EuroGeoNames

Developing a European geographical names infrastructure and services

initiated by BKG and the Dutch- and German-speaking Division of UNGEGN

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Bundesamt für Kartographie und Geodäsie (BKG), Frankfurt am Main

StAGN

Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen
Permanent Committee on Geographical Names

UNGEGN

Dutch- and German-speaking Division (DGSD)

The first access to spatial information is via geographical names

- They are core reference data components (Inspire)

  → **(in general) still neglected**

- They are geographic identifiers used for indirect spatial referencing (ISO 19112)

  → **but there is no standardization organisation with power behind it**

- They have to be integrated into national spatial data infrastructures (United Nations, Res VIII/6, 2002)

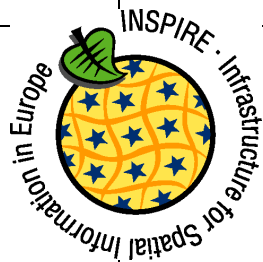 → **are (in general) not yet fully integrated into national spatial data infrastructures**

Identified needs to set up EuroGeoNames

Request for

- officially approved national names data (endonyms),

- relating exonyms with official endonyms, and vice versa,

- avoiding storage and maintenance of secondary data sets,

- continuous updating of geographical names data by the countries,

- integrating names data into National Spatial Data Infrastructures (NSDI) and ESDI,

as expressed by **EC services, translators and interpreters, tourism, news agencies, etc.**
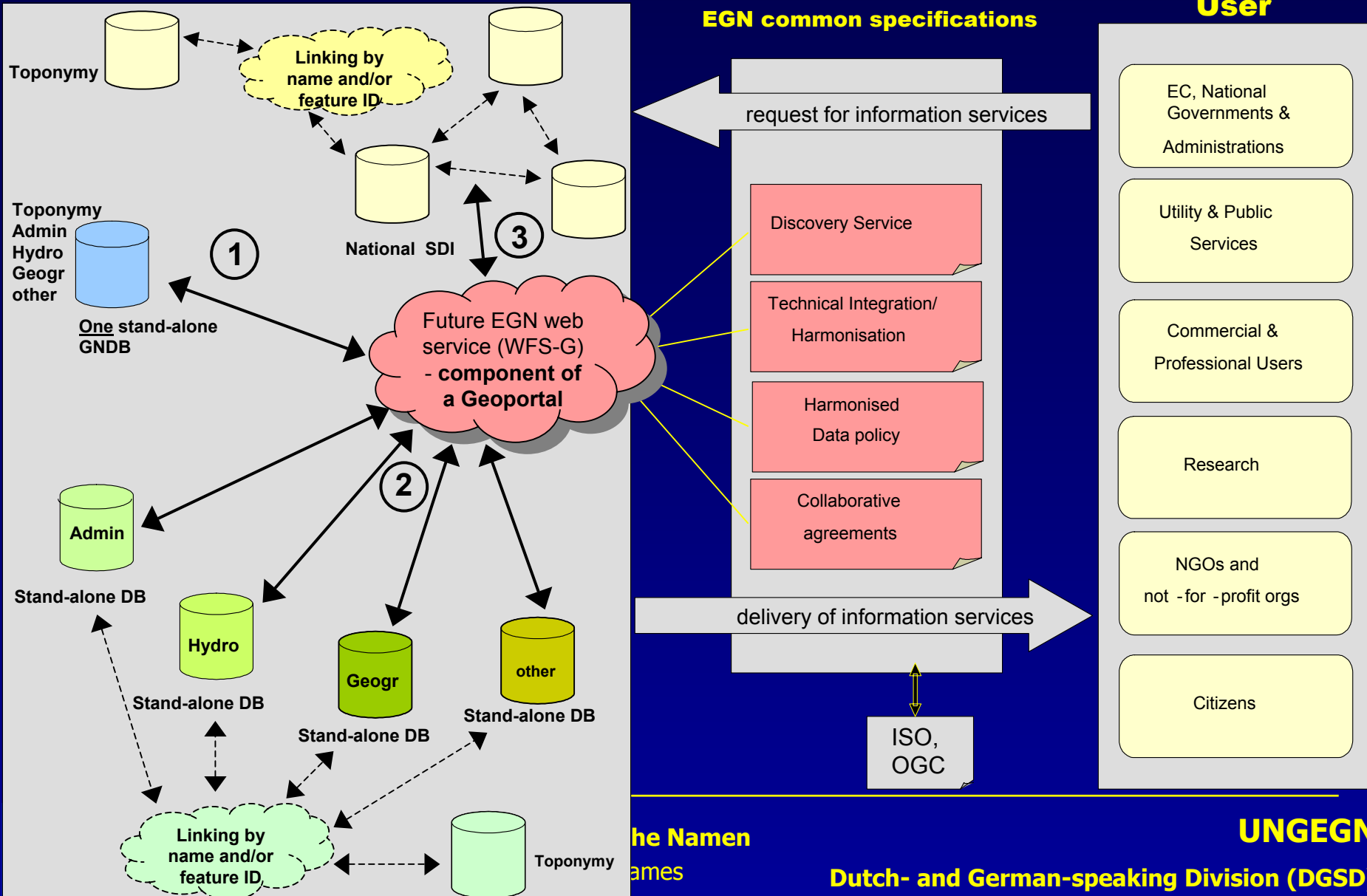
Analysis of EU policies versus INSPIRE data components

