

Utilization of data throughout Europe

INfrastructure for **SP**atial **IN**fo**R**mation in **EU**rope (INSPIRE) is an initiative of the European Union (EU) aiming at a joint spatial data infrastructure in Europe. INSPIRE shall facilitate cross-border usage of spatial data in Europe, particularly to support community policy decisions on the environment.

The European Parliament and the Council adopted the Directive 2007/2/EU, which entered into force on 15 May 2007 and has meanwhile been transposed into national law by the member states.

The INSPIRE directive defines the legal framework for the establishment of spatial data infrastructures.

The relevant topic-specific details are regulated by the EU by means of implementing rules, which are directly binding on the member states.



In practice, INSPIRE requires a uniform description of the data as well as their provision on the internet, including search, visualization and download services. The data themselves, too, must be available in a uniform format.

The GDI-DE Steering Committee is the designated National Contact Point, responsible for contacts with the European Commission (EC) in relation to the INSPIRE directive (2007/2/EC), while the GDI-DE-Coordination Office is charged with the conduct of business.

More Information?

Further Information about Spatial Data Infrastructure Germany (GDI-DE) is available at:

www.gdi-de.org

More detailed information on INSPIRE in Germany in generell as well as concerning the Directive 2007/2/EC and its Legal Implementation is available at the official Webpage of the European Community:

inspire.ec.europa.eu

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Networking data – making better decisions.



Spatial Data Infrastructure Germany –
an initiative of the Federal Government,
the states and the municipalities

GDI-DE: Networking Data

The Spatial Data Infrastructure Germany (GDI-DE) is an initiative of the Federal Government, the states (Bundesländer) and the municipalities.

The partners are networking data from all over Germany. Politics, business and private individuals can have access to these data, which constitute a reliable basis for taking efficient decisions.

Taking better decisions by means of data

For the purpose of information or decision making citizens, politics, administration and business as well as scientific communities can via the GDI-DE call up data such as:

- Is my house in a flood zone of a river?
- Where in a particular region are commercial areas in the planning phase?
- Where are wind-power plants situated today, where might still be some potential?

Data help to answer such questions with geographical reference. These data are in a first stage available in diverse forms at many different bodies.

By the setup of the GDI-DE the Federal Government, the states and the municipalities make such data more accessible and network them.

This way, decision-makers can get topical and precise information – enabling them to make efficient decisions.

Competence through Cooperation

The Spatial Data Infrastructure Germany was established by and is still growing as a cooperation project of the Federal Government, the states and the municipalities.

The following central institutions and facilities cooperate within the GDI-DE:

- The **Steering Committee** which consists of representatives of the Federal Government, the states and the municipal umbrella associations. It advises and decides on the strategy and work programme. Further, it reports to the IT Planning board, which is the control body for federal cooperation in the IT field.
- The **Coordination Office** seated at the Bundesamt für Kartographie und Geodäsie (Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy, Frankfurt/Main). It gives advice to the Steering Committee and prepares the decisions of the latter. Further, it organizes implementation of the decisions taken.

Central Components of GDI-DE

From GDI-DE Testsuite to GDI-DE Registry

The Spatial Data Infrastructure Germany makes available to those involved certain service functions – as central components:

- The application **GDI-DE Testsuite** for the verification of the conformity of dataservices.
- The search service **Geodata Catalog.de**, through which all data and services available in the GDI-DE can be found.
- The website **Geoportal.de**, which offers users simple options to search data, link them and have them displayed in maps.
- The information system **GDI-DE Registry** for the administration and support of multi-sectorial concepts.

GDI-DE Testsuite and GDI-DE Registry are primarily geared to data providers. Users can have access to the respective data via Geoportal.de and Geodata Catalog.de.