

Minutes

of the

6th EuroGeoNames Workshop

Tuesday 03 June 2008, 9 – 16:00 hours

at “viva vita Restaurant und Tagungshaus“, Gartenstraße 57, 85354 Freising

1 Executive Summary

The main points to note from the workshop are:

- The EGN infrastructure and services has a very good position within INSPIRE to provide the whole service architecture for a real service needed for Europe.
- The EGN data model supports the major concept of the ISO 19112 standard and it is compliant with the INSPIRE requirements defined in D2.5: INSPIRE Generic Conceptual Model, Version 2.4.
- The most relevant technical issues for implementing the EGN Central Service and EGN Local Services were discussed and possible solutions presented. The EGN Consortium will provide the EGN Reference Group members with more detailed information between **end-June and mid-July 2008**.
- Differences, advantages and unique selling points between the EGN concept and other initiatives were identified.
- A detailed list of next steps of the EGN Consortium is presented under topic 10 of these minutes.
- A detailed list of conclusions of the workshop and further actions for the implementation of the EGN infrastructure to be conducted by the EGN Consortium and the EGN Reference Group is presented under topic 11 of these minutes.

2 Participants

| No | Country / Organisation | Last name | First name |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Reference Group | | | |
| 1 | Cyprus | HADJIRAFTIS | ANDREAS |
| 2 | Czech Republic | KOLAR | JAN |
| 3 | | ČERNÝ | PETR |
| 4 | Finland | LESKINEN | TEEMU |
| 5 | | SIPILÄ | TEEMU |
| 6 | France | MAJKA | JEAN-SEBASTIEN |
| 7 | | DUBREIL | FRANCOIS |
| 8 | Hungary | POKOLY | BÉLA |
| 9 | | MIKESY | GÁBOR |
| 10 | Latvia | GITENDORFS | ULDIS |
| 11 | | STRAUTNIECE | VITA |
| 12 | Lithuania | MARDOSIENE | DANUTE JANE |
| 13 | | SAVICKAS | VITALIJUS |
| 14 | Netherlands | SCHUT | TED |
| 15 | Norway | ARNTSEN | FRANK |
| 16 | | JONSRUD | KENT-JAKOB |
| 17 | Slovakia | KOVACOVA | MARIA |
| 18 | Spain | ALCÁZAR | ADELA |
| 19 | | AZCÁRATE | MARGARITA |
| 20 | | ABAD POWER | PALOMA |
| Consortium | | | |
| 21 | BEV, Austria | WURZER | WALTER |
| 22 | EuroGeographics, France | JUST | LISE |
| 23 | | JAKOBSSON | ANTTI |
| 24 | ESRI, Germany | BUZIEK | GERD |
| 25 | | BÖRNER | GEORG |
| 26 | | DÖRING | MARK |
| 27 | | HARTL | BIRGIT |
| 28 | Geodan, NL | BLANKERT | ANNE |
| 29 | | KNIBBE | FRANS |
| 30 | GeoTask/ProDV | SCHACH | JOCHEN |
| 31 | SMA, Slovenia | MLADENOVIC | UROS |
| 32 | | BRNOT | MARIJA |
| 33 | Utrecht University, The Netherlands | ORMELING | FERJAN |
| 34 | BKG, Germany | ZACCHEDDU | PIER-GIORGIO |
| 35 | | STANI-FERTL | ROMAN |
| 36 | | SPRADAU | JÖRGEN |
| 37 | | AFFLERBACH | SABINE |
| 38 | | HEIMBÜRGER | OLAF |
| Other | | | |
| 39 | Belgium | VAN DOREN | KATHLEEN |
| 40 | Germany | ILLERT | ANDREAS |
| 41 | Great Britain | PARKER | CHRIS |
| 42 | Italy | TÓTH | KATALIN |
| 43 | Spain | PARELLA | MIQUEL |
| 44 | Switzerland | GUÉLAT | JEAN-CHRISTOPHE |
| 45 | United States | FLYNN | RANDALL |

3 Attachments

All presentations discussed within the workshop will be uploaded to the EGN website (<http://www.eurogeonames.com/>).