		6EAP Strategies						Policy Implementation					Policy review/monitoring						
		Environment & Health	Marine thematic strategy	Urban thematic strategy	Soil protection thematic strategy	Biodiversity strategy	Air quality Directive - Café	Water Framework Directive	IPCC - Climate change	Noise	Forest protection	SEA	Nitrate Directive	Waste framework Directive	Habitats/Birds Directive	EIA	IPPC - EPER	Seveso	Total
Annex I	Coordinate reference systems	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	17
Annex I	Geographical grid systems	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X		13
Annex I	Geographical names	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	17
Annex I	Administrative units	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	17
Annex I	Transport networks	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	15
Annex I	Hydrography	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	15
Annex I	Protected sites		X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X			11
Annex II	Elevation	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X	14
Annex II	Addresses	X		X						X					X	X	X		6
Annex II	Cadastral parcels	X		X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	14
Annex II	Land cover	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	14
Annex II	Ortho-imagery	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	15

Concept

an integrated element of a European Spatial Data Infrastructure (ESDI)

EuroGeoNames

EGN common specifications

User

Toponymy

Linking by name and/or feature ID

request for information services

EC, National Governments & Administrations

Toponymy
Admin
Hydro
Geogr
other

1

National SDI

3

One stand-alone GNDB

Future EGN web service (WFS-G) - **component of a Geoportal**

Discovery Service

Technical Integration/ Harmonisation

Harmonised Data policy

Collaborative agreements

Utility & Public Services

Commercial & Professional Users

Research

Admin

2

Stand-alone DB

Hydro

Geogr

other

Stand-alone DB

Stand-alone DB

Stand-alone DB

delivery of information services

NGOs and not-for-profit orgs

ISO, OGC

Citizens

Linking by name and/or feature ID

Toponymy

he Namen

ames

UNGEGN

Dutch- and German-speaking Division (DGSD)

Endonyms

EuroGeoNames

Legend

minority language area "Vojvodina"

scale 1 : 4 500 000

0   100   200km

Vojvodina
Dunav (Serb., Croat.)
Duna (Hungarian)
Dunărea (Romanian)
Dunaj (Slovak., Rusin.)

Exonyms

EuroGeoNames

Legend:
Endonym (red)
German
English
French
Dutch
Polish
Portuguese

København
Kopenhagen
Copenhagen
Copenhague
Kopenhagen
Kopenhaga
Copenhaga

Stockholm
Stockholm
Stockholm
Stockholm
Stockholm
Sztokholm
Estocolmo

Moskva
Moskau
Moscow
Moscou
Moskou
Moskwa
Moscovo

London
London
London
Londres
Londen
Londyn
Londres

Bruxelles/ Brussel
Brüssel
Brussels
Bruxelles
Brussel
Bruksela
Bruxelas

Berlin
Berlin
Berlin
Berlin
Berlijn
Berlin
Berlim

Warszawa
Warschau
Warsaw
Varsovie
Warschau
Warszawa
Varsóvia

DEUTSCHLAND
DEUTSCHLAND
GERMANY
ALLEMAGNE
DUITSLAND
NIEMCY
ALEMANHA

Praha
Prag
Prague
Prague
Praag
Praga
Praga

Budapest
Budapest
Budapest
Budapest
Boedapest
Budapeszt
Budapeste

Paris
Paris
Paris
Paris
Parijs
Paryz
Paris

Bern
Bern
Bern
Berne
Bern
Berno
Berna

Wien
Wien
Vienna
Vienne
Wenen
Wieden
Viena

Bucureşti
Bukarest
Bucharest
Bucarest
Boekarest
Bukareszt
Bucareste

Milano
Mailand
Milan
Milan
Milaan
Mediolan
Milão

Venezia
Venedig
Venice
Venise
Venetië
Wenecja
Veneza

Lisboa
Lissabon
Lisbon
Lisbonne
Lissabon
Lizbona
Lisboa

Madrid
Madrid
Madrid
Madrid
Madrid
Madryt
Madrid

Roma
Rom
Rome
Rome
Rome
Rzym
Roma

Napoli
Neapel
Naples
Naples
Napels
Neapol
Nápoles

Athína
Athen
Athens
Athènes
Athene
Ateny
Atenas

Names of European cities spelt in their local language (endonym) and in other European languages (exonym)

