



UNITED NATIONS

**United Nations Statistical Commission**

**Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics**

**GWG Bureau meeting**

**Thirteenth meeting – 19 September 2018, 09:00 EST**

**By video conferencing**

## **Minutes**

### **Participants**

Canada	Alice Born, Sylvie Michaud
Colombia	Angelica Palma
Denmark	Niels Ploug (Chair)
Netherlands	Matjaz Jug
UAE	Latifa Alshehhi
UK	Mark Craddock, Rabia Mirza, Gavin Phillips, Rob Bumpstead, Paul Wearn
UNSD	Ronald Jansen, Karoly Kovacs, Ivo Havinga

### **Agenda**

- Agenda item (1)** Minutes of Meeting 12
- Agenda item (2)** Open Day of the GWG on 21 October 2018
- Agenda item (3)** Microsoft Projects – Scoping Documents
- Agenda item (4)** Paper on Data Management of the UN Global Platform
- Agenda item (5)** Other Business

### **Minutes**

#### **AGENDA ITEM (1) – MINUTES OF MEETING 12**

Minutes of the twelfth meeting were not yet circulated, but will be circulated together with the minutes of the thirteenth meeting.

#### **AGENDA ITEM (2) – OPEN DAY OF THE GWG ON 21 OCTOBER 2018**

UNSD is working on the flyer for the Open Day of the GWG. The text needs to be discussed.

## Participants

The number of registered participants hovers around 100, as planned. Some persons drop out, whereas a few others are being added on. Participants come from national statistical offices, international agencies, private sector and civil society.

## Formal GWG meeting (8am – 9am)

A separate agenda needs to be prepared for the formal GWG meeting. Agenda items will include the organization of the 5<sup>th</sup> Big Data Conference in Kigali, Rwanda, in 2019, the progress on the projects of the GWG, the position paper on data management of the UN Global Platform and the GWG report to the Statistical Commission.

## Program of the day

The programme of session 2 would possibly look as follows:

- ⇒ Statistics Canada showing a demo on use of satellite data and algorithms on the global platform;
- ⇒ UNEP presenting on measuring water extent and water quality in relation to SDGs;
- ⇒ DANE Colombia would like to give a presentation. The details would be discussed shortly with Statistics Canada.
- ⇒ FAO would be approached for a presentation

The Task Team on Mobile Phone data met by video-conference and agreed on session 3:

- ⇒ Rati will start off with an introduction of the task team and some info on the work of ITU
- ⇒ Positium will highlight its work with Indonesia on Tourism and Population
- ⇒ Eurostat will discuss the methodology of use of CDRs for Tourism and Migration statistics

The programme of session 4 is foreseen as follows:

- ⇒ Introduction by Statistics Canada,
- ⇒ Demonstration by UK and Netherlands
- ⇒ Demonstration by Statistics Canada and Nielsen

There was also confirmation on session 5:

- ⇒ Introduction by Heather Savory
- ⇒ Demonstration by Mark Craddock of ONS, UK
- ⇒ Demonstration by Liina Kamm of Cybernetica

The bureau agreed that session would take 45 minutes (instead of 60 minutes), which give a bit more time for the final panel session.

## Use of the Global Platform

It was noticed that some communication issues existed between the IT operators of the platform and the statisticians, especially regarding the uploading of data. The data (including the Nielsen dataset) have meanwhile been uploaded and testing can take place. However, it would be good, if some intermediaries would be available to shortcut misunderstandings. UNSD will ask its IT support team to be actively involved in question/solution management for the platform.

### AGENDA ITEM (3) – MICROSOFT PROJECTS

The Task Team on Satellite data and remote sensing works on two scoping documents, namely one on agriculture statistics with Statistics Canada (lead), Statistics Poland, DANE Colombia, FAO and UNSD and one of land cover/ land use with Statistics Netherlands (lead), Statistics Canada, FAO, UNSD and the UNCEEA Task Force on measuring land cover. This implies that 2 projects will be rolled out with Microsoft in this field. These 2 projects should be working together closely.

The Task Team on mobile phone data worked on a scoping document for measuring human mobility (covering migration, tourism, seasonal workers). It is envisioned that Georgia will be the main pilot country, because a broad spectrum of local authorities supports the project. DANE expressed interest to be involved in the human mobility project. The methods and algorithms, which are expected to be developed in Georgia, could be tested in several other countries, namely Indonesia, Italy and Colombia.

Statistics Netherlands is in contact with Flowminder and recognized that they are not really participating at the meetings lately while noting how important contributors they could be. UNSD affirmed that they will be contacted and invited back.

### AGENDA ITEM (4) – PAPER ON DATA MANAGEMENT OF THE UN GLOBAL PLATFORM

Statistics Canada has drafted a paper on Data Management of the UN Global Platform. This draft will first be given to the Global Platform team and subsequently be circulated to the rest of the bureau. Another paper on strategic partnership, which was prepared in the context of the Conference of European Statisticians, is relevant for this discussion and will be shared with the bureau members shortly as well. Statistics Denmark suggested to discuss this topic at the annual GWG meeting in Dubai.

### AGENDA ITEM (5) – OTHER BUSINESS

Global Platform team discussed the delivery of analysis ready Satellite data by Planet in a sustainable manner and suggested organizing a meeting with participation of GP, Statistics Canada, Statistics Denmark and UNSD. Statistics Canada is also in discussion with Planet on the same topic.

UNSD pointed out that the preparation of the 5<sup>th</sup> Global Conference on Big Data need to be started soon. Statistics Denmark offered to provide information about the organization committee of the previous conference (copy UNSD and GP). The date of the Conference could be the last week of April of the first week of May and UNSD asked the GWG members about their preferences.

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