The Power of Place and Place Names - UN-GGIM and UNGEGN
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Outline of the presentation

• Policy context - the demand for information!

• Update on UN-GGIM activities

• UN-GGIM and UNGEGN - some reflections...
Our world is facing serious challenges... 
Collectively we need to create the future we want...
How can you measure and monitor sustainable development...

...without geography, place, and location
Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

• An agreed global and united policy to manage and transform the social, economic and environmental dimensions of humanity and our planet.
• 17 goals, 169 targets, and 231 proposed indicators.
• Implementation will require good policy, science, technology and data.
• Measuring and monitoring, from local to global, requires ‘data’....but where does the data come from, and is it’s provision sustainable?
• How many of these goals capture or include elements of geography, place and location?
Follow up and review:

76. We will support developing countries, particularly African countries, LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs, in strengthening the capacity of national statistical offices and data systems to ensure access to high quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data. We will promote transparent and accountable scaling-up of appropriate public-private cooperation to exploit the contribution to be made by a wide range of data, including earth observation and geospatial information, while ensuring national ownership in supporting and tracking progress.
• Over 6500 participants including delegates from 187 countries.
• Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030: Importance of developing, updating and disseminating location-based disaster risk information.
• First major agreement of the post-2015 development agenda, with 7 targets and 4 priorities of action.
Statistics

SD4SD
Sustainable Data for Sustainable Development

Other Data, (e.g. “Big Data”) Geospatial Information, including Names

Transforming our world – The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges

UN-GGIM
United Nations Secretariat
Global Geospatial Information Management
Update on UN-GGIM activities

- Formed in 2011 as ECOSOC subsidiary body.
- Annual Committee meetings of 3 days (GGIM-6 in August 2016)
- So far 4 thematic High Level Forum meetings (last in Addis April 2016)
- Full regional ‘architecture’ - covering 5 regions.
- Recent launch of academic network
- Thematic working groups (e.g. global geodetic reference frame, fundamental geospatial data themes, integration of statistical and geospatial information, national institutional arrangements......)
UN-GGIM and UNGEGN - some reflections...

- 2016/2017 window of opportunity to solidly define relation
- August 2017 - possible joint session?
- Define thematic areas of cooperation - e.g. fundamental data sets, capacity building, national institutional arrangements...
- Work on relationship at global, regional and national level
- Develop long-term vision
Fundamental data to make better decisions and policy

Data over space and time

**FUNDAMENTAL**
- Names
- Geodetic
- Elevation
- Water/Ocean
- Land use/cover
- Transport
- Cadastre
- Population
- Infrastructure
- Settlements
- Admin. Bdys.
- Imagery
- Geology/soils etc.

**THE GLOBAL GOALS**
For Sustainable Development

1. NO POVERTY
2. ZERO HUNGER
3. GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
4. QUALITY EDUCATION
5. GENDER EQUALITY
6. CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
7. AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
8. DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
9. INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
10. REDUCED INEQUALITIES
11. SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
12. RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
13. CLIMATE ACTION
14. LIFE BELOW WATER
15. LIFE ON LAND
16. PEACE AND JUSTICE STRONG INSTITUTIONS
17. PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges

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“Everything happens somewhere...”
Nancy Tosta, June 2001

Thank you!
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