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Introduction

The INSPIRE Directive sets the minimum conditions for interoperable sharing and exchange of spatial data across Europe as part of a larger European Interoperability Framework and the e-Government Action Plan that contributes to the Digital Single Market Agenda. Article 21 of [INSPIRE Directive](#) defines the basic principles for monitoring and reporting. More detailed implementing rules regarding INSPIRE monitoring and reporting have been adopted as [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2019/1372](#) on the 19th August 2019.

This country fiche highlights the progress in the various areas of INSPIRE implementation. It includes information on [monitoring 2020](#) acquired in December 2020 and Member States update.

State Of Play

This report sets out a high-level view on the governance, use and impact of the INSPIRE Directive in Ireland. More detailed information is available on the [INSPIRE knowledge base](#).

Coordination

National Contact Point

Name of Public Authority: Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government

Contact Email: [Click to email](#)

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Coordination Structure & Progress:

National Contact point

Name of the public authority	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
Contact information:	
	IRL INSPIRE, National Contact Point

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Coordination Structure

- The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) is leading the development of an Action Plan for the implementation of INSPIRE in Ireland.
- An INSPIRE Steering Committee was put place to begin a co-ordinated engagement with key stakeholders and data owners. Membership of this group is provided at **Table A**.
- That initial approach of regular Steering Committee meetings has evolved, the DHLGH has organised both national and individual workshops with all data owners members of the committee. The purpose of the workshops isto create a forum in which the people accountable for INSPIRE datasets can have an open discussion on their responsibilities. The workshops dealt with the execution of tasks needed for compliance and implementation of the Directive during 2021 and to identify any support needed. The support assignments are reviewed monthly by the DHLGH.
- Progress
 - The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage has been assigned responsibility by the Irish Government to lead the implementation of the INSPIRE Directive in Ireland. Legislation formalising this position was signed into law by regulation in 2015, and in July 2018 a confirmatory Statutory Instrument S.I. No. 280 of 2018 was signed.
 - Irish representatives are taking an active part in working groups at European level.
 - In early 2018 the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage commissioned a Report to better understand the current position on INSPIRE in Ireland.
 - The recommendations from this Report (dated June 2018) have been accepted and are influencing the direction and pace of work on a roadmap to full implementation of the INSPIRE Directive in Ireland.
 - A dedicated team including policy and technical expertise has been established to lead this project.
 - In early 2019 the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage allocated additional resources to assist

its INSPIRE officials and stakeholders on a range of tasks including but not limited to the creation of work packages around monitoring and reporting, data specifications, metadata, network services, spatial data services and validation.

- Following tendering process the contract for this work was awarded, providing Ireland with an INSPIRE skillset for support and advice to escalate compliance. This enabled the creation of a data providers communication plan (RACI) identifying Responsible, Accountable, Informed, the provision of Data Providers Workshops for metadata and dashboard maintenance and the creation of an agreed Action Plan.

Table A: INSPIRE STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

NAME	ORGANISATION	EMAIL
Emma Reeves (Chair)	Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, Newtown Road, Wexford Y35 W821.	emma.reeves@housing.gov.ie
Sheila Power	Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, Newtown Road, Wexford Y35 W821.	sheila.power@housing.gov.ie
Rob Ovington (GIS) Deirdre Kelly (GIS)	Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, Custom House, Dublin 1 D01 W6X0.	robert.ovington@housing.gov.ie Deirdre.Kelly@housing.gov.ie
Lorraine McNerney Maria Byrne	Ordnance Survey Ireland, Phoenix Park, Dublin 8 D08 F6E4.	Lorraine.mcnerney@osi.ie Maria.Byrne@osi.ie
Eileen Carroll Deirdre Kirwan	Environmental Protection Agency, Johnstown Castle Estate, Wexford, Y35 W821	E.Carroll@epa.ie D.Kirwan@epa.ie
Adam Leadbetter Tara Keena	The Marine Institute Rinville, Oranmore, Co Galway H91 R673.	Adam.Leadbetter@Marine.ie tara.keena@marine.ie
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Trevor Alcorn	Geological Survey Ireland, Beggar's Bush, Haddington Road, Dublin 4 D04 K7X4.	Trevor.alcorn@gsi.ie
Kathleen Hanney	Central Statistics Office, Skehard Road, Cork, T12X00E	Kathleen.Hanney@cso.ie
Gareth John	Department of Culture Heritage and the Gaeltacht, 23 Kildare Street, Dublin D02 TD30.	gareth.john@chg.gov.ie

Functioning and coordination of the infrastructure

- Ordnance Survey Ireland provides the INSPIRE Geoportal and supporting functions through a managed service as agreed with Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The INSPIRE Geoportal of Ireland is the official access point to the INSPIRE compliant information of Ireland (metadata of datasets and services).
- Irelands INSPIRE Geoportal has recently been upgraded with new hardware and software, and with simpler implementation to remove and reduce accessibility issues related to complex licencing and security software in previous version. The rebuilding project is a long term project that involves a full review of a system that had included data that was not relevant to INSPIRE and building, in the first instance, on relevant metadata.
- The new Geoportal is available at <https://inspire.geohive.ie> and Discovery Service endpoint is at
 - <https://inspire.geohive.ie/geoportal/csw?SERVICE=CSW&VERSION=2.0.2&REQUEST=GetCapabilities>

- During 2020 metadata was migrated to MD TG 2.0 as required by the INSPIRE Directive.
- The ongoing development of the newly upgraded Geoportal is an integral part of Ireland's commitment to meeting its INSPIRE obligations.

