Innovations in Integrating Geospatial and Statistical Information for the SDGs, COVID-19 and National Development

0800 – 1000 am New York (EDT/UTC-4) Wednesday, 18 August, 2021

This Side Event brings together the actors working towards the integration of statistical and geospatial information within the broader geospatial (and statistical) communities. Composed of two sessions, the first focuses on the integration of statistical and geospatial information and the second session focuses on the application of geospatially integrated and enabled statistical data for sustainable development.

Session 1: Integrating Statistical and Geospatial Information (60mins)

The Global Statistical Geospatial Framework: Implementation Guidance
In its decision 10/106, UN-GGIM urged Member States to continue efforts towards the adoption and implementation of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF) and to support institutional coordination and collaboration between national statistical offices, national geospatial information agencies and other relevant stakeholders to support the ongoing implementation of the Framework, especially in the context of the global coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The Committee also requested the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (EG-ISGI) to provide practical guidance in the production and use of integrated geospatial information. To practically respond to this mandate, the EG-ISGI has developed this GSGF Implementation Guide to assist countries with implementing the GSGF and enable them to produce geospatially enabled statistical data for national to global decision-making.

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

08:00 – 08:10   Introduction and Update on the EG-ISGI's Work

08:10 – 08:30   Highlighting the GSGF's Implementation Guidance and Case Studies

- Geocoding
- Common Geographies
- Privacy and Confidentiality

The Integration Of Statistical And Geospatial Information In Central America: Vulnerability Index For Covid-19 (30 mins)
The Central America Project on integration of statistical and geospatial information was developed under the framework of the line of action for cooperation and regional collaboration of the United Nations Regional Committee on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM: Americas), being financed by the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) through its' Technical Assistance Program and led by the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), Mexico and the United States Census Bureau. The main objective of the Central America project is to add value and broaden the region's knowledge on the integration of statistical and geospatial information. With the emergence of the COVID -19 pandemic, the project's technical team made the decision to focus on how they could assist decision-makers in Central America with their response to COVID-19; for which the vulnerability index for COVID-19 was replicated based on the vulnerability index methodology developed by the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) of Colombia.

The main purpose of the segment is to emphasize the importance of the integration of statistical and geospatial information. This will be done by presenting the work and results of the Central American

project´s efforts to assist decision-makers in Central America with their response to COVID-19 by developing a vulnerability index based on the methodology created by the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) of Colombia.

Moderator: Ms Gabriela García Seco – Executive Secretary UN-GGIM: Americas

08:30 – 08:35   Ms Yidda Handal, General Director of Cartography and Geography, Property Institute, Honduras

08:35 – 08:40   Mr Edgar Javier Donis Herrarte, Coordinator of the Vital Statistics Unit, Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance / Department of Epidemiology, Guatemala

08:40– 08:45   Ms Isis Tejada, Head of the National Center for Spatial Data, National Geographic Institute Tommy Guardia, Panama

08:50 – 08:55   Maruc Muñoz, Head of the Spatial Data Department, General Directorate of Statistics and Censuses, El Salvador

08:55 – 09:00   Mr Eduardo Sancho, Coordinator of the quality control and geospatial regulation sub-process, National Geographic Institute, Costa Rica

Session 2: Geospatial Information for Sustainable Development

The SDGs Geospatial Roadmap (35mins)
The SDGs Geospatial Roadmap aims to communicate the value of the support already provided to the IAEG-SDGs, SDG Custodian Agencies, and Member States, providing practical guidance for geospatial information vis-a-vis the SDGs, and elaborates on the vision to see geospatial and location-based information being recognised and accepted as official data for the SDGs and their global indicators. It achieves this by demonstrating how to 'build the bridge' between the statistical and geospatial actors working within the global indicator framework, using the Committee of Expert's frameworks, norms and guides. In contextualizing the Committee's practical guidance for bringing geospatial information to the SDGs, the SDGs Geospatial Roadmap demonstrates how to 'build the bridge' between the statistical and geospatial actors working within the global indicator framework. Implementing the Roadmap will help further contextualise and communicate the work of the Committee of Experts to the broader "data" community, inclusive of the statistical community.

Discussants: Ms Paloma Merodio, INEGI, Mexico and co-Chair of the WGGI
                   Mr Kevin McCormack, Central Statistics Office, Ireland and co-Chair of the WGGI

09:00 – 09:20   The SDGs Geospatial Roadmap
09:20 – 09:25   The Way Forward
09:25 – 09:35   Moderated Discussion

The use of alternative sources and techniques for the integration of statistical and geospatial information. (25 mins)
The convergence between statistical and geospatial information has been revitalized as a fundamental strategy to fulfill and monitor the commitment of States with global, regional and national agendas. This convergence enables to gather in real time large volumes and detailed data on social, economic and environmental aspects, produced by alternative sources and formats. In the midst of this process, it is needed to prioritize the opportunities that arise, not only from accessing and integrating this data, but also from exploring techniques to design and produce information based on the use of technologies such

as Big Data, Science and Data Analysis, Machine learning, Earth Observations, among others, in order support public policies and decision making. In this sense, Colombia's National Statistical Office this segment shares new experiences in the use of novel sources and techniques that support the integration of statistical and geospatial information to address global, regional and national challenges, while strengthening the capacities and cooperation between the entities and organizations that produce geospatially enabled statistical data.

Moderator: Mr. Alvaro Monett, UNECLAC

09:35 – 09:40   Introduction
09:40 – 09:55   Mr Juan Daniel Oviedo, General Director, DANE, Colombia

Mr Claudio Stenner, Geosciences Director, IBGE, Brazil
09:55 – 10:00   Moderated Discussion till close

Supplementary information
The side event is open to all to attend and will focus on the significance of the integration of statistical and geospatial information for decision making. The format of this event will be a presentation, round table discussion and time for questions and answers. The side event will be conducted in English as there will be no simultaneous translations.

Organizers
The Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (EG-ISGI), the IAEG-SDGs Working Group on Geospatial Information (WGGI), DANE Colombia, UN-GGIM Americas and PAIGH

Connection Details
The connection to the side event will be over WebEx.
Meeting link: *https://undesa.webex.com/undesa/j.php?MTID=mb919c336b27138de63b9fdca44821229*
Meeting number (access code): *180 176 5018*
Meeting password: *Meet1234*

Points of Contact

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