

# Second Administrative Level Boundaries **SALB**



Geospatial Information Section  
& Statistics Division

- Global perspectives



### **Rio + 20 The Future We Want (GA, RES/66/288)**

...reliable geospatial information in support of comprehensive hazard and risk assessment...



### **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (GA, RES/70/1)**

...promoting a framework for disaggregated data to link between statistics and geographic location...



### **UN-GGIM (Report E/C.20/2016/5/Add.1)**

...highlighted administrative boundaries as a priority “core global fundamental geospatial data theme”...

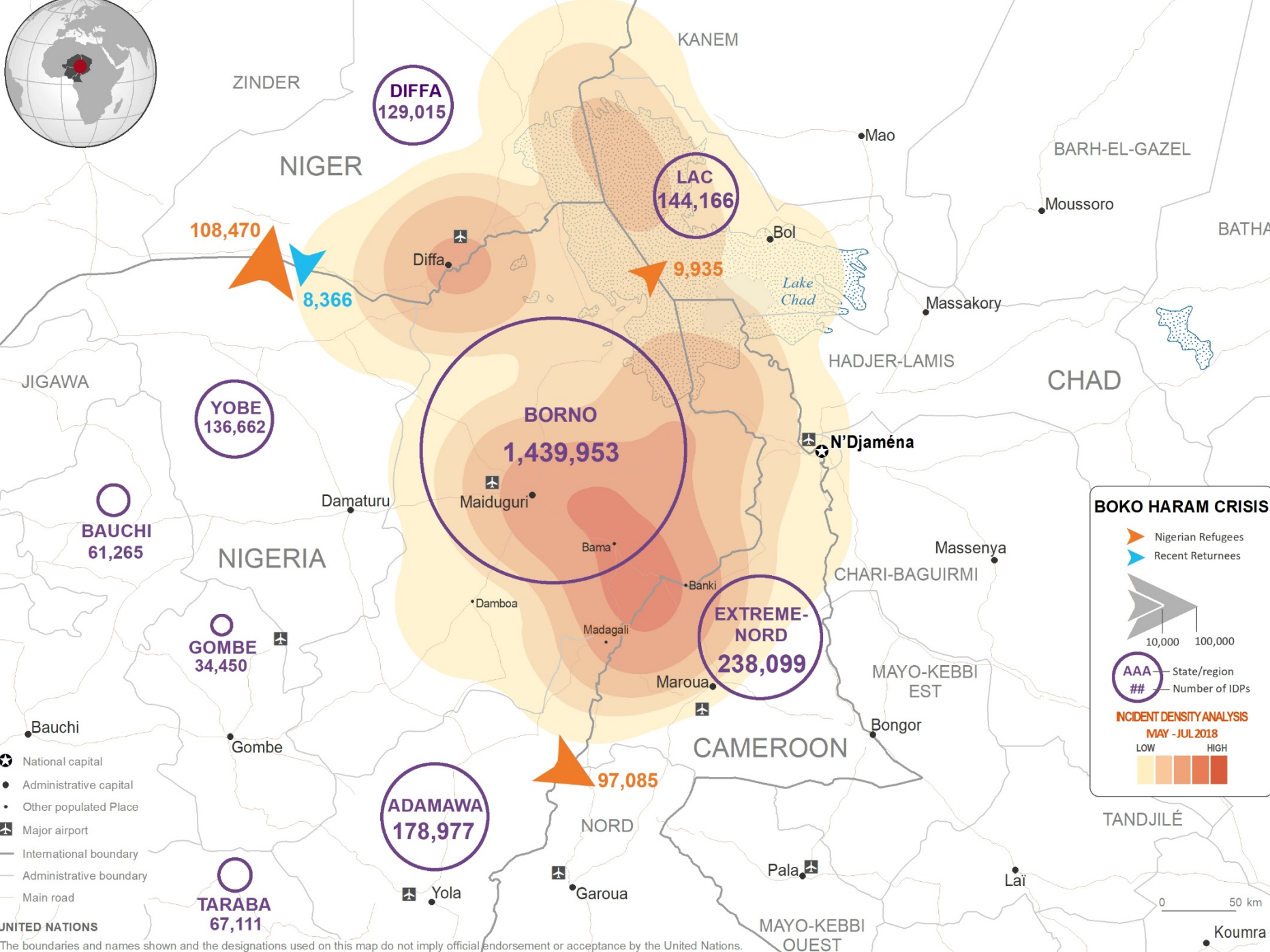


### **UNGEEN**

...promoting the recording of locally-used names reflecting the languages and traditions and the use of these names internationally...



