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INSPIRE and Geostatistics

## Abstract

- The context

The INSPIRE Directive entered into force on 15 May 2007. It contains provisions aiming at establishing an Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community. The Directive will be partly transposed into national legislation, within two years from its entry into force, and partly implemented through so called Implementing Measures, directly applicable in all Member States as EU Regulations. The Directive concerns 34 "Spatial Data Themes", organised in three sets, referred to as "Annex I/II/III"

The Implementing Measures address technical issues, whose adoption is delegated, under the control of the Council and the European Parliament, to the European Commission through the so called "Comitology Procedure".

Five Implementing Measures are provided for by the Directive, concerning Metadata, Interoperability of Spatial Data Sets and Services, Network Services, Data and Service Sharing, Monitoring and Reporting. Each of these Implementing Measures will be adopted through one or more Regulations.

The Commission services cooperating on the implementation of INSPIRE issued a work programme in order to propose draft Implementing Measures taking into account as much as possible the needs of users and stakeholders addressed by the Directive. In

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particular, five Drafting Teams, one for each set of Implementing Rules, were set up, composed of experts external to the Commission.

In particular, the Implementing Measure on Interoperability of spatial data sets and services is addressing Geostatistical issues.

- The state of play

At different levels of advancement, depending on the already achieved harmonisation and on the complexity of the issues, all five Drafting Teams started their works and issued preliminary documents, and, in the case of Metadata, a first draft Implementing Rule.

The Drafting Team on Interoperability of spatial data sets and services, after having issued preparatory documents on Scope and Definition of Annex I/II/III Themes and a Generic Conceptual Model, will now enter a phase where individual Data Themes will have to be specifically addressed. For those themes where the statistical component is or could be relevant, it will be crucial that the appropriate contribution from stakeholders be provided. The currently open Call for Expression of Interest for Development of Data Specifications provides a unique opportunity for taking an active role in the process.