

The Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the EU INSPIRE Directive 2007/2/EC - State of Play -

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2002



Policy Needs

- <u>Better information</u> needed to support policies
- Improvement of existing information flows
- Differentiation across regions to be considered
- Revision of approach to reporting and monitoring, moving to concept of <u>sharing</u> <u>of information</u>

But ... EU has islands of information & data of different standards and quality...









Situation in Europe

1. Data policy restrictions

 pricing, copyright, access rights, licensing policy

2. Lack of co-ordination

 across boarders and between levels of government

3. Lack of standards

 incompatible information and information systems

4. Existing data not re-usable

- fragmentation of information, redundancy, inability to integrate
- 5. <u>Missing data</u>
- 6. <u>Data quality</u>
 - Not comparable, not timely available, ...

NOT

July 2004 - EC Proposal COM(2004) 516 for a Directive establishing an infrastructure for spatial information in the Community – INSPIRE

DIRECTIVE 2007/2/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 14 March 2007 establishing an Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (INSPIRE)

Entry into Force on 15 May 2007

Transposed in National Law by 15 May 2009



What is INSPIRE?



"Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community"



Set of European and national Legal Acts and their coordinated implementation

INSPIRE Directive 2007/2/EC









General Provisions

- general rules to establish an infrastructure for spatial information in Europe for the purposes of <u>Community environmental policies</u> and <u>policies</u> <u>or activities which may have an impact on the</u> <u>environment</u>
- based on the infrastructures for spatial information established and operated by the Member States
- does not require collection of new spatial data



Spatial Data Sets

- <u>held by or on behalf of a public authority</u> operating down to the lowest level of government when laws or regulations require their collection or dissemination
- 34 Spatial Data Themes



Data Policies : sharing between public bodies

Article 17

1. Each Member State shall adopt measures for the sharing of spatial data sets and services between its public authorities referred to in point (9)(a) and (b) of Article 3. Those measures shall enable those public authorities to gain access to spatial data sets and services, and to exchange and use those sets and services, for the purposes of public tasks that may have an impact on the environment.

2. The measures provided for in paragraph 1 shall preclude any restrictions likely to create practical obstacles, occurring at the point of use, to the sharing of spatial data sets and services.



Article 17: sharing

- open to:
 - public authorities of other Member States
 - to the institutions and bodies of the Community

COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 268/2010

• derogations:

- the course of justice, public security, national defence or international relations
- Arrangements
- arrangements:
 - may be accompanied by requirements under national law conditioning their use.



Data policy: sharing with the public

- Article 11: Network Services available to the public
 - shall be easy to use
 - accessible via the Internet or any other appropriate means of telecommunication
- Article 13: Derogations
 - IPR, confidentiality, course of law, international relations, public security, national defence, protection environment, ...
 - interpreted in a restrictive way, public interest test

Co-ordination



Article 18

- <u>Member States</u> shall ensure that appropriate structures and mechanisms are designated for coordinating, across the different levels of government, the contributions of all those with an interest in their infrastructures for spatial information.
 - users, producers, added-value service providers
 - user needs
- <u>The Commission</u> at EU level assisted by relevant organisations and, in particular, by the European Environment Agency.





- To ensure that the spatial data infrastructures of the Member States are compatible and usable in an EU and trans-boundary context.
- <u>Scope of the Implementing Rules:</u>
 - 1) Metadata
 - 2) Network Services
 - 3) Spatial Data and Spatial Data Service Specifications
 - 4) Data and Service Sharing
 - 5) Monitoring and Reporting



• Following a logical roadmap

Technical
 Procedure



Status 10 years ago...

Important obstacles related to use of geospatial data*

- ✓ Spatial data is often missing or incomplete
- The description of available spatial data is often incomplete
- Spatial datasets can often not be combined with other spatial datasets
- The system to find, access and use spatial data often function in isolation only and are not compatible which each other.
- Cultural, institutional, financial and legal barriers prevent or delay the sharing and re-use of existing data.





INSPIRE evaluation process - Joint EEA-JRC report

"Midterm evaluation report on INSPIRE implementation"

Based on:

- ✓ 2013 Member State implementation reports
- ✓ DG Environment public consultation (Dec 2013 Mar 2014)
- ✓ INSPIRE evaluation report on technical implementation in Member States (consultants report) (April 2014)
- ✓ further references



Do you think that the development plan is -

- A. Very good.
- B. Incredibly good.

MACINET

C. Extremely good.

Technical report No 17/2014



The INSPIRE Directive, which came into force in 2007 and is expected to be fully implemented by 2020, aims to establish a European Spatial Data Infrastructure in order to support policy making by providing more and better spatial data. The following report analyses the state of implementation of the Directive at the midpoint of its implementation. The conclusions of the report suggest that INSPIRE implementation is on track, however, certain actions - especially coordination and data sharing – would benefit from strategic adjustment.

http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/midterm-evaluation-report-oninspire-implementation





1. Have the initial problems evolved?

	Status	Comment
Availability	•••	Increased availability of spatial data; new socio-technical developments
Data quality	•••	Only indirectly adressed (through documentation)
Organisation of data	•••	More awareness and coordination emerging between producers and users; interoperability increasing
Accessibility	•••	Improvements mainly due to progress around metadata and technological developments e.g. network services
Data sharing	•••	Has evolved due to open data agenda but much more remains to be done

European Environment Agency





2. Are the objectives still relevant to the initial issues – is a review needed?

	Status	Comment
Documentation	*	Metadata availability and quality is evolving; finding and accessing data remains a barrier (44% of respondents)
Services	*	Insufficiently implemented in a consistent way but progressing
Interoperability	*	Issues persist since the majority of data under Annex II and III are not yet available
Data and service policy	•••	A review of objectives is needed to overcome barriers in sharing (53% of spatia data with no adequate data policy)
Coordination	•••	Objective needs a review to enable further improvement efforts (poorly coordinated policy initiatives)

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* Existence of issues acknowledged but objectives are still valid as described



3. Do the actions need modification?

	Actions	Comment
Creating metadata		Handled by maintenance process
Establishing network services	•••	Only integration of new technical approaches with network services
Ensuring interoperability	•••	e.g. better sharing of Member State implementation measures
Facilitating data and service sharing	•••	Improving arrangements to overcome differences amongst countries
Coordinating the implementation	•••	Strengthening at EU level, in many countries and cross-border









- Implementation with some delay and non-uniformity
- According to 92 % of respondents, objectives remains pertinent
- So far in line with expected costs and benefits
- Major investments and benefits have yet to materialize
- Implementation has taken place in the most difficult financial circumstances in many European countries
- More effort is needed to embed INSPIRE into environmental legislation
- Improving coordination between neighbouring countries
- Technical complexity and communciation are main areas of concern.





United Nations



Economic and Social Council

"Building infrastructure for the gathering, validation, compilation and dissemination of geospatial information is as important to countries as the building of roads, telecommunications networks, and the provision of other basic services.

.... it is increasingly recognized that the major barriers and impediments to building geospatial information infrastructures will not be technical ones, but rather institutional and organizational"



Thank you for your attention For more information http://inspire.jrc.ec.europa.eu/