





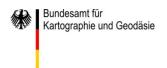
25th UNGEGN

EuroGeoNames (EGN) -

Partners & lessons learned

Nairobi, Kenya 5 to 12 May 2009

Pier-Giorgio Zaccheddu EuroGeoNames Project Coordinator Frankfurt am Main

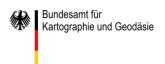






Content

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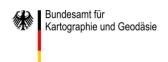
Partners – EGN Consortium

- BKG, Frankfurt am Main (Co-ordinator)
- Bundesamt für Eich- und Vermessungswesen, Wien
- Surveying and Mapping Authority of Slovenia
- EuroGeographics Head Office, Paris
- Universiteit Utrecht, Geographic Department
- EDINA National Data Centre, Edinburgh
- Geodan Holding, Amsterdam
- ProDV AG, Dortmund
- ESRI Geoinformatik GmbH, Kranzberg

Public sector

Academic sector

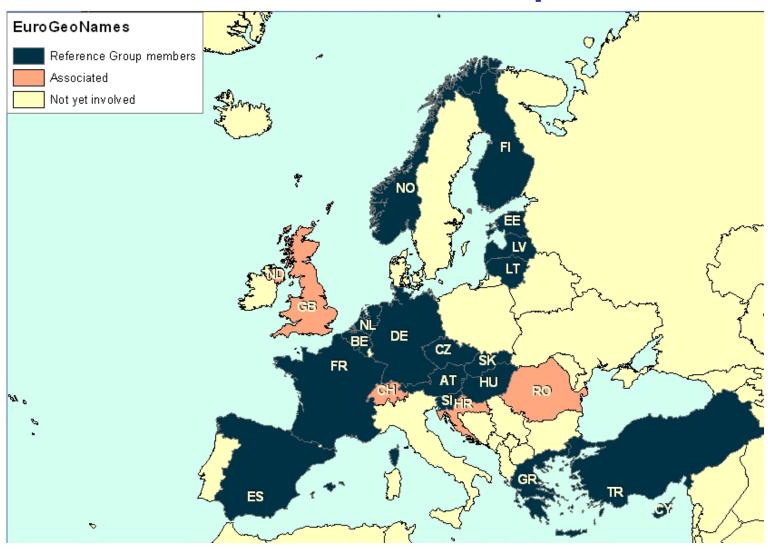
Private sector

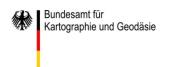






Partners – EGN Reference Group (NMCAs)





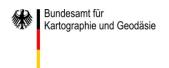




Partners – EGN Group of Interest

26 organizations: Standardization bodies, private GI companies, cartographic publishing houses, GI interest groups, etc.:

OGC Europe, UNGEGN (United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names) and several divisions, ICA, Eurogi, DDGI (German umbrella organization for GI), GDI-DE (Secretariat of the German spatial data infrastructure), Imagi (Interministerial Committee for GI of the German Federation), AGISEE (Association for GI in South-East-Europe), National Geographic Germany, ICOS (International Commission of Onomastics Sciences), Westermann (German publishing house for school atlases), Ed. Hölzel (Austrian publishing house for school atlases), CartoTravel (German publishing house of GI products), EEA (European Environment Agency), PCGN (UK Permanent Committee on Geographical Names), StAGN (PCGN of German-speaking countries/regions), Greenland Language Secretariat (Oqaasileriffik), Bookings (Hotel reservation service, Amsterdam), AdV (Association of German survey administrations), Deutsche Nationalbibliothek (German National Library), Intergraph (Germany), Freytag & Berndt (Austrian publishing house), Institut für Kartographie (TU DD), JRC Language Technology Group, BDVI Association of German Surveyors, Eurostat (Luxembourg), Iat/Ion GmbH (Germany)

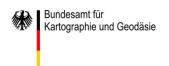






Management and partnership aspects (1/2)

- strong consortium with different views (public, academic and private institutions), which worked very effectively together.
- high esteem with many European NMCAs has been very important and a prerequisite for setting up the infrastructure on a voluntary basis!
- implementation plan for 2009 2012 has been already prepared. Its adoption by EuroGeographics is needed for sustainability!

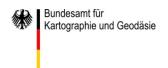






Management and partnership aspects (2/2)

- guarantee sustainability may become an issue for customers without technical and organizational agreements with the NMCAs (distribution agreements?, service level objectives?, etc.).
- GI community and geographical names experts got closer together and learned from each other.

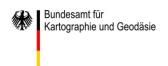






User related aspects (1/2)

- good approach of further GI stakeholders' involvement within the EGN Group of Interest (e.g. private companies, UNGEGN, WG TDFG, INSPIRE, ...).
- business and pricing model proposed by EGN was based on a too optimistic cost/benefit analysis. It has to be amended according to user/business requirements provided by the pilot customers.
- provision of official endonyms linked to standardized exonyms are needed and requested mainly by public institutions (e.g. European Statistical Office – Eurostat).

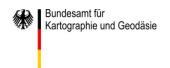






User related aspects (2/2)

- existing competition with free-of-charge initiatives / services (geonames.org, google, etc.). Most end-users seem not to need standardized exonyms and official endonyms or aren't even aware of the fact that they can be provided in a standardized/official form!
 - ⇒ UNGEGN and EuroGeographics have to stronger promote the necessity of disseminating authoritative/standardized names data!

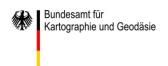






Technical aspects (1/2)

- harmonization of official data and channeling of this information within a distributed approach has been demonstrated to be possible.
- harmonized feature classification was intensively discussed and finally a general one – satisfactorily for the purpose of query filtering – could be agreed with the NMCAs.
- different understanding on how a "gazetteer profile" should look like (ISO 19112 does not facilitate multinames and multilingualism → INSPIRE profile, OGC Gazetteer profile).







Technical aspects (2/2)

issues related to modeling language were discussed controversially. ISO does not yet provide <u>one</u> consistent list for indicating *individual languages* <u>and language</u> groups (language codes of ISO 639-2, 639-3?, 639-5?).







Thank you very much for your attention!

... Questions?

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