

INSPIRE: challenges and opportunities for the EU

General Assembly of CLGE, Malta

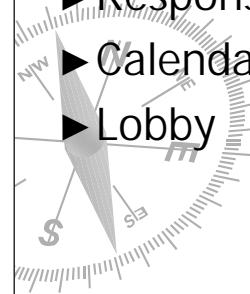
by Frieda Brepoels (EPP-ED)
Rapporteur INSPIRE
15/09/2006



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INSPIRE: opportunities and challenges

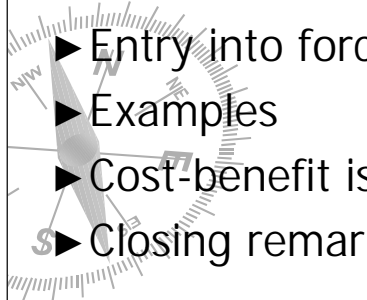
- ▶ Introduction
- ▶ Key elements
- ▶ Responsibility of the Member States
- ▶ Calendar
- ▶ Lobby



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INSPIRE: opportunities and challenges

- ▶ EP's point of view
 - First reading
 - Second reading
 - Conciliation
- ▶ Entry into force
- ▶ Examples
- ▶ Cost-benefit issue
- ▶ Closing remarks



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Introduction

- ▶ Directive creates a legal framework for an **infrastructure** for spatial environmental information in the Community
- ▶ Across the local, regional, national and European level
- ▶ Very important not only for the environmental policy but also for other sectors

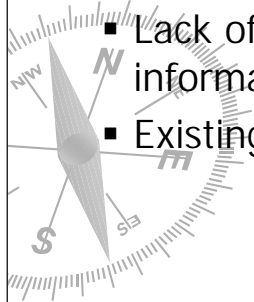


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Introduction

► Current situation in the EU

- Complex governance across different sectors
- Lack of co-ordination across borders and between levels of government
- Lack of standards: incompatible information and information systems
- Existing data fragmented, duplicated, ...

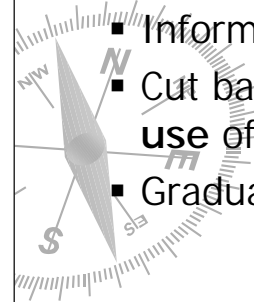


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Introduction

► Objectives

- Improve availability and quality of information
- Better environmental policy – environmental efficiency
- Informed public participation
- Cut back existing barriers limiting **access** and **use** of spatial information
- Gradual harmonisation



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Different Coding Systems and Different Number of Units

SABE (NMAs)		EUROSTAT (NSOs)	
SHN code	name	LAU code	name
...
27013	Belturbet	042	Belturbet Urban
14006	D. Topeiroy	720600	Topirois

National Mapping Agencies	National Statistical Institute
Number of lowest units (NMAs)	Number of LAU2 units (NSOs)
...	...
2358	2358
613	614
446	446
36587	36678
8124	8100
559	515
118	118
68	62
2488	2478
289	290
...	...

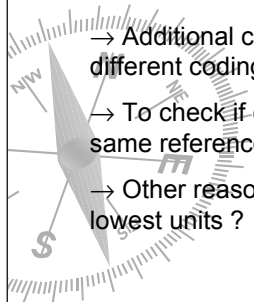
→ Additional conversion tables for different coding systems are needed

→ To check if data refers really to the same reference dates...

→ Other reasons for different number of lowest units ?

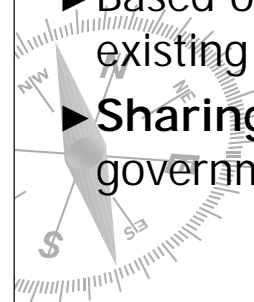
A closer cooperation between the NSOs and the NMAs is absolutely necessary

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Key elements

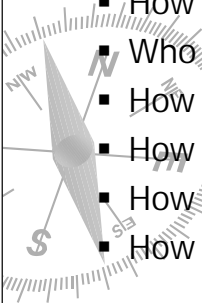
- **Access** for citizens and public authorities (geo-portal)
- Based on **existing data** infrastructures and existing information
- **Sharing** of data between all levels of government is the key factor to success!



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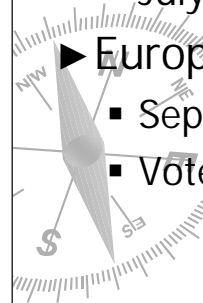
Responsibility of the MS

- ▶ MS have to make choices and to answer questions:
 - What is the current situation?
 - How should we implement INSPIRE?
 - How to create metadata, implementing rules, ...
 - Who are our partners?
 - How do we manage interoperability?
 - How do we manage financing?
 - How shall we report and monitor?
 - How can we cooperate in comitology?



