The Global Survey on Readiness to Implement the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework

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Background

The EG-ISGI proposed a global survey to:

- Understand the level of awareness within Member States - of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF) and the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF).
- Know more about national and regional circumstances for statistical-geospatial integration (capacity concerns, other obstacles).

Survey outcomes provide valuable insight and have implications for further work in the EG-ISGI.

Launched in March 2021 – on the margins of 52nd session of the UN Statistical Commission.

A digital survey tool.

Informally translated into and welcomed responses in the six UN languages.

Disseminated in close collaboration with the regional focal points (UN Regional Commissions) and the Regional Committees of UN-GGIM.
General conclusions drawn from the survey

• Good balance between responding organisations. Slight overweight for NSOs.
• High degree of coordinated responses.
• Significant regional differences in response rate!
• Under-representation of LMICs and bias towards MS with active involvement in activities around statistical-geospatial integration (EG ISGI and more).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UN-GGIM regions</th>
<th>Member States</th>
<th>Responding Member States</th>
<th>Response rate (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UN-GGIM: Americas</td>
<td>38, [2], (9)</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN-GGIM: Arab States</td>
<td>22, [8], (1)</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN-GGIM: Europe</td>
<td>56, [15]</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN-GGIM: Africa</td>
<td>51, [8]</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>203</strong></td>
<td><strong>95</strong></td>
<td><strong>47</strong></td>
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</table>
Awareness and usefulness of the GSGF and the IGIF

• Awareness of the GSGF and the IGIF ok (not great, not bad!)
• Higher awareness of the GSGF among NSOs and higher awareness of the IGIF among NGIAs
• No distinct regional differences. Higher awareness in Americas and Europe vs other regions, but comparisons difficult due to variations in the number of responses between regions
• Solid appreciation of the GSGF: Usefulness ranked high across all regions!

![GSGF Usefulness Chart](chart1.png)

**Average: 2.75**

![IGIF Usefulness Chart](chart2.png)

**Average: 2.63**
Organisational aspects, data infrastructures etc

• High degree of operational NSDIs and working relationships between NSOs and NGIAs
• Access to fundamental geospatial information not reflected as a significant problem
• Positive reports on the maturity of data infrastructures and data management environments (geocoding, geographies etc)
• Significant momentum towards fully geocoded Census data (point-based) around the globe!

Lowest geographical level to capture and geocode unit record data in the next Census

- x- and y-coordinates using existing reference data such as address locations, buildings or cadastral parcels: 33.3%
- x- and y-coordinates collected by mobile device etc. during census operations: 12.6%
- x- and y-coordinates using a combination of the two above mentioned methods: 23.4%
- Small area units (enumeration areas, districts, mesh blocks, grid cells etc.): 12.6%
- A combination of both single coordinates and small area units: 9.9%
- Not yet decided: 5.4%
- Don't know: 2.7%
- Other: Please specify: 0.0%
Statistical-geospatial data integration

- Most mature use of geospatial data in the social and demographics statistics domains
- Obstacles to data integration: *lack of funding, poor coordination between data custodians* and *lack of data interoperability* top rated
- 50% of respondents report that admin data is already implemented in regular production of geospatially enabled statistics

![Bar chart showing the maturity of statistical-geospatial data integration across different domains.](chart.png)

- Social Statistics: 6% Most mature, 21% Least mature
- Demographic Statistics: 2% Most mature, 18% Least mature
- Economic Statistics: 15% Most mature, 24% Least mature
- Environmental Statistics: 14% Most mature, 22% Least mature
- Other, Please specify: 33% Most mature, 5% Least mature

**Observations:** 111

- 0 - No use
- 1 - Operational
- 2 - Map production, calculations
- 3 - Advanced processing
- Don't know
Guidance, capacity building and training

- General request for further guidance. No clear priority between GSGF principles/elements of data integration
- Most types of guidance requested, a slightly stronger emphasis on technical-level guidance, guidelines and manuals (considered very useful or close to very useful by 70% of respondents)
- General request for capacity building. Strong emphasis on assistance to raise awareness among decision makers on the benefits and value of statistical-geospatial integration
- General request for training. Special emphasis on use of Earth Observation data to generate statistics (considered urgent or close to urgent by almost 70% of respondents)
Conclusions

• Though the response rate has improved since the eleventh session of UN-GGIM in August 2021, we think that the result is still biased towards a “best-case scenario”

• Lack of response = lack of capabilities, e.g. we have not been able to describe the reality of countries with most urgent needs

• The results reflect a strong request for implementation guidance, training initiatives and capacity building. This sentiment was expressed by respondents from all regions, from more experienced Member States to those with lesser mature arrangements for statistical-geospatial integration