

# UN-GGIM: Europe

## Contributing to the wider Geo Ecosystem



**UN-GGIM**  
**EUROPE**

UNITED NATIONS  
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON  
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

*Bengt Kjellson, Chair UN-GGIM: Europe*  
*EuroGeographics Extraordinary General Assembly*  
*Leuven 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018*



# Strengthening the Global Data Ecosystem

**UN-GGIM: 2011-2016 – Develop the global understanding of geospatial information**

**UN-GGIM: 2017-2021 – Coordination, coherence and implementation**

- Facilitate the strengthening and normative capacity building of global geospatial information management in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.



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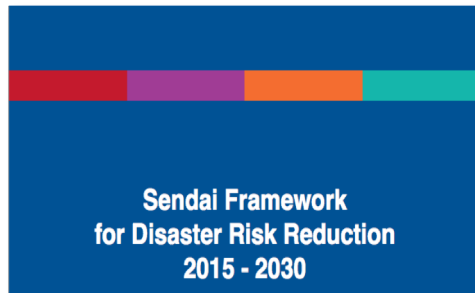
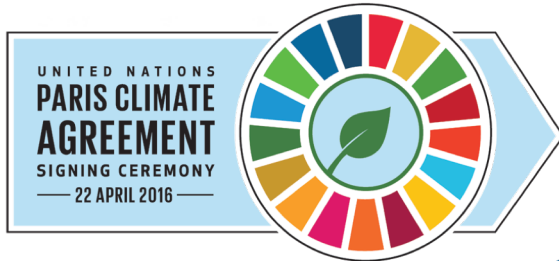
# Global development policy framework



**United Nations**  
Framework Convention on  
Climate Change



**Addis Ababa Action Agenda**  
of the Third International Conference on  
Financing for Development  
(Addis Ababa Action Agenda)



UN Conference on  
Small Island  
Developing States  
Apia, Samoa | 2014



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# 2030 Agenda: Goals, targets, indicators



**17  
SDGs**

**169 Targets**

**232 global indicators  
to follow-up and review  
progress**

**Implementation via national  
planning processes, policies,  
strategies and frameworks**

**Measuring and monitoring: Statistics,  
geospatial information, Earth  
observations and other Big Data**







# Do we have the data for development??





# Sustainable development through geospatial information

Geospatial information is mentioned twice in this document:

- - Goal 17 aims to strengthen implementation and revitalizing global partnership for sustainable development. And target 17.18 includes the following: by 2020 to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, **geographic location** and other characteristics relevant in national contexts
- - In follow up and review of the sustainable development goals, paragraph 76 includes a statement on: the contribution to be made by a wide range of data, including **earth observation and geo-spatial information**, while ensuring national ownership in supporting and tracking progress.

TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD:



