# Evaluation of the Webinar
## #4: United Nations Geospatial Network Data Hub: One UN Geospatial Situation Room

15 November 2023

Synopsis

**UN-GGIM: Europe | Line of Work on SDGs**

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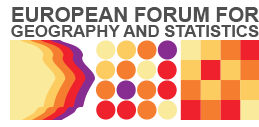
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# FIGURES

# INTRODUCTION

Supporting sustainable development requires huge amounts of data - including geospatial information - from a wide range of sources. Data integration is therefore essential for generating statistics and information necessary to improve the livelihood of people and protect our planet. Data integration is not only a technical process but also requires cooperation between various stakeholders within and across organisations. Like the original situation room in the White House, a geospatial situation room would bring relevant stakeholders together and function as an analysis and advisory body for policy makers by providing integrated, timely and decision ready information.

For this situation room to fulfil its mission, the cooperating partners would need to speak the same technical language, have matching technical skills, work on interoperable data infrastructures and technical platforms, and work in organisations that have data integration and cooperation deeply rooted into their culture, organisation, and mission statement.

The goal of this webinar is to introduce the concept of a geospatial situation room using the example of the UN Geospatial Network Hub and other regional data integration cooperation networks and to describe the various contributions, international UN and European organisations can make to the ideal of one global, well-structured technical, semantic and organisation platform for integrated geospatial data.

At the global level, the One United Nations Geospatial Situation Room intends to provide access to data, documents, maps, web-services, and references to the United Nations Secretariat and System activities on geospatial information, committee of experts, mapping groups, and other relevant geo-resources. As such, it comes close to the model of a situation room supporting all UN entities with geospatial information, the latest One UN Geospatial Situation Room concept document was presented at the Thirteenth session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), and an initial version of its hub was made available on the UN Geospatial Network website.

In Europe, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the European Forum for Statistics and Geography (EFGS) and European Union (EU) institutions work together on advancing the integration of statistical and geospatial information by developing methodological guidance for data integration and by bringing together users and producers, front runners and less developed countries. In this context, the model of a situation room can be more understood as a learning and information sharing platform. The webinar will also show-case a concrete example of a geospatial situation room. The Joint Research Centre of the European Commission provides several systems and platforms for international disaster and crisis prevention and response that integrate vast amounts of geospatial, statistical and other types of information.

# PARTICIPATING PARTIES

## 1.  United Nations Geospatial hub

The United Nations Geospatial hub is comprised of a team of geospatial experts in the Office of Information and Communications Technology, Global Service Centre and further offices in peace operations and their field missions. The office also has Co-Secretariat responsibilities, with the Statistics Division, to UN-GGIM.

**Presentation title:**
The 'One UN Geospatial Situation Room' of the UN Geospatial Network

## 2.  UNECE statistics division

The UNECE statistics division supports national statistical systems to meet the data needs of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, through methodological guidance modernization of statistics capacity development.

**Presentation title:**
Road mapping geospatial enabled statistics for Sustainable Development and the contribution of the GeoGSBPM

## 3.  EFGS

EFGS is a network of experts from more than 40 states and territories working on the development of the best practices in the production of geostatistics in Europe, and to advance the integration of statistical and geospatial information.

**Presentation title:**
How can GSGF: Europe support SDG indicators

## 4.  Joint Research Centre European Crisis Management Laboratory

The Joint Research Centre European Crisis Management Laboratory acts as a research, development and test facility for the information and communication technology (ICT) focused solutions which integrate devices, applications, and crisis management related information sources to support crisis management needs, such as threats analysis, common situation awareness, and collaborative decision making.

**Presentation title:**
The European Crisis Management Laboratory (ECML): activities and systems for situational awareness

## OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of this webinar consist of:

- To introduce the concept of a geospatial situation room;
- To describe the various contributions that may come from international organisations towards one global geospatial situation room;
- To present international applications of the geospatial situation room concept.

## OUTCOME OF THE DISCUSSION

Due to the fact that this webinar had too many themes on the agenda, the event has been running out of time. Therefore, an interactive discussion with the audience has not yet taken place.

