

# EGN: Conceptual Data Schema

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# Purpose

- Define a harmonised data model for geographical names across European NMCAs:

*“The essence of the harmonisation process is to enable the access and use of existing heterogeneous datasets and their collections of feature objects across currently separate domains. The challenge is to define mappings across domains as well as data and feature models.”*

- WP Tasks:
  - Evaluation and assessment of European data models (D4.1)
  - Conceptual schema (D4.2)
  - Application schema



# Principles

- KISS (Occam)
- MOSCOW rules (information Model and Use cases)
- (Re)Use (standards)
- Extensible (openness)
- Consensual



# Progress (D4.1)

- Completed (Feb 07)
- **Purpose** - *provide an overview and summary of potentially relevant data models that should inform the EGN Project. Also serves as a general introduction into the subject for lay readers and therefore contributes to the promotional and dissemination work that the EGN Consortia are tasked with.*
- *Discusses differences and similarities between ISO and ADL as main alternatives.*
- *Concludes – “the implementation of the EGN Infrastructure should be phased and functionality and content added in a well-defined and structured manner.”*



# Progress (Conceptual schema)

- Iterative development
- Consensual approach
- Eye to INSPIRE
- First draft model April 2007
- Iterative Revision
- External validation

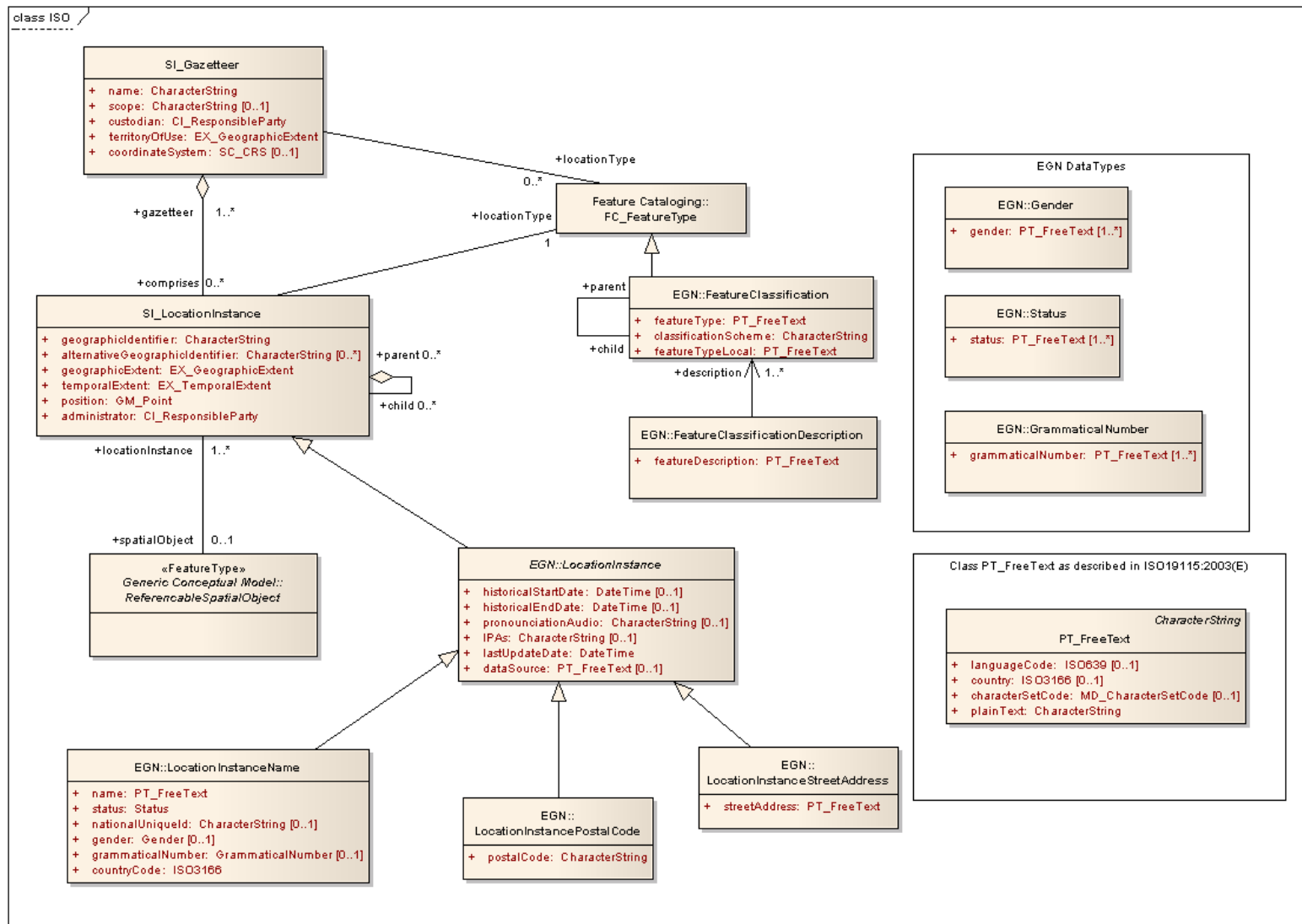


# Progress (Conceptual schema)

- Informed by:
  - Existing ISO 19112
  - Information Model (WP2)
  - NMCA (Reference Group) feedback
  - Early sight of INSPIRE draft
- Areas subject to most refinement /discussion:
  - Status
  - Multilinguality
  - Feature classification



# Conceptual schema (Nov 07)



# Summary of Some Significant aspects

- Adopts the ISO gazetteer model as far as is practicable
- Utilises the widely accepted amendments to the ISO gazetteer model i.e. provision of multiple location instances for a RefernceableSpatialObject and adoption of a feature type catalogue
- Handles geographicIdentifier in a way which complies to the general notion of this attribute.
- Reinstated alternativeGeographicIdentifier as a simple mechanism to point to related location instances. This is intended as a 'helper' attribute to speed search/browse.
- Explicitly defined subtypes of the derived EGN::LocationInstance class to add domain-specific attributes, e.g. a postalCode attribute with data type PT\_FreeText.
- Made EGN::LocationInstance an abstract class to avoid confusion in feature type usage.



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