Fifth Meeting of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals Indicators

Ottawa, Canada

28 – 31 March 2017

Report of the
IAEG-SDGs
Working Group on Geospatial Information

co-Chairs:

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Statistics Sweden

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INEGI Mexico

UN-GGIM | United Nations Secretariat
Global Geospatial Information Management

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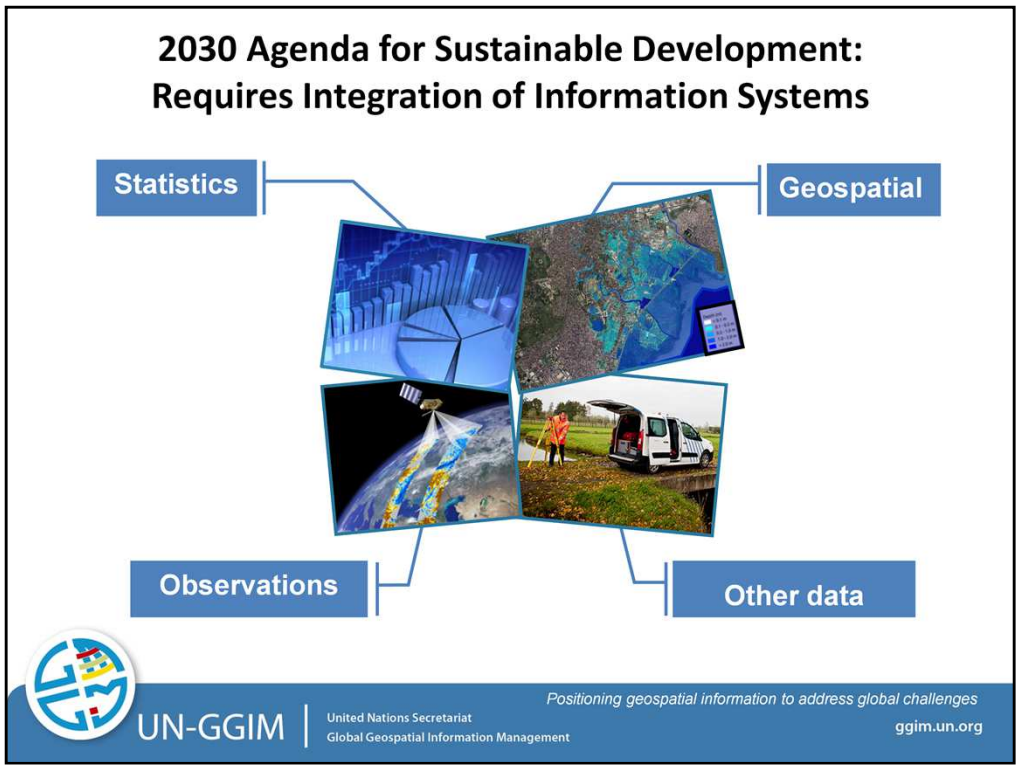


The Working Group on Geospatial Information –

- Established by IAEG-SDGs in April 2016 and reports to the IAEG-SDGs and UN-GGIM.
- Provide expertise and advice as to how geospatial information, earth observations and other new data sources can reliably and consistently contribute to the indicators.
- Review and enhance the agreed global indicators and metadata through a 'geographic location' lens.
- Identify existing geospatial data gaps, methodological and measurement issues to augment and improve the production process of statistical data.
- Propose strategies for undertaking methodological work on specific areas for improving disaggregation by geographic location concepts.

