

## SECOND ADMINISTRATIVE LEVEL BOUNDARIES (SALB) SIDE EVENT

### CONCEPT NOTE

The 2030 Agenda highlights the importance to promote transparent and accountable geographic information while ensuring national ownership in supporting and tracking progress of the Sustainable Development Goals. The Second Administrative Level Boundaries (SALB) programme aligns with this goal in facilitating and promoting of authoritative, accessible and consistent geospatial data on administrative boundaries emanating from Member States.

The programme objectives are more specifically aiming to provide global geospatial data to the users and the international community to produce cross-country analysis (disasters, socio-economics, environment), enable in-country operations/support, generate consistent regional and national bi-products and analysis, facilitate disaggregated data link between statistics and geographic location. The programme, led by the United Nations Geospatial Information Section, aims to provide this information as a public good to a wide range of users including from Members States, regional organizations, UN operations including peace operations and humanitarian operations, data scientists, non-governmental organizations, academia and the general public.

Administrative boundaries have been highlighted as a priority “core global fundamental geospatial data theme” by the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) Working Group on Global Fundamental Geospatial Data Themes, thus highlighting the importance of the SALB programme. During its proceedings and decisions, the UN-GGIM encouraged Member States to actively participate in the SALB programme (Decision 7/104).



In Africa, the African Action Plan on Global Geospatial Information Management (2016-2030), supported and published by the Economic Commission for Africa, incorporates the SALB programme as one of its Action Plan key pillars. Since 2017, when the programme resumed its activities, many Member States from Africa have provided their national point of contact and submitted initial GIS datasets or published their dataset through the SALB programme. Despite challenges of currency and reaching out to all countries, Africa is on its way to have a continental dataset on administrative boundaries.

The GRID3, co-led by UNFPA, supports the harmonization, production, and use of administrative boundaries to improve inconsistencies, lessen ambiguities, and increase accountability within a given area. In the context of the GRID3, boundary harmonization ensures that resources and other critical services are distributed equitably and effectively.

The Economic Commission for Africa, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Geospatial Information Section are organizing a workshop to further accelerate the advancements of the SALB programme in providing reliable, accessible and standardized geospatial data in Africa to the wider community.

## OBJECTIVES

The workshop will provide the latest updates on the status of the SALB programme, details on the methods and standards used. Perspectives at global, regional and national level will be provided as well as open forum to discuss benefits, challenges and way forward on the programme including standards, partners and contributing countries. National perspectives will be presented through examples from countries in Africa such as Senegal, Cameroon, Eswatini, Mozambique, Togo or South Africa.

## EVENT PROGRAMME

<i>Current status on the SALB Programme: Challenges &amp; Opportunities</i> Mr. Guillaume Le Sourd		10mn
<i>Regional perspectives in Africa</i> Mr. André Nonguierma		10mn
Mapping subnational boundaries Mr. Lorant Czarán		10mn
<i>Lightning Talks by countries</i>		3-5mn
Senegal	Mr. Oumar Ka	
Cameroon	Mr. Fernand Isseri	
Eswatini	Mr. Sydney Slimane	
Mozambique	Mr. Odete Semiao	
Togo	Mr. Vincent Besseh	
South Africa	Ms. Maroale Chauke	
Open discussion (moderator: Mr. André Nonguierma)		10mn