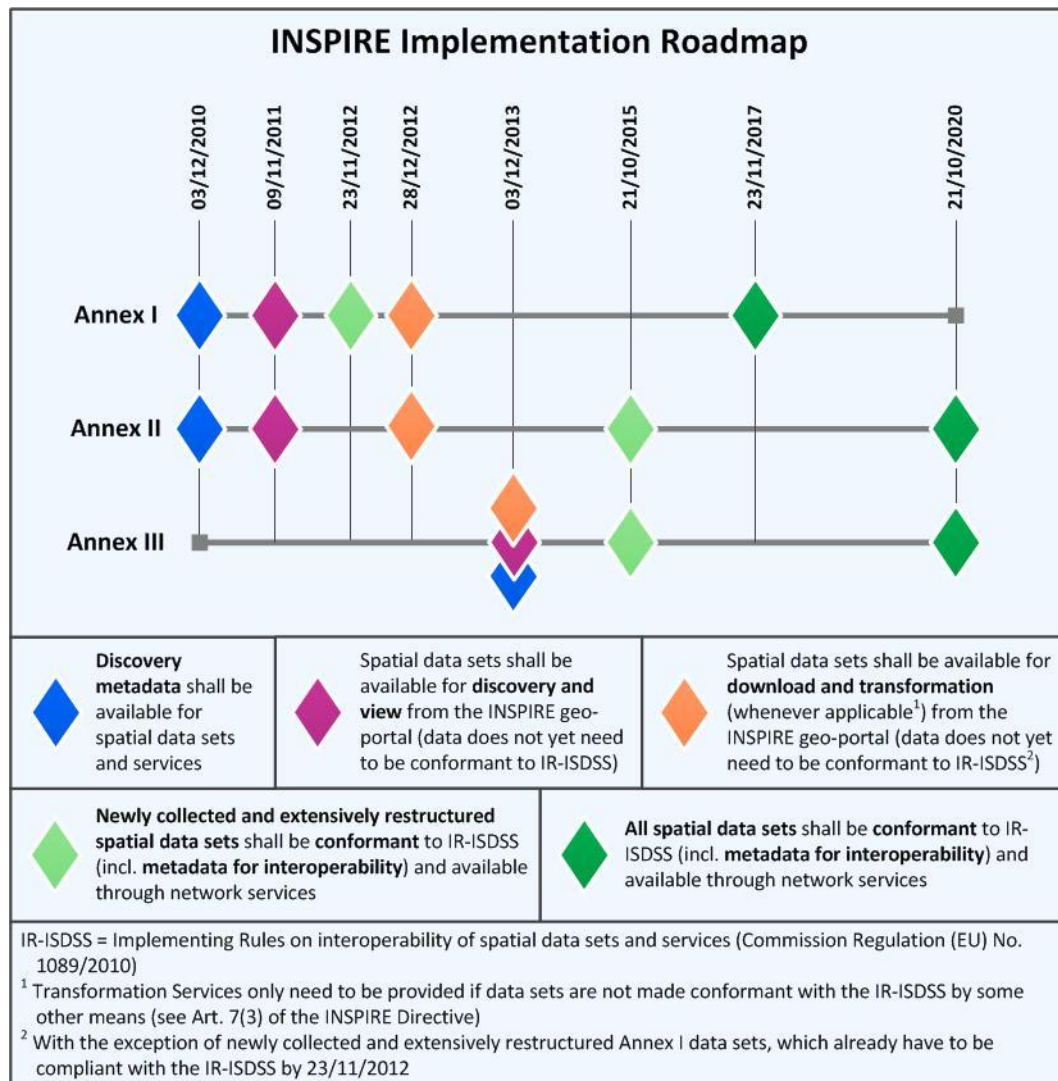


INSPIRE implementation

Introduction

The INSPIRE (Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe) Directive (2007) mandates all European Union member states to share environmentally related datasets so that they can be easily accessed by other public organizations within their own country, in surrounding European countries, by the European Commission for Europe-wide policy making and better facilitate public access to spatial information across Europe. INSPIRE will be implemented in various stages, with full implementation required by 2020. (Also see roadmap below.)



The initiative provides web services (view, download and transformation services) allowing access to GI across all European member states. INSPIRE requires the creation and maintenance of searchable catalogues that allow users to identify what spatial data is available and who holds the data.

Inventory on available resources

Although metadata should be discoverable through these catalogues, in practice it is not easy to get a thorough overview of the web services available from Members. Therefore Members are kindly asked to give an overview of the provided INSPIRE web services at the NSHC meeting.

Way ahead

As INSPIRE is a regional issue within IHO, the RHCs involved are probably the most appropriate bodies to deal with it. It has been on the agenda of the BSHC for example, identifying a need for a standardized mapping between INSPIRE and S-100.

INSPIRE is now rather well established for datasets 'as is', but there is still work to be done to provide datasets harmonized to the INSPIRE specifications. (See roadmap above.) NSHC is asked to consider whether a common approach is desirable. And if so, to consider how can we best organize ourselves within the European hydrographic community to approach this together, and at the same time maximize harmonization and interoperability between our national INSPIRE deliverables.

Actions required from the NSHC 31st Conference:

- Members are invited to give a national status report on implementation at the NSHC meeting, along the lines of the following questions:
 - o What do Members consider INSPIRE data?
 - o Are web services available?
 - o Are online metadata available already?
 - o Other remarks
- NSHC is invited to discuss the need for a common approach to INSPIRE harmonization and way ahead
- NSHC is invited to discuss whether future items on INSPIRE should be covered by the NSHC, the IHO-EU Network, the MSDIWG or other bodies.