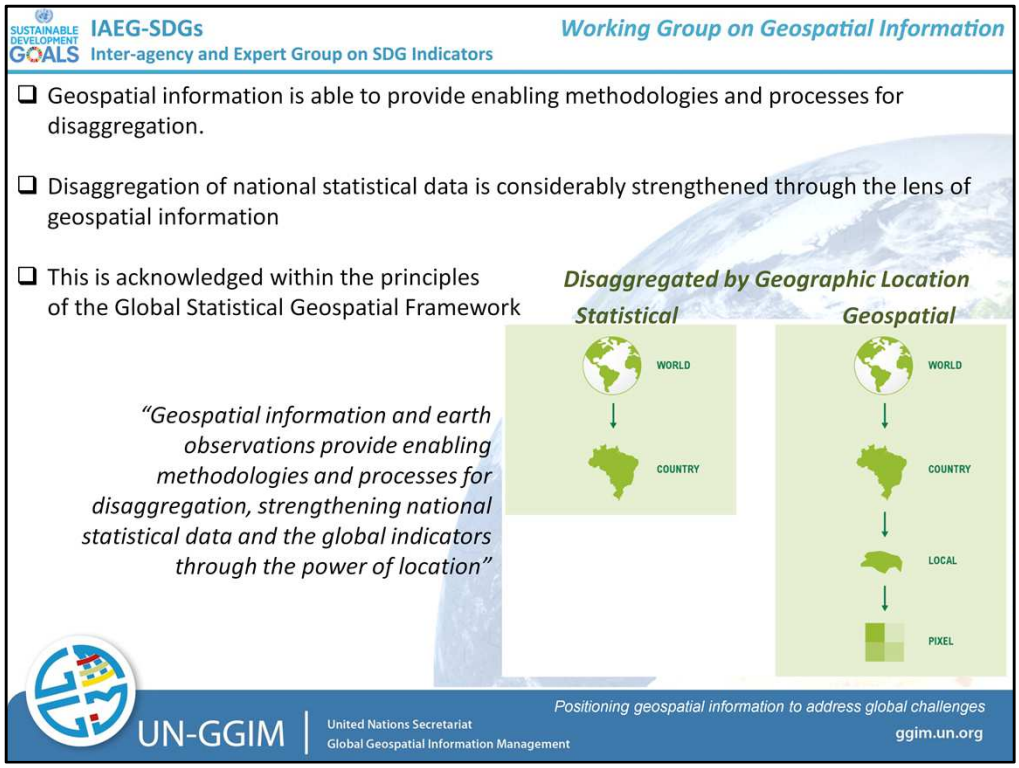
- The **primary objective** is to ensure from both a statistical and geographical (geospatial) perspective that the key principle of the 2030 Agenda, to leave on one behind, is reflected in the global indicator framework

- The **Third Meeting** of the Working Group will be hosted by the Government of China through the National Administration of Surveying, Mapping and Geoinformation in Kunming, China
  8 – 10 May 2017

