future Directions Under ECLAC's Guidance:**

- Ongoing efforts to expand data assets and integrate various data types.
- Focus on creating sustainable, accessible, and interoperable data systems