



UN-GGIM EUROPE

UNITED NATIONS
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Bengt Kjellson

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



UN-GGIM – A Global geospatial mandate

At its 47th plenary in July 2011, ECOSOC, recognising the importance of global geospatial information, established the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM); and

- requested the Committee to present to ECOSOC in 2016 a comprehensive review of all aspects of its work and operations, in order to allow Member States to assess its effectiveness; and
- encouraged Member States to hold regular high-level, multi-stakeholder discussions on global geospatial information, including through the convening of global forums, with a view to promoting a comprehensive dialogue with all relevant actors and bodies.



Resolution

2011/24 Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

The Economic and Social Council,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on global geospatial information management³ and the recommendations contained therein;
2. *Recognizes* the need to promote international cooperation in the field of global geospatial information;
3. *Decides*, in this regard, to establish the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, in accordance with the terms of reference contained in the annex to the present resolution, to be established and administered within existing resources and organized accordingly, and requests the Committee to present to the Economic and Social Council in 2016 a comprehensive review of all aspects of its work and operations, in order to allow Member States to assess its effectiveness;
4. *Encourages* Member States to hold regular high-level, multi-stakeholder discussions on global geospatial information, including through the convening of global forums, with a view to promoting a comprehensive dialogue with all relevant actors and bodies;
5. *Emphasizes* the importance of promoting national, regional and global efforts to foster the exchange of knowledge and expertise, to assist developing countries in building and strengthening national capacities in this field.

*47th plenary meeting
27 July 2011*



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.
- Efforts include promoting the use of geospatial information systems and services for modern mapping; methodological development; national and regional capacity-building; standards-setting; data collection, dissemination and sharing; and better integration of geospatial and statistical information systems for Member States.



UN-GGIM: Europe

The aim of UN-GGIM: Europe work is to ensure that the **national mapping and cadastral authorities** and **national statistical institutes** in the **European UN Member States**, the **European Institutions** and **associated bodies work together** to contribute to the more effective management and availability of **geospatial information in Europe**, and its integration with other information, based on user needs and requirements

- The intention of UN-GGIM: Europe is to build on the existing frameworks in Europe by:
 - avoiding duplication of efforts;
 - improving the joint response to user needs and requirements;
 - encouraging geospatial data interoperability, harmonisation and sharing;
 - optimising the overall management of geospatial information in Europe.



Collaboration between UNECE and UN-GGIM: Europe

- UN-GGIM: Europe and the UNECE Secretariat recognise the mutual benefits of working together.
- Are working together to identify strategic areas for collaboration
- One of which is the integration of geospatial, statistical and other information



