

GEODATA FOR MANAGING THE REFUGEE SITUATION

Geodata for managing the refugee situation is being provided by The Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy (BKG), Germany as part of its commitment to Europe.

BKG supports all federal, Laender and local authority non-commercial projects, as well as non-governmental organisations and companies, by providing web services free of charge. These include the Europe-wide viewing service TopPlus-Web-Refugees, a routing service and the Germany-wide geocoding service of the surveying authorities of the Laender and the federal government. The services will be available until the end of 2017.

Both the 16 Laender and EuroGeographics have donated not-for-profit licences to use their authoritative products for this purpose. The licence from EuroGeographics covers the harmonised pan-European datasets EuroBoundaryMap and EuroRegionalMap.

The TopPlus-Web-Refugees service developed by BKG offers a uniform pan-European map with 14 levels of detail. The scale levels range from a Europe-wide overview to detailed, authoritative city maps. It is offered via various standardised interfaces and is perfectly suited for web presentation due to its high performance. The service provides authoritative data from Laender, federal and European sources, as well as sources of free geodata. The information for Germany is taken exclusively from authoritative sources.

The geocoding web service of the federal government and the Laender is operated at BKG and is based on international standards. It enables places, towns, streets and postal addresses to be searched by geographical name. The service provides the coordinates in UTM projection (zone 32), for example for displaying the relevant location on the TopPlus-Web-Refugees map.

Knowledge about the location and route to reach it is of special importance in a mobile information society strongly influenced by the internet. The routing service of BKG offers three profiles for cars, bikes and pedestrians to compute the fastest and the shortest routes.