4 Agenda

| TOP | Topic title |
|---------------------|---|
| 1) | Opening Welcoming address of the Host |
| 2) | Short summary about the actions taken since last EGN workshop ('Geonames.org', INSPIRE activity, OGC activity, etc.) |
| 3) | Presentation of the work of the INSPIRE Thematic Working Group (TWG) on Geographical names |
| 4) | "Freshening up" the EGN web services architecture - WFS infrastructure components, - WFS interface specifications, - added value, - development path / road map, etc. |
| 5) | Demonstration of the technical progress in implementing the EGN infrastructure: EGN Local Services & EGN Central Service |
| 6) | Discussion of steps and measures which need to be done/taken for creating individual EGN Local Services |
| 7) | Demonstration & discussion of the first version of the EGN Reference Application (end-user interface) |
| 8) | Demonstration of an example for a commercial use case (first version of ESRI ArcGIS Extension using EGN) |
| 9) | Demonstration of the Online-editing-service for the exonyms and other variant names database (EVN-DB) |
| 10) | Next steps / general implementation measures |
| 11) | Final discussion & Closing |

5 Minutes and results of the discussion

| Minutes | Action |
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| <p>1 Opening, Welcoming address of the Host</p> <p><i>Buziek</i>, the host of the 6th workshop welcomed the workshop participants.</p> <p><i>Zaccheddu</i> sent sincere greetings from Jörn Sievers who was not able to participate in the workshop today and thanked ESRI for the dinner arrangements last night.</p> <p>After the welcoming words, <i>Zaccheddu</i> started with the opening presentation. He gave an introductory statement about the project, informed the audience what workshops have been conducted and gave an overview about the topics being discussed during this workshop.</p> | |

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| <p>2 Short summary about the actions taken since last EGN workshop ('Geonames.org', INSPIRE activity, OGC activity, etc.)</p> <p>In his next presentation, <i>Zaccheddu</i> explained the activities since the last EGN workshop taken place in Paris in November 2007.</p> <p>He put emphasis on the developments concerning the data model and the arisen difficulties concerning ISO 19112. The ISO standard is not sufficient, the INSPIRE Drafting Team Data Specification has therefore suggested some changes which the EGN consortium is using. As a consequence, the EGN data model still supports the major concept of ISO standard but it is compliant with the INSPIRE requirements (e.g. PT_FreeText) defined in D2.5: INSPIRE Generic Conceptual Model, Version 2.4.</p> <p><i>Jakobsson</i> emphasised the importance of EGN. Concerning the related initiatives he mentioned the EuroGeographics project ESDIN starting in September 2008. ESDIN has the aim to use EGN as the solution for geographical names. Additionally he pointed out that EuroGeographics Head Office is very much supporting the EuroGeoNames project.</p> | |
| <p>3 Presentation of the work of the INSPIRE Thematic Working Group (TWG) on Geographical names</p> <p><i>Illert</i>, the facilitator of the INSPIRE Thematic Working Group (TWG) on Geographical Names gave a presentation on the work up-to-date on the INSPIRE TWG.</p> <p>Concerning the reference material the Drafting Team and the TWG must consider the requirements from the directive, reference material submitted by SDIC/LMOS and international accepted standards (ISO, OGC).</p> <p>He mentioned that the schedule for the INSPIRE TWGs is quite demanding. The data specification must be ready for internal review by the Comitology Team and the Drafting Team Data Specification until the end of September 2008. At the beginning of December the review by SDIC/LMOS will start. Finally the implementing rules will be adopted at 15 May 2009.</p> <p><i>Jakobsson</i> mentioned that EGN has a very good position to provide the whole service architecture for a real service needed for Europe. It has become clear that EGN is dealing with content and quality, but if the content and the quality is not provided, INSPIRE is not able to react.</p> <p><i>Tóth</i> informed the audience that the commission will organise and arrange a test bed for data specification and network services that should be checked by the stakeholders. She emphasised that if countries have not submitted</p> | |