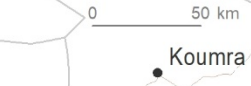
**Cyclone Idai**  
**Mozambique**  
OCHA Saviano Abreu



UNITED NATIONS  
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

**BOKO HARAM CRISIS**

- Nigerian Refugees
- Recent Returnees
- 10,000 100,000
- AAA** — State/region
- ##** — Number of IDPs
- INCIDENT DENSITY ANALYSIS**  
MAY - JUL 2018
- LOW HIGH



- National capital
- Administrative capital
- Other populated Place
- Major airport
- International boundary
- Administrative boundary
- Main road

**DIFFA**  
129,015

**LAC**  
144,166

**108,470**

**8,366**

**9,935**

**YOBE**  
136,662

**BORNO**  
1,439,953

**BAUCHI**  
61,265

**GOMBE**  
34,450

**EXTREME-NORD**  
238,099

**ADAMAWA**  
178,977

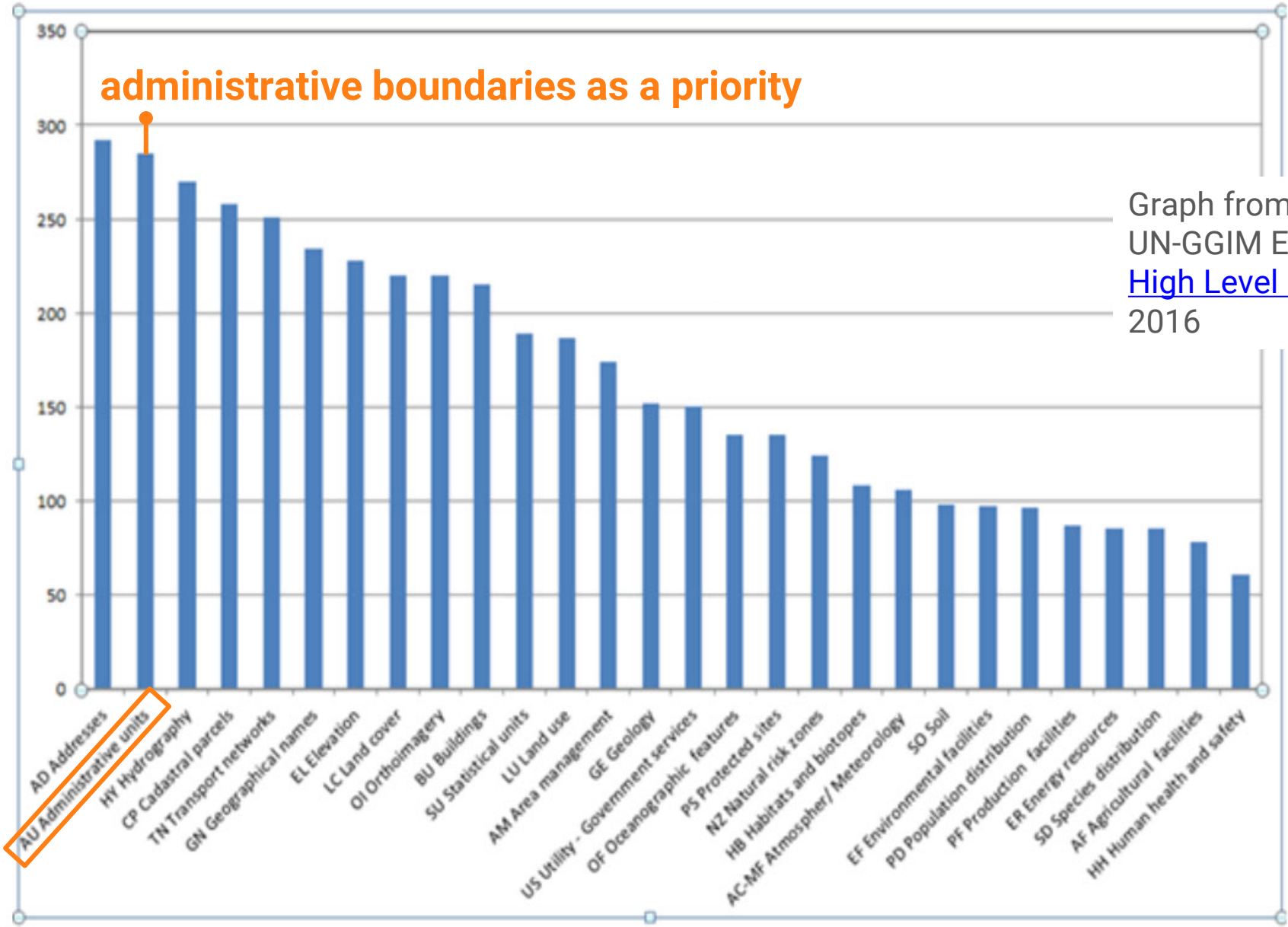
**TARABA**  
67,111

**97,085**



**National Population Census  
South Sudan**  
UN Tim McKulka

# administrative boundaries as a priority



Graph from:  
UN-GGIM Europe  
[High Level Forum](#)  
2016



# Functional Areas

Functional Areas are the geographical extent of administrative, legislative, regulatory, electoral, statistical, governance, service delivery and activity management areas.



