



# Press Release

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Paris, 24<sup>th</sup> of October 2005

## **EuroGeographics and OGCE collaborate in the RISE project**

**Europe recognises the need for action to protect the environment and ensure the security of its citizens. The European Commission (EC) is encouraging and coordinating such action through the issue of European Directives, including INSPIRE, and through programmes such as GMES - Global Monitoring for Environment and Security – which is aimed at promoting the development of Information Services for a variety of different decision makers.**

Central to the success of these Programmes is the development of common specifications for data documentation, collection and exchange. The **RISE** - Reference Information Specifications for Europe - project will address this central issue of 'data harmonisation' which is widely considered a prerequisite for interoperability between spatial information systems.

The RISE project is a 24 month project (Sept' 2005 – Aug' 2007) funded under the EC's 6<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme. Its primary goal is to produce **guidelines for the creation of geospatial data implementation specifications**. Its key outcome will be a 'repeatable methodology' for developing, adopting and maintaining implementation specifications. The definition of this methodology will address issues concerning process and standards to be adopted, organisational models to link user and producer communities, best practice training and a recommended 'road map' for implementation.

The definition of the guidelines will be based on the development of specifications for the 'water' and 'elevation' themes (as defined in INSPIRE) with a particular focus on the requirements of managing Europe's River Basins and applications relevant to GMES and the Water Framework Directive. To this end the project will build synergies with existing, past and future GMES projects, including MOTIIVE which is addressing the same issue of data harmonisation but, for the 'marine', rather than 'land', environment.

The primary members of the consortium are EuroGeographics represented by its Head Office – who are the Project Coordinator - and two of its members Bundesamt für Kartographie und Geodäsie, Germany, and Lantmäteriet, Sweden together with OGC Europe and QinetiQ who are responsible for the technical project management.

For more information, please visit the project page on the EuroGeographics website [www.eurogeographics.org/eng/03\\_RISE.asp](http://www.eurogeographics.org/eng/03_RISE.asp) or contact EuroGeographics Head Office, Nick Land, Tel: + 33 1 64 15 32 65 or [nick.land@eurogeographics.org](mailto:nick.land@eurogeographics.org).



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#### Notes for editors

**EuroGeographics** is the association of Europe's National Mapping & Cadastral Agencies. With 47 members from 41 countries the primary goal of the association is to provide the underpinning, 'interoperable', reference information for Europe. [www.eurogeographics.org](http://www.eurogeographics.org)

**Open Geospatial Consortium (Europe) Limited (OGCE)** – is the wholly owned European subsidiary of the Open Geospatial Consortium, Inc. (OGC), a non-profit voluntary consensus standards organisation, with some 285 members, leading on the development of standards for geospatial and Location Based Services. [www.opengeospatial.org](http://www.opengeospatial.org)

**Bundesamt für Kartographie und Geodäsie** – is the National Mapping Agency of Germany and a member of EuroGeographics. [www.bkg.bund.de](http://www.bkg.bund.de)

**Lantmäteriet** – is the National Mapping and Cadastral Agency of Sweden and a member of EuroGeographics. [www.lm.se](http://www.lm.se)

**QinetiQ** – is a UK Limited Company and a member of OGC. It is a leader in its field, specialising in research and development, including space and GIS technologies. [www.qinetiq.com](http://www.qinetiq.com)