European Commission

Engaging thematic communities in the INSPIRE maintenance and implementation process
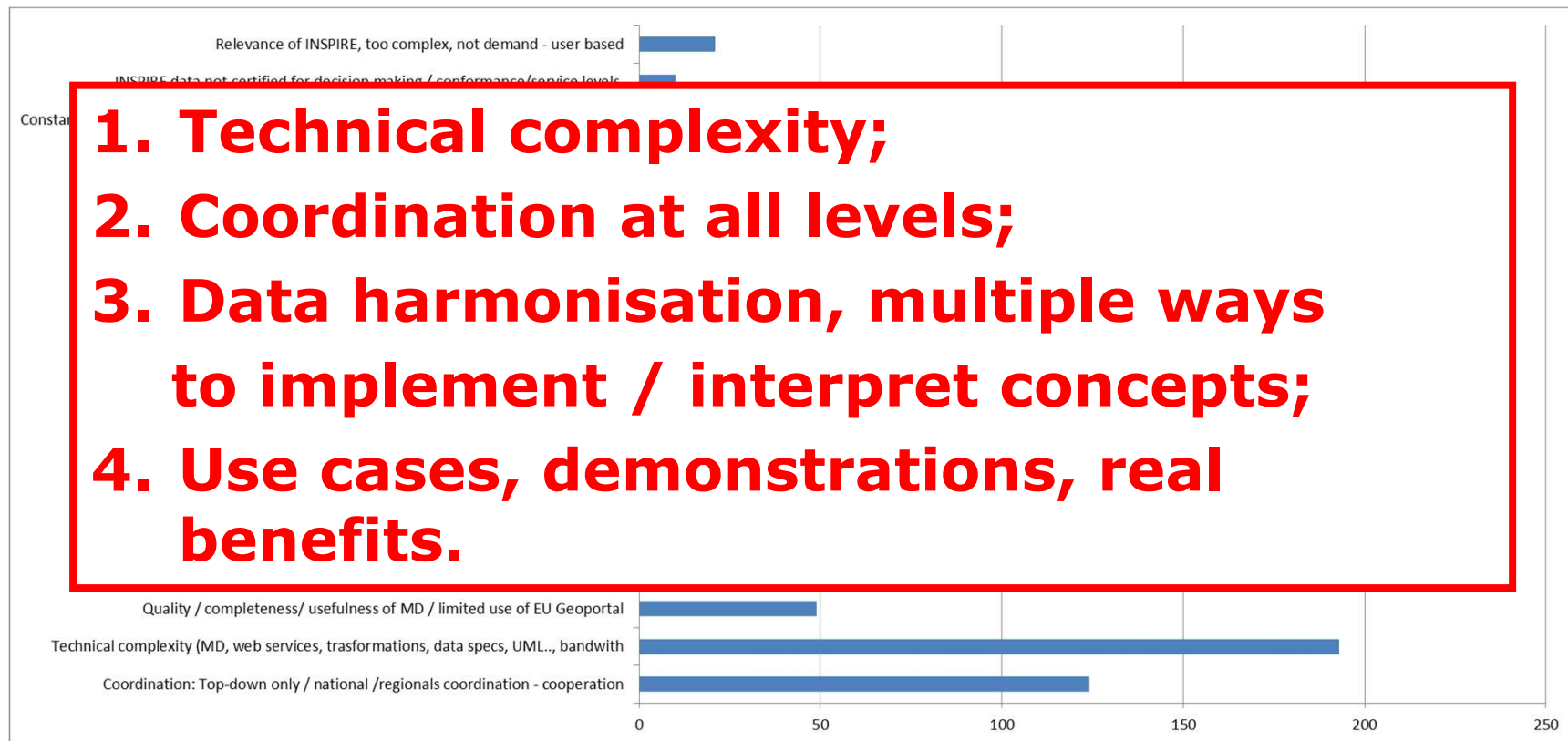
Robert Tomas,

