Geospatial data– a component of the 2030 Agenda follow-up

Geospatial Information and Earth Observations: Supporting Official Statistics in Monitoring the SDGs

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DANMARKS STATISTIK

The 2030 Agenda

- Different data sources, including administrative data, big data and geospatial data must be considered in order to improve the monitoring of the SDGs

Some points on geospatial data

Geospatial data can contribute to monitoring of the 2030 Agenda in four ways:

a) As data in itself – geospatial data is used directly for the indicator construction (geospatial data = indicator)
   - indicator 15.1.1: Forest area as a percentage of total land area

b) Support statistical data – geospatial data is used in combination with other data to estimate an indicator (geospatial and other data -> indicator)
   - indicator 11.2.1: Proportion of the population that has convenient access to public transport, by age, sex and persons with disabilities

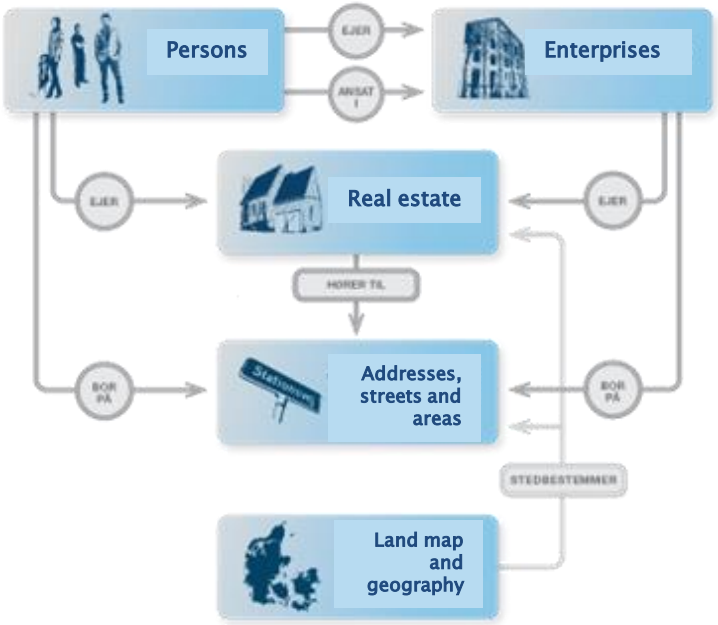
c) Enrich statistical data – geospatial data is used to enrich the indicators, although the indicator does not require a geospatial breakdown (analysis, enrichment of the indicators)
   - Indicator 6.3.2: Percentage of water bodies with good ambient water quality

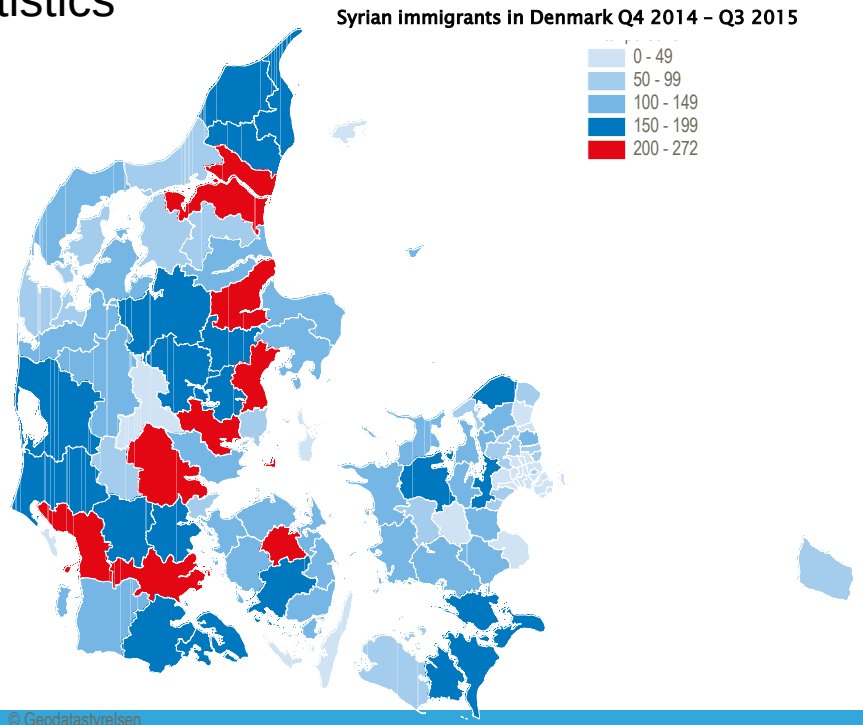
d) Geospatial data can help in communication and gives possibilities for geographical disaggregation of data – contribution to and compliance with 'no one left behind'.

Administrative data often come with geospatial information (e.g. address, administrative unit, etc.).

Some words on the use of geospatial data at Statistics Denmark

- DK has a long tradition for digital registers and digital geospatial information
  - Most statistics based on adm. data can be, and usually are, broken down in the geographical dimension
  - Geocoding using coordinates, grids, etc. – e.g statistics on urban areas
  - Spatial analysis using catchment areas and distances between geospatial objects – transport / commuting statistics





Challenges

Given countries' different starting-points both in the statistical and geospatial domains the challenges to overcome are different and there is no "one size fits all" solution

Some thoughts on addressing the challenges in the context of SDG monitoring:

- We need to have a clearer picture of, where geospatial data can contribute to the SDG monitoring process, especially as regards indicators where continued spatial and temporal resolution is needed.
- It needs to be clarified which countries can provide geospatial data, who cannot and what domains call for capacity-building.
- The geospatial dimension could possibly be part of thematic reviews which might help in drawing more attention to capacity-building in this area.

Thank you