

European Forum for Geography and Statistics

MINUTES - EFGS/ GFGS Steering Committee

Time: Thurs Nov 30, 2017 10-12 CET		Participants: EFGS/ GFGS Steering Committee		Presence
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1. Minutes and Agenda

- No corrections from last meeting
- AOB – pls see below!

2. Meeting calendar

Dec	Tues 19th – 10-12	Scheduled meeting cancelled
	Thurs 28th	Scheduled meeting cancelled
Jan	Thurs 25th – 10-12	Tele meeting
Feb	Thurs 14-15	Personal meeting GEOSTAT3
March	Thurs 29 th ???	Tele meeting
April	GISCO meeting Luxembourg	Personal meeting

EFGS

3. EFGS Conference

- **Follow up Dublin 2017**
 - GA meeting - minutes attached. To be distributed over the web => **Ana/Monika**
- **Preparation for Helsinki Oct 16-18 2018** => **Marja**
 - Experiences – particularly good and not so good. Message to next organizer Dermot advised on early set up of conference website, frequent news letters as reminders, early contact with potential key note speakers, work with flyers. Many participants from NMAs and academia. Dermot will send details and update for conference manual. Used two different registration methods. Website set up by mapping authority, had less control over content. Mixed feelings about length of presentations, some say too short, some that 10 minutes is ok.

Important to have mapping agencies present, should send invitations via EuroGeographics

Overall very good impression of Dublin conference.

Marja consider both, also parallel sessions is an option. Helsinki conference will be over 3 days.

- Presentations – available when?
Dermot say they will do this as soon as possible
 - Conference handbook - relevant info from Vienna, Paris and Dublin
 - Available conference reports to EUROSTAT?
Eurostat flexible to ways of reporting from a conference
 - Additional sponsors, Eurostat's opinion – additional funds from Eurostat?
Ekkehard will check with their financial help desk.
 - Conference Theme, Motto and timetable for invitation – need to be prepared to be discussed at the next SC tele meeting in January 2018.
Suggestions will be gathered by Marja.
- **Lars Backer Award** => contribution to overall long term visionary work
 - Nomination group = Award winners, EFGS President and EFGS Secretary.
 - Price gift – statuette and diploma – to be continued

4. GEOSTAT 3 - status

=> Jerker

Jerker told the plan is to have a draft for European framework for comments before Christmas. Else, the project partners will have their next meeting 14-15th of February.

5. EFGS WEB – any update?

=> Anna/Monika

Anna had technical difficulties in attending the meeting. She messages however that there has been a news release summing up the Dublin conference.

It was stressed that it was important to transfer content from conference web site to EFGS website. Conference has a limited life time of 12 months in all. After that the URL will be taken down.

GFGS

6. Reporting and follow up from GFGS meeting

=> Vilni

Vilni summed up the report from the GFGS meeting and added some news

- Renewed commitments
Memorandum of Understanding/Letter of Intent signed by CIESIN and EU JRC in 2014/2015.
KRIHS considering Memorandum of Understanding/Letter of Intent and ways to contribute to global forum.
US Census do likewise.
All GFGS member encouraged to do the same to enforce commitments.
- GFGS mission paper
To be drafted and discussed by GFGS within next tele meeting. One scope is to have a clearer differentiation between goals of EFGS and GFGS.
- Demonstration project
GFGS has agreed upon working towards a demonstration project, having OGC DGGS and SDG as backbone and framework. Funding is to be sorted out. Would be good to have OGC DGGS as an option implemented in GSBPM and tested out.
- Venue for a global forum
Marja says this is a possibility. Also possible for GFGS meeting during or in front of conference. Need to come back to details later.

7. AOB

- **Handbook of Spatial Statistics** – Status =>Vincent
Handbook soon ready in French.
Janusz asked to write preface.
Ekkehard will discuss with management if Eurostat could write a foreword as well.
English version planned in June. Will be available on EFGS website.
- **Quality conference**
Ekkehard asked for input and comments for call for abstracts.
Conference to be held 26-29th of June in Krakow, Poland.
All encouraged to give feedback.
- **Piggy bank**
Suggestion from Ekkehard to have a “piggybank” for giving gifts to hosts and award winners. Marina willing to manage this bank. All agreed upon this.
- **SDG as standing topic**
Ekkehard proposed SDG as standing topic in SC meetings, to mutual exchange of information and keeping track of work done around.
Dermot took responsibility of this.

8. Next meeting:

Tele meeting Jan 25th of January 2018