EC&EEA INSPIRE Team
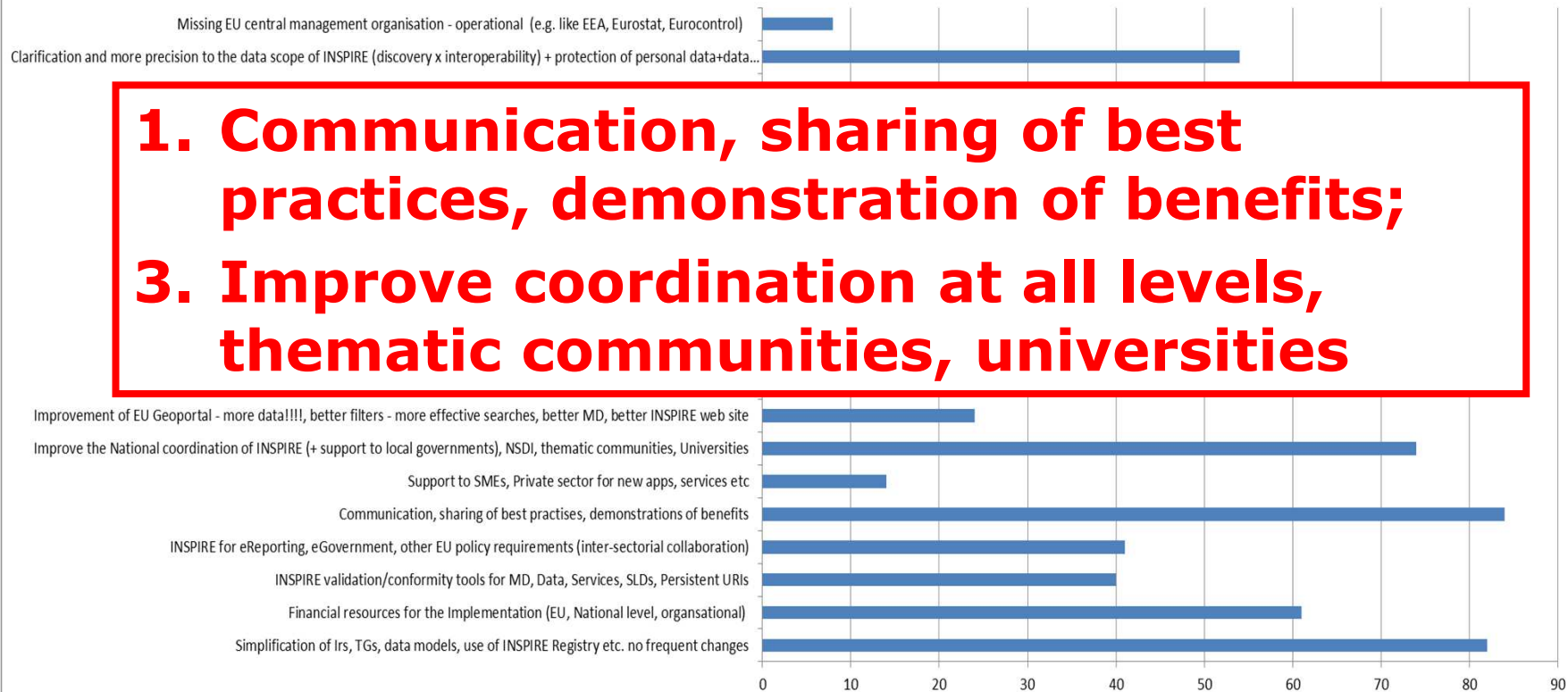
www.jrc.ec.europa.eu

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Supporting legislation

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INSPIRE mid-term evaluation public survey (challenges encountered)

Relevance of INSPIRE, too complex, not demand - user based

INSPIRE data not certified for decision making / conformance/service levels

Consta

1. Technical complexity;

2. Coordination at all levels;

3. Data harmonisation, multiple ways to implement / interpret concepts;

4. Use cases, demonstrations, real benefits.

Quality / completeness/ usefulness of MD / limited use of EU Geoportal

Technical complexity (MD, web services, trasformations, data specs, UML.., bandwith

Coordination: Top-down only / national /regionals coordination - cooperation

0   50   100   150   200   250

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INSPIRE mid-term evaluation public survey (changes proposed)

Statistics of the responses about changes proposed

Missing EU central management organisation - operational (e.g. like EEA, Eurostat, Eurocontrol)

Clarification and more precision to the data scope of INSPIRE (discovery x interoperability) + protection of personal data+data...

