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## Economic Commission for Europe

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Item 5 of the provisional agenda

**Work of the High-level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics**

## **Report on the work of the High-Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics in 2021**

### **Addendum**

## **Geospatial view of the Generic Statistical Business Process Model**

**Prepared by the Supporting Standards Group of the High-Level Group  
on the Modernisation of Official Statistics**

*Summary*

This note describes the result of the work on a geospatial view of the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GeoGSBPM) finalized in 2021 by the HLG-MOS Supporting Standards Group. It is presented to the Conference of European Statisticians for information.



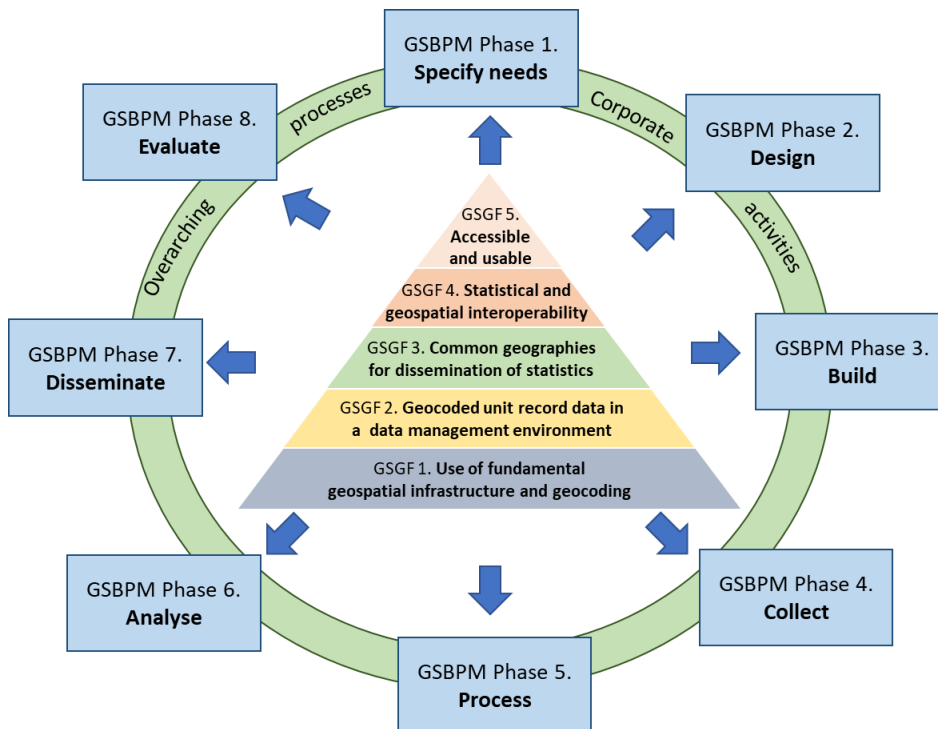
## I. Introduction

1. Statistical data combined with location information can provide critical knowledge to understand multi-faceted issues of the current society, such as sustainable development, rapid urbanization, and climate change. Geospatially enabled statistics, particularly at the sub-national and high spatial resolution, also greatly increase the relevance of statistical information by providing the geographic context of the phenomenon captured by the data.
2. While geography has long been understood as a fundamental component of the work of statistical organizations (e.g., in the geographical classification for designing sampling and processing of raw data), the scope and extent of its use have been limited. To meet the users' information needs in an increasingly complex and intertwined society, statistical data needs to be geospatially enabled using consistent and common geographies in an accessible and usable format.

## II. Geospatial view of the Generic Statistical Business Process Model

3. Using two global frameworks, the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) and the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework (GSGF), the Geospatial Task Team under the Supporting Standards Group of the High-Level Group on the Modernisation of Official Statistics (HLG-MOS) developed a Geospatial view of GSBPM (GeoGSBPM).

Figure 1.  
GSBPM and GSGF principles



4. GeoGSBPM describes geospatial-related activities and considerations in each stage of the production process from design (e.g., the importance of point-based location when designing geospatial variables), process (e.g., need for standardization of the geospatial information in the different datasets) to dissemination (e.g., additional user support needed for geospatial information products). GeoGSBPM also covers activities that are not limited to a certain stage of the process but rather apply throughout the entire production process or should be conducted at a corporate level (e.g., quality management, strategic collaboration with other actors in a geospatial data ecosystem). These geospatial-related actions and considerations in GeoGSBPM are identified while taking into account GSGF Principles (see

Figure 1) so that the resulting statistics have a higher level of standardization and geospatial flexibility and a greater capacity for data integration.

5. GeoGSBPM provides a structure to document geospatial-related activities so that relevant actions are taken at the right stage of the production process. Furthermore, by embedding these activities in the existing structure of GSBPM, widely used for standardization of various statistical processes, GeoGSBPM can facilitate the integration of geospatial-related activities into the regular production processes in statistical organizations and assist the efforts to make the statistical and geospatial standards and technologies more interoperable. Common activities required for producing geospatially enabled statistics identified through GeoGSBPM can also help to share geospatial services, methods and tools that can be applied regardless of data types, domains and output formats.

6. As the pandemic highlighted, statistical organizations should be prepared to produce geospatially enabled statistics in an efficient and timely manner, which requires an understanding of the role and characteristics of geography at all stages of the statistical production process. GeoGSBPM provides a reference framework for statistical organizations to design and produce geospatially enabled statistics in a systematic and consistent way.

7. More details about the GeoGSBPM can be found on a dedicated [wiki page](#).

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