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| <p>reference material to the EC, it is important for them to raise their voice/insist during the testing phase if something is missing from their country's perspective. Apart from the Implementing Rules also Guidelines will be prepared to show the development in each country.</p> <p><i>Illert</i> explained that the testing phase will be between the version 1 and 2. If the NMCAs are interested, they have to allocate some work power for the review and the testing, but will have the chance to influence the data specifications.</p> <p>EGN will be a use case and can function as a test bed.</p> <p>Stakeholder need to investigate how much work they have to put into their data in order to be compliant with INSPIRE.</p> <p>Concerning the user of INSPIRE, <i>Illert</i> emphasised that there is not only one user, but that the infrastructure aims at many users, the commission and those in environmental surroundings.</p> | NMCAs |
| <p>4 “Freshening up” the EGN web services architecture - WFS infrastructure components, - WFS interface specifications, - added value, - development path / road map, etc. +</p> <p>5 Demonstration of the technical progress in implementing the EGN infrastructure: EGN Local Services & EGN Central Service +</p> <p>6 Discussion of steps and measures which need to be done/taken for creating individual EGN Local Services</p> <p><i>Knibbe</i> showed the presentation from the workshop in Paris in November 2007 to refresh the idea about the EGN web service architecture. He further informed the Reference Group that so far 5 Reference Group members (NMCAs) are working on setting up the EGN Local Services. Slovenia has completed its local service, Latvia, Germany, the Netherlands and Austria will make the services ready very soon.</p> <p><i>Börner</i> gave a short presentation about access control via the security Manager of conterra.</p> <p>Concerning the current state, a test implementation with all EGN specifics has been set up at BKG in March 2008. So far, 50 requests per persons per 24 hours are allowed. But these limits can easily be changed, also after the 30-month-fundation.</p> <p><i>Schut</i>, representing the Dutch NMCA, gave a short overview about their implementation work so far.</p> <p>There has been a big effort in building up the web service. At the moment there exists only a temporarily solution, but at the end of the year they are planning to build the catalogue service for the meta data.</p> <p>They have 43.000 names at scale 1 : 50.000, no exact boundaries for all</p> | |

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| <p>geographical names, only point coordinates.</p> <p><i>Wurzer</i>, representing the Austrian NMCA explained his experience in setting up the EGN infrastructure.</p> <p>The oracle database didn't work and the transformation in FME was too difficult. He used sql-files, one for the gazetteer and one for the local description.</p> <p>The data amount for 100.000 names is around 20 MB.</p> <p>As the single data set is referring to the point coordinates, the geometry transferred to the WFS will be point coordinates and calculated boundary boxes as well. Concerning line features/spatial objects, <i>Wurzer</i> will try to calculate boundary boxes as best approach to the real feature/spatial object extent.</p> <p>He made the experience that data model mapping is very comprehensive.</p> <p>Finally <i>Mladenovic</i> described the audience the Slovenian approach in a short powerpoint presentation. He introduced also some examples of the data model mapping. <i>Knibbe</i> explained that Geodan will prepare an 'overview table' comprising proposals for the data model mapping (a list of attributes and relations, e.g. how should the attribute GM_Point for line feature be populated) in order to concretise and harmonise the processes.</p> <p>For clarification <i>Zaccheddu</i> pointed out that not only feature classes/types the EGN feature classification will be provided through the EGN services but also those from the local/national classification of each country.</p> | |
| <p>7 Demonstration & discussion of the first version of the EGN Reference Application (end-user interface)</p> <p><i>Schach</i> presented the EGN Reference Application implemented by GeoTask. He invited the Reference Group to test the implementation and to send comments to the consortium in order to improve the service.</p> <p>He showed result examples for Slovenian features/spatial objects because at that time only the EGN Local Service of Slovenia was running satisfactorily.</p> | |
| <p>8 Demonstration of an example for a commercial use case (first version of ESRI ArcGIS Extension using EGN)</p> <p><i>Börner</i> presented the commercial use case implemented by ESRI. The Arc GIS Extension will implement the EGN Central (WFS) Service to be used for the names search functionality.</p> <p>He mentioned the problem of presenting the search results in table form, not knowing how many answers will be responded. The reason for presenting the results in table form is that the user is familiar with it.</p> <p>The prototype for the adapted Arc GIS Extension will be ready in mid August 2008.</p> | |