1. Communication, sharing of best practices, demonstration of benefits;

3. Improve coordination at all levels, thematic communities, universities

Improvement of EU Geoportal - more data!!!!, better filters - more effective searches, better MD, better INSPIRE web site

Improve the National coordination of INSPIRE (+ support to local governments), NSDI, thematic communities, Universities

Support to SMEs, Private sector for new apps, services etc

Communication, sharing of best practises, demonstrations of benefits

INSPIRE for eReporting, eGovernment, other EU policy requirements (inter-sectorial collaboration)

INSPIRE validation/conformity tools for MD, Data, Services, SLDs, Persistent URIs

Financial resources for the Implementation (EU, National level, organsational)

Simplification of Irs, TGs, data models, use of INSPIRE Registry etc. no frequent changes

0   10   20   30   40   50   60   70   80   90

Implementation of INSPIRE in thematic domains

- Many INSPIRE implementation issues are **theme-specific:**

  - data scope,
  - extending data models for domain purposes / applications,
  - temporal / spatial resolutions; levels of detail / scales,

  - used parameters,

  - used terminology (open and empty code lists),

  - software and TG options (e.g. download service) used.

- No agreed way for implementers in MS **to share their experience**

- No coherent **overview of the status** of the implementation for the different INSPIRE data themes.

Altitude

Occupation des terres

Ortho-imagerie

Géologie

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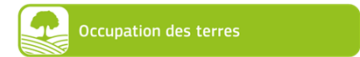
Exchange of implementation experiences in thematic domains

Proposed action:

- **Build communities of INSPIRE implementers** in the EU as well as in MSs around **clusters of themes**

- Create an **on-line platform** (e.g. a re-designed INSPIRE forum) for sharing experiences and for discussing implementation issues and approaches.

- **Address** already identified issues on data specifications of Annex I, II and III and **propose** (if relevant) concrete change proposals to the INSPIRE MIG

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Exchange of implementation experiences in thematic domains

Objectives:

- **Support successful implementation** (e.g. developed applications) of INSPIRE by MSs or thematic communities in order to **demonstrate its benefits**.

- **To seek/agree on common "harmonised" implementation solutions**, i.e. what tools or which options in the TG to use (where there are several) what extensions or value-added applications to develop or plan.

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The idea is not new!!

INSPIRE Forum:
" _Connecting people and sharing knowledge_ "

• an open space for the exchange of information, best practice, news, opinions on issues relating to INSPIRE;

• a meeting place to get to know professionals working in different countries and thematic areas;

• a learning space where you can download tutorials, workshops, presentations and learn about and participate in upcoming workshops and conferences

http://inspire-forum.jrc.ec.europa.eu/

INSPIRE Forum statistics

Nr. of registered users: 1738
Nr. of thematic groups: 86
- 14 country groups:
Turkey, Italy, Germany, Greece, France, Slovak Rep., Poland, Latvia, Hungary, Ireland, Czech Rep. Finland, UK

Nr. of files uploaded: 474
Nr. of news posts: 324
Nr. of bookmarked items: 305
Nr. of events posted: 301
Nr. of discussion topics: 254
Nr. of photos: 171
Nr. of videos: 113
Nr. of blog posts: 76
Nr. of albums: 24

INSPIRE forum groups

open group / **224** members
Turkish INSPIRE Interest Group

open group / **156** members
Software tools supporting INSPIRE implementation

open group / **122** members
INSPIRE Data Specifications Special Interest Group

closed group / **116** members
INSPIRE Annex II+III Data Specification Testing

open group / **89** members
INSPIRE and Open Source Software

Why the effort then!!