Usage of the infrastructure for spatial information

- The challenge of building more open, transparent and accountable public governance in Ireland is a key objective in the Irish Public Service; and progress is being achieved through a range of reform initiatives.
- In January 2019 the Government published its first Data Strategy for the public service which sets out goals and actions to deliver more joined-up whole-of-Government approach to how data is used and managed within the public service. The INSPIRE Directive is referenced in section 5.12 under the heading of Geo-Spatial. This strategy is available to download at <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/1d6bc7-public-service-data-strategy-2019-2023/>
- The Open Data Initiative is closely aligned with the Public Service Reform Plan, the ICT Strategy, and the Civil Service Renewal Plan. As of May 2019 there are almost 10,000 datasets published on the Open Data portal <https://data.gov.ie/> from 108 publishers.
- Open data is recognized by the Irish Government as having a powerful role to play in the Public Service. Open Data is an important element of a wide variety of key policy documents and action plans. Ireland's Open Data portal provides transparency through the publication of Irish Public Sector data in open, free and reusable formats.

Data sharing arrangements

- The INSPIRE Data Sharing arrangements organise the publication of the declared Irish INSPIRE datasets through the Irish INSPIRE Geoportal to connect into the EU INSPIRE portal and wider INSPIRE network of re-use.
- The National Mapping Agreement is an agreement between the Irish Government and Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSi) which gives Government Departments, Public Sector Bodies and Educational Institutions, including new and existing users, access to Ordnance Survey Ireland's geospatial data.
- As part of the Open Data initiative, the open licence format adopted by the Irish Government is the Creative Commons Attribution (CC-BY 4.0) licence, which allows for maximum dissemination and use of licensed materials. This policy is in line with the Commission's guidelines on recommended licences and datasets in relation to the Public Sector Information Directive.
- In March 2019 the Data Sharing and Governance Act 2019 was signed into law. The Act comes in the wake of the GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 in order to clarify and strengthen the data sharing rights and obligations of public bodies. The Act paves the way for more efficient and cost effective service delivery by public bodies by providing a clear legal basis for the sharing of personal data in certain circumstances. The aim is to reduce the administrative burden associated with the need for individuals to provide their personal data to numerous public bodies.

Costs and benefits

- While the total costs associated with implementing the Directive are not systematically being measured across all stakeholders, Ireland's has focused strongly on coordination among the owners of national datasets, working towards compliance with the Directive through the organisation and delivery of workshops and guidance as required. The impact of this has been a reduction in costs for stakeholders and stronger momentum towards compliance.
- The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage continues to make available a budget of €250,000 each year since 2019 for INSPIRE Expertise. Data owners benefit greatly from this expertise in terms of training, education, guidance and empowerment for implementation.

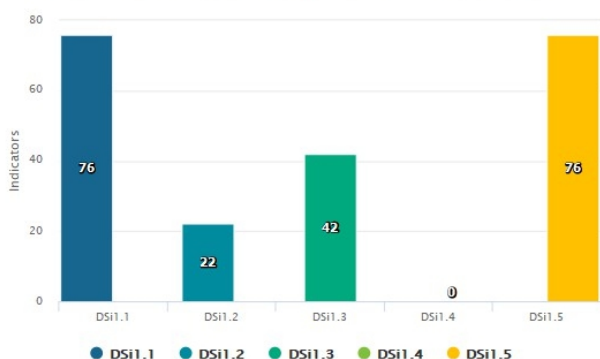
Key facts and figures

Indicators in support of Commission Decision (EU) 2019/1372 implementing Directive 2007/2/EC (INSPIRE) as regards to monitoring and reporting

Graphs generated with data taken from: https://inspire-geoportal.ec.europa.eu/mr2020_details.html?country=ie

The date of harvest metadata: 16/12/2020

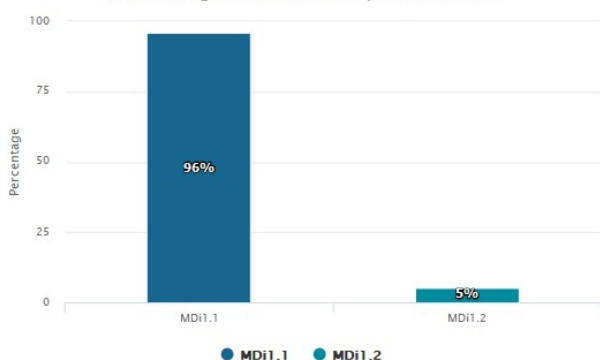
Monitoring of the availability of spatial data and service



