

# Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

## Eleventh session

New York, 23, 24 and 27 August 2021

Item 8 of the agenda

### Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information (for discussion and decision)

***Statement provided by:***

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United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

***Statement:***

Jamaica acknowledges the report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information and commends its efforts in continuing to work with the Statistical Commission to help strengthen the interlinkages between the two professional communities.

Jamaica notes that there has been increased demands for geospatially enabled statistical data, driven significantly by the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic. In particular, the urging of Member States to implement and operationalize the GSGF as a tool for attaining geospatially enabled statistical data for the 2030 Agenda and the 2020 Round of Population Censuses.

The Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN) has generated geospatial data for the 1982 - 2011 Censuses Enumeration District (ED) boundaries and is in the process of updating its ED boundaries for the 2022 Population and Housing Census. The Institute also facilitates socio-economic data being presented spatially in the form of GIS maps and web maps.

STATIN's partnership with Jamaica's Social Development Commission (SDC) to harmonize Community boundaries and Enumeration District (ED) boundaries has improved the coherence of information, and social interventions. This integration was done to meet the growing demand of local and international stakeholders for harmonized spatial definitions. These harmonized boundaries were used to show Poverty Mapping information at the community level, via web maps accessible at <https://statinja.gov.jm/licpMaps.aspx>. These community boundaries and geospatial data have been essential in tracking and showing trends in presenting information on the effects of COVID-19 in communities across Jamaica by the Ministry of Health and Wellness (MOHW). Other diseases shown by communities by MOHW include Dengue, HIV/AIDS, Chikungunya Virus (Chik V) and Zika Virus (Zikv).

For the upcoming 2022 Census, geospatial information will be further integrated with statistics through the georeferencing of dwellings. This will allow for improved field monitoring, and better spatial analysis of the data. Geospatial information is also being used to monitor some of the SDGs, through the utilization of remote sensing, and the analysis of satellite images. This is achieved through partnerships with other Government entities, academia, and other stakeholders.

Jamaica recognizes the significant effort made to revise the Expert Group's Terms of Reference, in addition to the development of a new work plan for the period 2020-2022. Jamaica endorses both documents as presented.

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Jamaica supports the Expert Group's encouragement for Member States to adopt and implement the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework and contribute further to the work of the Expert Group.

Submitted on:

8/19/2021