

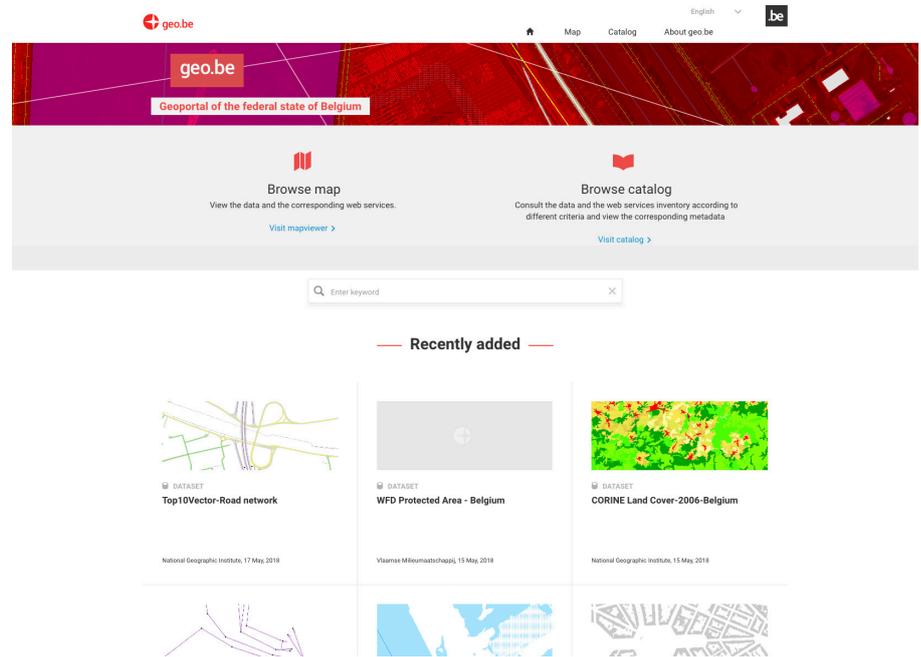
Belgium

Implementing INSPIRE through a federal platform for spatial information in Belgium

In Belgium, the federal platform for spatial information www.geo.be is contributing to better cooperation in the implementation of the INSPIRE Directive.

In 2014, the National Geographic Institute of Belgium (NGI) began development of www.geo.be with federal partners who create, manage and share their own spatial data. In addition to NGI, the partnership comprises the FPS Economy (Statistics Belgium), the FPS Finance (General Administration for Patrimonial Documentation, previously the Land Register), the Royal Belgian Meteorological Institute, the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, the Royal Observatory of Belgium and the Royal Belgian Institute for Space Aeronomy. The project is also supported by the Belgian Interregional Environment Agency. The partners are all involved in the implementation of the INSPIRE Directive and provide federal spatial datasets covering most of the I themes from Annex I to III.

NGI is leading the work and is in charge of the development and maintenance of the technical geo-platform, which currently provides a network of spatial datasets and discovery, viewing and download of services according to



the INSPIRE Directive. Both datasets and services are documented in a multilingual federal geo-catalogue, which is national and international in scope, and accessible via www.geo.be.

To allow the development of the geo-platform, a partnership between the federal spatial data owners and NGI has been established with bilateral agreements describing the concrete distribution of tasks, the data and services to deliver and the support required. NGI acts as a geo-broker and is responsible for validating the federal metadata, datasets and services in compliance with INSPIRE. NGI supports the partners in the implementation of the Directive by offering INSPIRE expertise, and support through specific training, workshops, guidance and

recommendations. NGI also offers set-up support and hosting of the network services on behalf of the partners.

To ensure the geo-broker role, NGI has extended the partnership to a group of experts of Spatial Applications Data Division from the Leuven University and a consortium of private companies GeoSolutions/GeoCad. The federal geo-platform became operational in 2017 and is now looking to Horizon 2020.