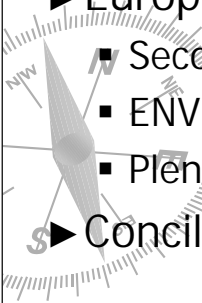
Calendar

- ▶ European Commission
 - Started work in 2002
 - July 2004: proposal of Directive
- ▶ European Parliament
 - September 2004: nomination of rapporteur
 - Vote in plenary: June 2005 (first reading)



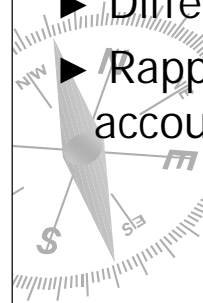
Calendar

- ▶ European Council
 - 23 January 2006 Council's common position
- ▶ European Parliament
 - Second reading started in February 2006
 - ENVI vote on 21 April 2006
 - Plenary vote in June
- ▶ Conciliation will start



Lobby

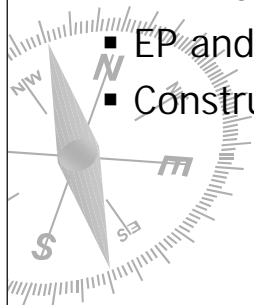
- ▶ A lot of stakeholders
- ▶ Different points of view
- ▶ Rapporteur has drafted a report, taking into account the public interest



EP's point of view

► First reading

- Unanimous approval of rapporteur's vision in ENVI and plenary
- EP and EC grew together
- Constructive amendments



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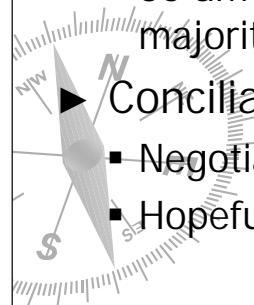
EP's point of view

► Second reading

- Few amendments accepted by the Council
- Key elements (re)introduced
- 36 amendments approved by a comfortable majority

► Conciliation

- Negotiations between Parliament and Council
- Hopeful for positive result



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Entry into force

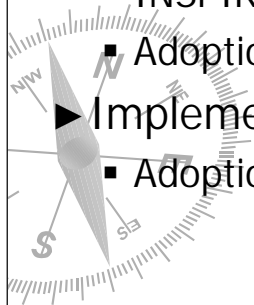
► Decision making process (2006)

► Transposition phase (2007 – 2008)

- Entry into force of Directive
- INSPIRE Committee
- Adoption implementing rules

► Implementation phase (2009 – 2013)

- Adoption and monitoring of measures



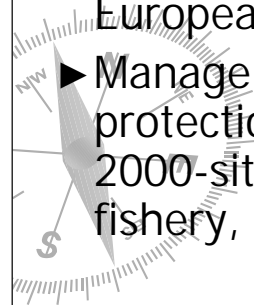
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Examples

► Information on the location of utilities, protected areas, addresses, geology, cadastral parcels, ... (annexes)

► Ongoing projects: EEA, GIS-Flanders, European Soil Bureau

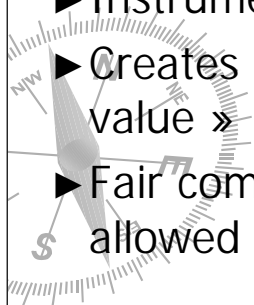
► Manage and improve water quality, protection of citizens from floods, natura 2000-sites, monitoring avian influenza, fishery, forest fires, ...



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Cost-benefit issue

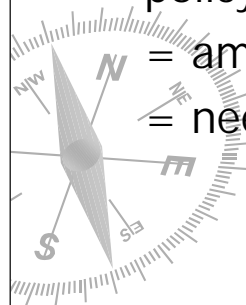
- ▶ Benefits outweigh the investment (impact assessment)
- ▶ Free viewing is not new (step back!)
- ▶ Instruments to prevent abuse introduced
- ▶ Creates a new market of « data with added value »
- ▶ Fair compensation for the sharing of data allowed



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Closing remarks

- ▶ INSPIRE
 - = a major step forward towards a more sustainable European environmental policy
 - = ambitious
 - = needs the MS to succeed



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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

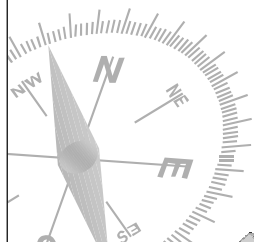
Thank you for your
attention!

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