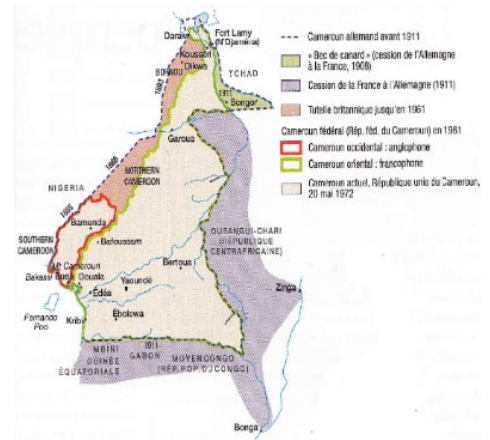
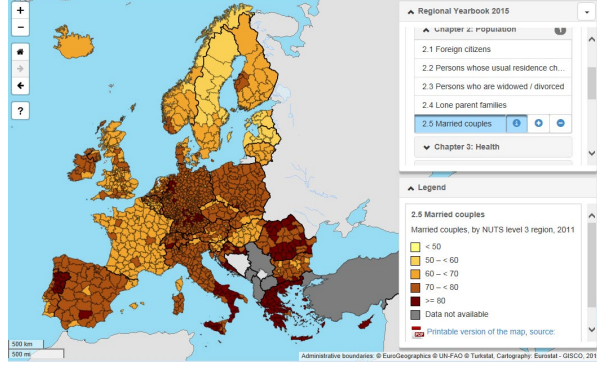




- Enable users can discover, consume, integrate & analyze
  - based on standardized global geospatial data
  - produce cross-country analysis (disasters, socio-economics, environment)
  - enable in-country operations/support with reliable data
  - generate consistent bi-products and analysis
  - facilitate disaggregated data link between statistics and geographic location
  - provide authoritative data to the international community, researchers, cartographers and statisticians

- Current situation on administrative boundaries
  - No reliable global dataset on common geographies
  - Few pan-national or regional reliable geospatial
  - Few standard and harmonized dataset
  - a lot of unstructured and unreliable data available
  - many places to retrieve data
  - from unknown sources
  - many fragmented approaches

How can the geospatial community provide **authoritative common geographies and names globally** so users can discover, use, analyse and integrate different datasets ?



