

Launch Event:

**GRID³ - Geo-Referenced Infrastructure and Demographic Data for Development-
Within the 49th Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission**

7 March 2018 from 8:15am to 9:30am

Conference Room 12, United Nations Secretariat, New York, NY

Breakfast will be served at 7:30am.

The GRID³ core partners would like to invite you to join them in the official launch of the project at the 49th session of the United Nations Statistical Commission.

In December 2017, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Department for International Development (DFID) of the United Kingdom awarded a grant to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Flowminder/WorldPop and Columbia University's Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN) under the "Geo-Referenced Infrastructure and Demographic Data for Development" (GRID³) project. GRID³ aims to facilitate the collection, analysis, use, management and curation of high-resolution population, infrastructure and other reference data in support of national sectoral development priorities, humanitarian efforts, health and sustainable development goals (SDGs).

Globally, GRID³ promotes efficient data investments that help put everyone on the map, making use of technical innovations for data production and distribution.

At the country level, GRID³ seeks to strengthen national geospatial capacity, and promote effective coordination across government actors, donors, the private sector, universities, and NGOs for the collection, processing and utilization of such data in support of national development efforts.

GRID³ engages key data collection communities, analysts and stakeholders, including national census authorities, national mapping agencies, thematic ministries and agencies, household survey campaigns, and Earth observation initiatives. GRID³ augments the broader national census work, by providing new opportunities to substantially strengthen the geospatial resolution of data to be collected in upcoming census efforts, methods for supplementing census efforts where a full traditional census is not possible ('hybrid' census), as well as methods for processing, utilizing and disseminating geospatial data in a wide range of applications for development.