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| <p>9 Demonstration of the Online-editing-service for the exonyms and other variant names database (EVN-DB)</p> <p><i>Stani-Fertl</i> presented the exonyms and other variant names database. Downloads of lists of exonyms will not be allowed within the first implementation phase (until 2011). Only if a business model for EGN is available after this period, which guarantees cost revenues to the providing parties (NMCAs), downloads might be considered.</p> <p>The endonyms listed in the EVN-DB so far will not be transferred to the EGN infrastructure. They were introduced support the population of the EVN-DB, but will be replaced by the unique feature/spatial object identifier (<i>comment: at the EGN Consortium meeting on 4th June 2008, 'spatialObject_UID' was defined as new name, instead of 'INSPIRE_UID'</i>).</p> | |
| <p>10 Next steps / general implementation measures</p> <p>Concerning the next steps the <i>Afflerbach/Zaccheddu</i> informed the audience about the following next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Translation of terms</u> used in the EGN data model. The reference group will be provided with a translation form/sheet until mid June 2008. • <u>Service Level Agreement/Description/Objectives</u>. It was identified that this matter is an open issue and has to be elaborated further until autumn 2008. (<i>comment: at the EGN Consortium meeting on 4th June 2008 it was decided that this issue will be taken over by EuroGeographics Head Office. Such agreements will be needed for EuroGeoNames and other EuroGeographics initiatives/projects/products</i>). • <u>Metadata profile</u>. The Reference Group members were informed that the EGN profile (D3.3 Metadata profile) is available since August 2007. The adaptation to the INSPIRE Implementing Rule (IR) on Metadata is envisaged and shall be started after the formal adoption of the IR by the EP in mid June 2008. The amended version of the EGN profile will be sent to the Reference Group for its completion in autumn 2008. • <u>Closing workshop</u> in January/February 2009. The Reference Group members were informed that the closing workshop would be again organized as a joint workshop with EGN Reference Group & UNGEGN WG on Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers. Additionally, potential VARs and EGN Group of Interest (about 20 organ.) will be invited. The data and the location have still to be determined. | <p>EGN Consortium</p> <p>EGN Consortium</p> <p>EGN Consortium</p> <p>EGN Consortium</p> |
| <p>11 Final discussion & Closing</p> <p><i>Zaccheddu</i> recalled the main outcome of his presentation in the morning.</p> <p>The following conclusions and further actions can be stated:</p> | |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <u>EGN Consortium</u> will create an 'overview table' (list of elements, explaining the content of the attributes, i.e. how it should be mapped into the EGN data model) until mid-June 2008 | EGN Consortium |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <u>EGN Consortium</u> will change the name for the INSPIRE_UID, the structure/concept is still valid) immediately (<i>comment: at the EGN Consortium meeting on 4th June 2008, 'spatialObject_UID' was defined as new name, instead of 'INSPIRE_UID'</i>). | EGN Consortium |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <u>EGN Consortium</u> will consider integrating additional attributes to the EGN data model (e.g. "script" and "transliterationScheme") until end-June 2008. | EGN Consortium |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <u>EGN Reference Group</u> is requested to read carefully again D4.2c (EGN data model) in order to ask final questions, so that the EGN Consortium is able to clarify last uncertainties until mid-June 2008. | NMCAs |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <u>EGN Consortium</u> will update D4.2c (EGN data model) until mid-July 2008 (at the latest). | EGN Consortium |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <u>EGN Consortium</u> will be providing access to the online-editing service for the exonyms and other variant names DB until mid July 2008. | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <u>EGN Reference Group</u> will be requested to provide comments on the online-editing service for the exonyms and other variant names DB (EVN-DB) until end-July 2008. | NMCAs |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <u>EGN Consortium</u> will provide a means for the Reference Group for commenting the EGN Reference Application until end-June 2008 | EGN Consortium |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <u>EGN Reference Group</u> will be requested to provide comments on the EGN Reference Application until 8 August 2008 | NMCAs |

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