Report from MIG, INSPIRE development update

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The long-awaited amendment to Regulation (EU) No 1089/2010 as regards interoperability of spatial data sets and services was adopted by the College on 24 October 2023 and published in the Official Journal on 30/10 (https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/2431/oj). The amendment introduces the following broad changes to the Regulation to simplify and make the implementation more flexible:

- replacing the explicit mentioning of code list and enumeration values in the IR text with a reference to the INSPIRE registry, where these values are now managed, under the governance of the Commission INSPIRE expert group (MIG);
- a clarification on provision of values for “voidable” attributes and those attributes for which no value may exist;
- and a mechanism to allow additional (national) coordinate reference systems, under the governance of the MIG.
An initiative to rationalize reporting requirements under EU regulations

- **Change in the INSPIRE Directive 2007/2/EC**
  
  In Article 21(2) of Directive 2007/2/EC, the first sentence is replaced by the following:

  - ‘No later than 31 March every two years, starting from 31 March 2025, Member States shall update, if necessary, a summary report. Those reports, which shall be made public by the Commission services, shall include summary descriptions of:’.
Call for evidence - Q2023/Q2024 – simplification and modernization of requirements regarding INSPIRE data exchange requirements - adaptation to the relevant horizontal data regulations;

INSPIRE data exchange at the heart of environmental policy needs, scope should be adapted to facilitate reporting in line with the EU acquis.
MIG P meeting

• Green deal /data space – whether there will be legislation in this area?
• *Data spaces* – will be dedicated group in the EC? How the countries are engaged?
• Green data space – new infrastructure? What with the INSPIRE infrastructure?
• Gdds – initiative of DG Connect. It's hard to get involved with the INSPIRE community
• Use INSPIRE „Best practices”
• M&R 2023
• HVD vs INSPIRE data in the monitoring exercise
Conclusions & Recommendations

- 2023 is no longer a transitional year
  - second M&R edition using the new GeoNetwork-based Geoportal, the first using the recently-released stable/final version
  - improved transparency and reproducibility of results
- Make sure to:
  - provide feedback (both positive and negative)
  - be ready to accept the change
- For indicators whose values are self-declared (conformity of datasets and services):
  - use the INSPIRE Reference Validator to check conformity
  - we will make an a posteriori assessment
- Overall: do not focus on numbers, but on the actual usability of the infrastructure!
INSPIRE Conference 2023

- Structured data is widely available but not easily accessible...
- Lot of work focusing on unstructured data
- The data “interface” is often reports (*.pdf etc)
- Green vs digital transition still need cooperation
- Green deal /Data spaces – wish list (dedicated training, metadata also for unstructured data, methods with linking text and data, transparent data management)
  Examples of digital twins – emodnet (European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet))
- Smart cities
- IACs data – in INSPIRE geoportal
- AI is ok, needed people, who will skillfully handle AI
The creators of data spaces in the EU are aware of the fact that countries' policies regarding data sharing and processing are created by technology giants mainly from the USA and China, e.g. Microsoft, Google. This is because technological giants are able to use available data most effectively.

The EU needs regulations in this area to get rid of monopolies. An analogy was shown with what happened in the USA 100 years ago when antitrust law was introduced and EU regulations regarding GSM roaming in member states. The problem of heterogeneity of data sharing conditions in individual data spaces was pointed out. There was a proposal to create a register of conditions for making data available by individual data spaces, in which these conditions would be published, but also automatically verified and compared between individual data spaces.

Various ideas for exchanging data between industries and even individual companies were presented. An example of a data exchange platform is the Belgian NGO Athumi. Athumi is controlled by the government. Its main goal is to support data exchange between companies. The biggest noticed problems with the exchange of data by companies are: lack of trust between companies (why should I share my data with potential competitors?), lack of standards, high cost of data publication. Athumi's plan is to allow every citizen and every company to create their own data warehouse, which will be shared with verified trustworthy organizations.
Data from the marine environment are a valuable resource. Quick access to reliable and accurate information is crucial in counteracting threats to the marine environment and in developing policies and legislation to protect sensitive areas of our coastlines and oceans, in understanding trends and predicting future changes. Similarly, better quality and more accessible marine data are a prerequisite for further sustainable economic development, so-called "blue growth".

Unfortunately, for many years, the collection, storage and sharing of marine data in Europe has been fragmented. Much of the data collection has focused on meeting the needs of a single purpose across a wide range of private and public organizations, often isolated from each other.

The solution came from the European Maritime Observation and Data Network (EMODnet), a network of organizations supported by the EU's Integrated Maritime Policy. These organizations work together to observe the sea, process data according to international standards and make this information freely available in the form of interoperable data layers and data products.
Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI)
Thank you for your attention!