The 1st step to set up **EuroGeoNames**:

- To carry out a survey / inventory (SI-EGN) on the availability, quality, accessibility, responsibility for geographical names in European countries,

- To evaluate the survey,

- To conduct interviews with GI stakeholders to estimate and evaluate the market potential for EGN.

The 2nd step:

- Submission of a proposal to eContent⁺ ⇒ EGN service

Partners for the survey/inventory SI-EGN

- EuroGeographics (Association of National Mapping Agencies),

- University of Utrecht,

- Land Survey Office of Austria,

- Land Survey Office of Slovenia,

- ESRI Germany,

- BKG, Frankfurt am Main   (project coordinator)

supported by

- UN Group of Experts for Geographical names (UNGEGN)

- Association for GI in South-East Europe (AGISEE)

EuroGeoNames
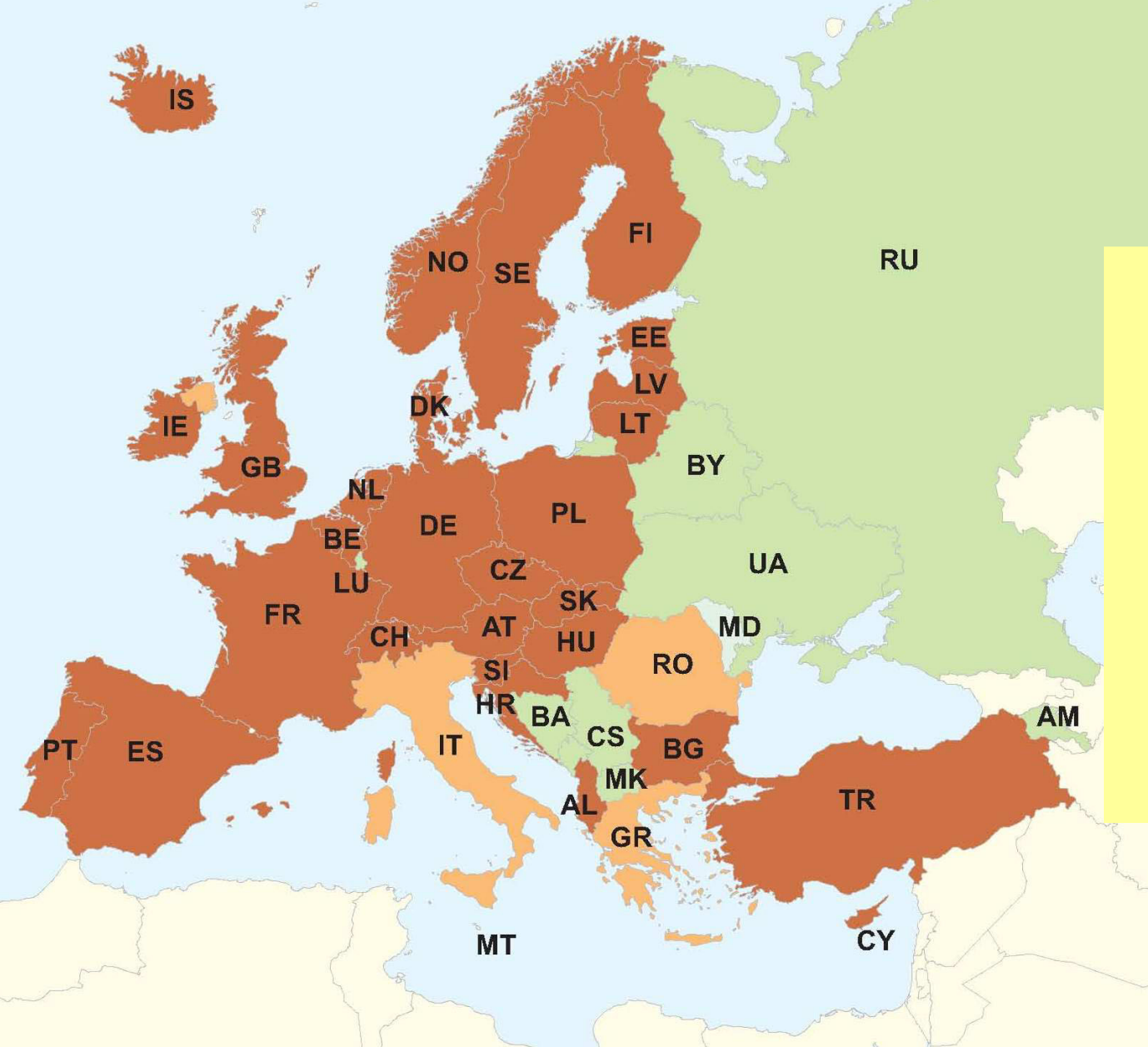
Status:
July 2005

**Detailed
questionnaire
replies**

28 countries

StAGN

Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen

Results of detailedQ replies

Q IV.5   Would you allow to use extracts of your database during a <u>test phase</u>?

YES	Don't know yet	NO
25	**3**	**1**

Results of detailedQ replies

Q IV.6   In principle, would your organization <u>cooperate</u> to EGN?

YES	Don't know yet	NO
25	**3**	**1**

Results of detailedQ replies

Q IV.7   State some conditions concerning accessibility of data

Individual searches free of charge?

YES	Don't know yet	NO	no reply
21	2	2	3

Downloading multiple datasets?

Free of charge	Nominal charge	Reasonable profit
2	17	24

Results of detailedQ replies

Q III.2.9   Is a list of selected exonyms in the language of your country available?

<u>Yes</u> (15): AT   HU   <u>Not yet</u> (4):   CZ   <u>No</u> (8):   AL

	BG	IS		HR	CH(fr, it, rm)
	CH(de)	LT		LV	DK
	CY	NL		TR	ES
	DE	NO		IE	GB
	ES	PL			PT
	FI	SI			SE
	FR		<u>Don't know</u> (2)		SK

SI-EGN final report

SI-EGN Final Report   Status: 2005-11-15

EuroGeoNames – phase one

<u>Survey/inventory</u> on the state of the art of European geographical names data sources and assessment of a future European geographical names data infrastructure (SI-EGN)

SI-EGN Final Report

edited by Utrecht University (UU) and Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy (BKG)

- Edited by **University of Utrecht** and **BKG**

- Contributions made by **BEV, Austria** and **SMA, Slovenia**

available through:

www.eurogeonames.com

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eContent*Plus* Programme of EC

149 M €   (26.6 M € in 2005)
granted by the Council and the European Parliament for

- Educational content (30%)

- Cultural content, scientific information and scholarly content (40%)

- Geographic information (30%)

Deadlines:

publication of the call	July 2005
submission of proposals	24th November 2005
start of funding	expected mid 2006

Status of work

- Completion of the survey/inventory on European geographical names data (SI-EGN)   -> SI-EGN Final Report

- Establishment of the EuroGeoNames Consortium

- Establishment of the Reference Group & the EGN Group of Interest

- Submission of the EuroGeoNames proposal to the eContent*plus* programme of the EC in 2005, November 23

- Actions for updating the EuroGeoNames website www.eurogeonames.com

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The EuroGeoNames Consortium

- BKG Germany (coordinator)
- Austrian Bundesamt für Eich- und Vermessungswesen
- Surveying and Mapping Authority of the Republic of Slovenia
- EuroGeographics Head Office (EGHO)
- Utrecht University
- EDINA National Data centre
- Geodan IT Holding
- GeoTask Germany
- ESRI Germany

The Reference Group

Austria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, The Netherlands, Turkey

