CODE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND IN UN/LOCODE

9 NOVEMBER 2021
ISO 3166-1

- The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: “GB”. 
Some stakeholders suggest a unique code to distinguish Northern Ireland from the rest of the UK for trade and taxation purposes.

The UK and EU have agreed between themselves to use the codes “XI” (for Northern Ireland) and “XU” (for UK minus Northern Ireland),

ISO 3166 codes beginning with “X” are used as “user-assigned codes”
DISCUSSION BY ISO

At its 44th meeting on 17 May 2021, the Iso 3166 Maintenance Agency discussed:

- As a parent subdivision in ISO 3166-2
- Noted the agreement between the UK and the EU
OPTION 1: CREATE “=” ENTRY FOR LOCATIONS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

- Special entry ‘=‘
  
  for example, GB LAR = XI LAR

- Special code “XI”

- Flexibility
OPTION 2: ASSIGN “XI” FOR LOCATIONS IN NORTHERN IRELAND AND “GB” FOR OTHER LOCATIONS IN THE UK

- Replace the code “GB” with “XI” for locations in Northern Ireland

  For example: GB LAR

- It might impact UN/LOCODE child codes.
- A potential risk
OPTION 3: CREATE DOUBLE UN/LOCODE ENTRIES FOR LOCATIONS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

- Create a double entry
  For example: GB LAR

- Confusion
OPTION 4: KEEP THE COUNTRY CODE “GB” BUT ADD A COMMENT IN THE “REMARK” COLUMN

- Adding “NIR” to flag locations in Northern Ireland and indicting the corresponding code starting with “XI” in the column “Remark”.

- Identifying all UN/LOCODE locations in Northern Ireland
- Not identifying through the first two-character of the UN/LOCODE
OPTION 5

Do nothing.
Decision?

Thank You