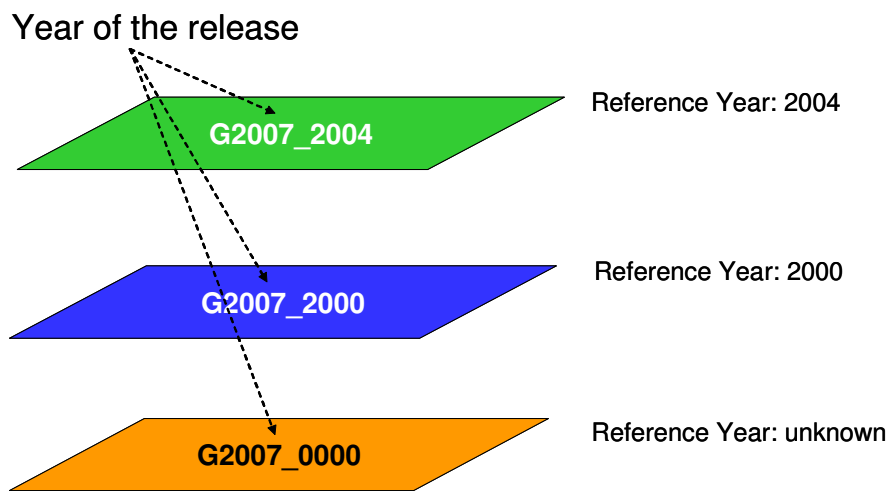


The GAULSet layers

The GAUL keeps track of administrative units that has been changed, added or dismissed in the past for political causes. Changes implemented in different years are recorded in the GAUL on different layers. For this reason the GAUL product is not a single layer but a group of layers, named "GAUL Set".

Each layer of the GAUL Set is identified by:

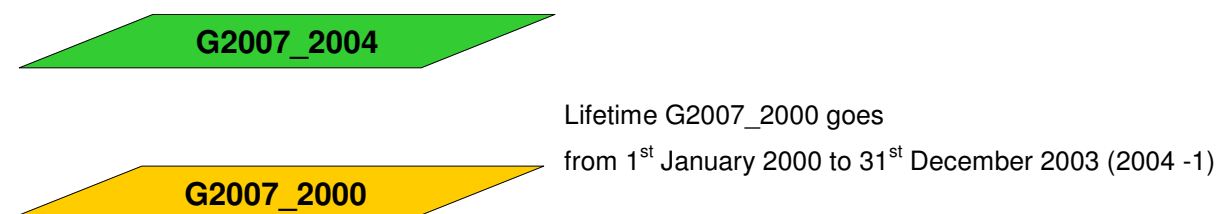
- the Year of the release (2007), that is always the same for all the layers of the GAULSet;
- the Reference Year, that is the start year of the layer. When it is unknown it is set to "0000".



The GAUL Set lifetime is based on two different and independent entities:

- The layer
- The administrative units

The **lifetime of a layer** goes from its Reference Year to the Reference Year of the next layer minus one:



The lifetime of the layer is required to select the correct layer in the GAUL Set matching the external tables (e.g. statistical tables) which refer to the same time interval.

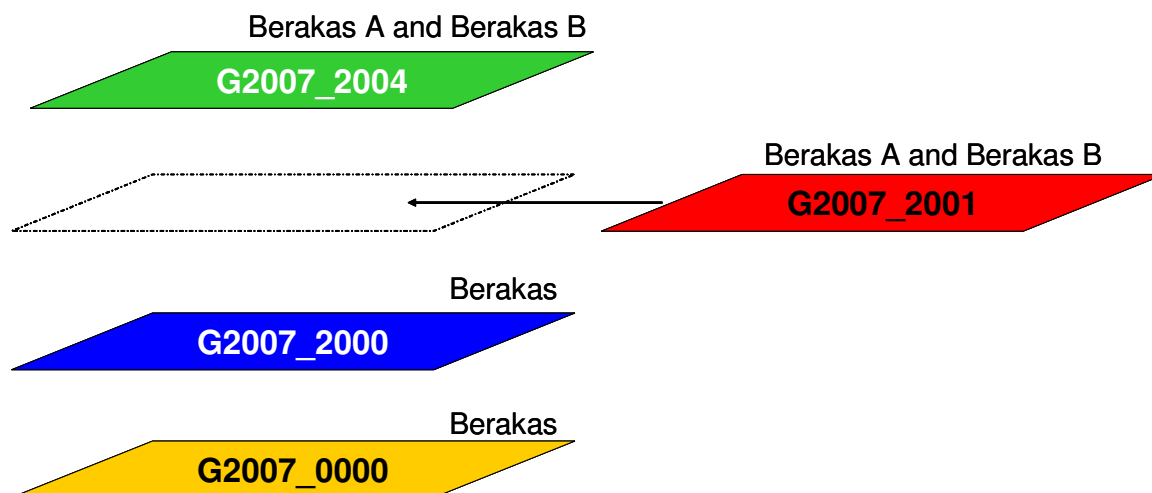
For instance, in the Figure above data of 2002 shall be linked to the GAUL layer 2000 (G2007_2000).