SDG  
MONITORING



INTEGRATION  
WITH STATISTICS



GEOGRAPHIC  
NAMES



ADMINISTRATIVE  
BOUNDARIES



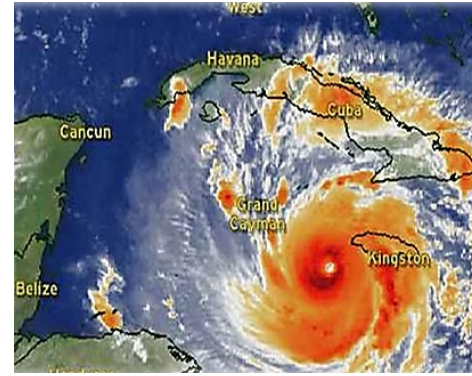
STANDARDS



RISK &  
DISASTERS



GEODETTIC  
FRAMEWORK



- Programme overall goals

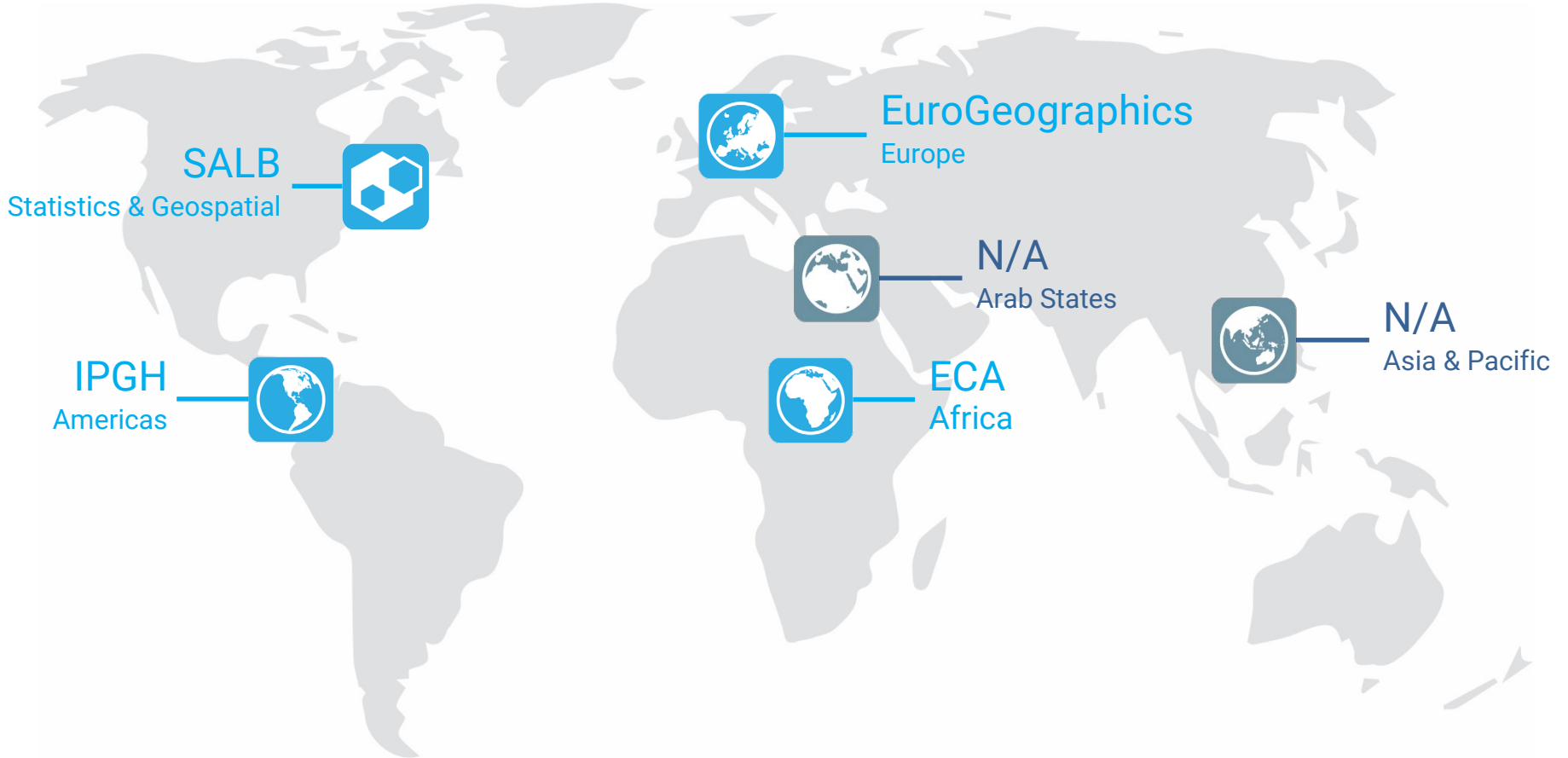
Advocate for the work of National Mapping Agencies

Promote geospatial information while ensuring national ownership

Facilitate the availability of global and authoritative geospatial data

Promote the standardization of geospatial data and names

Enable the international community



- Implementation objectives

The Second Administrative Level Boundaries (SALB) initiative aims at compiling data on administrative boundaries and names from authoritative source such as the official National Geospatial Information Authorities.

