Statement provided by:
General Authority for Statistics - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Statement:
At the General Authority of Statistics - Saudi Arabia, we are planning for Geospatial Data Strategy and we will take into account the guidelines produced by the Committee of Experts. We started to acquire data and specifically request finer levels of location data, even coordinates when appropriate. We are interested in reviewing the draft on privacy prepared by the Expert Group to protect privacy and confidentiality. We commend the note on making data interoperable and will make efforts towards this goal. We realize "the importance of strengthening the integration of statistical and geospatial information as a means of supporting national development priorities and the implementation of global development agendas", but we are still trying to identify how to automate the calculations of the SDG indicators using the updated information coming from one survey (for example: how to automate G.H.E. coming from real time transportation data, or estimated energy consumption at power plants, etc.).

We will start to incorporate the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework in the near future as we build our spatial data infrastructure, and it will easily onboard our statistics coming from the ongoing Census project 2022. Thus, we endorse it and we will need support (hands-on) to make it fully realized within our statistical office. The kind of support we look for is around providing guidelines for the technical specification of geospatial infrastructure needed, training materials or how-to guides, organizing workshops where we can learn from best practitioners in the field.

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