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**Images available, please contact [patricia.sokacova@eurogeographics.org](mailto:patricia.sokacova@eurogeographics.org)**

## **EuroGeographics and GEOIDE Network exchange ideas and experience Quality experts reveal common concerns for global geospatial community**

Experts from Europe and Canada are a step closer to establishing an international network focusing on geospatial quality issues after meeting recently in Brussels.

Discussions between specialists from EuroGeographics' Quality Knowledge Exchange Network and Canada's GEOIDE Network's researchers, which are working on legal, ethical and data quality issues related to geospatial data, revealed many common concerns as well as suggesting solutions for tackling them.

"There is no geographical divide when it comes to quality issues in geographic information (GI)," says EuroGeographics' Quality Knowledge Exchange Network Leader, Carol Agius. "Sharing ways to overcome interoperability issues manage quality and meet standards, can only benefit the wider GI community.

"Meeting with our colleagues from Canada was very exciting, not only did it provide the opportunity to exchange information and experiences, it is also a significant step forward in forging wider network for future collaboration in the creation of continental Spatial Data Infrastructures which help to address social, economic and environmental challenges. Collaborations like these also help us to support EuroGeographics' focus on delivering the definitive location framework for Europe using the reference data available from its members."

"It was very interesting to compare the issues discussed within a European network with those within our GEOIDE project, "Marc Gervais, the GEOIDE IV23

project leader added. “It was also nice to continue our discussion from the GSDI 11 conference in Rotterdam and see all the similarities on both sides, which enables a global knowledge exchange and enrich the geocommunity on both sides of Atlantic.”

The spring plenary meeting of EuroGeographics’ Quality Knowledge Exchange Network, which included a day of discussions with representatives from the GEOIDE Network, was hosted by IGN Belgium in Brussels from 4 to 7 May 2010. The Quebec Cadastre; civil aviation spatial data quality requirements; metadata issues; the European Spatial Data Infrastructure Network (ESDIN) project; the challenges posed by volunteered geographic information (VGI); and the ethical issues posed by geospatial data were among the topics debated by delegates.

Ends

For further information about EuroGeographics, please contact Executive Director, Dave Lovell tel, +33 676 396 241 (mobile), email [dave.lovell@eurogeographics.org](mailto:dave.lovell@eurogeographics.org).

For further information about GEOIDE project (IV 23), please contact Marc Gervais, associate professor at Laval University in Quebec, Canada, tel +1 418 656 2131 #2167 , e-mail [Marc.Gervais@scg.ulaval.ca](mailto:Marc.Gervais@scg.ulaval.ca)

## **Notes to Editors**

### **About EuroGeographics**

EuroGeographics is the membership association and voice for the European national mapping, land registry and cadastral agencies. It brings together 53 members from 43 countries who invest around €1.5 billion in the development of geographical information each year and use cutting-edge technology to create, manage, maintain and make available authoritative national databases.

Its focus is on delivering the definitive location framework for Europe using the reference data available now and in the future from national mapping, land registry and cadastral agencies.

EuroGeographics provides a forum for sharing information and best practice and a platform for creating pan-European harmonised datasets. It is a powerful partner for European policy-decision makers and institutions and a reliable provider of authoritative geographic information for civil protection, risk management, enterprise, transport, housing, regional development and much more.

To find out more about EuroGeographics, please visit [www.eurogeographics.org](http://www.eurogeographics.org). To see our members' geographical information in action, please visit our showcase at [www.youtube.com/eurogeographics](http://www.youtube.com/eurogeographics).

## **About GEOIDE**

**GEOmatics for Informed Decisions** : GEOIDE is funded by the Networks of Centres of Excellence program (NCE) since 1998. GEOIDE brings together many of the country's leading experts from universities, industry and government agencies to conduct world-class research to enhance Canadian lives. In addition, GEOIDE promotes international collaborations with similar organizations worldwide. The mission of GEOIDE is to consolidate and strengthen the Canadian geomatics industry, while making optimum use of Canada's Research and Development resources. GEOIDE aims to create a sustainable networking structure that integrates all sectors of the Canadian geomatics community. As a result, Canada can continue to play a leading role in geomatics worldwide.

<http://www.geoide.ulaval.ca>

About GEOIDE project IV-23

The main scientific objective of the GEOIDE project is to develop innovative solutions to evaluate GI quality and contribute to its responsible commercialization and hence achieve an *healthy protection of the public*.

<http://dataquality.scg.ulaval.ca>