

Executive Summary

The joint GISCO Working Party and meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe on 2 and 3 March 2015 at Eurostat premises in Luxembourg was used to present the current activities of WG B as well as the draft outline report for task B.1 to a wider audience. There was a great interest in the WG B work to collect use cases and to show user needs on data combinations.

The next (physical) meeting of WG B will be held on 7 - 8 May 2015 at BKG premises in Frankfurt am Main. The preliminary agenda is attached to this report (Attachment-1_[...]). In the meantime and before the WG B meeting in May, the WG members are requested to review the draft outline report for deliverable B.1.

It should be noted that currently organisations committed to WG B are either mapping or statistical ones. There is no representation from other thematic areas as yet. Unfortunately neither responses nor even commitment and contribution from the Baltic, Balkan and Eastern European countries (except Poland) can be reported.

As a result the first deliverable “Definition of priority user needs for combination of data” of WG B will be necessarily focused on data combinations of geospatial with statistical data.

The subgroup B.2 and B.3 leaders kindly provided the chair with first drafts of roadmaps on how to elaborate the tasks. The roadmaps are briefly explained in this status report. An updated Gantt chart with tasks and milestones for all three subgroups B.1, B.2 and B.3 was created and is attached to this status report.

Attachments:

- (1) Updated Gantt chart with tasks and milestones for all three subgroups B.1, B.2 and B.3
- (2) Preliminary agenda of the next meeting for WG B 7 - 8 May 2015 in Frankfurt am Main



Background

The main tasks for Work Group B “Data Integration” are summarized in the work plan (status: 14 January 2015). Following the work plan WG B will supply three deliverables for three main tasks. These main tasks consist of associated sub-tasks a) to g).

1. Definition of the priority user needs for combinations of data
2. Recommendation for methods implementing the prioritised combinations of data
3. Recommendation about how to manage side-effects induced by data combinations

The WG B decided to distribute the work to three subgroups, one for each main task. An updated and amended Gantt chart with tasks and milestones for all three subgroups B.1, B.2 and B.3 is attached to this status report (*Attachment-1_[...]*).

1. Definition of the priority user needs for combinations of data (Subgroup B.1)

Lead: Sweden (SE), Contact point: Marie Haldorson, Statistics Sweden

The goal for this subgroup B.1 was described at the last UN-GGIM: Europe Executive Committee meeting on 14 January 2015. By **mid 2015** a report will be prepared as first deliverable consisting of a number of use cases showing the priority user needs for combinations of data.

The main focus is to provide use cases and user needs relevant **for policy makers and politicians** and show how evidence based decision making can benefit from geospatial information in combination with other information on the European, national and sub-national level.

Subgroup B.1 conducted three telephone conferences on 27 January 2015, 18 February 2015 and 17 April 2015. The telephone conferences were focused on the elaboration of the draft outline report for task B.1 “Definition of priority user needs for combination of data”. An average of ten WG B members participated at the telephone conferences.

The joint GISCO Working Party and meeting of UN-GGIM: Europe on 2-3 March 2015 at Eurostat premises in Luxembourg was used to present the draft outline report for task B.1 to a wider audience. Although the meeting in Luxembourg offered little time for a discussion on the draft outline in detail, there was a great interest in the WG B work to collect use cases and to show user needs. The breakout session in the afternoon was successfully used to get feedback from the mapping & statistical community on directions taken. Questions like “Which are the main benefits we need to ‘sell’?” were discussed and suggestions on how to make a strong statement to the policy makers were collected. Afterwards the draft outline report has been uploaded on the UN-GGIM: Europe website and opened up for further amendments and comments.

The draft outline report in its current state shows good and fast progress which will help to have more time for reflection and discussion building on a solid draft. Recent updates mainly concerned the ‘Europe 2020’ strategy and European challenges. Particularly the latter chapter is to be aligned with the updated strategy of the new European Commission.

The next (physical) meeting of WG B will be held on 7 - 8 May 2015 at BKG premises in Frankfurt am Main. The preliminary agenda is attached to this report (*Attachment-2_[...]*).

In the meantime and before the WG B meeting on 7 - 8 May, the WG members are requested to review the draft outline report for deliverable B.1. The full word document and a mapping table to the most relevant political initiatives (excel file) is available at Basecamp: <https://eurogeographics.basecamp.com/login>

The INSPIRE Geospatial World Forum Conference in Lisbon, Portugal, 25- 29 May 2015, will comprise an UN-GGIM event day on Thursday 28 May, comprising, amongst others, the UN-GGIM: Europe session. An



informal Subgroup B.1 meeting is likely to be arranged on Tuesday or Wednesday, 26 or 27 May, at the conference venue or at the Portuguese National Statistics Institute.

Considering the strategic importance of the objectives of WG B, it should be noted that although many organisations are already committed to WG B, these organisations are currently either mapping or statistical ones. There is no representation from other thematic domains as yet. Unfortunately neither responses nor even commitment and contribution from the Baltic, Balkan and Eastern European countries (except Poland) can be reported. As progress and little success it can be stated that at the next WG B meeting in May a representative from the statistical institute of the Republic of Serbia will participate for the first time. And, a use case from Albania has been introduced into the draft outline report.

