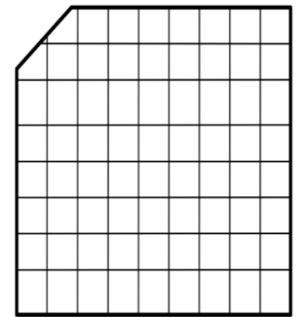


Administrative/Statistical Geographies



Gridded Geographies

**Geospatial Information for Enabling Sustainable Development**  
**53rd United Nations Statistical Commission – Side Event**  
**11 February, 2022**

**The Global Statistical Geospatial Framework Implementation Guide**  
An introduction to Principle 3: *Common Geographies*

*Presented by:*

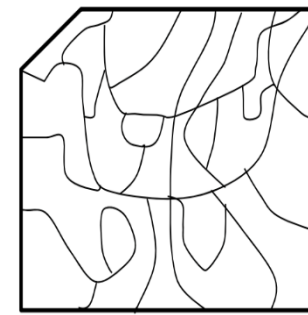
*Peter Murphy*

*Chief – Geographic Concepts, Standards and Areas*

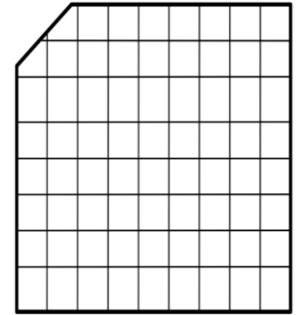
*Statistics Canada*

# The Global Statistical Geospatial Framework Implementation Guide

## An introduction to Principle 3: *Common Geographies*



Administrative/Statistical Geographies



Gridded Geographies

*Common geographies* are an agreed set of geographic areas for the display, storage, reporting, and analysis of social, economic and environmental comparisons across statistical datasets from different sources. They enable the production and dissemination of integrated statistics and geospatial information within a country to support informed decision-making.

### The broad types of *Common Geographies*:

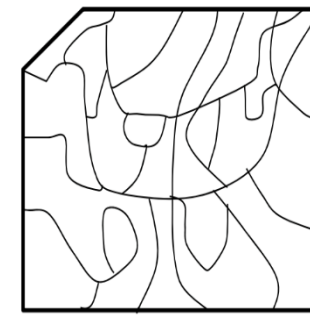
- Geographies defined in law, regulations or constitution - examples include sub-national major political regions, electoral districts and local municipalities. This type of geographic area is often termed administrative.
- Geographies defined by a set of rules, or a methodology meant to represent a geographic concept such as metro regions, statistical grids and small area dissemination geographies. This type of geographic area is often termed statistical or geo-statistical.

The GSGF encourages the adoption of common geographies. The following objectives may be attained:

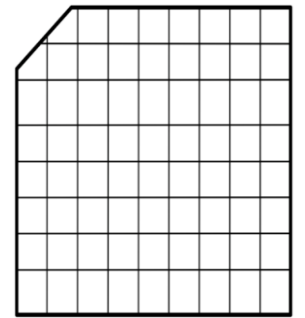
- Enhanced capacity to produce aggregated data and indicators for domestic purposes and data users.
- To meet monitoring and reporting needs in support national objectives, and global and regional indicator frameworks (e.g. Population Censuses, 2030 Sustainable Development Goals).
- To address emergent and persistent challenges (COVID-19 pandemic, disasters) for countries, and regional and international agencies.

# The Global Statistical Geospatial Framework Implementation Guide

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Principle 3 of the GSGF recognizes and acknowledges:

The continuing need for country-specific dissemination geographies.

New or proposed common dissemination geographies should be viewed as congruent and adjunct to the existing geographies maintained by National Statistical Offices (NSOs), National Mapping Agencies (NMAs) and National Geospatial Information Authorities (NGIAs).

The use of common geographies within the statistical production process ensures that statistical data is geospatially enabled whether in gridded form or using administrative or statistical boundaries; and to build and sustain capacity in the form of methodologies that enable the transformation of geospatially enabled statistics amongst administrative, statistical and gridded geographies.

The nature of common geographies means that there can be many stakeholders involved in their production, analysis or use by NSO, NGIAs, international and regional organisations and other institutions (e.g. NGOs, the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) and the private sector etc.).