

**UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE  
CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS**

**UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS  
ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION  
MANAGEMENT (UN-GGIM): EUROPE**

**Workshop on Integrating Geospatial and Statistical Standards**  
(Stockholm, Sweden 6-8 November 2017)

**INFORMATION NOTICE No. 1**

**I. PURPOSE AND TARGET AUDIENCE OF THE WORKSHOP**

1. This workshop will be organized as part of the Conference of European Statisticians' work programme for 2017, within the context of the High Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics. At the kind invitation of Statistics Sweden, it will take place at Stockholm, Sweden from 6-8 November 2017.
2. The objective of this workshop is to create an opportunity to highlight how geospatial data sources, methods, and standards can be integrated into the production of official statistics, and to identify a plan for future collaboration to support integration and interoperability of statistical and geospatial standards.
3. The workshop will provide an overview of the statistical and geospatial standards and models most relevant to this objective, including standards developed by the High Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics<sup>1</sup> as well as work toward a Statistical Geospatial Framework. It will also showcase recent developments in this area and identify challenges and solutions.
4. The target audience for this workshop includes experts:
  - (i) On statistical and geospatial metadata;
  - (ii) On technical standards relevant to the modernisation of statistics; and
  - (iii) From national mapping, cadastral, statistical or environmental agencies.

**II. AGENDA OF THE WORKSHOP**

5. The programme of the workshop will consist of the following substantive topics:
  - (i) Introduction to Statistical and Geospatial Standards and Models;
  - (ii) Examples of integrating Statistical and Geospatial Standards and Models;
  - (iii) Challenges and solutions for creating Geospatial Statistical Outputs; and
  - (iv) Future Work relevant to Statistical and Geospatial Standards.
6. Detailed explanatory notes on the nature and expected outcomes of these topics are provided in Section VI of this Information Notice.

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<sup>1</sup> Common Statistical Production Architecture (CSPA), Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM), Generic Statistical Information Model (GSIM) and the Generic Activity Model for Statistical Organisations (GAMSO)

### III. PARTICIPATION AND ACCREDITATION

7. Representatives of all Member States of the United Nations and of interested intergovernmental organizations are welcome to participate in the workshop. Participants representing non-governmental organizations in a consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council may also attend. All participants must be accredited by the competent authorities of their country or international organization.

8. All participants attending the seminar are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa. Applications for visas to Sweden should be made as soon as possible to the Embassy of Sweden in the country in which the participant resides, with a reference to the UNECE Workshop on Integrating Geospatial and Statistical Standards. A letter to facilitate obtaining a visa can also be requested.

9. Statistical offices and international organizations should express their interest by **Friday 28 April 2017** if they wish to:

1. Participate in this event; and/or
2. Submit abstracts for one or more of the topics mentioned above.

This should be done by filling in the online form on the following website:

<http://www1.unece.org/stat/platform/display/Geo17/Your+Participation+and+Contribution>

10. Participants should also separately register their security information online at the site <https://www2.unece.org/uncdb/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=YGSoty> by **Friday 18 August 2017**, in order to be permitted access to the workshop venue. Please note that the registration process must be fully completed before a request is generated. (When this happens, a message will be displayed that says “*You successfully submitted your application. The application is pending approval.*”)

### IV. TRAVEL AND ACCOMODATION

11. Participants and/or their offices are requested to make their own travel arrangements and hotel reservations. The UNECE secretariat regrets not being able to offer any financial assistance regarding travel and accommodation arrangements.

### V. DOCUMENTATION, METHODS OF WORK AND OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

12. The official language of the workshop is English. Any contributions should, therefore, be submitted in English only. Contributions should normally consist of a paper, plus an accompanying presentation. Other forms of contribution may be proposed. *Full guidelines for contributions will be given following the acceptance of abstracts.* At this stage, contributors should indicate the preferred format of their contributions but please note that due to the nature of the work session, it may not be possible to allocate time to all proposed contributions.

13. The following deadlines and requirements apply:

- A short abstract of the proposed contribution should be submitted as soon as possible and by **Friday 28 April 2017** at the latest, by filling in details on the following website: <http://www1.unece.org/stat/platform/display/Geo17/Your+Participation+and+Contribution> Information about the selection of contributions for the workshop, and guidelines on formatting will be sent to authors using the contact details they enter into the online tool.
- Any written papers must be provided by **Friday 7 July 2017** at the latest.
- Any presentation slides, videos or other electronic materials should be provided by **Monday 2 October** at the latest.

