



Eighth Session of the Committee of Experts on UN-GGIM

Fundamental Data Themes – Where next?

Monday 30th July 2018

13:30 - 16:00

Venue: Conference Room CR-E

United Nations Headquarters, New York

A. Background

The importance of geospatial data in the achievement of the global development goals needs little justification to those attending the Committee of Experts meeting. However, in the wider global arena it is not as readily acknowledged. The Millennium Development Goals Report¹ was clear that data are an indispensable element of the development agenda, and that:

‘Knowing where people and things are and their relationship to each other is essential for informed decision-making.’ (page 12)

The Sustainable Development Goals are even more wide ranging, and most, if not all, will require geospatial information to support policy decision-making, implementation of actions, and measuring and monitoring. The need for a set of fundamental geospatial data themes to underpin and support geospatial information has been acknowledged and reiterated by the Committee of Experts in its meetings since 2014. Indeed, work to identify these themes has taken place in all Regions of the world, and the Committee directed that this widespread activity should form the base of the current task.

At the fifth session of UN-GGIM, the Committee of Experts agreed that there was:

‘an urgent need for a set of global fundamental geospatial data themes that could be harmonized in order to enable the measurement, monitoring and management of sustainable development in a consistent way over time and to facilitate evidence-based decision-making and policy-making’

To achieve this, UN-GGIM: Europe was asked to take the lead for this task and directed to draw on the existing work of the Regions with a view to producing a minimum list of global fundamental geospatial data themes. The Working Group has reported to the 6th and 7th meetings of the Committee and will report to the 8th meeting on 1st August. The scope of the work set out by the Committee is now largely delivered and attention turns to the next steps which will be required.

¹ [http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/2015_MDG_Report/pdf/MDG%202015%20rev%20\(July%201\).pdf](http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/2015_MDG_Report/pdf/MDG%202015%20rev%20(July%201).pdf)

“This is an open event and all Session Attendees are invited”



B. Objectives and expected outcomes

This side event aims to engage participants, observers as well as experts attending the Eighth Session of UN-GGIM to understand the work to date on the determination of global geospatial fundamental data themes and communication of those themes.

The initial task of the Working Group has been delivered and this side meeting will start to address what the next steps are in relation to the promotion and implementation of the fundamental themes. Discussions will include input from representatives from the other UN-GGIM work streams, Regions and thematic networks.

The expected outcome will be a clearer perspective on the connections between this and other UN-GGIM work streams and potential next steps which the Committee of Experts could take to promote and implement the fundamental themes.

The meeting will also include a review of the development of Second Administrative Level Boundaries which are a key fundamental dataset.

Agenda overleaf:

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Agenda

1:30 pm – 4.00pm

Global Geospatial Fundamental Data Themes

Moderator: Ms Carol Agius, Secretariat, UN-GGIM:Europe

1. Introductory Remarks (5 mins)

- Arozarena Villar Antonio, IGN Spain, **Spain**, and Vice Chair, Executive Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe

2. Review of Progress to date (25 mins)

- Clare Hadley, Ordnance Survey, **United Kingdom** and Chair, Working Group on Global Fundamental Geospatial Data Themes
- Mark Iliffe, **UN-GGIM Secretariat**

3. Round Table on future actions (5-10 minutes each)

Input from representatives from other UN-GGIM work streams, Regions and thematic networks including:

- Siau Yong Ng, Singapore Land Authority, **Singapore** and Chair, Working Group on National Institutional Arrangements
- Christina Wasström, **International Standards Organisation Technical Committee 211**
- Pier-Giorgio Zaccheddu, Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy, **Germany** and UN Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information
- André Nonguierma, **UN-GGIM: Africa Secretariat**
- Gary Johnston, Geoscience Australia, **Australia** and Co-Chair Subcommittee on Geodesy
- Mark Iliffe, **UN-GGIM Secretariat**

4. Moderated interactive discussion with participants (20 minutes)

- Moderated by Clare Hadley and Carol Agius

5. Summary and Conclusions by Moderators (5 minutes)

6. Second Administrative Level Boundaries (SALB) (30 mins)

- Guillaume Le Sourd, **Geographic Information Section - UN Department of Field Support**

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