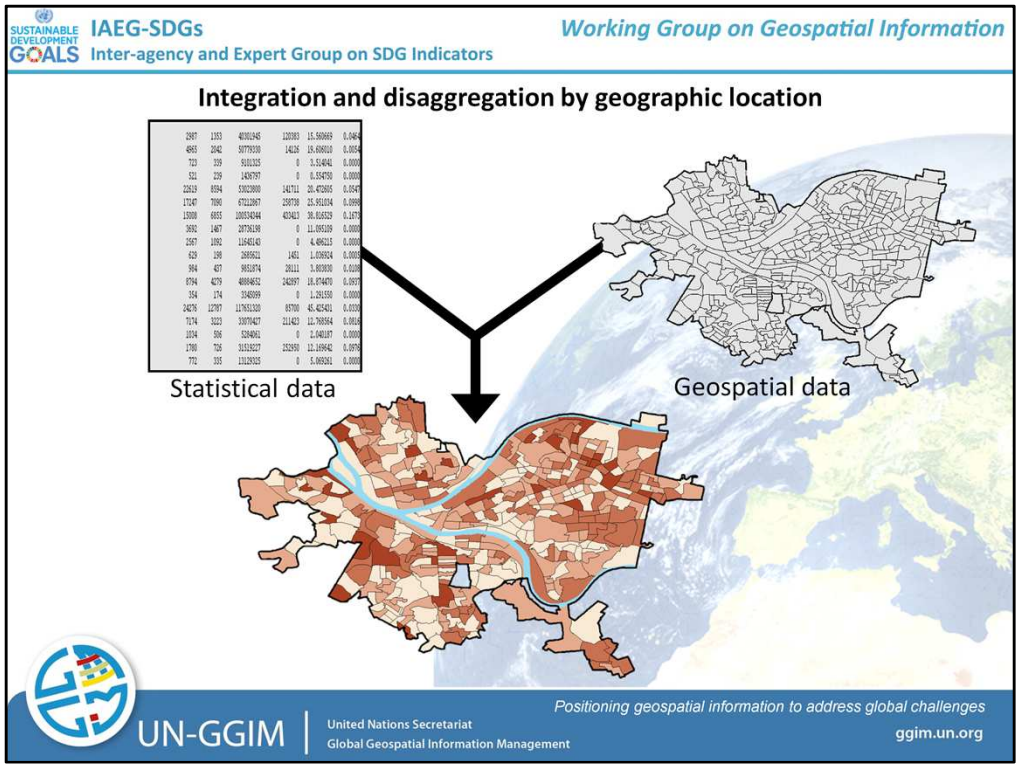
- The **Mexico City Expert Group Meeting** was the second meeting of the Working Group and was hosted by the Government of Mexico through the Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía (INEGI) at its premises in Ciudad de México.
  12 – 14 December 2016
  17 of the 22 members of the Working Group participated
  Total of 30 participants, including invited international and national experts

Highlights from the Mexico City Expert Group Meeting

- Reviewed global indicators through a 'geographic location' lens.
  - Consensus around a short-list of 15 indicators (4 Tier I; 3 Tier II; and 8 Tier III) where geospatial information together with statistical data can contribute directly to the production of the identified indicators
    - *Tier I* 9.c.1 14.5.1 15.1.1 15.1.2
    - *Tier II* 11.2.1 11.3.1 15.4.1
    - *Tier II* 2.4.1 6.3.2 6.5.2 6.6.1 9.1.1 11.7.1 14.2.1 15.3.1
  - An additional short-list of 9 indicators (1 Tier 1; 3 Tier II; 4 Tier III and with multiple classifications) where geospatial information can significantly support the production of these indicators
    - Tier I 1.1.1 (4.5.1)
    - Tier II 5.2.2 5.4.1 15.4.2 (4.5.1)
    - Tier III 1.4.2 5.a.1 5.a.2 11.7.2 (4.5.1)