In this context SALB objectives are:

- i. compile authoritative **GIS dataset worldwide for administrative boundaries** and names for level 1 and 2, at 1million scale; and
- ii. identify and maintain **point of contacts of the National Geospatial Authorities** on administrative boundaries and names.
- iii. maintain an overview of **historical changes of national administrative units**

- Benefits of SALB



Institutional approach



Common geography



Global coordinate system



Uniform scale



Common data specifications



Standard encoding format



Common dissemination platform

National ownership

Administrative boundaries/units

WGS84

1 million

Latin names and attributions

.shp and .gml

website outreach/advocacy

- Programme process



Note Verbale to  
Permanent Missions

ADVOCACY &  
AWARENESS



National Mapping  
focal point

INSTITUTIONAL  
VALIDATION



Submission of  
national data

NATIONAL  
OWNERSHIP



Data processing &  
standardization

NAME & DATA  
STANDARDS



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GLOBAL  
AUTHORITATIVE



REFERENCE: DFS/ICTD/2018/0292

## Official outreach



Note Verbale to  
Permanent Missions

ADVOCACY &  
AWARENESS

The Secretariat of the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions of Member States to the United Nations and has the honour to provide information on the Second Administrative Level Boundary (SALB) programme. The SALB programme aims to avail a global authoritative core fundamental geospatial data theme regarding administrative boundaries and names, at a scale of 1:1,000,000, from Member States.

The United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), established by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) under resolution 2011/24<sup>1</sup>, has highlighted administrative boundaries as a priority “core global fundamental geospatial data theme.” In this context, the Committee has recognized the importance of SALB and encouraged Member States to continue their “contribution of authoritative information and data to the SALB programme.” The SALB programme also contributes to the implementation of ECOSOC resolution 2016/27 for “the coordination and coherence of global geospatial information management, in capacity-building, norm-setting, data collection, data dissemination and data sharing, among others, through appropriate coordination mechanisms, including in the broader United Nations system, building on the work of the Committee of Experts.”<sup>2</sup>

The Department of Field Support (DFS), in close coordination with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, is currently taking the lead on the SALB programme. The programme will contribute to the establishment of a global geospatial framework in support of the recommendations of Member States on the provision of “reliable geospatial information” highlighted in General Assembly Resolution 66/288, “The Future We Want,”<sup>3</sup> for the implementation of sustainable development policy-making, programming and project operations. The programme also provides a global framework for the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular by linking statistics to geospatial location as identified in General Assembly Resolution 70/1, “Transforming

<sup>1</sup> Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/24 “Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management” (2011)

[http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2011/res%202011\\_24.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2011/res%202011_24.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/24 “Strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management” (2016)

[http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=E/RES/2016/27](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E/RES/2016/27)

<sup>3</sup> General Assembly resolution 66/288 “The future we want” (2012), para 187 and 274

<https://documents-dds->

[ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N11/476/10/PDF/N1147610.pdf?OpenElement](https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N11/476/10/PDF/N1147610.pdf?OpenElement)

- Standards



Data processing &  
standardization

NAME & DATA  
STANDARDS

Feature Type: Administrative units (A)  
**Feature Attribute Code:** ADM2NM  
 Feature Attribute Name: Administrative unit level 2 name  
 Description: Administrative unit name in Romanised characters  
 Type: Text  
 Length: 256  
 Rule: Mandatory  
 Feature Attribute value: Specific name for the administrative unit  
 Feature Attribute example: Saraya [located in Kédégou, Senegal]

Feature Type: Administrative units (A)  
**Feature Attribute Code:** ADM2CD  
 Feature Attribute Name: Administrative unit level 2 code  
 Description: Administrative unit code of second level administrative boundaries, in the form of ISO-3166-1 three letter code; **AND** code for administrative level 1 as defined by Member State or numeric of 3 number sequence, based on alphabetically classified Administrative unit name; **AND** code for administrative level 2 as defined by Member State or numeric of 3 number sequence, based on alphabetically classified Administrative unit name. The code is therefore: ISO3-3166-1 three letter code + admin1 code+ admin1 code ISO3-3166-1 three letter code + XXX + XXX  
 Type: Text  
 Length: 11  
 Rule: Mandatory  
 Feature Attribute value: Specific code for the administrative unit level 2  
 Feature Attribute example: SEN007003 [located in Kédégou, Senegal]