signed a
'Declaration of Participation'
(or are Consortium members)
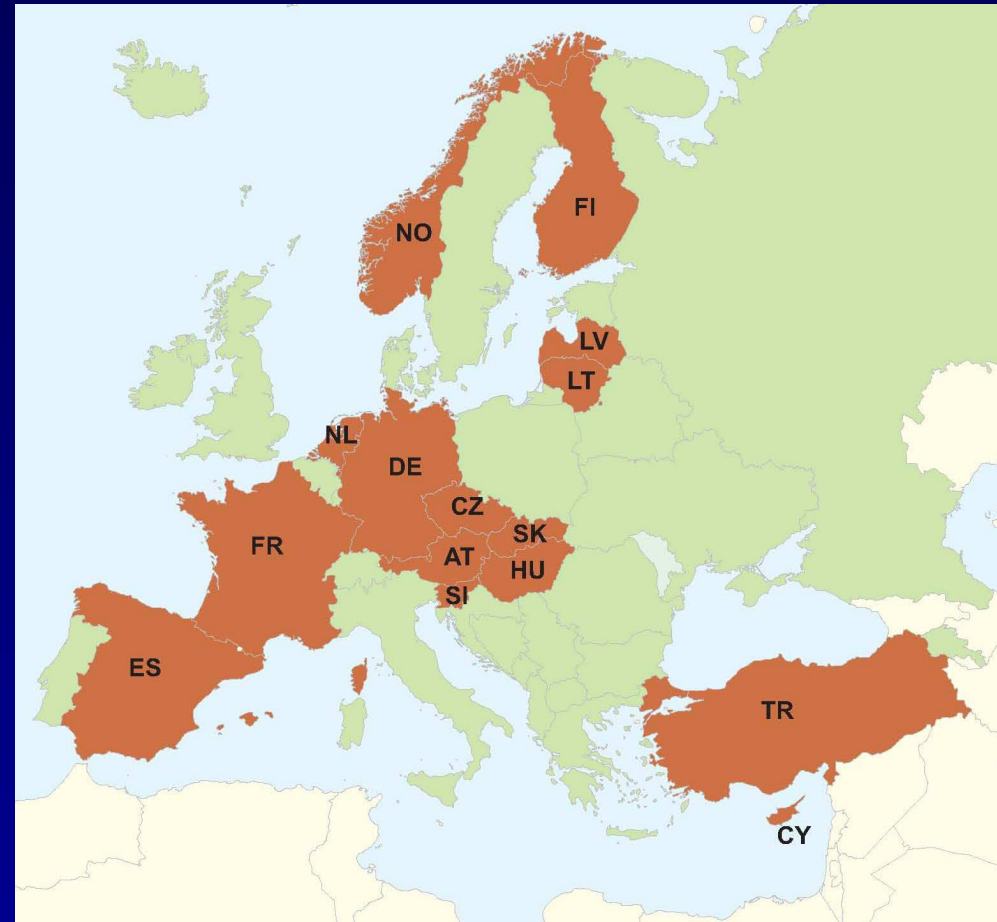
The EGN Group of Interest

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** (United Kingdom Permanent Committee on Geographical Names), **Greenland Language Secretariat** (Oqaasileriffik).

signed a 'Letter of Support'

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Plans for 2006

Date	Event
- January 2006	Evaluation by EC
- April 2006	Opening of negotiations with EC
- June – July 2006	Completion of negotiations, award decision, individual commitments, grant agreements signature
- August 2006	Project initiation ?

