

Sustainable Development Goals

UN-GGIM Task Team

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UN-GGIM: EUROPE

UNITED NATIONS INITIATIVE ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT



Developments

- Creation of the "One pager" and matrix
 - Reviewed by UN-GGIM: Europe and the TT
- Task Team presentation – Forum at the 47th Statistical Committee meeting NY
 - Good feedback from the statistical community
- ESS Eurostat meeting in Luxembourg
 - The stat/geo community review encountered challenges applying the One-pager
- IAEG-SDG meeting Mexico
 - Took advice from the Forum I NY
 - decision on geospatial sub-group



One pager - template

2030 Agenda - Sustainable Development Goals

Suggested geospatial data integration

Goal: 15: Protect, restore and manage forests, combat desertification, and halt biodiversity loss

Target: 15.1: By 2020, increase significantly the forest area, sustainably managed and inland freshwater ecosystems and drylands, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals

Indicator: 15.1.1: Forest area as a proportion of total land area

Definition of the indicator: The indicator measures the forest area as a proportion of total land area. Forests are defined as land with trees higher than 5 m, with a canopy closure of at least 10%, and thresholds in situ. It does not include land with trees less than 5 m, or land with a canopy closure of less than 10%.

Indicator disaggregation: The indicator is disaggregated by land use, forest type, and forest management system.

Current suggested data sources: Countries are asked to assign a value to the indicator reporting (where Tier 1 data is available, recent data (i.e., less than 10 years) is preferred, with ground validation more than 10 years) from a range of sources including expert estimates, satellite data, and other data sources.

GAP analysis: *"Reliable methods for estimating emissions from forest degradation are still lacking. We suggest using a common input source (Sentinel 2) to monitor the world's forest, thus eliminating the need for a Tier system. This will also standardize reporting methods and create enhanced transparency – building on a close partnership with national forest authorities".*

List required geospatial data: *"Need for high-resolution multispectral imagery (including NIR) for detailed images of land and vegetation, with frequent revisit times to provide frequent images".*

Data quality requirements: *"This indicator requires high repetition rates to acquire large data coverage in short time periods (short repetition cycle), high spatial resolution (10-20m) to assess also forest stands with low canopy closure, 10, 20 and 60m, and high spectral resolution to discriminate between forest and spectrally similar vegetation types".*

Data availability: *"Sentinel data are globally available, downloadable from ESA. Access to Sentinel data is free, full and open for the broad Regional, National, European and International user community. User registration is based on a user account pre-registration, with a dedicated single account per Agreement".*

Data collection: *"Sentinel data access infrastructure for International Agreements (International Agreements Data Hub), can provide access to a rolling on-line archive covering the last month(s) of Sentinel's core products, available within their specific timeliness. Furthermore, access to off-line archived data is available on-request".*

Data interpretation: *"Forest cover change assessment procedure: Acquire EO data, site image control and pre-processing, preliminary labeling of objects and changes, verification and adjustments of labels, validation and adding forest and land use dimension".*

Method of integration: *"1) A governance structure is agreed nationally and internationally, 2) A global reference data set is created, 3) Monitoring cycles are agreed, 4) Methods for change detection are developed, and the centrally established dataset is revised, 5) An online portal like the Forest Resources Information Management System "FRIMS" is used as channel for interaction between FAO and each national authority".*



March forum on geospatial at UN-STAT

- SDFE participated at a forum 47. UN-STAT meeting, and presented the developed and populated template for geospatial information in relation to specific indicators
- The forum pointed the following short term needs:
 - Provide a tangible means to look at and review alternative data sources to provide geospatial inputs into the metadata for the agreed global indicators;
 - Work through the indicators to disclose where geospatial information could support the monitoring setup;
 - To seek to support the IAEG-SDGs in the process of defining the metadata for the indicators, by providing detailed suggestions for the use of geospatial and Earth observations data and methods – guided by the template format for indicator analysis.
- In the longer term:
 - To build capacity and capability, and need collaboration between the statistical and the geospatial thematic communities; and
 - Identify entities responsible for compiling geospatial data for global reporting on individual indicators and discussing data flow from the national to the global level in line with the agreed procedures for the methodological review of the indicators.