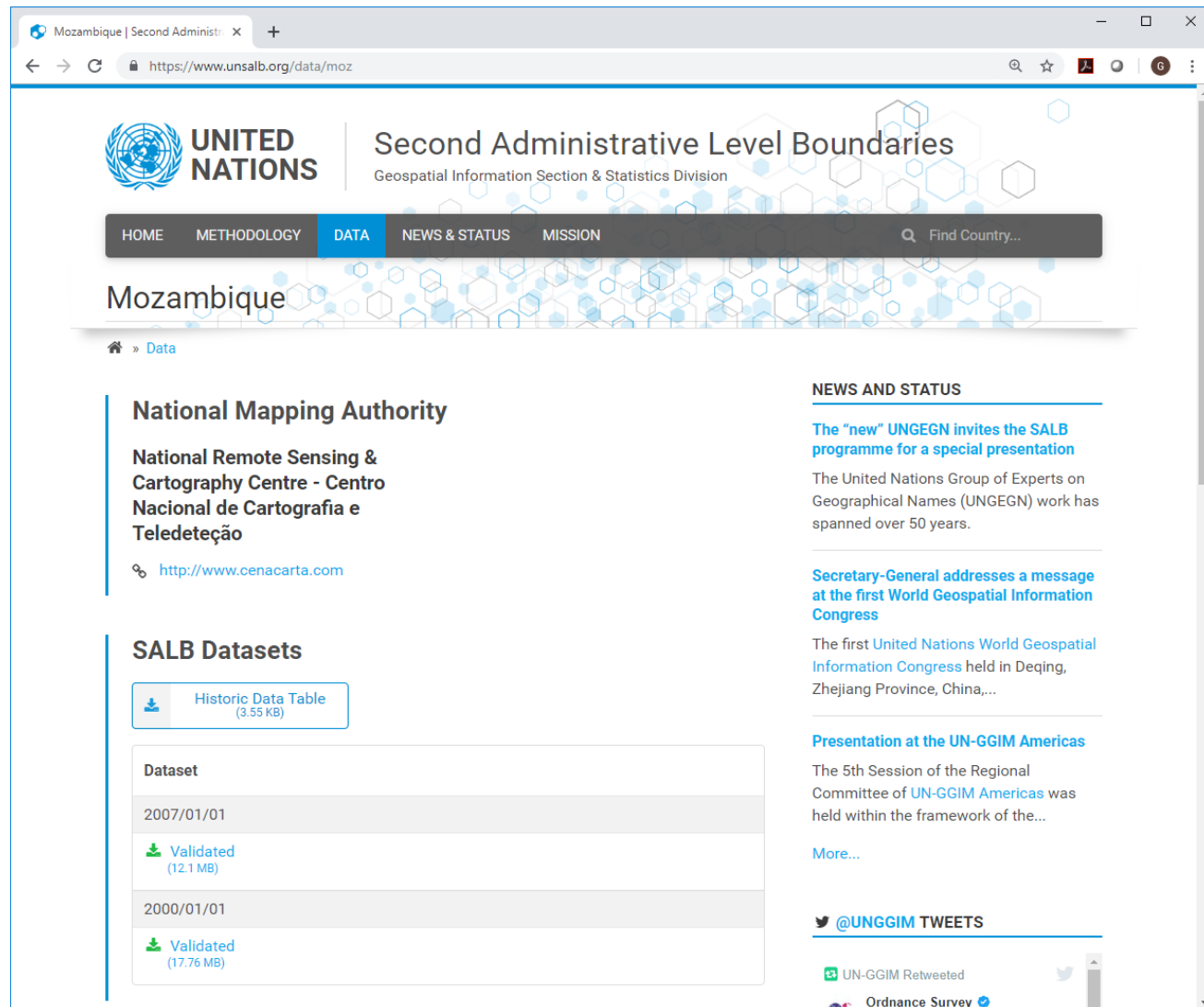
Feature Type: Administrative units (A)  
**Feature Attribute Code:** DATSOR  
 Feature Attribute Name: Date of Source  
 Description: Date of the receipt of the dataset.  
 Type: Date  
 Length: 10  
 Rule: Mandatory  
 Feature Attribute value: Date in the form of DD/MM/YYYY  
 Feature Attribute example: 05/04/2010

■ Promote



Published on  
unsalb.org

GLOBAL  
AUTHORITATIVE



Mozambique | Second Administr... x +  
 https://www.unsalb.org/data/moz

**UNITED NATIONS**  
 Geospatial Information Section & Statistics Division

HOME METHODOLOGY **DATA** NEWS & STATUS MISSION Find Country...