Legend

Indicator	Definition
DSi1.1	The number of spatial data sets for which metadata exist
DSi1.2	The number of spatial data services for which metadata exist
DSi1.3	The number of spatial data sets for which the metadata contains one or more keywords from a register provided by the Commission indicating that the spatial data set is used for reporting under the environmental legislation
DSi1.4	The number of spatial data sets for which the metadata contains a keyword from a register provided by the Commission indicating that the spatial data set covers regional territory
DSi1.5	The number of spatial data sets for which the metadata contains a keyword from a register provided by the Commission indicating that the spatial data set covers national territory

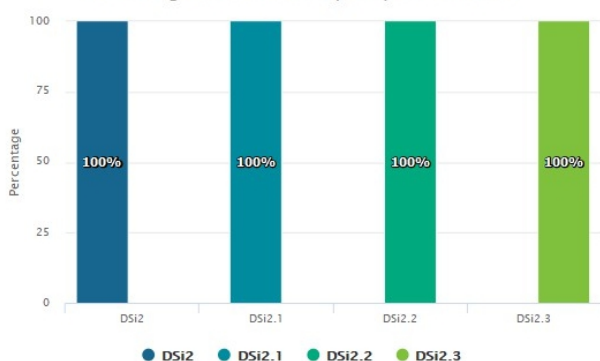
Monitoring of the conformity of metadata



Legend

Indicator	Definition
MDi1.1	Percentage of metadata for spatial data sets conformant with Commission Regulation (EC) No 1205/2008 as regards metadata
MDi1.2	Percentage of metadata for spatial data services conformant with Commission Regulation (EC) No 1205/2008 as regards metadata

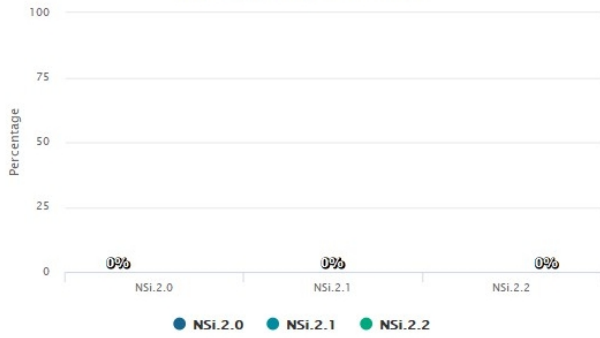
Monitoring of the conformity of spatial data sets



Legend

Indicator	Definition
DSi2	Percentage of spatial data sets that are in conformity with Commission Regulation (EU) No 1089/2010 as regards interoperability of spatial data sets
DSi2.1	Percentage of spatial data sets, corresponding to the themes listed in Annex I, that are in conformity with Commission Regulation (EU) No 1089/2010 as regards interoperability of spatial data sets
DSi2.2	Percentage of spatial data sets, corresponding to the themes listed in Annex II, that are in conformity with Commission Regulation (EU) No 1089/2010 as regards interoperability of spatial data sets
DSi2.3	Percentage of spatial data sets, corresponding to the themes listed in Annex III, that are in conformity with Commission Regulation (EU) No 1089/2010 as regards interoperability of spatial data sets

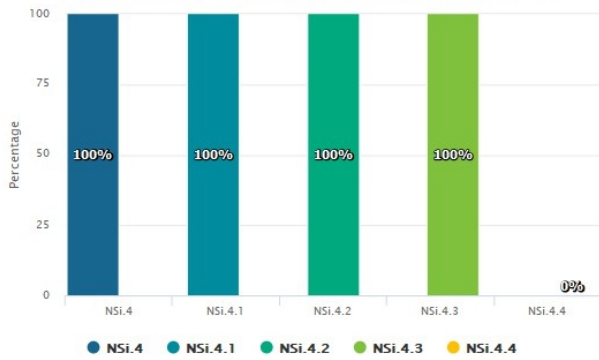
Monitoring of the accessibility of spatial data sets through view and download services



Legend

Indicator	Definition
● NSi.2.0	The Percentage of spatial data sets that are accessible through view and the download services
● NSi.2.1	The Percentage of spatial data sets that are accessible through view services
● NSi.2.2	The Percentage of spatial data sets that are accessible through download services

Monitoring of the conformity of the network services



Legend

Indicator	Definition
● NSi.4	Percentage of the network services that are in conformity with Commission Regulation (EC) No 976/2009 as regards the Network Services
● NSi.4.1	Percentage of the discovery services that are in conformity with Commission Regulation (EC) No 976/2009 as regards the Network Services
● NSi.4.2	Percentage of the view services that are in conformity with Commission Regulation (EC) No 976/2009 as regards the Network Services
● NSi.4.3	Percentage of the download services that are in conformity with Commission Regulation (EC) No 976/2009 as regards the Network Services
● NSi.4.4	Percentage of the transformation services that are in conformity with Commission Regulation (EC) No 976/2009 as regards the Network Services