



Establishing a National Spatial Data Infrastructure in Kosovo

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New country with a new approach, Republic of Kosovo is undergoing enormous political, cultural and social transformation in every aspect, including dealing with geospatial data. The Government of Kosovo has recognized the importance of developing a National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI), and acknowledges the geo-information as of high importance on spatial planning, on political decision making or on identifying preventive activity to avoid disasters by taking prudent steps, etc.

NSDI in Kosovo aims to establish a technological, institutional, legal and administrative framework for inter-organisational collaboration that will be in line with INSPIRE Directive. Also it will support e-governance and institutionalization, it will integrate geo-information from different sources into one infrastructure, and it will avoid duplication of spatial data acquisition, storage, and maintenance, it will establish effective business processes which meet the needs of the stakeholders and promote the accessing, sharing, using and distributing the spatial data.

Pursuant the Law on Cadastre No. 04 L/013, article 23, the Kosovo Cadastral Agency was given responsibility for NSDI coordination, prioritizing data harmonization with the European Directives, including the INSPIRE Directive. Also, the draft Law on NSDI that is proposed to the parliament of Kosova is strongly aligned in accordance with the European Union Directive 2007/02, which determines the Spatial Information Infrastructure in the European Community (INSPIRE). This Law determines the general rules for establishing the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI).

Parallel with the new Law on NSDI, KCA initiated the project “Development of a strategy for National Spatial Data Infrastructure” funded by the World Bank as part of the overall project “Real Estate Cadastre and Registration Project”. The main objective of the NSDI Strategy is to transform the way geospatial data is shared within Kosovo so it may underpin national social and economic development to the benefit of all. In Kosova there are a lot of producers / users of geospatial data, all of them identified by name of producer / user and by type of data, during the process of creation of NSDI strategy.

Kosovo Cadastre Agency together with stakeholders did an overview and analysis of spatial data and their existing status in few phases, even though the law on NSDI was not approved yet. First phase of NSDI was focused on stakeholder’s information, knowledge transfer, while the second phase was focused on data collection, data harmonization, their current state in the Republic of Kosova. Between these phases was created the State Geoportal, some web services for data dissemination, etc. As in all Western Balkan countries, in Kosovo the National Geoportal is under the jurisdiction of state body for cadastre, survey and cartography, Kosovo Cadastral Agency.

Kosovo Cadastral Agency’s research in cooperation with some international experts achieved to show an objective of spatial data infrastructure, which is in line with modern NSDI development. And through the NSDI strategy to provide recommendations for further

implementation, in accordance with the INSPIRE Directive. The strategy strongly focuses on the definitions of the strategic vision and mission; objectives; governance structures; a proposed funding model; identification of key stakeholders; estimation of the implementation costs and benefits; the building of capacity through stakeholder engagement and KCA staff training; and a road map for implementation.

This strategy will be explained and presented in more depth during the conference.