



GD4All

68th Meeting of the MIG-T

04 February 2022

GreenData4All

Evaluation and review of the INSPIRE Directive

GreenData4All

INSPIRE as an enabler for the Green Deal dataspace

- The European Data Strategy announces a ‘GreenData4All’ initiative as a driver for a possible review of the legal framework.
- Better availability and accessibility of environmental data will help to deliver on EU Green deal strategies.
- European Green Deal as political driver for developing a EU Green Deal data space.
- INSPIRE Directive is an important instrument for bringing data from public administrations into the Green Deal data space
- Open Data Directive and the implementing act on High-Value data sets.
- **Evaluate the INSPIRE Directive** and look at the coherence with the public access to environmental information Directive 2003/4/EC
- **Possibly review the INSPIRE Directive**

Findings of the evaluation (SWD)

- The **implementation** of the INSPIRE Directive **has matured** compared to 2014, **however, still the implementation is incomplete.**
- The objectives behind the INSPIRE Directive are still very relevant, the legal framework is **no longer fit for purpose.** Several parts of the Directive need revision. The objective of harmonisation and interoperability within the INSPIRE framework entails **technical specificities for standards that are too rigid to be fit-for-the-future** in the context of evolving standards and technologies.
- There is a **simplification potential** of the implementation by addressing the requirement for interoperability.
- INSPIRE is **legally coherent** with environmental legislation and with other relevant areas of EU policy such as **the EU legal framework on data** and can **support implementation of Public Access to Environmental Information Directive** and the Open Data Directive. Synergies between the three Directives could however be better exploited (reuse conditions, metadata ...).
- The **added value** of the Directive mainly consisted of promoting data sharing as a common principle, the establishment of governance structures, achieving interoperability in a broader scope (EU-wide), unlocking public data, improving transparency and creating a pool of EU level expertise. Important EU added value of the Directive can be maintained and further enhanced through its effective positioning in the emerging European data governance landscape and to become one of the key drivers of the upcoming Green Deal data space.

Recommendations (SWD)

- A number of issues that hamper the full implementation of the Directive have been identified and show the **need for a revision** to make the INSPIRE Directive fully coherent and complementary in support of more recent digital and data legislation.
- Remaining **implementation gaps in Member States need to be closed** to optimise the reuse of spatial data and facilitate its pan-European use.
- **New data sources should be included** (IoT data, citizen-generated data, business data ...) beyond the current spatial data scope to better address information needs of a larger stakeholder community and to better help meeting the objectives of the European Green Deal.
- The further implementation (data and services availability, accessibility and interoperability) of the INSPIRE Directive should be **user-driven** by a common demand across administrative levels and use cases to improve the EU added value of the infrastructure and its cost-benefit balance.
- The **legal framework should be technology neutral**. Implementers should have the option and the freedom to deploy cost-effective off-the-shelf tools that apply state of the art technology to share data in a user-friendly way.
- **More work is needed** on standardising data reuse conditions and licensing, increased flexibility of the legal framework to make it future and technology proof and on further simplification of the minimal interoperability mechanisms to strike a cost-effectiveness balance.

GreenData4All - Indicative roadmap

- 12 November 2021: positive opinion for the evaluation from the Regulatory Scrutiny Board
- December 2021 – January 2022: review evaluation SWD + kick-off Inter-service Consultation
- February 2022: translation of the executive summary + adoption of the evaluation SWD
- The revision of the INSPIRE Directive and parts of the Public Access to Environmental Information Directive has been politically validated (DG ENV, CAB Sinkevičius, CAB Timmermans)
- Q1 2022: Prepare Call for Evidence for public consultation
- Q2 2022–Q1 2023 Impact Assessment study
- Q2 2022- Q3 2022 Public consultation
- ...

Amending Commission Regulation 1089/2010

Indicative planning

- Written consultation 22/11/2021 – 10/12/2021 -> positive opinion
- Translation in all EU languages (January – February 2022)
- Scrutiny by co-legislators (3 months, starting when all language versions are available in the comitology register, ends earliest in April 2022)
- Adoption by the College. (earliest May 2022)

Thank you



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