The **lifetime of an administrative** unit goes from its Start Year to the year in which it expires (Expiry

Year). If in a given Start Year (e.g. 2001) an administrative unit is created, a new layer is added to the GAUL Set. The changes will be implemented in all affected layers of the GAUL Set.

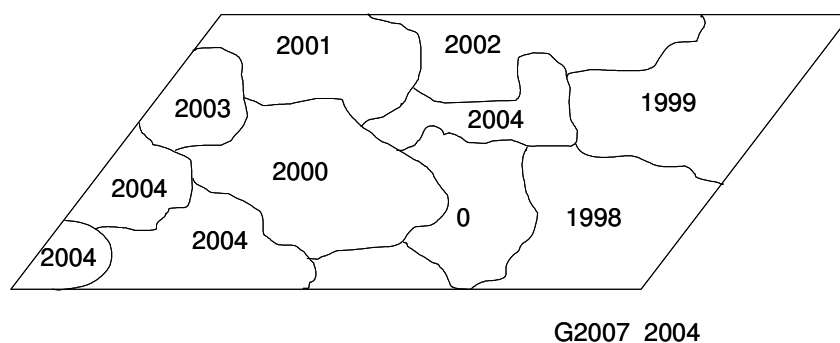
For example, in Brunei Darussalam, the province "Berakas" splits into "Berakas A" and "Berakas B" on the 7th of July 2001. For this reason the layer G2007_2001 is added to the GAUL Set (see the figure below).

Changes will be implemented also in the existing layer G2007_2004, since the new units are still considered valid in 2004. On the contrary, changes will not be implemented in the layers G2007_2000 and G2007_0000 where the new administrative units are not considered valid, as they have not been created yet.



Considering what explained so far, the lifetime of an administrative unit not necessarily coincides with the lifetime of the layer which includes it. For example, the layer 2004 may include units modified earlier than 2004.

When the Start Year of an administrative unit is unknown it is set to "0" (see Figure below).



Focusing on the GAUL Set 2007, it includes the following layers:

- G2007_2006 includes:
 - one or more administrative units created on 2006
 - the administrative units created in the past years (2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000) and still valid since they are not expired.
 - the administrative units with unknown start and expiry years

This layer has to be used to link all the datasets that refer to years from 2006 onwards.

- G2007_2005 includes:
 - one or more administrative units created on 2005
 - the administrative units created in the past years (2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000) and still valid since they are not expired
 - the administrative units with unknown start and expiry years

This layer has to be used to link all the datasets that refer to year 2005.

- G2007_2004 includes:
 - one or more administrative units created on 2004
 - the administrative units created in the past years (2003, 2002, 2001, 2000) and still valid since they are not expired
 - the administrative units with unknown start and expiry years

This layer has to be used to link all the datasets that refer to year 2004.

- G2007_2003 includes:
 - one or more administrative units created on 2003
 - the administrative units created in the past years (2002, 2001, 2000) and still valid since they are not expired
 - the administrative units with unknown start and expiry years

This layer has to be used to link all the datasets that refer to year 2003.

- G2007_2002 includes:
 - one or more administrative units created on 2002
 - the administrative units created in the past years (2001, 2000) and still valid since they are not expired
 - the administrative units with unknown start and expiry years

This layer has to be used to link all the datasets that refer to year 2002.

- G2007_2001 includes:
 - one or more administrative units created on 2001
 - the administrative units created in the past year (2000) and still valid since they are not expired
 - the administrative units with unknown start and expiry years

This layer has to be used to link all the datasets that refer to year 2001.

- G2007_2000 includes:
 - one or more administrative units created on 2000
 - the administrative units with unknown start and expiry years

This layer has to be used to link all the datasets that refer to year 2000.

- G2007_0000 includes:
 - the administrative units with unknown start and expiry years

This layer has to be used to link all the datasets that refer to years before 2000.