Geospatial Information for Enabling Sustainable Development

53nd United Nations Statistical Commission – Side Event Concept Note
Friday 11 February 0900am New York (EST/UTC-5)

Draft 2 February 2022

Introducing the SDGs Geospatial Roadmap

The SDGs Geospatial Roadmap outlines how to 'build the bridge' between the statistical and geospatial actors working within the global indicator framework and communicates the vision to see geospatial and location-based information being recognised and accepted as official data for the SDGs and their global indicators. Through three phases: **Phase 1. Prepare and Plan**; **Phase 2. Design, Development and Testing**; and, **Phase 3. Measuring, monitoring and reporting geospatially enabled SDG indicators**; the SDGs Geospatial Roadmap will provide National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and Systems (NSS) with key recommendations and guidance to enable the transformational potential of geospatial information to be harnessed while mitigating potential complexities around its use.

The SDGs Geospatial Roadmap recognises that while the NSOs are often key actors in supporting the integration of data across the national data ecosystem; this ecosystem often extends beyond the NSO, and can include the National Geospatial Information Agency (NGIA), the national (or regional) space agency, custodian agencies of the UN System and other stakeholders within the data community. Significantly, innovations within the geospatial information and Earth observations communities, and their enabling technologies, can be leveraged to transform the measurement, monitoring and production of indicators to support the transformation 'leapfrogging' of countries that currently lag behind.

Developed by the IAEG-SDGs' Working Group on Geospatial Information (WGGI), the SDGs Geospatial Roadmap is submitted for adoption by the IAEG-SDGs to this 53rd session of the Statistical Commission. Through this side event, the substance and intent of the SDGs Geospatial Roadmap is to be socialised to Member States and other stakeholders within the Statistical community. The side event will also launch the interactive Storymap of the SDGs Geospatial Roadmap.

Introducing the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework Implementation Guide

In its decision 51/123, the Statistical Commission adopted the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF) and noted the increasing relevance of and need for the integration of statistical and geospatial information as an important bridge to enable the production of harmonized, standardized and integrated, geospatially enabled statistical data to facilitate data-driven decision-making, in particular with regard to the implementation of the 2020 round of population censuses and the SDGs.

Now, the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (EG-ISGI) presents the GSGF Implementation Guide to the Statistical Commission for endorsement. The GSGF Implementation Guide aims to further assist countries with the implementation and operation the GSGF, providing guidance for each GSGF Principle, and identifying key resources and further reading. Further, the Guide is accompanied by the experiences of 30 Member States and five regions in their efforts in their experiences of implementing the GSGF.

Summary

Geospatial information is a critical resource that can be better leveraged to help transform the measurement, monitoring and production of SDG indicators, enabling the 'leapfrogging' of countries that currently lag behind. In recognising the potential of geospatial information, recently within decision 51/101, the Statistical Commission encouraged further work on better integration of geospatial and statistical information to better monitor the 2030 Agenda.

Consisting of two interlinked segments, this Side Event brings together actors and experts from both the statistical and geospatial communities. The first segment sets the scene for the side event and introduces the SDGs Geospatial Roadmap. The second situates and contextualises the GSGF Implementation Guide. The side event is organised by the IAEG-SDGs WGGI and the EG-ISGI.

<div align="center">**Proposed Agenda**</div>

60mins   **Segment #1 – Introducing the SDGs Geospatial Roadmap**
This segment introduces the SDGs Geospatial Roadmap and outlines how it 'builds the bridge' between the statistical and geospatial actors working within the global indicator framework; communicating the vision to see geospatial and location-based information being recognised and accepted as official data for the SDGs and their global indicators.

Moderators: *Mr. Kevin McCormack, Central Statistics Office, **Ireland**, co-Chair of the IAEG-SDGs WGGI*
*Ms. Paloma Merodio, INEGI, **Mexico**, co-Chair of UN-GGIM, IAEG-SDGs: WGGI and EO4SDG*

Introducing the SDGs Geospatial Roadmap
*Moderators and Ms. Celine Jacquin, INEGI, **Mexico***

Discussants: **Transforming Geospatial Information into SDGs Indicators: The National Experience of implementing the SDGs Geospatial Roadmap**
*Ms. Sandra Moreno, DANE, **Colombia***

National and Global Experiences of Producing SDG Indicator 15.4.2
*Mr. Osamu Ochiai, JAXA, **Japan***
*Mr. Lorenzo DeSimone, **Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations***

Followed by a moderated discussion with all participants.

60mins   **Segment #2: Launching the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework Implementation Guide**
This segment introduces the GSGF Implementation Guide and details how its guidance can help countries strengthen the integration of statistical and geospatial information. Further, the results of the "Global survey to diagnose readiness at the country level for implementing the GSGF" are discussed.

Moderator: *Mr. Alex Mudabeti, National Statistics Agency, **Namibia**, co-Chair of the EG-ISGI*

Discussants: **The GSGF Implementation Guide – Geocoding**
*Mr. Alex Mudabeti, National Statistics Agency, **Namibia**, co-Chair of the EG-ISGI*

The GSGF Implementation Guide - Common Geographies
*Mr. Peter Murphy, Statistics Canada, **Canada***

The GSGF at the Regional Level
*Mr. Horacio Castellaro, **United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean***

Followed by a moderated discussion with all participants

The Results of the Global Survey to diagnose readiness at the country level for implementing the GSGF
*Mr. Jørn Kristian Undelstvedt, Statistics Norway, **Norway***
*Mr. Jerker Moström, Statistics Sweden, **Sweden***

Connection Details

The Virtual Side Event will be held over WebEx:

   https://undesa.webex.com/undesa/onstage/g.php?MTID=e747879dc0675bbdeaf41ce815a68f70f

Date and time: **Friday 11 February 2022 – 0900am EST (New York/UTC-5)**
Event number: **2315 257 9942**
Event password: **Event1234**

To be kept updated with updates please register for the Side Event here: https://forms.gle/JZVXLzby7JLhjWkb9

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Please ensure that your video and microphone are turned off and muted for the duration of the event. Please make any interventions and raise questions in the chat box. Many thanks for your understanding.

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