Mozambique

» Data

**National Mapping Authority**

National Remote Sensing & Cartography Centre - Centro Nacional de Cartografia e Teledeteção

<http://www.cenacarta.com>

**SALB Datasets**

Historic Data Table (3.55 KB)

Dataset
2007/01/01
Validated (12.1 MB)
2000/01/01
Validated (17.76 MB)

**NEWS AND STATUS**

The "new" UNGEEN invites the SALB programme for a special presentation

The United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEEN) work has spanned over 50 years.

Secretary-General addresses a message at the first World Geospatial Information Congress

The first United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress held in Deqing, Zhejiang Province, China...

Presentation at the UN-GGIM Americas

The 5th Session of the Regional Committee of UN-GGIM Americas was held within the framework of the...

More...

@UNGGIM TWEETS

UN-GGIM Retweeted

Ordnance Survey

- Past efforts

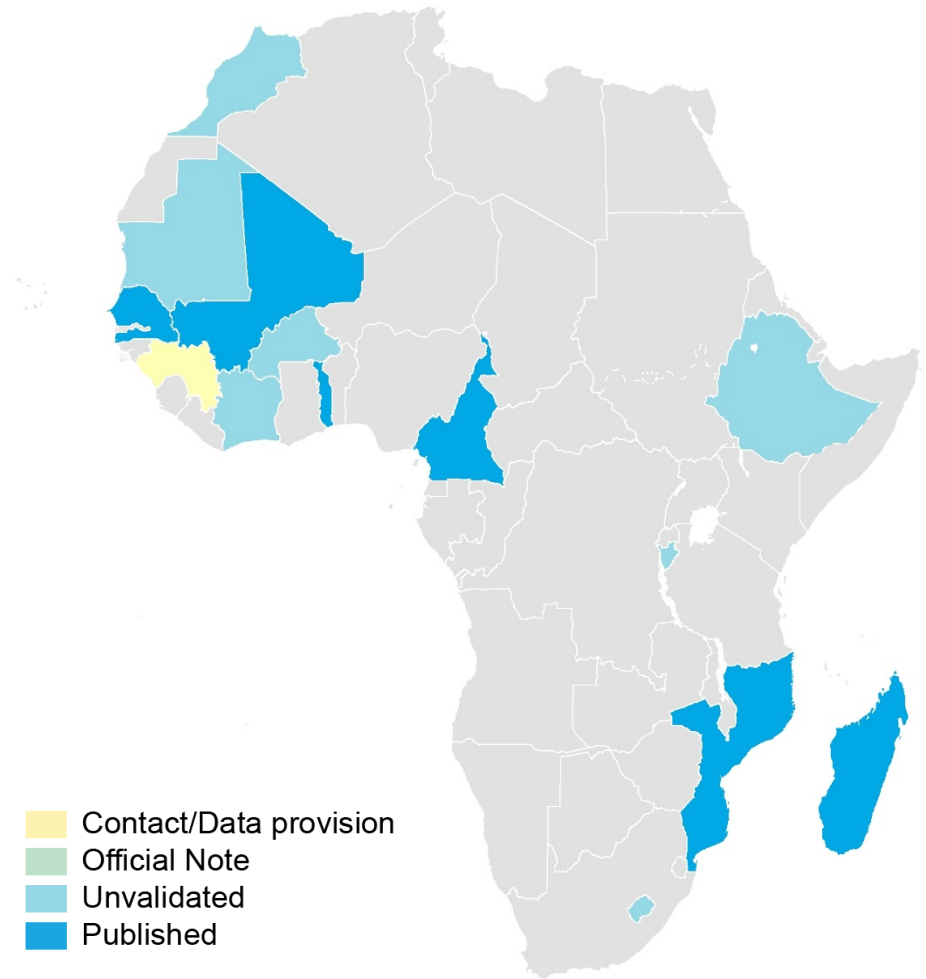
Administrative data needed to support a consistent mapping of regional and intra-country of indicators for monitoring, evaluation and planning of socio-economic activities, particularly the sustainable development agenda.



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

- Since 2017...

- Good progress in West Africa
- Previous contributions by countries Southern Africa in the past
- Culture of sharing and open data



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## ■ Challenges

- Continuous participation from Member States
- Standardization efforts (geography & codes)
- Lack of resources of the programme

## ■ Opportunities

- create a first global African dataset
- Long-standing support and coordination by ECA
- GGIM Africa Plan for Action
- Call by UN-GGIM to participate to the programme

# SALB



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