- The INSPIRE Forum **activity** has been recently **very low**;

- **new more formal tasks** related to the implementation of INSPIRE.
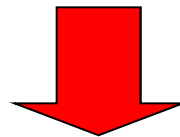
More **concentrated effort is needed to support** MSs / stakeholders etc. with implementing INSPIRE – **single point of contact for theme specific** implementing issues.

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Call for the INSPIRE Thematic clusters facilitators

- The Call for Facilitators published on 13.8 and closed on 19.9.

Main criteria for selection:
- General knowledge of INSPIRE
- **Good international/national community building experience (supporting networks)**
- Participation in development of INSPIRE legal/technical framework
- Participation in the national implementation of INSPIRE
- Participation in EU, National SDI projects
- Collaborative SW tools experience

Selected facilitators

1. Geology, Soil, Natural Risk Zones, Mineral resources, Energy resources: **Tim Duffy** (EuroGeoSurveys)

2. Land Use, Land Cover: **Lena Hallin-Pihlatie** (FI)

3. Elevation, Orthoimagery, Geographical Grids, Reference Systems: **Jorge Escriu** (ES)

4. Environmental Monitoring Facilities, Observations and Measurements: **Alessandro Sarretta** (IT)

5. Agricultural and Aquaculture Facilities, Production and Industrial Facilities, Utility and Governmental Services: **Angel Lopez Alos** (ES)

6. Geographical Names, Administrative Units, Cadastral Parcels, Addresses, Buildings, Transport Networks, Hydrography: **Anja Hopfstock** (DE)

7. Oceanographic Features, Sea Regions, Atmospheric Conditions and Meteorological Geographical Features: **Keiran Millard** (UK)

8. Protected Sites, Area Management/Restriction/Regulation Zones and Reporting Units, Habitats and Biotopes, Species Distribution, Bio-geographical Regions: **Brian Mac Sharry** (IR)

9. Statistical Units, Population Distribution, Human Health and Safety: **Miroslaw Migacz** (PL)

Foreseen tasks for the cluster facilitators (Phase 1 -2)

- Facilitate communication / **exchange of implementation** progress, common decisions, priorities, roadmaps

- Identify and **maintain network of thematic experts** (knowledge base)

- Identify and **share results** of relevant EU/national projects, initiatives and operational implementations (SW tools, methodology, Use cases etc.)
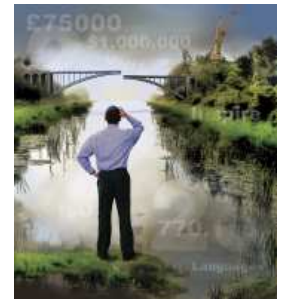
Tasks for cluster facilitators – Phase 1

Task 1: State of the implementation in a thematic domain / cluster

- aggregation of the thematic stakeholders;

- identification of key implementation issues, constraints, challenges for each INSPIRE data theme covered by the thematic cluster;

- identification and aggregation of completed and current projects related to the INSPIRE thematic cluster;

- identification and aggregation of successful implementation (applications, services etc.) of INSPIRE in the thematic domain;

- identification of re-usable SW tools used for implementing INSPIRE in the thematic domain.
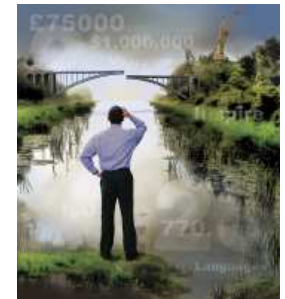
Tasks for cluster facilitators – Phase 1

Task 2.1: Content maintenance and promotion of the on-line platform

Acting as the administrator of the on-line platform, set up and provided by the JRC, e.g.:

- facilitating and chairing the discussion of thematic implementation issues, approaches and requirements in each MS and of possible common approaches for INSPIRE implementation;

- structuring the forum according to thematic needs and assign the sub sections facilitators (if relevant);

- monitoring the use of the forum and inform the JRC when a particular action may be necessary.

