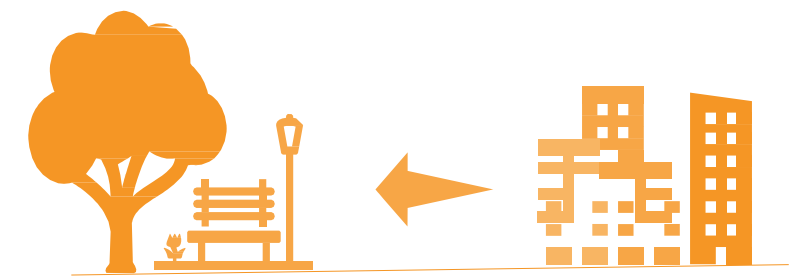


UN-GGIM: Europe – SDG Line of Work Webinar

Wednesday 4th June 2025, 10:00 – 12:00 CEST



Concept Note

Agenda

Welcome and Introduction to the Session

Setting the scene: the work of the UN-GGIM Europe - Line of Work on SDG

Célia Ferreira, Statistics Portugal and Gwendolin Seidner, BKG Germany

Theoretical Context: Keynote

SDG target 11.7: providing universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces: rationale and policy context

Dennis Mwaniki, UN-Habitat

Q&A Moderated by Hugo Poelman (UN-GGIM: Europe, ex-EC DG REGIO)

Use Cases and Methodological insights

SDG 11.7.1 in the context of Polish cities: access to public open spaces

Natalia Kotulak, Statistics Poland

The presentation discusses the topic of access to data in order to determine the indicator and describes the methodology related to the subsequent stages of processing. It presents the results of the SDG 11.7.1 indicator and context indicators from the study.

Land cover, land use and settlement information systems for SDG indicators

Julián Delgado Hernández, IGN Spain

In 2023, the National Geographic Institute (IGN) and the National Statistical Institute agreed to collaborate in the generation of SDG indicators. This presentation describes the generation of 11.7.1 from land cover, land use and settlements information integrated with population statistics, at different levels of aggregation (populated places, municipalities, provinces, etc.).

A short walk to the park... and beyond? Experiences in EU-wide SDG 11.7.1 calculation and follow-up test cases

Hugo Poelman, UN-GGIM: Europe, ex-EC DG REGIO

This presentation will synthesize the experiences of DG REGIO in calculating EU-wide indicators related to SDG 11.7.1 in a harmonized way, focusing on access to green urban areas. In addition, some follow-up work in extending and enhancing the indicators will be discussed.

Access to quiet green areas in European Urban Centres

Jaume Fons-Esteve, European Environment Agency ETC HE/DI

The presentation will introduce an analysis of availability and access to quiet green areas, by combining geodata reported under the Environmental Noise Directive, together with Europe-wide data on green areas, streets and population distribution.

Modelling accessibility to urban green areas using Open Earth Observations Data and the GEOSS platform

Gregory Giuliani, University of Geneva

In this talk, a methodology will be presented combining satellite and crowdsourced earth observation data to model physical accessibility to urban green spaces using freely and openly available data from the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS). This method has been implemented as a service, enabling the analysis of accessibility to urban green spaces for any city in the world.

Q&A Moderated by Hugo Poelman (UN-GGIM: Europe, ex-EC DG REGIO)

Wrap-up and closing

Background

Target 11.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals aims to ensure the availability of open and public space for all inhabitants of cities.

Open and public spaces play a wide variety of roles in urban areas. The overall productivity of a city relates to the presence of adequate open spaces, while public open spaces – often green spaces, but also non-green spaces) are relevant in ensuring climate change resilience and adaptation of cities, in promoting socially equitable life circumstances for the inhabitants, and in being beneficial for the health and well-being of the urban population.

A meaningful reporting on the state of play and the progress towards this target needs to take into account the spatial heterogeneity of urban areas throughout countries and regions. Hence, adequate geospatial data and analysis play a key role in providing indicators that reflect this diversity and that enhance the monitoring of different cities throughout the territory.

Various organisations in Europe, at international, national, regional and local level have worked on operationalising indicator 11.7.1 and/or related indicators, using a wide range of authoritative and non-authoritative geospatial data and tools. Each of them has faced challenges of data availability, integration or harmonisation, and has applied strategies and methods to cope with those. Hence, in an attempt to progress towards an even more integrated approach of providing meaningful indicators, this webinar proposes to take stock of some of the European and national experiences, to exchange best practices and opportunities and to jointly discuss opportunities for further development of the indicator framework.



Goals

By means of a set of European and national presentations, the webinar will mainly focus on the following topics:

A series of themes related to geospatial data content:

- identifying public green areas and taking into account their characteristics
- identifying open public areas that are non-green
- using appropriate street network data, assessing network use by pedestrians / assessing the walkability of the network
- using data on the spatial distribution of population, including segmentation of population
- choosing the spatial units that are used for analysis and for reporting

A series of cross-cutting issues:

- How to move from non-authoritative to authoritative data
- Which role for earth observation data
- Using harmonisation data sources versus specific (national or regional) sources?
- Tackle issues of openness of data, data integration and exchange, and disclosure control
- Assess the potential role of non-traditional ancillary data.

Institutions involved

By Alphabetical Order:

BKG – Germany
European Commission DG Regional and Urban Policy
European Environment Agency (EEA)
IGN Spain
Statistics Poland
Statistics Portugal
UN-Habitat
University of Geneva

