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Implementing INSPIRE in non-EU countries based on learned lessons



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Introduction



INSPIRE
Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe

INSPIRE Directive was adopted seven years ago.

The results of the adoption and implementation of the INSPIRE directive - clearly visible within the EU, with a strong commitment of member states and their experts to build ESDI progressing in accordance with the set plans in all 28 member states.

However, this does not imply that the level of the establishment of the NSDI (as well as the level of complementarity with the provisions of the INSPIRE) is identical in all member countries.

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(Acts adopted under the EC Treaty/Euratom Treaty whose publication is obligatory)

DIRECTIVES

DIRECTIVE 2007/2/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

of 14 March 2007

establishing an Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (INSPIRE)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

integration, it is necessary to establish a measure of coordination between the users and providers of the information so that information and knowledge from different sectors can be combined.

Introduction



INSPIRE
Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe

INSPIRE directive **is obligatory** only for EU-member states.

Member States of the **European Economic Area (EEA)** (Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway and Switzerland) have largely accepted the INSPIRE directive and accordingly built their NSDI.

There are only 10 European countries outside the authority of the INSPIRE directive - Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Albania, Macedonia, Kosovo, Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Turkey.



Regardless of the fact that the INSPIRE directive is not obligatory for them, all the 10 countries are aspiring to EU membership and are thus making efforts to build their NSDI according to the INSPIRE directive.

Introduction

All EU member states (except Croatia) were in the same situation - began with the introduction of the INSPIRE Directive at the same time.

Croatia - joined the EU 07/01/2013.

The Croatian unique experience is important for countries that are not members of the EU because (sooner or later) they will have to harmonize with the *acquis communautaire*, and among other things, accept the INSPIRE directive, the implementation of its standards and specifications **in a situation where the rest of the EU is already well advanced with these actions.**



INSPIRE implementation in Croatia

After the war - Croatia has put a lot of effort and resources in collection and organization of spatial information and data, and founding of the institutions which are to take care of them and update them.

In 2001 the first study was made for SGA, it tried to envisage which requirements Croatia will have to meet when it enters the EU one day.

In 2007 - implement the basic articles of INSPIRE directive into the Croatian law and thus create the legislative framework complementary to the INSPIRE directive.



INSPIRE implementation in Croatia

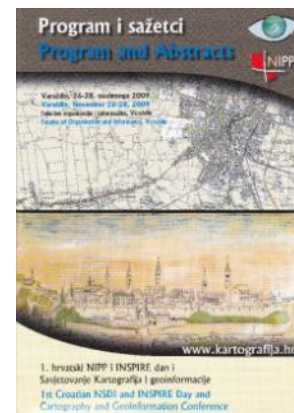
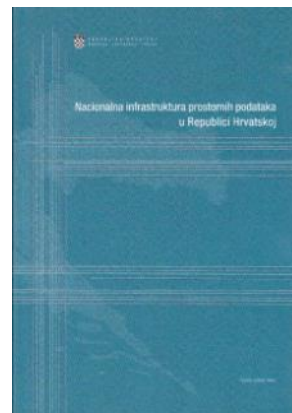
2007 - three-level organizational structure was set up (the NSDI Council, the NSDI Board and the WG) SGA - facilitator of all the NSDI bodies and the main promoter of its development.

- ✓ established the geo-portal,
- ✓ technologically upgraded a number of databases in its domain, and
- ✓ cooperated with a number of state bodies and encouraged them to join NSDI.



2007-2009:

- ✓ workshops were held in which the NSDI of Sweden, Canada, Germany and Norway were presented,
- ✓ the initial study of NSDI in Croatia was made,
- ✓ an annual conference on NSDI (NSDI and INSPIRE Day) was started, and a number of workshops and other educational activities were organized.



INSPIRE implementation in Croatia

All the above mentioned has enabled, according to the **Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA)**, the adoption of the **The National Spatial Data Infrastructure Act (2013)** before the actual accession, which enabled complete taking over and adoption of the INSPIRE Directive.



SDI in the Western Balkans Region

The Western Balkans is a political synonym used by EU officials for six non-EU countries in south-east part of Europe: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, FYR Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia.

All these countries **have ambition to become members of the EU.**

From country to country there are political, organizational and technical differences, but in general, those countries, especially the authorities in charge of implementing the NSDI, share a common idea to do it in the manner harmonized with the INSPIRE directive.



INSPIRATION - SDI in the Western Balkans

Recognizing this fact, in 2009 SGA proposed a regional project in the framework of the Multibeneficiary EU IPA2010 Programme.



The project aimed to:

1. support legislative and institutional framework,
2. provide capacity building and education and
3. raise awareness and improve communication among the stakeholders in six (above mentioned + Croatia) countries involved in the project.



INSPIRATION countries

INSPIRATION - SDI in the Western Balkans

The project started in February 2012 and during the two years provided strong support to involved countries and their SDI leading organizations achieving positive results in all involved countries.