THE 2030 AGENDA FOR  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

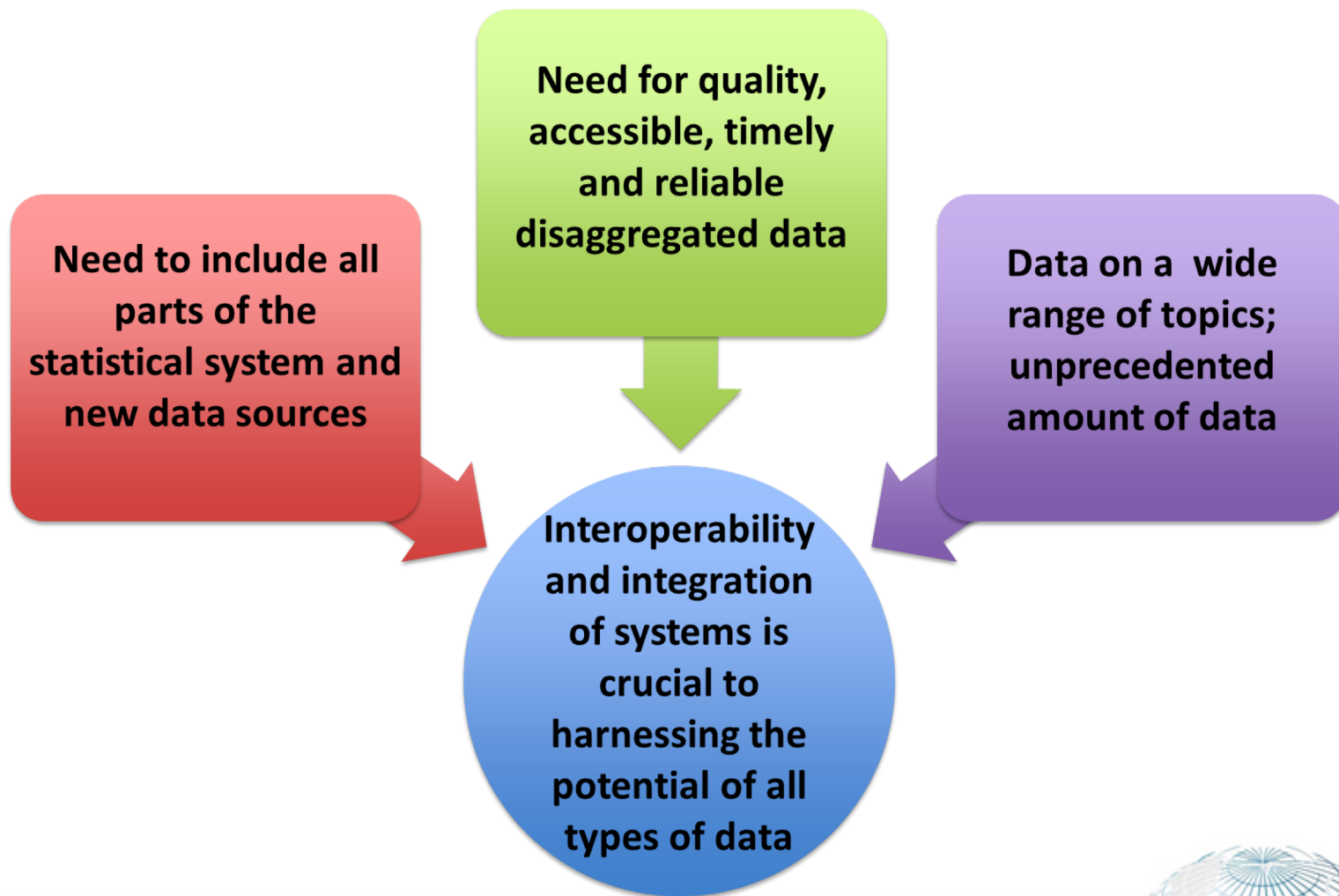


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# Addressing the data needs for the 2030 Agenda



# 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Requires Integration of Information Systems

Statistics

Geospatial



Observations

Other data



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# Inter-agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators – (IAEG-SDGs)

- Develop the global indicator framework and a list of indicators
- Provide technical support for the implementation
- Review methodological developments, the indicators and their metadata
- Review capacity-building activities
- Report on progress at the global level

Three working groups:

- Interlinkages
- ***Geospatial information***
- Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX)



UN-GGIM

United Nations Secretariat  
Global Geospatial Information Management

*Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges*

[ggim.un.org](http://ggim.un.org)

# Inter-agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators

## Working Group on Geospatial Information

The primary objective of the Working Group is to ensure from a statistical and geographic location perspective that the key principle of the 2030 Agenda, to leave no one behind, is reflected in the Global Indicator Framework

<http://ggim.un.org/UNGGIM-wg6/>



TOPICS DATA METHODOLOGY EVENTS PUBLICATIONS ABOUT



UN-GGIM > Inter-Agency and Expert Group on the Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) Working Group on Geospatial Information

In September 2015, Member States adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and tasked the United Nations Statistical Commission to develop the global indicator framework. The overarching principle of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is that **no one should be left behind**.

"Data which is high quality, accessible, timely, reliable and disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability and geographic location and other characteristics relevant in the national contexts" is called for (A/RES/70/1). To support implementation at all levels, the 2030 Agenda included the need to exploit the contribution to be made by a wide range of data, including Earth observations and geospatial information.