Probably one theme out of all might be of interest to be tackled further within the remaining working group of the Line of Work on SDG: the topic of disaster and crisis prevention.

The following questions were raised in the discussion ,

## CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

This webinar introduces the concept of a geospatial situation room, such as the UN Geospatial Network Hub and other data integration cooperation networks, and describes, in general terms, the diversified contributions that international UN and European organisations can make to the ideal of one global geospatial situation room, a well-structured technical, semantical and organisation platform for integrated geospatial data. International applications of the concept are presented to exemplify how it works and the benefits of it.

The main conclusions obtained with this webinar are:

- Geospatial situation rooms are a promising concept to pull data from different sources together.
- The implementation of geospatial situation rooms relies on the availability of harmonized data respecting technical and semantic standards.
- The implementation of the Global Geospatial Statistical Framework and the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework is a key element to support the required harmonisation and standardization of geospatial information.
- Emergency situations are the most relevant use case for geospatial situation rooms but they can also support regular decision taking and policy making.
- Geospatial and statistical offices should consider the requirements for disaster and crisis management when releasing data e.g. by respecting standards and improving timeliness and frequency of data releases.

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# ANNEX

+++Results of the slido poll++++

**From which country are you joining us from today?**　　0 2 7



Croatia
Belgium Sweden USA Greece Czechia
Poland United Kingdom
Ireland italy **Belarus** Switzerland
Portugal
Luxemburg
UK
Denmark**Spain** Indonesia
Germany
Austria

Survey (1/9)　　0 1 5

**Do you contribute to the development of SDG indicators?**

Yes

80 %

No

20 %

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## If yes what are typical issues that hinder your work?

Missing data

29 %

Lack of information

21 %

Spatial resolution of data not suitable

36 %

Other

14 %

## If other, please specify

- Missing comparable data in our country to the data on which SDG indicators are in some cases are based in the European and other comparable countries.
- Not sure how some of the SDGs were developed, the data doesn't seem like it could be practically collected or reported.
- Capacity to produce SDG indicators

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## Have you been able to use the GSGF Europe to improve your contribution to monitoring the SDGs

Yes

27 %

No

73 %

## How?

- Not me and my job.
- Following the principles.
- Calculation of SDG indicators using GIS technologies

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## GSGF and GSBPM are methodological frameworks to support data integration. In your view what is required to start implementing these frameworks in your organisation?
(1/2)

- We already started to implement and use the frameworks.
- Incorporation in the operational plans and action plans of the organization and strong support from the administration
- Integrating the frameworks would be more efficient. Also, there is required políticas Will to implement these types of framework.

- Simply staff and dedicated resources to start working through, and executive buy-in to support the effort.
- Concrete need to generate statistics requiring data integration
- Compliance with national legislation
- A common acceptance of methods used and

## GSGF and GSBPM are methodological frameworks to support data integration. In your view what is required to start implementing these frameworks in your organisation?
(2/2)

therefore come to a common understanding.
- Mainly willingness/support at top and middle management as well as experts. They are not complex frameworks.

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## Have you already worked on a crisis situation by providing data for analysis or decision taking?

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Yes

53 %

No

47 %

## What was the biggest issue when making the data fit for purpose?

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- Georeferencing and geospatial adaptation of the data from different centuries.
- Reactions from professional stakeholders. They wanted data fit for their interests and not for purpose
- Spatial and temporal resolution of data
- Unification of classifiers
- feeling helpful for the community
- COVID
- Data wrangling and bringing the correct understanding for the data in.

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# How can the methodologies support quick analysis of fast evolving situations and scenario development?

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- To be used as a showcase of something that works in practice. 😉
- By using them in real-world cases and support decision-makers
- Giving guidelines.
- If they're fully implemented, it would help with the rapid production and dissemination of this data
- to be better organized and ready when geospatial data are neede

- A formalized mechanic approach that excludes human interpretation, but is focused on the characteristic of situations and scenarios including its appropriate transmission to human knowledge.

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