

EuroGeographics – Underpinning Europe’s Spatial Information Infrastructure: Obstacles and solutions

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SUMMARY

EuroGeographics is the association of Europe’s National Mapping and Cadastral Agencies, with 46 members from 41 countries. Our primary role is to bring together the national information held by our members for the benefit of the pan-European or cross-border customer. Achieving this vision of ‘interoperability’ requires the following components to be put in place:

- Specifications that define the content, structure and quality of the information;
- A pricing and licensing framework to improve access to information under consistent and easy to use terms and conditions;
- The service infrastructure which will allow distributed access to metadata and content;
- Partnerships; and,
- A sustainable financial (business model)

Using the above topics as its structure, the paper and presentation will describe the main obstacles and solutions that have been developed in ‘harmonising’ national datasets across Europe. It will also identify how this is being done within the context of INSPIRE - an evolving legislative framework within which Europe’s SDI will develop.