

The Netherlands

Focusing on quality management in The Netherlands

Managing data quality is one of eight goals set out in the five year strategic plan for The Netherlands Cadastre, Land Registry and Mapping Agency (Kadaster), and a key activity in 2019.

By enabling the visualisation of spatial data quality in public dashboards for Key Registers in Topography, Large Scale Topography, and Addresses and Buildings, Kadaster Netherlands not only provides data owners and users with a quality indicator, but also the opportunity to contribute to improvements through crowdsourcing. In this way it is fulfilling its ambition to be a partner in use of geo-information.

Low data quality can have serious consequences, such as wrong tax assessments or unjustified building permits. By showing data owners how their information scores in different quality indicators, the dashboard helps quality management and assists in allocating resources to improve it.

The data owner dashboard consists of a number of quality measures and statistical data, for example the number of records

they manage. It shows the data owners score on quality indicators compared to the national average, but it also shows specific errors in data.

Publicly available quality dashboards allow anyone to inspect the data quality of the register. Changes or errors can be reported via dedicated websites by clicking on the map, adding a comment and adding supporting information. Reported issues are shown on the map by a marker visible to all. A status attribute (new, under investigation, finished) is added and updated by the data owner, enabling the progress of the report to be tracked. For Key Registers Topography and Large Scale Topography, this service is available at verbeterdekaart.nl, for Addresses and Buildings at bagviewer.kadaster.nl.

Statistics about crowd-sourced reports are integrated in the quality indicator dashboards to motivate data owners to respond quickly. Kadaster Netherlands is expecting a further data quality boost for these datasets, as feedback numbers have risen significantly since introducing these websites in 2016 (Figure 1).

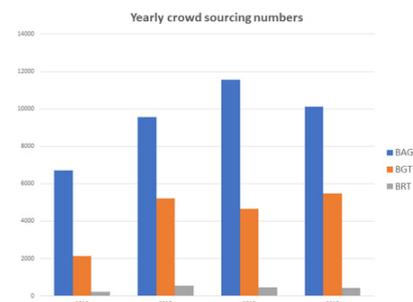


Figure 1 Crowdsourcing website and feedback numbers

Quality management is also a key part of Kadaster Netherlands' role as one of five Regional Coordinators of EuroRegionalMap (ERM), 1: 250 000 scale topographical mapping produced by EuroGeographics.

Kadaster Netherlands coordinates the annual updating of ERM in its region and merges the data into one dataset for 10 countries: Belarus, Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, Luxemburg, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland and The Netherlands. It also performs the Quality Management of ERM for all member countries.

By developing a quality management tool, Kadaster Netherlands has enabled all data producers to validate their ERM data before submitting them to the Regional Coordinators (who use the same tool for validation). This not only saves time and effort, but also improves the quality of the data. Feedback has been positive with some countries adapting the tool to validate their national topographic data.