FIVE PRINCIPLES OF

Global Statistical and Geospatial Framework

REGIONAL WEBINAR SERIES

PRINCIPLE 3

Establishing Common Geographies

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The GSGF

10th anniversary
UN·EG-ISGI
UNITED NATIONS • EXPERT GROUP ON THE INTEGRATION OF STATISTICAL AND GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION

Advancing the GSGF

Principle 1 – Geospatial Infrastructure

- Defines the geospatial reference framework.
- Establishes address standards and infrastructure, such as address registers, housing unit addresses and other building identifiers.
- Standardization of geocoding infrastructure and methods (systems and tools).

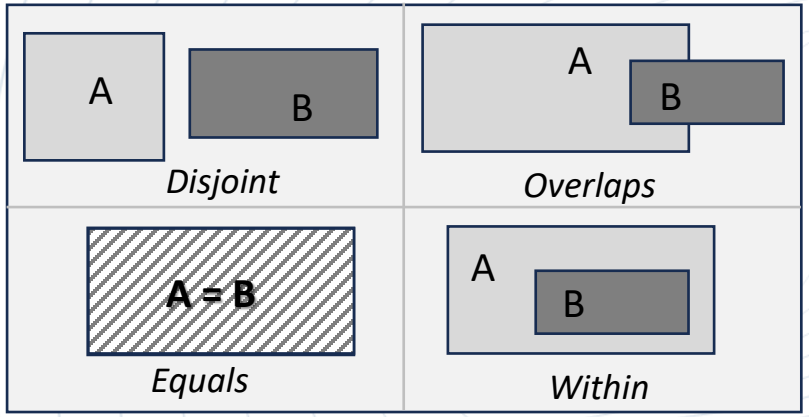
Principle 2 – Geocoding of Unit Records

- Application of geocoding infrastructure to statistical unit records.
- Ensures statistical infrastructure have integrated geospatial references assigned.
- Harmonized methodology and standards for integrating location information with statistical records.
- The “bridge” between the statistical and geospatial domains.

Principle 3

Establishing Common Geographies

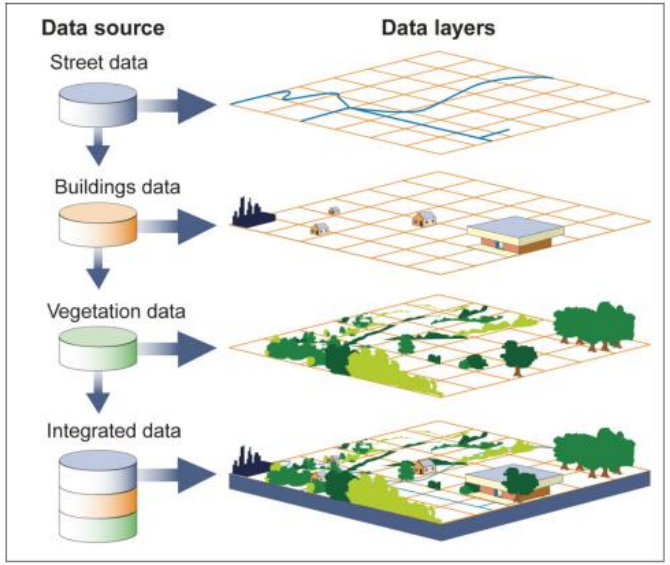
- Efficient geographic aggregation of data.
- Establishes hierarchies and defines topological relationships between geographic units.
- Interoperability within the nation and the globe.
- Standards enforcement and quality control.
- Protection of privacy and disclosure avoidance.



Principle 3

Establishing Common Geographies

- Understand data user needs – what are the relevant units of geography used in the nation?
- What level geography are used for different types of analysis?
- Political/administrative geography and custom statistical geography.
- Consistent comparison between different domains for fully integrated national datasets.



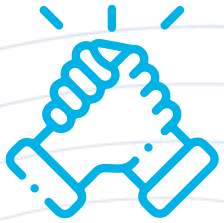
Source: GAO.

Principle 3

Establishing Common Geographies

Establish name and coding systems to ensure unique identification of units are recorded and accessible.

Monitor and manage change – many geographies change frequently.



Essential to provide easy and open access to these resources.

Geographic Identifier Structure	Example Geographic Area	Example Geo Identifier
STATE	Texas	48
STATE+COUNTY	Texas, Harris County	48201
STATE+COUNTY+TRACT	Texas, Harris County, Census Tract 2231	48201223100
STATE+COUNTY+TRACT+BLOCK GROUP	Texas, Harris County, Census Tract 2231, Block Group 1	482012231001
STATE+COUNTY+TRACT+BLOCK	Texas, Harris County, Census Tract 2231, Block 1050	482012231001050

Thanks