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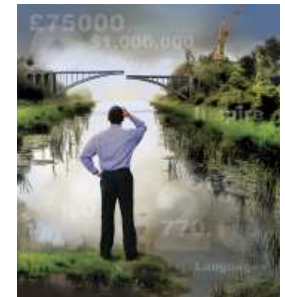
Tasks for cluster facilitators – Phase 1

Task 2.2: Content maintenance and promotion of the on-line platform

Promoting the use of the platform inside (but not only) the thematic cluster community by e.g.:

- encouraging thematic experts and users from as many countries as possible to share details of relevant software products / tools being used, which options in the TG they use or what extensions and value-added applications are being developed or planned;

- publishing results from EU / national projects, usability tests, etc.;

- answering thematic questions and publishing the answers on the forum;

- facilitating the exchange of relevant theme-specific activities in the MS (pilot applications, project proposals, cross border collaboration, SW development etc..).
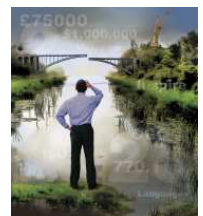
Tasks for cluster facilitators – Phase 2

**Task 3: Content maintenance and promotion of the on-line platform**

- Continuation of activity related to the administration of the platform, the facilitation of discussions as well as the promotion of the platform in the relevant thematic communities.

Task 4: Maintenance of the INSPIRE Technical Guidelines

- Reviewing, of the current version of the related INSPIRE Data specifications – Technical Guidelines (TG);
- facilitating and consolidating the discussion on change proposals for the INSPIRE data;
- specifications for relevant themes and, where necessary, other INSPIRE Technical Guidelines;
- submitting concrete change proposals, based on implementation experience, of the Technical Guidelines to the INSPIRE MIG for further discussion and endorsement.
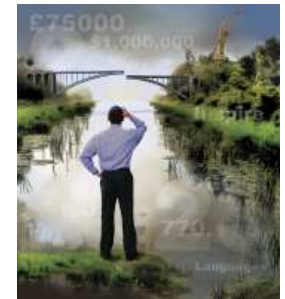
Support to thematic communities in INSPIRE MIG Work Programme
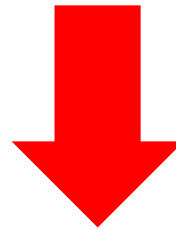
Work package 14

MIWP-14: Theme specific issues of data specifications & exchange of implementation experiences in thematic domains

Links with:
MIWP-1: Improve accessibility and readability of TG
MIWP-2: Create and maintain FAQ page
MIWP-5: Validation and conformance testing
MIWP-21: Thematic pilots for INSPIRE-based applications (including for e-reporting)

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Summary from the Kick –off meeting in Ispra 13-14.10.

- Need for cross domain/cluster coordination;
  - Working across and between clusters
- Need for common structure of the 9 collaboration platforms;
- Alignment of the external communication;
  - Building communities beyond existing communities
- Tasks for the first 2 months;
  - 24.11. launch of the thematic platforms
- Initial resources to be used;
  - Experts to be involved
  - Content to be evaluated
- Do not duplicate already existing activities;

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In summary

Engaging INSPIRE thematic communities is to:

1. To keep up the "momentum" – participatory, open process from the development of the IRs, TGs also for the INSPIRE implementation phase

2. To mobilize thematic communities to share best practices about implementing / utilizing INSPIRE in their domains.

To help INSPIRE to deliver "our" objectives

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Thank you for your attention.
Robert Tomas, PhD
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Do not miss the INSPIRE Conference
25-29.5. 2015
Lisbon, Portugal

http://inspire.ec.europa.eu/events/conferences/inspire_2015/