At its 46th Session in March 2015, the United Nations Statistical Commission established the Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs), composed of Member States and including regional and international agencies as observers. The IAEG-SDGs was tasked to develop a global indicator framework for the 17 goals and 169 targets of the 2030 Agenda, and to support its implementation. At its 47th Session in March 2016, the Statistical Commission agreed as a practical starting point the global indicator framework consisting of 230 indicators, subject to future technical refinement.

To meet the ambitions and demands of the 2030 Agenda, it is necessary for the global indicator framework to adequately and systematically address the issue of alternative data sources and methodologies, including geospatial information and Earth observations in the context of geographic location. The report of the IAEG-SDGs to the Statistical Commission (in March 2016) noted that the integration of statistical data and geospatial information will be key for the production of a number of indicators. As a means to address these issues, and to address specific areas relevant to SDG indicator implementation, the Working Group was established on 30 March to 1 April 2016. Soon thereafter, the modalities of the Working Group.

### Annual sessions

- Seventh session
- Sixth session
- Past sessions

### Overview

- Mandates
- Aims and Objectives
- Bureau
- Regional Committees
- Expert and Working Groups
- Thematic Groups

### Quick links



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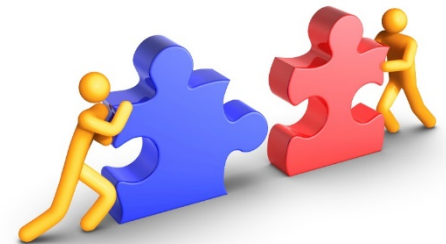
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# Two communities coming together:

Geospatial and statistical organisations have a lot in common:

- Public bodies, dealing with high volumes of information, costly to collect and maintain
- Producers with national legal mandate to produce authoritative (official) data
- Data at the heart of national/regional/global policy decision making (SDGs)



# Two communities coming together:

- Often speaking different 'languages'
- Diverse jargon, standards, and data management methods
- Differing 'political' maturity levels at UN
  - United Nations Statistical Commission (established in 1947)
  - UN-GGIM (established 2011)





# Global forum, global agenda

- Committee of Experts, annual meeting
- Global working groups on different agenda items
- Global strategic framework for management of geospatial information
- Global drive towards capacity building and knowledge exchange



# Regional forum: annual Plenary UN-GGIM: Europe:

- Official regional forum for the Regional Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe to come together
- Informative session for the Member States
- Learning to work together
- Annual meetings since 2014
  - 2014, 2015 & 2016 sponsored by EuroGeographics
  - 2017 & 2018 sponsored by Eurostat



# Regional forum: Geospatial and Statistical Communities working together

## UN-GGIM: Europe Working Group on Data Integration:

- Brings together members from NMCAs, NSIs and other stakeholders
- Has identified successful use cases of integrating geospatial and statistical data
- interacts with IAEG-SDG Working Group on Geospatial Information
- Drafting a policy outreach paper on data integration topics
- Analyse new global, regional or national indicators reflecting the European perspective, reflecting “data integration” aspects and cross-cutting issues.



# Regional forum: Geospatial and Statistical Communities working together

## UN-GGIM: Europe Working Group on Core Data

- Has identified the core data for Europe
- ensure availability of common minimum geospatial content in European UN Member States for supporting SDGs
- interoperability and harmonisation as a complement to INSPIRE
- Producing 'Recommendations for Content' for core data themes, based on INSPIRE standards and on user requirements focussing on SDG related use cases.





## Regional forum: Successfully working together

- Two members of the UN-GGIM: Europe Working Group on Data Integration have been recognised for their contributions to geospatial statistics.
- Ekkehard Petri and Pier-Giorgio Zaccheddu were awarded the Lars H Backer prize at EFGS 2017.
- The award, in memory of eminent Swedish statistician, Lars H Backer, recognises major contributions to the development of a geospatial foundation for official statistics or for significantly improving the relevance of geospatial statistics for evidenced-based decision making.
- Proof that the communities are working together