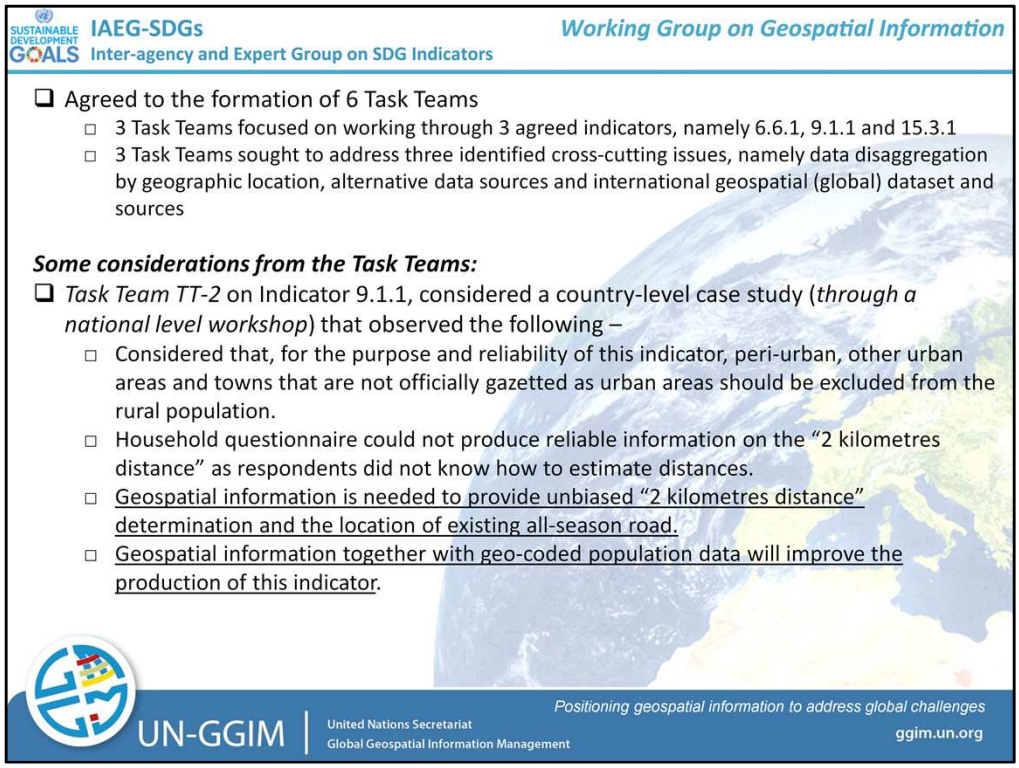


Highlights from the Mexico City Expert Group Meeting – continued.



Highlights from the Mexico City Expert Group Meeting – continued.

Geospatial information and earth observations provide enabling methodologies and processes for disaggregation, strengthening national statistical data and the global indicators through the power of location. Geospatial information provides the “where” to the “what” and the “who”.



- Peri-urban and other urban areas and towns are not officially gazetted as urban areas.
- No national definition for "all-season road" (but through a national level workshop, achieved in-country consensus on categories of classified roads that will be defined as "all-season" as well as to harmonise the road coding system between agencies (national and sub-national) having jurisdiction for roads).

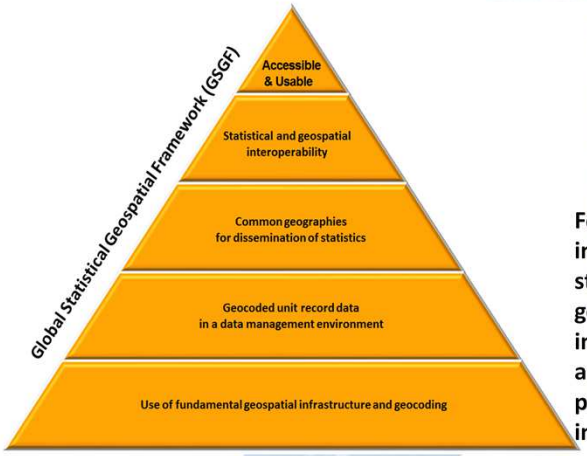
- *Task Team TT-C3* addressed a cross-cutting issue, the role and utilisation of geospatial data from international sources, and observed the following –
  - Recognised the importance of national geospatial data sources
  - Possible to integrate national and international data sets (*notwithstanding certain technical considerations*), as an example, a national forest map from the year 2000 was combined with the annual global tree cover maps for the years 2000-2012 to obtain multi-temporal information on forest change, and to create a baseline estimate of forest change from 2000 to 2020.
  - There are satellite data/imageries that have since become freely available (*and depending on the kind of dataset freely available, there can also be some challenges in its use, often related to the spatial resolution, the need to process and interpret the data before information can be extracted*)

