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# Spatial Data Management – an Essential Building Block for Land Management in Ireland

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  TS 7D – SDI for Land Management, Wednesday, 16th May 2007 

**Presentation Outline**



**Background**

*Spatial Data Management – an Essential Building Block for Land Management in Ireland Workshop, Dublin, Ireland : Themes*



**Outcomes**


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## Workshop Background

- Collaborative Event: SCS, DIT and EuroSDR (formally OEEPE)
- Anecdotal Evidence of difficulties in compliance - EU 'Environmental' Directives
- No Irish Spatial Data Infrastructure – although some 'local/regional' piecemeal Spatial Data Management developments and initiatives
- **Workshop Aim: To initiate and facilitate discussion – towards the formation of a best practice approach**

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Mapping habitats & species...  
**Habitat Directive**  
[92/43/EEC]





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## Current Data Sources for 'Environmental' Mapping

- Ordnance Survey Ireland (1:5000 raster maps, aerial photographs, contours, roads, buildings)
- EPA (air quality, water quality)
- GSI (geology, groundwater)
- Teagasc (soils)
- Heritage Service (archeology, ecology)
- CORINE (EU land use data)
- Local Government Data (landscape, views, rural infrastructure)
- Others

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## Local and Regional SDM Initiatives

**Local Government Initiatives – Fingal (north of Dublin City)**

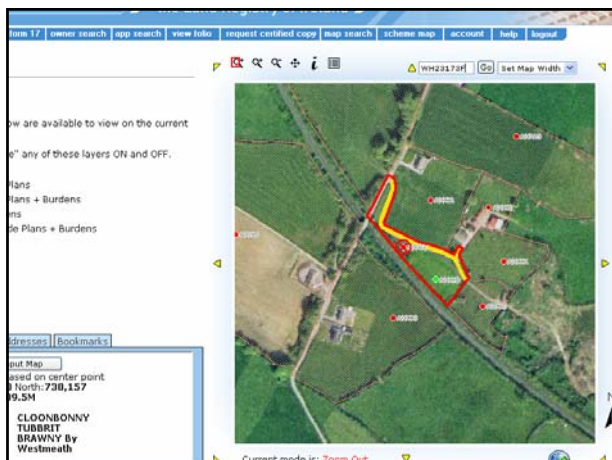
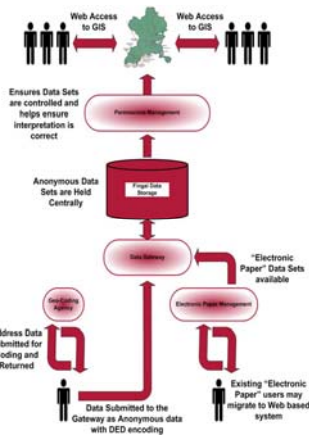
**Property Registration Authority (Land Registry)**

**Data Reporting Units for Irish Datasets: Small Areas Statistics - Research**

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## Fingal Data Hub: Vision

- Create a Central Repository for Data, a "Data Hub"
- Publish (only) Anonymous Statistical Data to the hub
- Centralises Data Publication
- Centralises Access Control
- Guarantees Most Recent Data Set is Used
- Provides Shared Services for Visualisation of Data – GIS
- Platform for "Electronic Paper" data sets
- Aligned with EU INSPIRE and Irish SDI objectives



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## Small Areas : Research

**NOG**  
National Centre for Geo-computation  
An Ionad Náisiúnta Geospasail

- Electoral Divisions (EDs) currently form the smallest available reporting unit for census and other data in Ireland
- 3440 EDs which vary in pop. size from 55 to 24,400 (av. Pop. 1,144)
- 'Small Areas' are needed for reporting spatial data at a more detailed level - to assist in identification of social and economic pressures i.e. to ensure social inclusion
- National Centre for Geo-Computation NUI Maynooth with support from DoE, Info. Soc., OSI, CSO and An Post have developed an algorithm to generate boundaries of Small Areas (SAs) - essentially producing a whole new Geography of Ireland

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## Breakout Session

Data Management in the following areas:

- Data Supply and Exchange
- Data Quality Issues
- Data Maintenance: New and Legacy datasets

Specifically:

- What can Data Suppliers/owners do to help?
- Data Exchange – main constraints?
- Specifically, what would assist your work in this area?

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## SPATIAL DATA MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP: Findings

- Irish National Mapping (OSi) - Service Agreements too restrictive
- OSi pricing policies restrictive especially for 'smaller' user
- More information provided by (OSi) on their data origins
  - Metadata needed – especially legacy datasets
  - Communicate with End-users regarding problems reconciling legacy and current information layers
- Need for a National Vector Topographical dataset

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## Workshop Findings cont.

- Software Vendors
  - Should support interchange of data e.g. via GML
  - Data should be 'independent of' system it was created in
- With advancements in technology – time will tell if the source of such 'national' datasets is no longer NMAs
- INSPIRE – Will its transposition be problematic here (due to the cost issue?) Consensus - yes!

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## Conclusion

- Good SDM policies are vital in order to achieve effective Land Management
- *However* – this is critically dependant on
  - *Successful Integration* of data from many sources
  - *Acceptance of limitations* – fitness for purpose
  - *Avoidance* of uninformed use – Organisational Culture and Lack of Standards



## What's next:

- INSPIRE
- Much already happening
- Land Management and SDM
- The role of Geomatics and Spatial Information Sciences



## Thank you for your attention

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