Spiral engineering process for 2006 - 2008
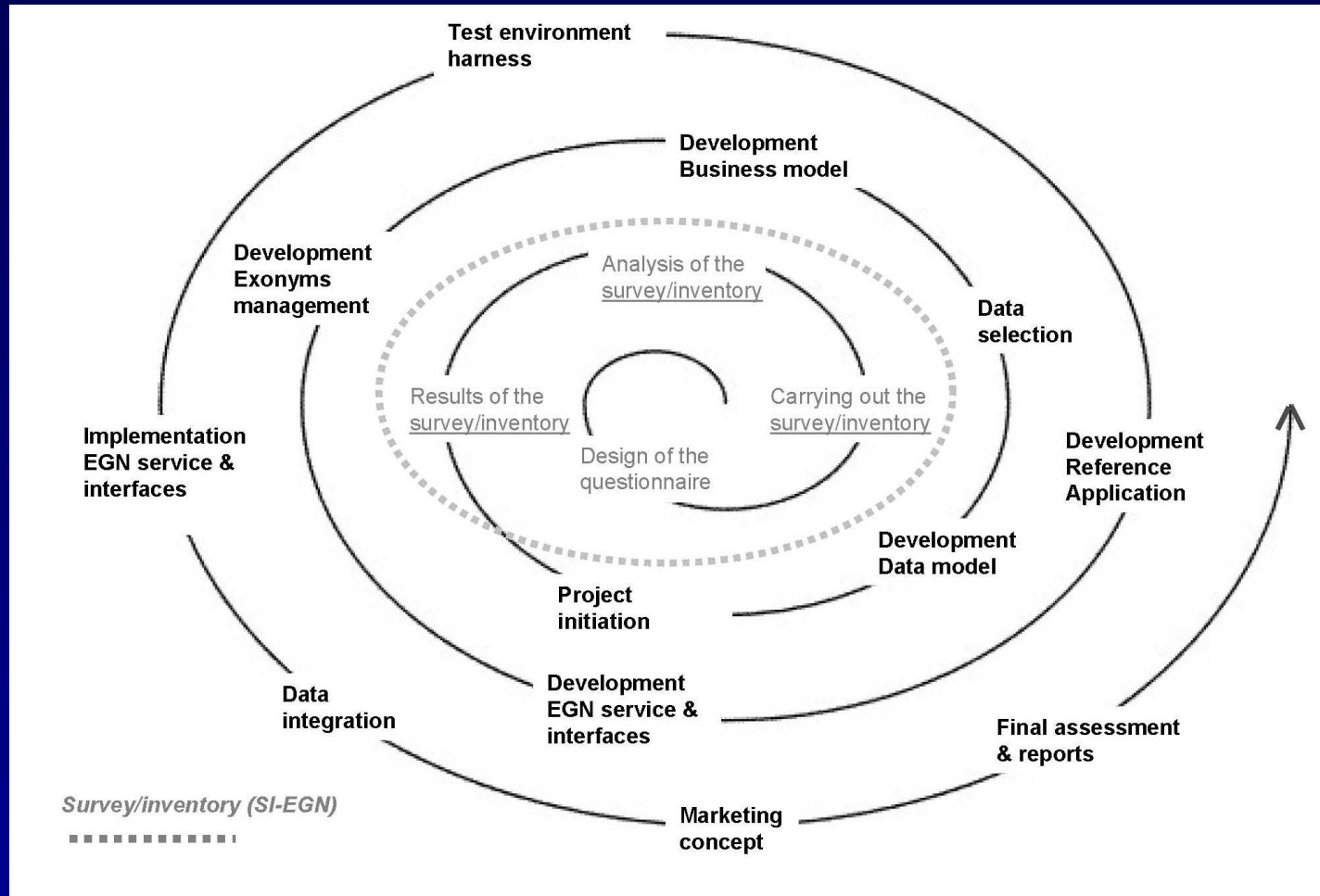
