



# INSPIRE for good governance



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This recent issue of *Geoforum Perspektiv* is of course inspired by *INSPIRE - The Conference*. The *INSPIRE* Conference is held for the eighth time this year and this time in Denmark. It is thus obvious to focus on the status of the *INSPIRE*-implementation in Denmark.

As in all other documents, legislations, etc. from the EU, the publication needs to be translated into a variety of languages. It started out with a Danish version, but as a necessary mean the publication was translated into English in order to reach out to the participants of the conference. There are no plans of further translations, but feel free to do so.

As a colleague and a good friend told me - when dealing with EU law you have to read the legislation in more than one language because often the terms and meanings might actually differ a little. Hence, here is the English version and if you want comparison, the Danish version is available at one of the stands at the conference and available from the *Geoforum* webpages.

The translation caused some troubles when dealing with the graphics. Some of the figures are originally Danish and in respect of the original terms, we have kept the Danish words and instead provided a glossary at the end of the publication. Please, do consult the glossary while reading the articles.

The programme committee of the 2014 *INSPIRE* conference did a good job picking the title; *INSPIRE for good governance*. We have been working with standardisation, distribution, and exchange of geographical information for many years now, led by the content of the *INSPIRE* directive. Now, is *INSPIRE* good to go?

At least, the title indicates that *INSPIRE*, in some way or the other, may lead to good governance. Maybe as a stepping stone, *INSPIRE* provides the sound base for good governance, or maybe *INSPIRE* is in itself an example of good governance; stakeholders working together for the purpose of solving societal challenges as climate change, flooding, pollution, etc.

This special issue on *INSPIRE* might illuminate the interpretation of the statement *INSPIRE* for good governance.

In the first article, by Ulla Kronborg Mazzoli, *INSPIRE* National Point of Contact for Denmark and Member of the *INSPIRE* Committee, you will be acquainted with the *INSPIRE* directive and get insight into why *INSPIRE* is a good idea.

The Secretary of Data Coordination within the Danish Ministry of the Environment elaborates on the understanding of INSPIRE in the next article. This paper shows the meaning of INSPIRE through two illustrative examples within sustainable land management and strategic mapping of noise-polluted areas in Denmark.

INSPIRE is challenged in the following two articles through current examples. The first one is on a recently conducted survey on GIS readiness in the Danish municipalities. The second one is about the recent storm “Bodil” that flooded large areas of Denmark.

The excitement peaks in the following three articles, where you can read about:

1) The Danish Basic Data Program, which takes the discussion of reference data to a new level

2) The missing link - or maybe non-missing link - between the municipalities and INSPIRE, and finally

3) A new survey on customer contentment in regard of the Danish distribution service, Kortforsyningen.dk.

To free your mind of future innovation within geo-data and INSPIRE, this issue ends with a glance at: *Geo-data for more than maps* in terms of big data and Internet of Things.

Hopefully, this issue will keep you occupied until the release of the next issue of Geoforum Perspektiv.

Enjoy reading!

Line Hvingel, editor in Chief