2030 Agenda: Goals, targets, indicators



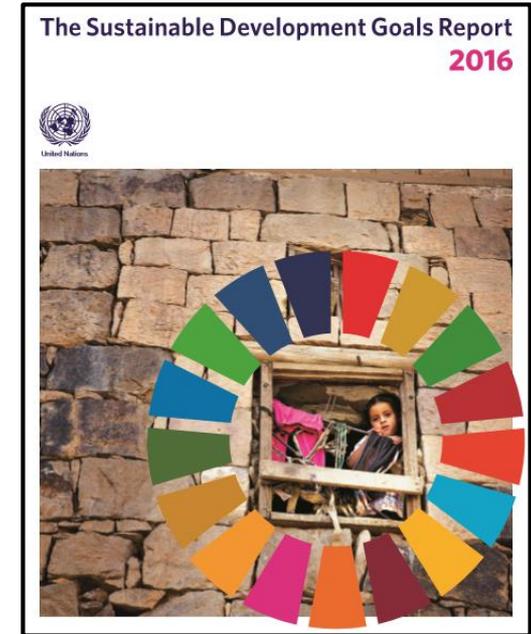
**17
SDGs**

169 Targets

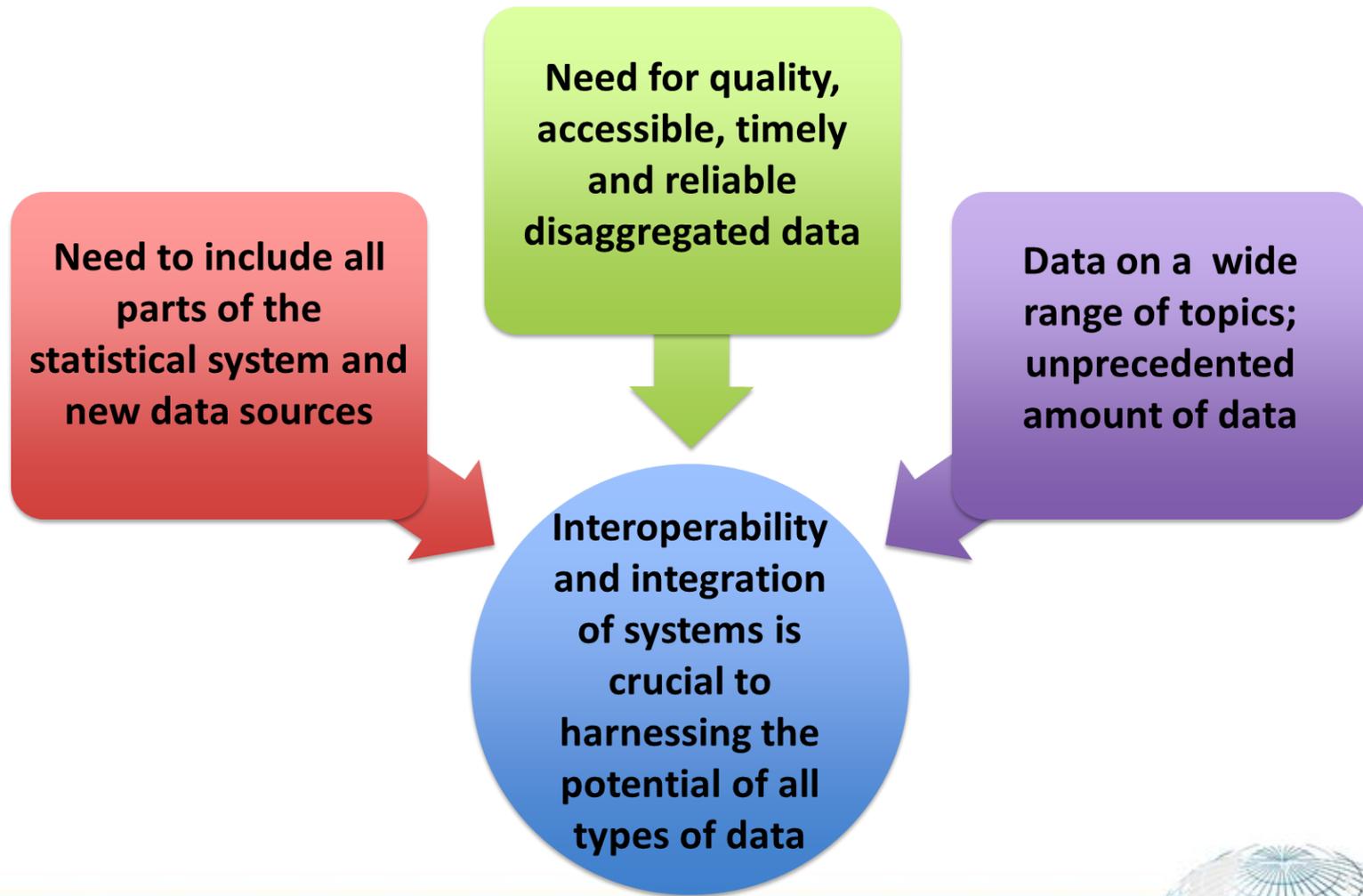
**232 global indicators
to follow-up and review
progress**

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

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



Addressing the data needs for the 2030 Agenda





Frameworks, guides,
norms, standards and
methodological
development

- Strengthening global geospatial information management
- Contribution of regional committees, thematic groups and networks
- Legal and policy frameworks and issues related to authoritative data
- Trends in national institutional arrangements
- Adoption of standards and technical specifications
- Strengthening collaboration with UNGEGN
- United Nations activities in geospatial information management
- Secretariat programme management

UN-GGIM: Strengthening the Global Data Ecosystem



The activities and
efforts
that contribute to
the unique
local-to-global
value of UN-GGIM
for Member States



Normative strengthening,
capacity building and
implementation of GGIM
in support of the 2030 Agenda

- Global geodetic reference frame
- Global fundamental geospatial data themes
- Integration of geospatial, statistical and other information
- Geospatial information and services for disasters
- Land administration and management
- Geospatial information for sustainable development
- National geospatial data and information systems
- Marine geospatial information

Integrating Geospatial and Statistical

Two key components to successfully achieve the integration of geospatial and statistical data:

- People
 - Bring the two communities together to engage with discussions and understanding each others needs, language, gaps, means of collaboration and working together, and ways of moving forward
- Technical solutions
 - Understand the which standards each community uses, recognise the key standards, identify what are the interoperability challenges to greater integration of statistical and geospatial information, and work together to solve them



What is a standard?

There are many definitions but all incorporate the following central elements:

A standard is a documented agreement between providers and consumers, established by consensus, that provides rules, guidelines, or characteristics ensuring materials, products, and services are fit for purpose.

There are two key types of geospatial standards

- Information (or content) standards
 - provide digital coding to locate and describe features on, above or below the Earth's surface
- technology (interface) standards
 - allow different systems and services to work together through standard interfaces



UN-GGIM on Geospatial Standards

- Three key international organizations have the objective of developing standards for geospatial information:
 - The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Technical Committee 211 Geographic information/Geomatics;
 - The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)
 - The International Hydrographic Organization (IHO)
- All were involved with UN-GGIM in developing guide on the role of standards in the management of geospatial management



A Guide to the Role of Standards in
Geospatial Information Management

<http://ggim.un.org/documents/Standards%20Guide%20for%20UNGGIM%20-%20Final.pdf>



UN-GGIM: EUROPE

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UN-GGIM: bring the two communities together

- United Nations Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information
 - a forum for coordination and dialogue among representatives of both statistical and geospatial communities to develop this topic further
- UN-GGIM: Europe Working group on Data Integration
 - Regional working group focused on the integration of geospatial data with other information in order to supply services to users – mainly with statistical information
- Joint UN-GGIM: Europe – ESS Workshops
 - opportunity of bringing together European statistical and geospatial experts in the same room to share and exchange their ideas and experiences



Special Mention

- Ekkehard Petri (Eurostat) & Pier-Giorgio Zaccheddu (Technical Chair of WG Data Integration) joint winners of Lars H. Backer award last week at the European Forum for Geography and Statistics
 - for major contributions to the development of a geospatial foundation for official statistics
- We are starting to work together, bring the relevant people in the same room to discuss the pertinent issues and challenges.



What do we want from this workshop

Two key elements from the next two days

- Collaboration Challenges:
 - How do we further collaborate together? What are the important issues? How do we move forward?
- Technical Challenges:
 - What are they, and how do we overcome them?

We are not looking to reinvent the wheel,
this is about finding and building linkages





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