Country	Legislative and institutional framework	Capacity building and education	Awareness raising and communication
Albania	New Law in force covering NSDI National NSDI Report	2 National Workshop Regional Conference on Capacity Buildings	INSPIRE day INSPIRE Brochures & Video
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Draft Law (Federation of BiH) National NSDI Report	2 National Workshop Regional Trainings European INSPIRATION Conference	5. Regional Cadastre & SDI Conference INSPIRE day INSPIRE Brochures & Video
Croatia	NSDI Law in force National NSDI Report	2 National Workshop Regional Trainings INSPIRATION's Wrap up Event	INSPIRE forum INSPIRE Brochures & Video
Kosovo	Draft Law National NSDI Report	2 National Workshop	INSPIRE day INSPIRE Brochures & Video
FYR Macedonia	Draft Law National NSDI Report	2 National Workshop	INSPIRE forum INSPIRE Brochures & Video
Montenegro	National NSDI Report	2 National Workshop Regional Trainings	INSPIRE day INSPIRE Brochures & Video
Serbia	WG established to prepare Draft Law National NSDI Report	2 National Workshop	6. Regional Cadastre & SDI Conference INSPIRE day INSPIRE Brochures & Video

Implementation based on learned lessons 1

Implementation of SDI involves **several parallel and different activities** that need to be applied so that the concept of SDI would be transferred **into the efficient infrastructure.**

It is possible to evaluate the level of the achieved SDI implementation, **especially on the technical/technological level.**

But, the general and active acceptance, **necessary capacity building and education** (both individual and systematic) are all more difficult to measure and we can generally evaluate them in quantitative terms, but not in qualitative terms.



Implementation based on learned lessons 2

Establishment of SDI

1. defining the legal framework,
2. establishing the organizational structure of SDI, and
3. establishing the technical infrastructure of SDI which has to service the entire state system of spatial information.

1. Defining the legal framework

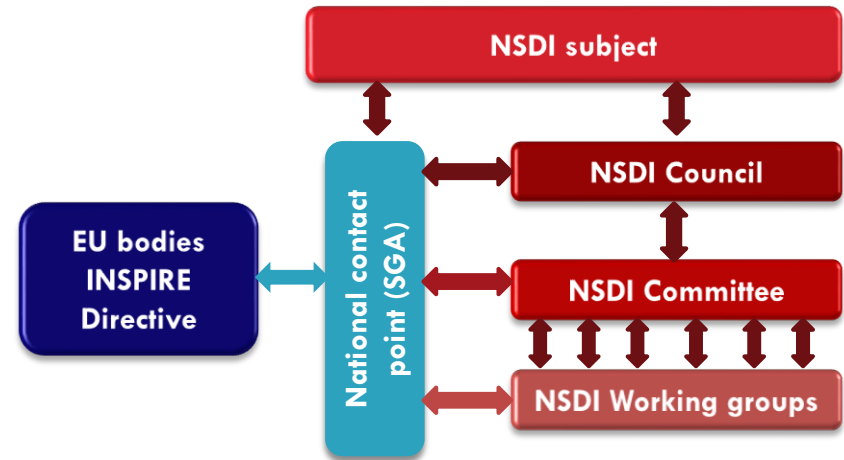
- **the adoption of even the weakest legislative framework** of SDI effectively started the systematic activities aimed at the adoption, use and implementation of SDI in a country (Croatia in 2007 and 2013, Macedonia in 2008 and Albania in 2012).



Implementation based on learned lessons 3

The organizational structure

- ✓ **simple vertical** organizational structure has proven to be good and it was followed by other countries in the region.
- ✓ behind all the three levels of NSDI bodies **stood SGA**, which provided sufficient human, material and financial resources, so that NSDI bodies could operate without interruption, i.e. the SDI could be built.

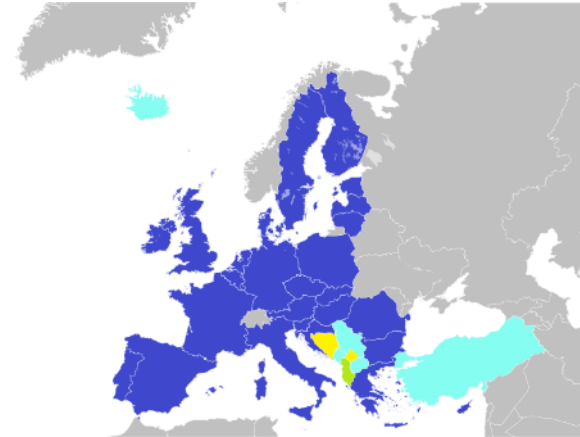


Conclusion

According to the INSPIRE directive, countries outside the EU and EEA area are not explicitly obliged to establish the SDI, but considering that they are all:

- part of Europe
- aspiring to EU membership and
- beneficiaries of many EU programs

it can be said that there is an **implicit need for the development of SDI** compatible with the norms of the INSPIRE directive.



Conclusion

Considering its starting position, Croatia has managed to build all the elements necessary for establishing of NSDI quite quickly. The legislative framework was defined, bodies were established and technological tools were built for establishing of NSDI.

To successfully build the NSDI it is necessary to know who is in charge! (institution which promoted the establishment of NSDI and which systematically worked on its building)

The clearer the organizational structure is, the simpler the NSDI organizational building is.

It is important that the NSDI bodies **understand their role and actively participate in its building.** SGA has put a lot of effort in mobilizing other institutions to actively participate in the building of NSDI.



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