# Forging collaboration with the wider regional UN bodies

- UN-GGIM: Europe and the UNECE Secretariat recognise the mutual benefits of working together.
- Drafted: [Proposal for greater collaboration between the UNECE and the UN-GGIM: Europe](#)
- Agreed and drafted by both parties and presented to the Executive Committee of UNECE at their Ninety-fifth meeting Geneva, 11 December 2017. Well received by the UNECE EXCOM.
- Strategic areas for future collaboration include:
  - Geospatial information for Sustainable Development
  - Building networks and promoting communication
  - Integration of geospatial, statistical and other information, including capacity building
  - Involvement of other UNECE programmes



# Regional collaboration - Observer organisations

Engaging with the wider geospatial and statistical communities in Europe:

- Encourage a high level of active participation from the wider geospatial community
- Raise interest from observing bodies, relevant professional, research and academic organizations and associations



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# Regional efforts - Working together

- Joint events with Eurostat
  - Joint meeting with Eurostat every spring
  - NSI and NMCAs in the room, looking at how to integrate geospatial in statistics
  - Annual event, now in its fourth edition, this year jointly organised with UNECE
- Increased participation in EFGS events
  - European Forum for Geography and Statistics
  - Increased engagement with NMCAs





# Executive Committee of UN-GGIM: Europe

- UN-GGIM: Europe is coordinated and managed by an Executive Committee of nine: one chair, two vice-chairs and six members nominated and approved at Regional Plenary Meetings
- Mix of membership from geospatial & statistical world– NMCAs, NSIs, EO
- Observers sitting at the ExCom – Eurostat, JRC, EEA and EuroGeographics



# UN-GGIM: Europe Secretariat

- The Netherlands is responsible for the Secretariat to UN-GGIM: Europe
- Continued support from EuroGeographics, which funds and provides the secretariat service by agreement with Kadaster Netherlands.
- Well functioning Regional Committee, building on the successful network and experience of collaboration and knowledge exchange of EuroGeographics
- Providing a high profile of European NMCAs in global forum and with other stakeholder communities



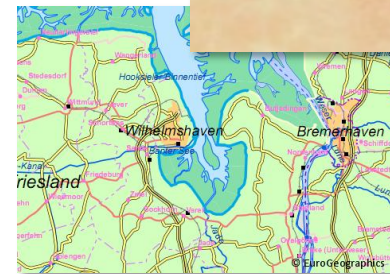
# European Open Data included in key UN boundary information initiative

- Harmonised European open data from official national sources is to be included in the United Nations Second Administrative Level Boundaries (SALB) initiative.
- EuroGeographics, provided its 1:1 million scale topographic open dataset, EuroGlobalMap to assist the project's aim of compiling global administrative boundaries data from authoritative sources.
- Mick Cory, presented the dataset at GGIM7.



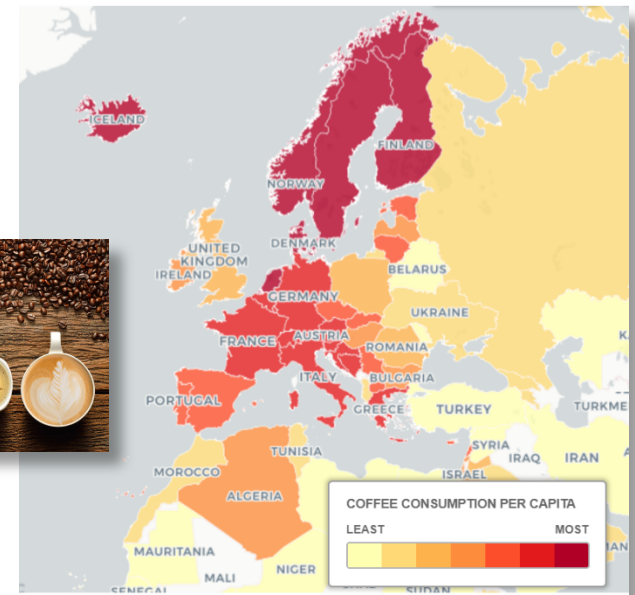
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# Working together – national level

- Collaboration and cooperation between organisations
- Often dependent on:
  - national policy
  - Also personal ideas and vision
  - Forge personal relationships



# Thank you



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