Possible service architecture & data flow
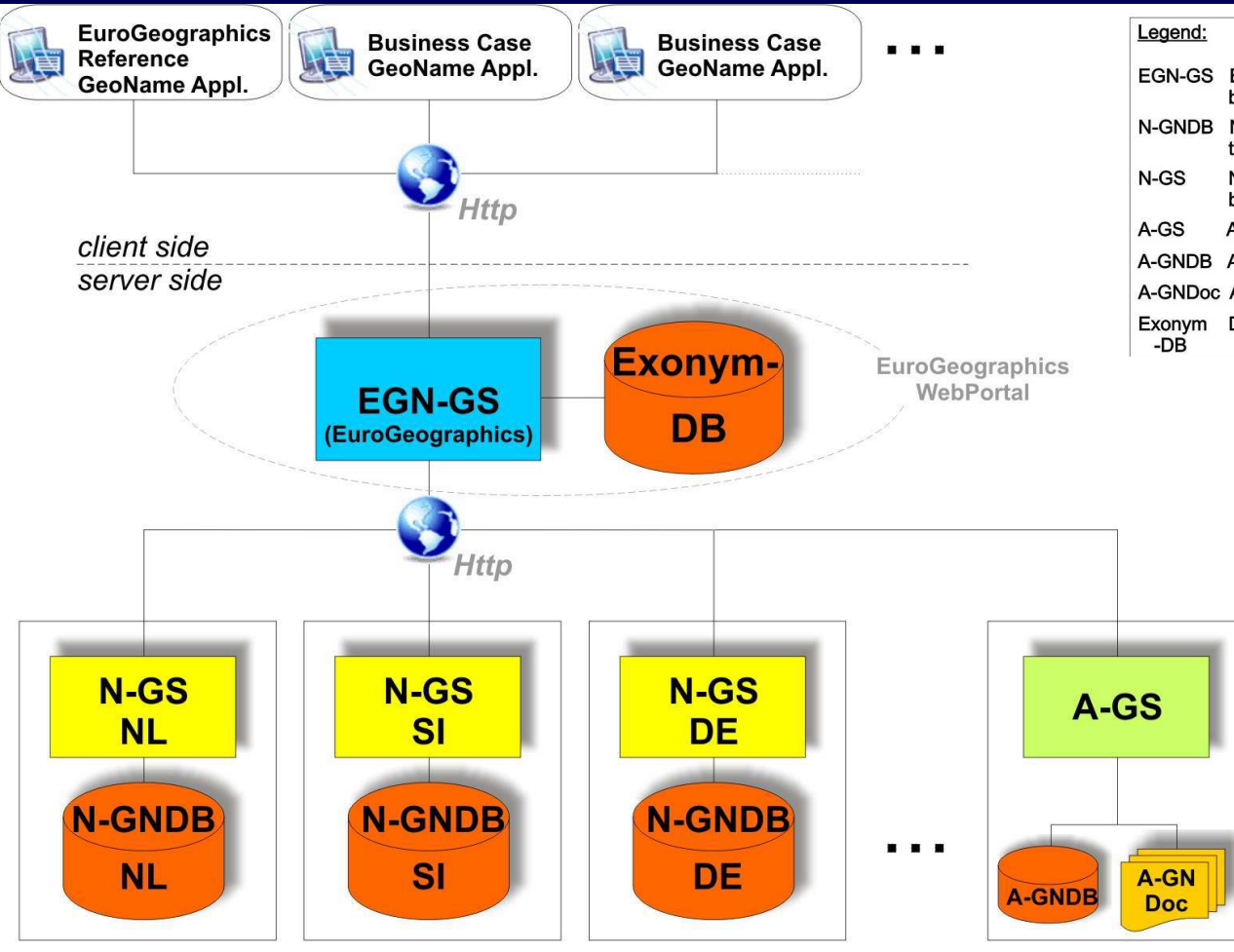
Legend:

