



## **INSPIRE – UNSDI COOPERATION FORMULATION**

### **Background**

Following the United Nations Geospatial Information Working Group (UNGIWG) 7<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting in Santiago de Chile in early November 2006, which reviewed a comprehensive draft discussion paper “UNSDI Vision, Implementation Strategy and Reference Architecture”, an informal discussion meeting was convened by the SDI Unit of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission and the UNGIWG Secretariat on 15 December 2006 at the JRC.

The objective of the meeting was to explore the potential for synergistic technical and institutional cooperation between the implementation of the INSPIRE principles and rules in Europe, formally agreed upon by the European Parliament and Council on 21 November, and the United Nations Spatial Data Infrastructure (UNSDI) as being formulated by the UN agencies represented in UNGIWG and as a preparation for the UNGIWG-UNSDI Global Partners Meeting (UGPM) to be held on 1 and 2 March at the facilities of ESA-ESRIN in Frascati, Italy.

The following elements have been identified through a consultative process between representatives from the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, The Netherlands and Spain and INSPIRE and UNGIWG Secretariats.

### **1. Political Awareness Raising**

1. Joint communication efforts and coherent implementation strategy  
"One coherent message at both technical and institutional level"
2. A structured INSPIRE-UNSDI Communication Plan (JIUCP);
  - Information for Governments;
  - Identification of stakeholders;
  - Information and Training sessions for national/regional stakeholders;
  - Seminars;
  - Press bulletins;
  - Recognition of professional achievements through an annual Joan Blaeu@Prize.

### **2. Architecture and Standards**

INSPIRE-UNSDI Coordinating and Advisory Body (IUCAB) for:

1. Architecture reference model;
2. Data models;
3. Standards;
4. Shared Document repository;
5. Harmonization with other relevant initiatives (e.g. GEOSS, GMES, FGDC, GSDI, HMA,...);
6. Collaboration with selected strategic partners (e.g. ESA, OGC, ISO...).

### **3. Capacity Building (within and outside EU)**

1. Joint awareness raising seminars for decision-makers on legal, institutional and technical aspects of SDI development;

2. Technical training sessions (including distance learning) for early-adopters on national, supra-national and international SDI development and implementation;
3. SDI development support with emphasis on developing countries by E/UN SDI members, placing SDI development in function of meeting targets or obligations arising from international agreements or legal frameworks, such as UNFCCC, CBD, UNCCD, MDG, FLEGT;
4. Joint "global" applications/projects/pilots with support from multilateral, regional and bi-lateral aid programmes;
5. Harmonization with capacity building programmes of GEOSS, GSDI,..;
6. Compilation of and access to best practices material.

#### **4. Geospatial Data and Information Management Tools**

1. Tools for SDI development including an Opensource software repository;
2. Standard manuals, tutorials.

#### **5. Demonstrators**

1. Test-Bed Facilities including tools for interfacing Opensource software and commercial packages for geospatial information management;
2. 'True interoperability' testing at various 'levels' (data, information and knowledge);
3. In-border and cross-border trials in countries in different stages of development.

#### **6. Joint further development of the National Coordinating Office (NCO) concept**

1. Institutional setting and roles;
2. Technical mandate.

---

##### **Ad 1.1 Joint information strategy - "One message"**

To get "the message" across, communication experts suggest adhering to simple core messages. Especially having to deal with people in the political domain requires communication which is largely non-technical.

##### **Ad 1.2 Communication Plan**

To implement 1.1, a joint centralized repository should be set up, in order to make the standard set of communication products available.

##### **Ad 2.4 Standard Documentation repository**

Also on Architecture and Standards a joint centralized repository should be set up.

##### **Ad 3.1 Awareness raising and training sessions**

Within the EU member states, but also very substantially in transition and developing countries, information and training session and seminars will have to be organized, based on the core messages and the joint INSPIRE-UNSDI Communication Plan (IUCP)