UNITED NATIONS
United Nations Statistical Commission
Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics
GWG Bureau meeting

Thirty seventh meeting – 26 September 2019, 09:00 EST
By video conferencing
Minutes

Participants

Canada          Alice Born, Tom Dufour
UAE             Latifa Al-Shehhi, Hatem El-Sherif
Netherlands     Matjaz Jug
Denmark         Niels Ploug
Indonesia       Titi Kanti Lestari
UK              Heather Savory, Mark Craddock
UNECE           Taeke Gjaltema
UNSD            Ronald Jansen, Ivo Havinga, Karoly Kovacs

Agenda

Agenda item (1) Minutes of the 36th meeting
Agenda item (2) Update on the UN Global Platform
Agenda item (3) Role of the Task Teams
Agenda item (4) Other business

Action Points

⇒ Statistics Denmark to follow up on the work of the GWG Task Teams
⇒ Task Teams need to update their web pages on the GWG website
⇒ The UN Global Platform team will provide information about options for training by the GWG in the use of Big Data and the estimated demand for such training by NSOs
Minutes

AGENDA ITEM (1) – MINUTES OF THE 36th MEETING

No comments were received on the draft minutes.
Follow up on action points:
- Newsletter received input from the Task Team on AIS data
- Important to get feedback from users on the UN Global Platform
- Important to receive further input on opportunities

AGENDA ITEM (2) – UPDATE ON THE UN GLOBAL PLATFORM

UNSD gave an update on several recent meetings with potential donors or partners for the UN Global Platform.

- Meeting with Sofia Borges, NY Director of UN Foundation, who was interested in the work of the GWG and expressed support in finding funding for the Global Platform Institute
- Meeting with Davis Adieno, team leader of the African division of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data. GPSDD works with NSOs and government institutions in 5 African countries, in which it has introduced the use of the African Regional Data Cube. The UN Global Platform could be a real benefit for these projects to more effectively execute the data processing.
- Launch of the Data-for-Now initiative, which was introduced by UN Deputy Secretary General. The initiative is led by GPSDD with SDSN, UNSD and the World Bank. Support was expressed at the event by the Google Earth team, FAO, WFP, GSMA and UNECA, among others.
- Global Data Commons workshop was held with the participation from civil society and small private enterprises, which expressed interest in the use of many different new data source, among which satellite data, mobile phone data and retail price data. The UN Global Platform could host this group to collaborate on data projects.

AGENDA ITEM (3) – UPDATE ON THE TASK TEAMS

A note from Statistics Denmark on the role of the task teams was sent to GWG bureau members. Niels will organize a teleconference with the task team leaders to discuss how the activities of the task teams relate to the activities of the hubs of the UN Global Platform. Niels will also request input from the task team into the report to the UN Statistical Commission.

An overview of all task teams will be provided for the next meeting of the GWG.

Updates are urgently needed for the web pages of the task teams on the GWG website. This will increase the visibility and publicity of the work of the task teams. Their work could also be exposed
on the marketplace of the UN Global Platform. The newsletter of the UN Global Platform will also help in increasing the visibility and task teams should aim to regular provide information for the newsletter.

**AGENDA ITEM (4) OTHER BUSINESS**

The GWG bureau needs to discuss how the proposal for provision of many training opportunities (online and face-to-face) by the GWG through the UN Global Platform. The platform team will give estimates of the potential demand by NSOs for training in Big Data and related topics.