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

**Business case for GSIM revision**

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| This business case was prepared by Supporting Standards Group and is submitted to the HLG-MOS for their approval. |

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| **1 Purpose** |
| GSIM is a reference framework for statistical information that provides a set of standardised, consistently described information objects, which are the inputs and outputs in the design and production of statistics. This model was endorsed by the CES in 2017 on the understanding that it should be updated every 5 years.Recent experiences from users in implementing GSIM in their organisations show there is need for additional clarifications and detail on definitions and concepts, better communication of the model and more explanations on the linkages with other models (e.g. GSBPM, CSPA). The purpose of this activity is to revise GSIM to enhance usability of the model. |
| **2 Description of the activity** |
| To make the revision process efficient while needs from various user groups reflected as much as possible, the revision project will be phased over three major tasks with alternating degree of public/focused group involvement: 1. Compilation of user feedback: Feedback on GSIM was requested from users in statistical organisations in 2017. This feedback will be compiled on GSIM wiki discussion forum.
2. Review of feedback and revision: Revision Team will review the feedback compiled from users, analyse relevant issues, evaluate possible solutions to address the issues and draft a revised version of GSIM. The major change will be made only for those that have a strong business case and widespread support from users. The task is expected to be completed by June 2018.
3. Public consultation and revision: The revised version of GSIM will be made open for consultation in June 2018. Users will be informed about major changes made and rationales behind, and asked for feedback on the draft. The Revision Team will make further changes if necessary.

The outputs from the GSIM Revision will include:* Updated GSIM Specification
* Updated Clickable GSIM
* Updated GSIM Communication Document
* New appendix on the Variables part of GSIM (similar to Classification appendix)
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| **3 Alternatives considered** |
| The alternative would be non-action (not to revise the GSIM). It has been agreed that GSIM will be revised every 5 years. The risk of non-action would be that GSIM is implemented differently by different users which will lose its value as a standard. |
| **4 Expected Benefits** |
|[x]  Reduced costs |
|[ ]  Increased efficiency |
|[x]  Reduced risks |
|[ ]  New capabilities to meet user needs |
| Justification: The revision will provide clearer definition and examples to guide users in implementing GSIM. This will reduce risk of GSIM implemented differently in different organizations leading to problems with CSPA compatibility. The proposed GSIM variable annex will also provide a new tool that could reduce collective cost of organizations implementing GSIM. |
| **5 Type of Activity** |
|[ ]  New activity |
|[x]  Extension of existing activity |
|[ ]  Other *(specify below)* |
| This activity can be considered as maintenance of GSIM, hence extension of existing activities. |
| **6 Which key priorities in the HLG-MOS Strategic Framework does the proposed project relate to?** |
|[ ]  Take cost out of our organisations to reinvest in more value added areas |
|[ ]  Explore new areas collectively and leverage each other’s' research investments in specific areas |
|[x]  Provide whole of government data ecosystems based on international standards, for better estimates in key policy areas |
|[ ]  Renew our governance and operating processes |
| Justification: GSIM is one of four cornerstones (along with GSBPM, Methods and Technology) for standards-based modernisation vision of the HLG-MOS. Ensuring GSIM updated to address user needs will retain its current users, increase acceptance by new users, promote the use of standards across broader statistical communities, thereby increase chance for harmonising production process, and efficiency and effectiveness of how statistical organisations operates their business. |
| **7 How does the proposed activity relate to other activities under the HLG-MOS?** |
| The GSIM revision is related to the revision of GSBPM. The two revisions will be coordinated to ensure they are in alignment. The project will also indirectly support efficiency-related activities under the HLG-MOS as increasing number of organisations are using GSIM as a basis for measuring operational cost, training need, system performances and etc. |
| **8 Proposed start and end dates** |
| **Start:** November, 2017**End:** September, 2018 |
| **9 Expected costs** |
| A small task team of experts working virtually |