Additional Considerations

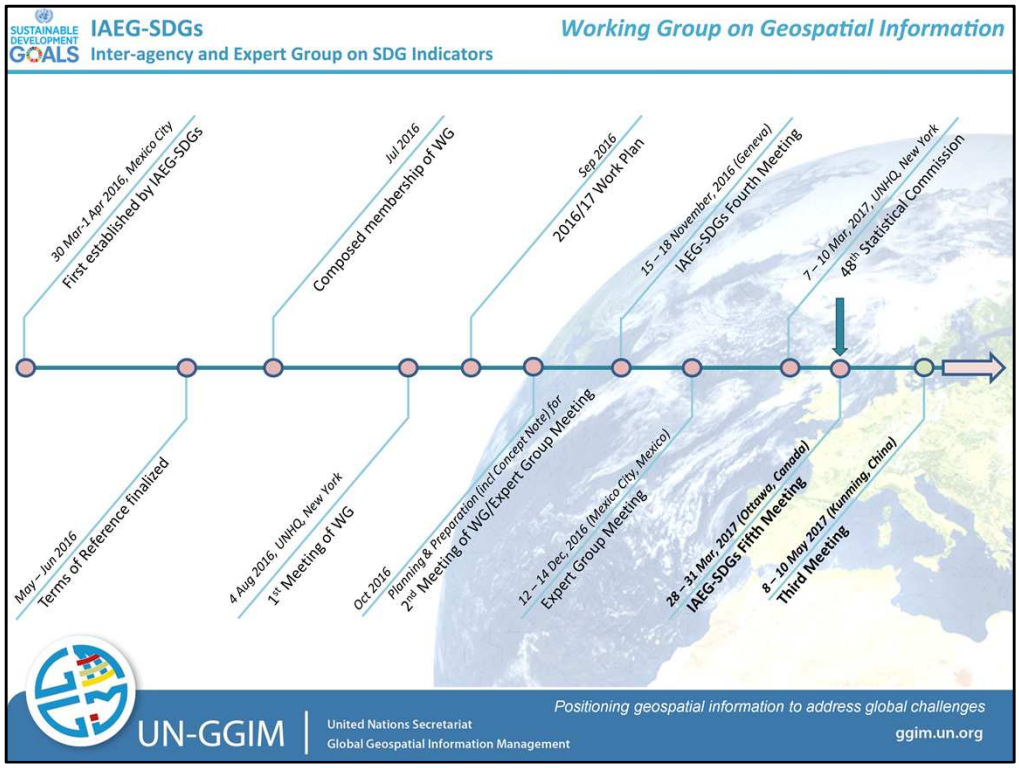
- The Working Group suggests that it engages, sooner rather than later, Custodian Agencies and their partners to -
  - Better understand and support the process and the progress in definition/classification and methodological development for the identified Tier III indicators.
  - Support and contribute to ongoing methodological development and consultation from the geographic location, geospatial information and earth observations aspects.
  - Identify additional and alternative data sources, particularly satellite data/imageries from international sources that are freely available, that could support the production of indicators.

Additional Considerations

- The five guiding principles of the Global Statistical and Geospatial Framework were –
  - Adopted by the 6th Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (*August 2016*); and
  - Endorsed by the 48th Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission (*March 2017*).



Foundation for the integration of statistical and geospatial information including to support and improve the production of indicators.


IAEG-SDGs
Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators
Working Group on Geospatial Information
30 Mar-1 Apr 2016, Mexico City
First established by IAEG-SDGs
May – Jun 2016
Terms of Reference finalized
Jul 2016
Composed membership of WG
4 Aug 2016, UNHQ, New York
1st Meeting of WG
Sep 2016
2016/17 Work Plan
Oct 2016
Planning & Preparation (incl Concept Note) for
2nd Meeting of WG/Expert Group Meeting
12 – 14 Dec, 2016 (Mexico City, Mexico)
Expert Group Meeting
15 – 18 November, 2016 (Geneva)
IAEG-SDGs Fourth Meeting
28 – 31 Mar, 2017 (Ottawa, Canada)
IAEG-SDGs Fifth Meeting
7 – 10 Mar, 2017, UNHQ, New York
48th Statistical Commission
8 – 10 May 2017 (Kunming, China)
Third Meeting
UN-GGIM
United Nations Secretariat
Global Geospatial Information Management
Positioning geospatial information to address global challenges
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