

Delivering a digital foundation for growth in Denmark

Denmark estimates that the value of its open geospatial data has more than doubled since the introduction of the open data policy in 2013.

The Danish Agency for Data Supply and Efficiency (SDFE) was established in January 2016 when the former Danish Geodata Agency (GST) was divided into two new and separate agencies. SDFE aims to create a better digital foundation for growth, not only in the private sector, but also by freeing up time and resources in the public sector. It is in charge of collecting, managing and making available geographic and administrative public sector data to Danish decision-makers, businesses and citizens.

As part of a broader plan for open data within the Danish Digitisation Strategy, all of SDFE's data were made publicly available in 2013. In 2017, a follow-up analysis was carried out to estimate the impact of open geospatial data in Denmark. The socio-economic value was calculated on the premise that it generates both a production/market and an efficiency effect. The analysis estimated that the value of free and open geospatial data was almost €500 million in 2016, more than twice as much as estimated in 2012.

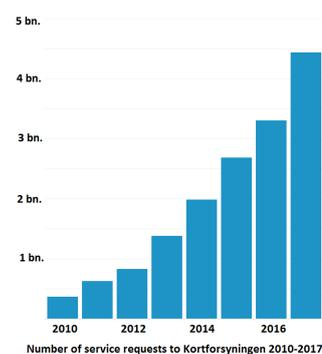
As a result of the open data policy, and SDFE's efforts to make data easy to find, use and combine with other data, the online portal 'Kortforsyningen' received a record 4.5 billion data requests during 2017. Private companies are now using SDFE's data in new and innovative ways, and it is evident that geospatial information creates added value for the users in many applications. Some recent use-cases relate to buying real estate, renting city bikes, assessing the risk for burglary, and illustrating the geospatial distribution of tax rates.

SDFE is a key contributor to the Danish Digitisation Strategy and is responsible for the national 'Data Distributor', a one-stop distribution channel giving access to a range of interoperable basic public data on individuals, businesses, real property, geospatial data etc. The first service, Place Names went online in November 2017, and it is planned to be fully operational by mid-2019.

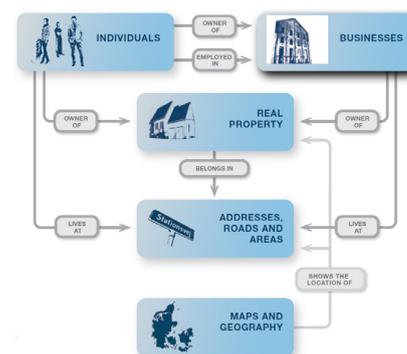
SDFE has a well-established mapping programme with a yearly updating cycle for topographic information for Denmark. Creating a new digital topographic map for Greenland, however called for a different approach. In 2017, after three years' intensive work, SDFE finalised a pilot project to map four areas equivalent to approximately twice the size of Denmark in close cooperation with the Government of Greenland.

The project had already delivered the digital elevation models and orthophotos upon which the topographic vector data was produced. In parallel with the data production, a digital geographic infrastructure was established, based on

both international and national modelling standards. Based on the experiences from the pilot project, SDFE will commence full scale production during 2018.



Use of SDFE's open data



Distribution of basic data



Mapping Greenland