

## Targeted skills

By the end of this module, you will know how to:

- dissolve/merge polygon features by attribute (see explanation below)

## Data

Data to be used in this module can be found in the following folder:

`data/grc_admin3`

## Exercise outline & memos

### Dissolving/merging polygon features by attribute

This operation looks a bit esoteric but the idea is simple. Let's take an example, imagine a country where the main administrative levels are provinces further divided into regions. You want a shapefile of these provinces but you only have for now a shapefile of the regions.

If in your “regions” shapefile, the attribute table contains the province name for each region feature (see table below), then you can dissolve/merge the polygons by attribute (in our case “province”).

province	region
prov_a	reg_1
prov_a	reg_2
prov_b	reg_3
prov_b	reg_4
...	...

To do so go through the following steps:

Open: `data/grc_admin3/grc_admin3.shp`

[In QGIS top menu]

Vector   Geoprocessing Tools   Dissolve...

then reproduce the settings below:

Dissolve

Input vector layer

grc\_admin3

☐ Use only selected features

Dissolve field

NAME\_2

Output shapefile

dissolve\_poly/grc\_level3\_to\_level2.shp

Browse

☒ Add result to canvas

Close OK

Save shapefile created as: "grc\_level3\_to\_level2"

As simple as that !