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Ways in which Geo supports indicators

- The Forum agreed that geospatial information and Earth observations are able to contribute to the SDGs and global indicator framework in a number of prominent ways:
 - As direct indicator data in itself – such as in forest monitoring;
 - To support statistical data as geospatial inputs that will augment and/or provide more rigor to the statistical data;
 - To enrich and validate the national statistical data inputs;
 - To communicate and visualize the geographic dimensions and context of the indicators where appropriate; and
 - To provide granularity and disaggregation of the indicators where appropriate.



ESS meeting in Luxembourg

- SDFE gave a presentation showing One pager examples – and briefing on the NY forum
- The following workshop gave the mixed stat/geo participants a good understanding of the topic and issues pertaining to it
- Some of the feedback:
 - Indicators are not always clear, and if not clear than cannot identify the data needed to measure them.
 - The one pager was very complicated from a geospatial perspective....will it also be understood outside the community?
 - Some basic geo concepts need to be defined to improve understanding, example: proximity, location, accessibility etc.
 - Once the indicators are viewed from national perspectives there will be differences to overcome



IAEG-SDG meeting Mexico

- At the Mexico meeting main objectives of the meeting were to
 - discuss the tier system for the global indicators; 2) define the global reporting mechanisms; and 3) establish procedures for the refinement of indicators and review of indicator framework
- IAEG-SDGs will set up sub-groups on
 - 1. data disaggregation, 2. statistical data and metadata exchange, 3. geospatial information and 4. indicator interlinkages
 - The 3 latter working groups will be open to other countries, international organisations and stakeholders by invitation based on level of expertise and area of work
- A number of countries within the IAEG-SDGs have offered to be on the sub-group, and Mexico has offered to lead it:
 - Mexico (lead), Cabo Verde, Colombia, Brazil, Mexico, Jamaica, Uganda, Sweden (Marie Haldorson)
- There has been no reach out to other entities, including UN-GGIM, at this stage! Is all on hold in the UN-STAT Secretariat



Geospatial Sub-group ToR

- 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 ... the role of NSOs in considering geospatial information and earth observations, ...as part of official statistics for SDG indicators
- Review the agreed indicators and metadata through a 'geographic location' lens and identify existing geospatial data gaps, methodological and measurements issues
- Provide national and regional level experiences and best practices in geospatial data production to measure leaving no one behind
- Propose strategies for undertaking methodological work on specific areas for improving disaggregation by geographic location concepts for national and sub-national reporting, including to the HLG and to the Statistical Commission
- Consider how geospatial information can contribute to the indicators and metadata: 1) as a direct indicator in itself; 2) to support and augment statistical data; 3) to improve the production process of statistical data; 4) to validate national statistical data inputs; 5) to communicate and visualize the geographic dimensions and context of the indicators where appropriate; and 6) to provide granularity and disaggregation of the indicators where appropriate.



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Task Team

- The sub-group will be the new “practical” setup for geospatial in relation to SDG/indicators
- This ends the need for the TT, and creates a need to “hook up” to the sub-group
- TT report to the 6. UN-GGIM Expert Meeting in NY
 - Summary report for TT and SDG’s soon available
 - The final technical report is due to be submitted by 1 July. Will be produced in cooperation with UN:GGIM secretariat



Way forward

- Task Team to produce a final report and presentation for the 6th UN-GGIM Expert Meeting in NY
- Engage with the IAEG-subgroup activities as they are the main driver for linking geospatial to SDG implementation
- Proposed actions:
 - Create a link from UN-GGIM: Europe activities to the IAEG-subgroup
 - ExCom approach the UN-GGIM secretariat/UN-STAT and request an update on the situation and membership from UN-GGIM: Europe



Thank you!



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