



How to complement INSPIRE: The vision of EUROGI

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About EUROGI: Profile

- Celebrating 15 years of activities in 2009 (establ. 1994)
- Established as a Foundation ('Stichting') under Dutch law and the patronage of European Commission
- Core membership by national representation
- 23 members - Network of networks
- Collectively representing more than 6500 organisations
All sectors: Public, Private, Academy, ...
- Inclusive - Open to the participation of all stakeholders
- Broad European coverage through members and projects
- Member centric organisation focused on GI usage
- Long time committed to INSPIRE
- Continuously collaborating with EU/EC and other Associations
- Policy oriented, Awareness raiser and Capacity builder



About EUROGI: Vision and mission

- Vision:

GI with all its aspects should become a fully integrated component of the European knowledge-based society

- Mission:

In order to ensure good governance, economic and social development, environmental protection and sustainability, and informed public participation, the mission is to maximise the availability and effective use of GI throughout Europe.

This will require EUROGI to stimulate, encourage and support the development and effective use of GI and relevant technologies, and to act as the voice for the European GI community.



About EUROGI: Opportunities

Opportunities

- European GI Network of National associations and Networks
- European NGO organisation managing dynamic portal
- European contact point for GI (Promotion and support, Expert witness, event promoter, GI standard supporter, etc.)
- Supporting its members at the grassroots
- Participating (through the members and directly) in funded projects
- EGIN - European Geographic Information Network

All have been taken into account in the REENGINEERING PROCESS initiated with the Presidency of Mauro Salvemini



Does INSPIRE need to be complemented?

INSPIRE is a complex action because:

- GI is an high target and highly challenging national governments and the EU - complexity, multidisciplinary, ...;
- Different stakeholders, subjects, functions and models are co-existing;
- Appropriateness of implementation mechanisms;
- Changes in attitude and practices expected by INSPIRE need to be encouraged and fostered - promote an appropriated mind set;
- Involvement of different levels, from European to local level (EUROGI discovered issue! - From local to global)
- The USERS
- ...



Does INSPIRE need to be complemented?

INSPIRE needs to be complemented because:

- EC relevant GI goals (politically, technologically, socially) need appropriate support;
- The public and private sectors, by themselves, are imperfect; where the interaction between public and voluntary sector is high the climate is most favorable;
- The complex mechanisms of implementation need help: cooperation and collaboration of different entities can improve this process;
- Voluntary sector rooted in society may be better placed to help changes with dissemination activities;
- Umbrella organisations can provide intellectual and operational leadership over the characteristics of the specific country.



Complementing effort

The complementing effort may be analysed from three perspectives:

1. PRINCIPLES
2. METHODS
3. ACTIVITIES



Complementing effort - 1

1. Principles

Within the framework of the European policies principles are finalized to manage the national sovereignty and multiculturalism recalling some universal concepts and values.

EUROGI supported the ideas and concepts underlying the INSPIRE Directive since they perfectly match its mission and operated in the definition phase supporting the process directly and through his National Member Associations.

As the Directive is in transposition phase EUROGI is requested to set up internal policies in order to continue to achieve the complementary support to the full sharing and application of the EU common principles.



Complementing effort - 2

2. Methods

Methods plays a fundamental role since they do not only refers to technical tools, but also to semantic, cultural, governmental and organisational aspects.

There's a dramatic need of capacity building within public administrations and the society

EUROGI has experienced his attitude and put into reality in the past years a number of initiatives for capacity building in the widest sense



Complementing effort - 3

3. Activities

Activities are the leaves of the big tree made by principles and methods

EUROGI already experimented hundreds of activities during the past decade, aiming to maximise the availability and effective use of GI throughout Europe, carrying out many activities: (Workshops, seminars, specialised meetings, active participation in core projects, materials, ...)

EUROGI has been involved in the origin of several relevant topics, initiatives and perspectives which are now in place or being developed



How EUROGI can complement INSPIRE

EUROGI as an independent, not for profit and non governmental organisation can complement INSPIRE in many ways:

- Educating and sensitizing the wider public (with workshops, seminars);
- Awareness raising through members (meetings, collaboration & cooperation, dialogues, circulation of ideas, initiatives, programs, best practices);
- Attuning official programs to public needs, by acting as a conduit for public opinion and local experience, (EU projects, thematic network);



How EUROGI can complement INSPIRE

Other ways of complementing INSPIRE:

- Operational collaboration with official bodies (acting as independent counsellors);
- Helping national governments through staff training and improving management capacity (with educational and professional training initiatives);
- EVANGELISATION of INSPIRE (Inspire Conference 2007 and more): EUROGI set its actions mainly towards build capacity for INSPIRE among the members and through them down to regional and local levels, as well as other relevant stakeholders.



Actions

- The way forward (2008-2009)
How to complement INSPIRE and EC activities for the development of GI in Europe
- INSPIRE Draft Policy(ies)
- Information series about INSPIRE and documents on *How GI can help* (targeted to non technical audiences)
- Forum
- Best Practices
- EU projects: ESDI-Netplus, EURADIN, ePSIplus Humboldt, GIS4EU, ESDIN, ...
- PPP4SDI & e-Government
- Central & Eastern European Countries Conference (2009)
- INSPIRE transposition to national law
- EC related actions - GMES, Galileo, Cooperation & Development, ...
- GSDI 11



Final remarks

- Inputs from and to the reengineering process of EUROGI
- Valuable and specific positioning may be used to the benefit of INSPIRE
- Strategic and flexible partner skilled to gather stakeholders
- Convergence for sharing information and opportunities
- Networking from the European level down to local authorities (an vice versa)
- Forum



Thank you

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