



Seventh Session of the Committee of Experts on UN-GGIM Side Event

The 2020 Round of Population and Housing Census and the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework

Monday, 31 July 2017

12:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Venue: Conference Room 3 (CR-3)

United Nations Headquarters, New York

Background

The Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (EG-ISGI) was established in 2013, comprising members representing Member States from both the statistical and geospatial communities. The Expert Group has reported back to both the United Nations Statistical Commission and the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) at each of their annual sessions since its establishment.

One of the functions of the Expert Group was to pursue the development of a Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF), particularly in support of the 2020 Round of Population and Housing Census and the systematic follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Global Statistical Geospatial Framework

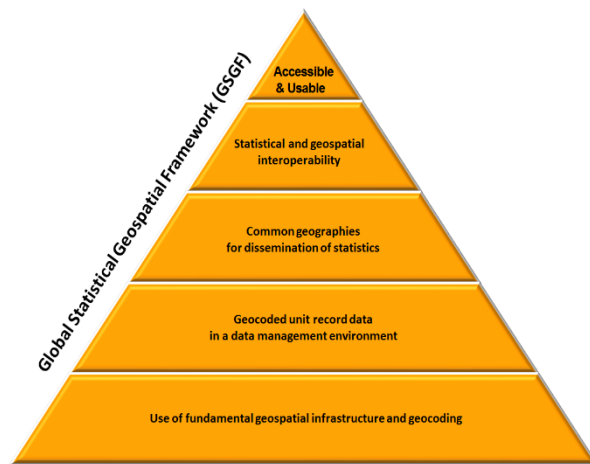
The Global Statistical Geospatial Framework is a principles based framework. The Secretariat conducted a global consultation on the proposed Framework in 2016, involving both the statistical and geospatial communities, and received a very encouraging number of responses ranging from full support to support with comments, recommendations and adjustments. There was strong consensus around the five guiding principles which anchor the framework. The five guiding principles was adopted by the United Nations Committee of Expert on Global Geospatial Information Management at its sixth Session in August 2016 and subsequently endorsed by the 48th Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission in March 2017.

These five guiding principles will be the foundation for the integration of statistical and geospatial information essential to support of the 2020 Round of Population and Housing Census and the systematic follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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- ❑ Principle 1:
Use of fundamental geospatial infrastructure and geocoding;
- ❑ Principle 2:
Geocoded unit record data in a data management environment;
- ❑ Principle 3:
Common geographies for dissemination of statistics;
- ❑ Principle 4:
Interoperable data and metadata standards; and
- ❑ Principle 5:
Accessible and usable geospatially enabled statistics.



The 2020 Round of Population and Housing Census

The 2020 Population and Housing Census coincides with the Post 2015 Agenda which aims to locate sustainable development at the centre, leaving no-one behind. It is the sixth round of world censuses and poised to be dramatically different. Recognising that the most important capital a society can have is human capital, thus assessing the quantity and quality of this capital at small area, regional and national levels is an essential component of good governance. Apart from “How many are we?” there is also a need to provide an answer to “Who are we?” in terms of age, sex, education, occupation, economic activity and other crucial characteristics, and equally important, **“Where are we?”**.

In the context of national statistical programme, a population and housing census has a significant role for producing official statistics for small area and small population groups, allowing data disaggregation by a wide range of topics such as sex, age, education, migration, labor force and disability and also for basic characteristics of housing units. With this essential feature, it is one of key data sources for measuring and monitoring the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requiring reliable, accessible and timely statistics covering all people living in a country.

For supporting countries in conducting population and housing censuses, the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) has been implementing the World Population and Housing Census Programme since 1950s, implemented as a round every ten years. In this context, the UNSD is currently implementing the 2020 Census Programme covering the period of 2015 and 2024. The census programme consists of a series of activities focusing on production of international guidelines and strengthening national capacities in conducting censuses with recent developments.

In recent round of censuses, major technological advances including the wide spread availability of handheld electronic devices, global navigation satellite systems, geographic information systems and low-cost aerial and satellite imageries created significant impacts in designing census operation with the integration of geospatial information. During the past two rounds of censuses, many countries have applied geospatial information throughout census operation for various purposes for ensuring census coverage, supporting data collection and dissemination of small area statistics.

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However, there are still challenges to ensure continuity and sustainability of existing situation considering that national statistical offices are not normally the national geospatial information or mapping authorities in most countries. The 2020 Round of Population and Housing Census thus presents a unique situation to further integrate statistical and geospatial information, leveraging the principles based Global Statistical Geospatial Framework as a key enabler.

Objectives

This side event aims to engage, inform and raise awareness of participants on the upcoming 2020 Round of Population and Housing Census, its scope, challenges and the needed contributions from the geospatial information management community; and the importance of the principles based Global Statistical Geospatial Framework to the 2020 Round of Population and Housing Census. The side event also aims to proactively engage and address any issues relating to the adoption of common geographies at all levels nationally for both the collection and dissemination of census data and information.

This side event will afford participants to the 7th Session of UN-GGIM to exchange knowledge, information and experience, to learn from one another, to discuss and deliberate on the implementation of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework in the 2020 Round of Population and Housing Census, and includes the initial preparation and groundwork for the censuses.

This side event is organized by UN Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (EG-ISGI) and jointly supported by the Secretariat for UN-GGIM, UN Statistics Division and the Demographics and Social Statistics Branch, UN Statistics Division

Proposed Agenda

This side event will be a moderated interactive session with introductory presentations, interactions, discussions between panellist and participants with opportunities for questions, comments, clarifications and answers. The moderator will give the opening remarks including a short introductory presentation.

Moderator:

Mr. Martin Brady
Australian Bureau of Statistics

Panellists:

- #1 Mr. Srdjan Mrkic
Demographic Statistics Section, UNSD
- #2 Ms Meryem Demirci
Demographic Statistics Section, UNSD
- #3 Mr. Rolando Ocampo Alcantar
Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía (INEGI), Mexico
- #4 Mr. Sergio Cimbaro
Instituto Geográfico Nacional, Argentina
- #5 Mr. Gunter Schäfer
EuroStat, European Commission

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