14. Papers will be made available via the following website:

<http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2017.11.geospatial.html>.

Presentations will be added to this website after the workshop. Presentations will not be made available to delegates before the workshop, unless requested by the presenters.

15. Participants are encouraged to download the papers from the website and, where feasible, to use

electronic devices to read papers in order to minimise paper use. Documents posted on the website before the workshop will **not** be distributed in the conference room.

## **VI. EXPLANATORY NOTES TO THE AGENDA**

### **Topic (i): Introduction to Statistical and Geospatial Standards and Models**

**Session Organisers:** Klas Blomqvist, Statistics Sweden and Gerardo Esparza, Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía, Mexico

16. This session will give a brief overview of the International Models and Standards that have been developed in the geospatial community and within the Modernisation of Official Statistics initiatives and which contribute to the interoperability of both statistical information and geospatial information. The goal of the session is to provide a common ground and understanding for the participant about the ongoing initiatives within the different communities.

17. Contributions to this session concerning the following issues would be welcome:

- At the global level: The Global Statistical Geospatial Framework that is being developed by the UN Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Integration (UN-EG ISGI);
- OGC and ISO standards that contribute to the integration of statistical and geospatial information;
- Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX);
- Generic Statistical Information Model (GSIM);
- Common Statistical Production Architecture (CSPA);
- Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM); and
- Generic Activity Model for Statistical Organizations (GAMSO).

### **Topic (ii): Examples of integrating Statistical and Geospatial Standards and Models**

**Session Organisers:** Marie Haldorson, Statistics Sweden and Janusz Dygaszewicz, Central Statistical Office of Poland

18. The aim of this session is to take stock of current best practises, and to showcase good examples of how Statistical and Geospatial Standards and Models can be integrated and/or made more interoperable.

19. Contributions to this session would be welcome of the following topics, for example:

- Examples of regional and national implementations of the Statistical Geospatial Framework;
- Examples of managing geospatial and statistical metadata and metadata structures; and
- Examples of linking statistical outputs to geospatial information.

### **Topic (iii): Challenges and solutions for creating Geospatial Statistical Outputs**

**Session Organisers:** Ekkehard Petri, Eurostat and Timothy Trainor, United States Census Bureau

20. This session seeks to identify the main challenges that are likely to be faced in attempting to integrate statistical and geospatial data and metadata in different stages of statistical production using different standards, as well as any solutions to these challenges. The topics should not be restricted to purely technical interoperability issues but also address conceptual and semantic issues.

21. Contributions to this session could address, for example, the following topics:

- Standardised terminology to describe geospatial-statistical processes, data, methodologies and products;
- Alignment of information models / data structures;
- Linked open data and metadata / automation of linking;
- Challenges in the context of geocoding administrative data and/or Big Data;
- Impact of different disclosure control practices on the comparability of geospatial statistical outputs;
- (Standardised) Spatial-temporal context as a means to integrate information from different sources; and

- Tool based solutions to transform data and metadata into different standards.

**Topic (iv): Future Work relevant to Statistical and Geospatial Standards**

**Session Organisers:** Carol Agius, EuroGeographics and Martin Brady, Australian Bureau of Statistics

22. This session aims to identify a plan for future collaboration supporting the integration and interoperability of statistical and geospatial standards. This plan will take into account existing international activities and initiatives on the integration of geospatial and statistical data and standards, such as: UN-GGIM, the UN Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, the Common Statistical Production Architecture, the GEOSTAT 3 Project; together with wider developments of relevance to this work, such as the work of ISO/TC211, W3C and OGC initiatives.

23. This session will include:

- Invited keynote presentations, summarising the current challenges and issues, and identifying future priorities;
- A discussion panel, comprised of key note speakers and a selection of speakers from the workshop sessions, to respond to questions, discuss proposals and recommend pathways forward; and
- A summary of the key issues stemming from the workshop, together with a draft statement on a way forward for improving the integration and interoperability of statistical and geospatial data, standards and processes.

**VII. VENUE**

24. The workshop will be held at:

Statistics Sweden  
Karlavägen 100,  
Stockholm  
Sweden.

A second information notice will be issued and made available on the workshop website nearer to the dates of this workshop, giving details about the location of the workshop, along with additional logistical information.

**VIII. FURTHER INFORMATION**

25. For further information, please submit queries using the online form described in paragraph 9 of this information note. Alternatively, you may also contact the following organisers:

**Statistics Sweden:**

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**UNECE:**

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