Anyway, the purpose to share the work between as many participants as possible is important in order to ensure both that individual contributions accommodate participant's availability, and that the collective work, benefitting from as many contributors as possible, will be able to deliver relevant outcome and findings.

As a result the first deliverable “Definition of priority user needs for combination of data” (**June 2015**) of WG B will be necessarily focused on data combinations of geospatial with statistical data. The outcome will be relevant for policy makers and politicians and will show how evidence based decision making can benefit from these specific data combinations on the European, national and sub-national level.

2. Recommendation for methods implementing the prioritised combinations of data (Subgroup B.2)

Lead: United Kingdom (UK), Contact point: James Norris, Ordnance Survey

The subgroup B.2 will deal with recommendations for methods implementing the prioritised combinations of data. Its work will be completed by **mid 2016**.

The subgroup B.2 leader kindly provided the chair in March 2015 with a first draft of a roadmap on how to elaborate the second task. On this rationale the Gantt chart (see Attachment-1_[...]) was amended comprising tasks and preliminary milestones for B.2. Subgroup B.2 has not yet started any actions.

Concerning the planned review of current European Interoperability Frameworks and geospatial and statistical integration projects regarding methods of combinations of data it will be considered that there is, and has been, a lot of work undertaken on defining interoperability frameworks. An initial suggestion would be to undertake some desk research on these ‘historical’ frameworks to identify the information in scope, the organisations/professions involved, success of the frameworks etc.

The proposed outcome for this is a report, initially to UN-GGIM: Europe, but potentially to a wider audience, identifying any gaps not covered, or any links not made. This would have the result of identifying where and how previous frameworks have failed – if indeed they have – and showing the areas where there is a need to renew focus. The initial scope of this report will concentrate on geospatial and statistical data integration projects. Concerning the requested provision of best practice guidance to the interactions between NMCAs/NSIs/Environmental Agencies and other relevant organisations, there is an opportunity to produce a document outlining how best practice has been put in place and to produce a ‘master vision’ for other organisations to follow. It should be noted that this sub-topic is very closely linked to the work of the Secretariat to produce a Knowledge Base for UN-GGIM.

The review of the current use of data from multiple sources to identify case studies and best practices relevant for combinations with core data is likely to be covered by the ongoing work of WG A. This needs to be checked in order to avoid duplication of resources and effort by Member States to provide information to UN-GGIM: Europe.



3. Recommendation about how to manage side-effects induced by data combinations (Subgroup B.3)

Lead: Austria (AT), Contact point: Markus Jobst, BEV Austria

The subgroup B.3 will deal with recommendations about how to manage side-effects induced by data combinations. Its work will be completed by **mid 2016**.

The subgroup B.3 leader kindly provided the chair in March 2015 with a first draft of a roadmap on how to elaborate the third task. Similar to B.2. the Gantt chart was updated with tasks and preliminary milestones for Subgroup B.3. Also this subgroup has also not yet started any actions.

Side effects induced by data combinations may result in unavailability, non-usability and misuse of data and their providing services. Three aspects concerning data interoperability, stewardship and governance allow for sustainable access, ongoing maintenance and use of geo-information.

Proposed B.3 milestones comprise, amongst others, the collection of the state-of-the-art for data interoperability (barriers of use, privacy safeguards, access and multi-sourced data quality), geospatial stewardship applications and spatial data infrastructure governance by questionnaire and literature review. Furthermore state-of-the-art procedures/experiences in terms of side effects induced by data combinations shall be assigned and structured as well the relevance of stewardship and governance for multi-sourced spatial applications explored and enhanced. Finally a conceptual code of practice for managing side effects in multi-sourced spatial data shall be drafted and agreed upon. A proposed content of the conceptual code of practice has been drafted by subgroup B.3 leader. The draft will be presented at the next WG B meeting on 7-8 May 2015.

In November 2015 the European Forum for Geography and Statistics (EFGS) Conference is to be held in Vienna, Austria (www.statistik.at/efgs2015). It will be hosted by Statistics Austria with the support from Eurostat and in co-operation with the Austrian Federal Office of Metrology and Surveying (BEV). In addition, BEV is also responsible for the International Cartographic Association (ICA) European Symposium on Cartography (<http://eurocarto.org/>). This is an event in the scope of the ongoing International Year of the Map. The symposium will take place at the same dates, i.e. in parallel to the EFGS one, i.e. from 10-12 November 2015. Both events are sponsored and shall be substantially supported by UN GGIM (global) and UN-GGIM: Europe. A clarification is needed.

4. Proposals & recommendations for the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is kindly asked to accept the following proposals & recommendations by WG B:

- | # | Proposals & recommendations |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Accept the focus of the first deliverable B.1 "Definition of priority user needs for combination of data" of WG B (June 2015) on data combinations of geospatial with statistical data |
| 2 | Clarify UN-GGIM: Europe events in conjunction with events in Vienna, Austria (ICA Symposium on Cartography and the EFGS Conference) both 10 – 12 November 2015 |
| 3 | Cross-check with WG A the review of the current use of data from multiple sources to identify case studies and best practices relevant for combinations with core data |
| 4 | Continue to motivate European countries and institutions which are currently missing to participate and contribute to WG A & B activities |
| 5 | Provide advice on cooperation methods with UN-GGIM global Task Groups like on "National Institutional Arrangements" |