EGN-GS — EuroGeoNames - Web (Gazetteer) Service based on a Web Feature Service (WFS)

N-GNDB — National Geographic Names Database (N-GNDB NL -> Database of the Netherlands containing authoritative Dutch geographical namesdata)

N-GS — National Gazetteer Service (N-GS NL -> Service of the Netherlands) based on a Web Feature Service (WFS)

A-GS — Additional gazetteer services

A-GNDB — Additional geographic name database

A-GNDoc — Additional geographic names held in document

Exonym-DB — Database containing exonyms

Examples for <u>use cases</u> (1)

International purchase of properties with Internet property services

⇒ EGN service could provide additional location based information

Location based information on *Pozzuolo, Toscana (IT)* and its pronunciation,

possibly directly from the Italian data repository!

Examples for <u>use cases</u> (2)

Provision of European news

$\Rightarrow$ EGN service could provide additional location based information

EGN service integrated in a news portal as additional functionality

e.g. search for "Macedonia"

Examples for <u>**use cases**</u> (3)
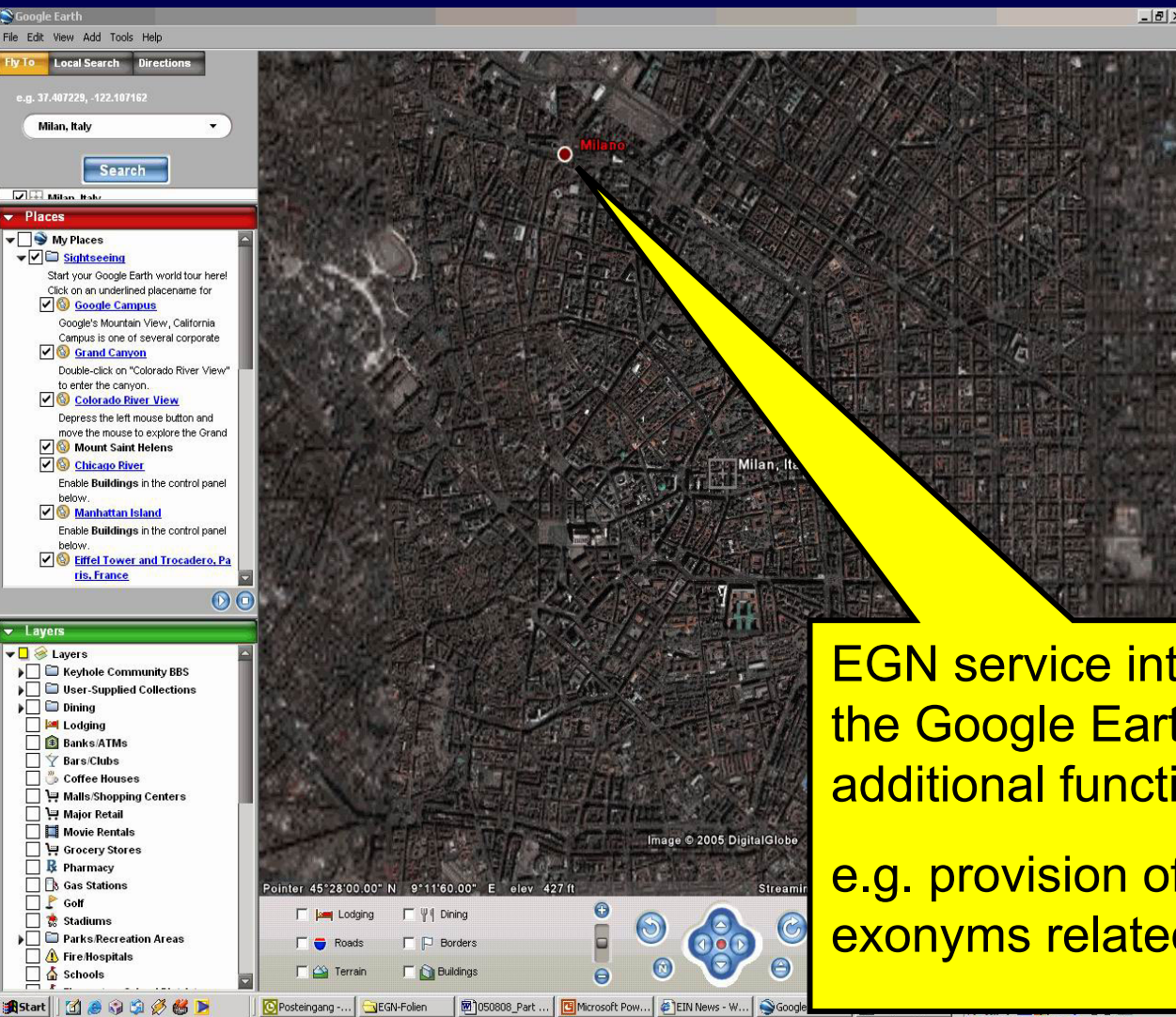
Google Earth Application

