

Development of SDI in Sweden

Infrastructure for geodata

Lantmäteriet (National Land Survey of Sweden) has a national coordination responsibility for geodata (geographic and real property information). The responsibility includes issues of production, cooperation and development. With the responsibility follows updating of the National Geodata Strategy.

The aim of the strategy is to be a guideline for all geodata actors in Sweden achieving a more effective handling of core geographic and real property information. In other words the strategy will be the common ground creating an infrastructure for geodata and represent the Swedish initiative in European and international cooperation within the geodata field.

The Geodata Advisory Board

The Swedish Government has appointed (2006) the Geodata Advisory Board. The advisory board should:

- Participate in the formulation of a national geodata strategy for the coordinated provision of information
- Carry out the preparatory work and process questions of both basic and common national interest
- Contribute to the development of a national and international infrastructure by, for example, supporting the implementation of standards, and
- Contribute to increased coordination of the activities of involved authorities and agencies concerning the development and provision of information.

The Geodata Advisory Board has nine members besides the General Director of Lantmäteriet, who is the chairman.

A National Geodata Strategy - Presentation

The Swedish Government has commissioned Lantmäteriet, together with the Geodata Advisory Board and in consultation with other concerned government agencies and the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions, to formulate a national strategy for the general provision of data in the geodata sector.

The aim of the strategic plan is to provide producers and users of geodata with guidelines for the development and application of standards and specifications, for metadata and metadata services, for services for the dissemination of information, for policies for access to and use of data, for research and development and education as well as for organisation and forms co-operation.

The National Geodata Strategy for the provision of geodata in Sweden is now available in a short version.

Vision

The National Geodata Strategy includes a vision for the next decade:

- That we create increased benefits for society by developing a national infrastructure for the provision of geodata built in co-operation between organisations and on cost-efficient solutions
- That we link information resources in a network and make them accessible via uniformly structured services and with descriptions of their information content
- That we support public administration, companies and the general public and be able to meet demands on local, regional, national, European and global levels.

Strategic goals

The main strategic goals are characterized by:

- That they are steered by demand
- A flexible and easy adjustment to new requirements
- An efficient and cost-effective provision of information
- Co-operation
- Taking into account security, vulnerability and integrity factors
- Economic development
- Globalisation
- Utilisation of previous experience of e-governance

Areas of action

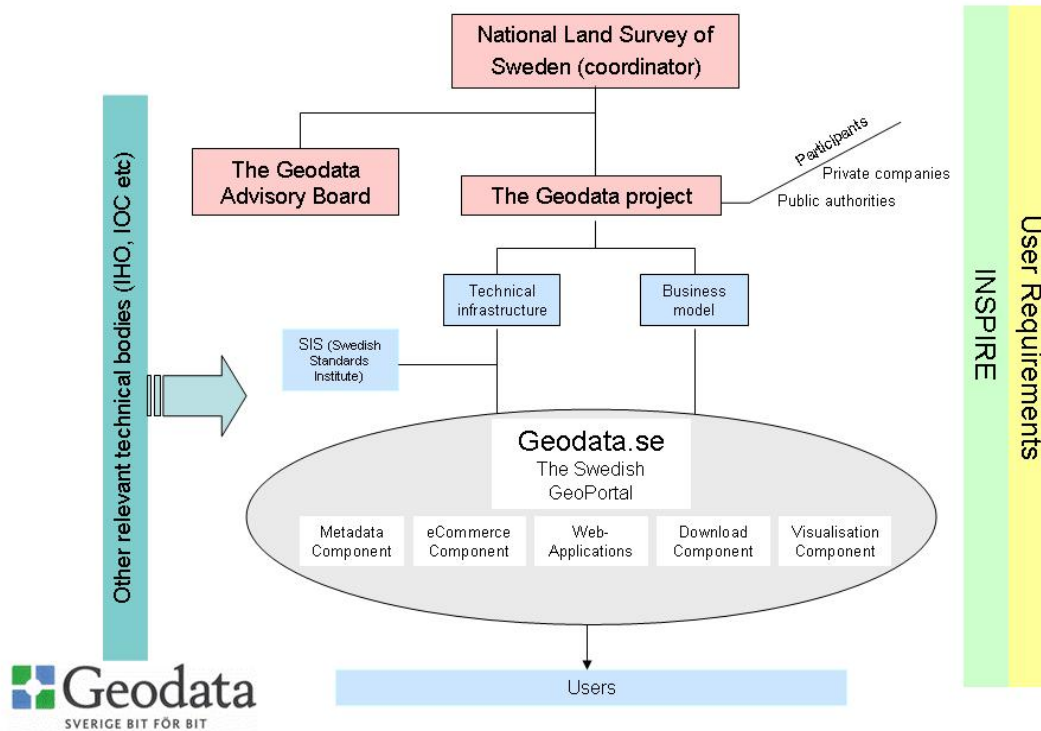
The joint programme that will be required to be carried out has been broken down into eight areas of action:

1. Co-operation in networks as a basis for the infrastructure, with priority given to the development of models for activities and agreements. The identification of areas of application that have a significant potential.
2. The structuring of information, including the development of a basic framework containing descriptions of rules and methods for a service-oriented exchange of information and which describes geodata, defines the geodata sector and takes into account the requirements of the Inspire directive.
3. The technical infrastructure, including the establishment of a geodata portal for a development environment, standardized interfaces and a national service catalogue.
4. A national metadata catalogue, including a national programme for the creation of metadata.
5. Geodetic reference systems and an accelerated transition to the new national reference system, Sweref 99.
6. Research and development (R&D) and education including the formulation of a national R&D and education programme.
7. Legislation, including an investigation of the possible need for changes and adaptation to Inspire.
8. Financing and price-setting, including the development of financing and flexible pricing models and the implementation of cost-benefit analyses.

The joint Geodata project

In order to put the strategy into practice a project has started involving not only governmental authorities but also representatives from the sector of industry and trade. The project, which will include all the areas of actions except for geodetic reference systems (already in place), R&D and Legislation, will be operative between the years 2008-2010. The objective is, when the project ends in the mid of 2010, to have an operational NSDI in place.

The ambition is that the NSDI shall be a bit more comprehensive than prescribed by the INSPIRE-directive.



Some reflections from the SMA

The SMA has realized, in our NSDI-project, that IHO and its work are not very known outside the hydrographic community. Therefore one of The Swedish Maritime Administrations ambitions within the Geodata project is to find ways to introduce and connect the Swedish NSDI work with the knowledge and developments from the IHO community in order to make sure that we reuse as much as possible of already gained results. For the future we think it is very important that we try to “open up” our IHO infrastructures to insure that it can play its (hydrographic) part when building NSDI’s. This could mean that we (IHO) more actively must try to, not only place the IHO-work on the map, but also try to harmonize the development of standards and specifications and to create interoperability with other disciplines, e.g. between land and sea information. We believe that the recommendations from the Rostock & Havana seminars are very much in line with our standpoints of what ought to be done.