

A single source of dependable geospatial information for Europe - *The European Location Framework*

What is the European Location Framework?

Europe's National Mapping, Cadastre and Land Registry Authorities are developing the European Location Framework to meet demand for a single access point to countries geospatial reference data and services.

The European Location Framework (ELF) is both a technical infrastructure and a delivery platform. It delivers INSPIRE compliant, dependable and seamless geospatial information for understanding places and features. By harmonizing European geospatial information it will help the free movement of interoperable data within a digital single market.

Why is the European Location Framework important?

For a practical implementation of INSPIRE

The European Location Framework takes INSPIRE to the next level by providing the practical means for delivering operational cross-border and pan-European services. It is reported that 70% of all fresh water bodies in Europe are part of a cross-border river basin while 1 in 5 of Europe's citizens live within 50 kilometres of a border.

Complementing Europe's National Mapping, Cadastre and Land Registry Authorities (NMCAs)

All new geo-information policies should be INSPIRE compliant, therefore the European Location Framework is important to the future of Europe's NMCAs. ELF will complement, not compete with, European NMCA's national activities. ELF will meet user needs whilst reducing costs, creating new business opportunities and increasing the reuse of public sector information.

Unique user-friendly gateway to dependable pan-European geospatial information

The European Location Framework will deliver dependable geospatial information from Europe's NMCAs to the next generation of data users. These new users will not be interested in how the platform works, only that it delivers what they need when they need it. There is no other solution either existing or planned which will do this.

Cutting duplication

Without the European Location Framework, we risk several competing answers to the same question, when just one will do. Consistent and seamless geospatial information of Europe will help us achieve a cohesive solution quickly and efficiently. It will also deliver cost savings by maximising the reuse of public data and avoiding the costly development of duplicate services.

Contributing to international and European initiatives

ELF contributes to a number of European initiatives, most importantly the INSPIRE Directive and the priority for a Digital Single Market, but also the Joint Research Centre's EULF project, the Copernicus programme and the INSPIRE based ARE3NA project.

ELF is considered Europe's contribution to the strategic United Nations Initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM).

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[European Location Framework \(ELF\)](#)