⇒ EGN service could provide additional location based information

EGN service integrated in the Google Earth portal as additional functionality

e.g. provision of the exonyms related to Milano

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EuroGeoNames

EuroGeoNames (EGN) – developing a European geographical names infrastructure and services

The EuroGeoNames (EGN) project, submitted for being funded by the **eContentplus programme** of the EC, will be a core project under EuroSpec.

EGN will implement an interoperable internet service that will link and provide access to the official, **multilingual geographical names data** held at the national level across Europe. By that, EGN will make a major contribution to opening up public sector information within a wider European spatial (geographic) information infrastructure, and relates more specifically to the INSPIRE implementation rules.

The target will be to aggregate data for between 5 and 10 European countries – comprising most probably also Candidate as well as EFTA countries – by connecting their national databases in the EGN infrastructure. The user – primarily 'value added service' providers - will have access to this information through a Web GIS application which will enable searching using **all official European languages, including minority languages.**

The project estimated to about 1,9M € will probably start in mid 2006. It is to be coordinated by the Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy (BKG). The project consortium brings together **partners** from the public (3 NMCAS from Austria, Slovenia and Germany), academic (Utrecht University, Edina National Data Centre) and the private sectors (Geodan IT Holding, GeoTask AG, ESRI Geoinformatik GmbH) embracing the full 'value chain' from data providers > technology partners > value added service applications.

These partners have well established working relationships based on other work, including the **survey/inventory on European geographical names data (SI-EGN)** that was completed in advance of the proposal.

Click **here** to find the SI-EGN final report (pdf-file).
Click **here** to find a EuroGeoNames description narrative (pdf-file).

Cheşereu
Érkeserű

Projects Overview

The EuroSpec Programme

EuroRoadS

RISE

EuroGeoNames
▶ Overview
▶ Workplan
▶ Partners
▶ Downloads
▶ Contacts

EuroBoundaries

Pricing & Licensing

EuroMapFinder - Metadata

EuroRegionalMap

EuroGlobalMap

SABE

Archived project

File Upload

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Home page

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or via

www.eurogeographics.org/eng/03_projects_EuroGeoNames

Advantages

- Accessibility of geographical names (GN) and their related toponymic attributes (e.g. exonyms, language, scripts/diacritics etc.),

- Continuous updating by the EU countries themselves, i.e. no secondary data sets,

- Endonym as a first entry,

- Considering of approved minority language names,

- Higher attractiveness of services / geoportals,

- Bringing in the knowledge of GN experts.

$\Rightarrow$ **Stimulating cooperation and the better integration of GN in a European SDI**

Thank you for your attention!

www.eurogeonames.com

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EuroGeoNames