UN-GGIM 8 – Side Event

UN Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (EG-ISGI) meeting

Martin Brady
Co-Chair UN Expert Group for the
Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information
Director – Geospatial Solutions
Australian Bureau of Statistics
Australia

EG-ISGI work priorities

The following six key issues were identified at the 4th meeting as topics of focus for the future activities of the Expert Group:

1. Need to increase engagement and understanding in the geospatial community
2. Elaborate on the details underpinning the five principles of the GSGF so it may be used effectively in national implementations
3. Support the outcomes of the Workshop on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Standards

EG-ISGI work priorities

4. Further promote, support, and explain the value and utility of the GSGF by pursuing the broad communications strategy devised at the meeting
5. Consider how to engage with partners to promote capacity development to enable the sustainable integration of statistical and geospatial information, in particular to support the 2020 Round of Population and Housing Censuses
6. The scope of the Expert Group will broaden, as it becomes the overall coordination group for all activities in the integration of statistical and geospatial information.

Interoperability projects

At the Stockholm Workshop on Integrating Geospatial and Statistical Standards, convened jointly by the Economic Commission for Europe and the Committee of Experts Regional Committee for Europe:

- Short-term and longer-term statistical-geospatial interoperability projects were recommended
- These were endorsed by the Expert Group at its fourth meeting

Communications

- *Develop GSGF communication materials to promote the GSGF and update EG-ISGI website*
  - *Extend the use of case studies in communication about the benefits of the Framework.*
  - ❖ Released GSGF paper
- *Members to represent the EG-ISGI and promote the GSGF at various forums attended*
- *UN World Data Forum, Dubai, 22-24 October 2018.*
- *World Geospatial Information Congress, Hangzhou, 27-29 November 2018.*
- *Consider drafting an appendix to the UNSD Handbook on Population Censuses, if appropriate resources become available.*

Interoperability projects

Short-term high impact projects proposed:

- Draft a beginner's guide to using standards from both communities;
- For both the geospatial and statistical communities, develop communication materials that simply describe the interrelationships between their frameworks, models and standards;
- Conduct a pilot to determine options for persistent identifiers to link aggregate statistical outputs to standard geographies;

Interoperability projects

Short-term high impact projects proposed cont':

- Seek opportunities to work on semantic interoperability issues, such as an ontology for addresses and buildings;
- Improve the discoverability of geospatial tools that are based on standards;
- Develop guidance on how to store geospatial reference objects and links in existing statistical databases;
- Map the data exchange process between statistical and geospatial organizations;

Interoperability projects

Short-term high impact projects proposed cont':

- Examine comparative use cases for the application of traditional geography and emerging grid technologies, in particular for the dissemination of statistics;
- Examine pathways and interest within the statistical community to move to formal International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standards for models and frameworks, in addition to using existing ones, such as those issued by ISO technical committee 154 on processes, data elements and documents in commerce, industry and administration;

Interoperability projects

Longer term proposals:

- In the reviews of the Generic Statistical Business Process Model and the Generic Statistical Information Model, consider how geospatial processes and information can be represented;
- Include statistics among the global fundamental geospatial data themes of the Committee of Experts;
- Encourage greater collaboration on activities relating to address and building registers;

Interoperability projects

Longer term proposals cont':

- Consider common core metadata for geospatially enabled statistical data;
- Continue to communicate and collaborate on materials to explain the different models, frameworks and standards across the two communities, using practical projects as the basis.