

What is the Copernicus Services Framework Agreement?

The Copernicus Services Framework Agreement is a bilateral agreement between EuroGeographics and its members, the National Mapping, Cadastral and Land Registration Authorities (NMCAs) of Europe. Its aim is to facilitate the access of NMCAs data to Copernicus.

By creating a single licence agreement between EuroGeographics and the European Environment Agency (EEA), it streamlines the licensing process for providing access to official national geospatial data to the Copernicus Services.

It is a key component of EuroGeographics' updated partnership agreement with the EEA which increases the number of official national geospatial datasets available via the Copernicus Reference Access Data (CORDA) gateway.

Why should members sign the Copernicus Services Framework Agreement?

EuroGeographics members should sign the Copernicus Services Framework Agreement because it facilitates access to their data and enables the EEA, as a strategic partner, to include it in the Copernicus Emergency Management Service (CEMS); Copernicus Land Monitoring Service (CLMS); and Copernicus Security Service (CSS).

It is key to increasing the use of your data and strengthening cooperation between NMCAs and Copernicus Services. Furthermore, by introducing more straightforward licensing, it also allows for increased data delivery from NMCAs in the future.

Why does EEA need the data and what do they use it for?

The Copernicus Services require in situ data to produce and validate their products.

For the CEMS, members national data is key to provide data for emergency situations that arise from natural or man-made disasters. Rapid Mapping provides geospatial information within hours or days of a service request in order to support emergency management activities in the immediate aftermath of a disaster. Risk & Recovery Mapping supplies geospatial information in support of Disaster Management activities including prevention, preparedness, risk reduction and recovery phases.

For the CLMS, your national data is key to improving the reliability and thematic accuracy of products, the calibration quality of density products, for validating products and internal quality control steps.

For the CSS, your national data is key to:

- Increased situational awareness through the provision of timely data for an up-to-date and reliable situational picture.
- Improved reaction capability as a result of reduced reaction times.

- Increased thematic and geometric accuracy of products, area coverage, and observation times.

How is the Copernicus Services Framework Agreement different from the previous agreement to provide members' data to the Copernicus Emergency Mapping Service (CEMS)?

EuroGeographics has a long-standing agreement with the EEA, first signed in 2016, that enables the CEMS to use members' authoritative data to quickly produce maps for crisis management.

The new Framework Agreement builds on its success by providing one licence agreement to also benefit Copernicus Land Monitoring Service (CLMS); and Copernicus Security Service (CSS).

It does not change how your data is accessed but it does change how you give permission for your data to be used by simplifying the licensing process for Copernicus Services.

Members who are already providing data to the CEMS will be migrated to the new agreement.

What are the different annexes under the Copernicus Framework Services Agreement, and what do they allow the EEA to do with the data?

There are three Annexes:

- Annex 1 – Copernicus Emergency Management Service (CEMS)
- Annex 2 – Copernicus Land Monitoring Service (CLMS)
- Annex 3 – Copernicus Security Service (CSS)

By signing the Annex(es), you grant a licence to EuroGeographics to use, apply and exploit authoritative geospatial data for the relevant Copernicus Service.

The EEA will only be allowed to sub-license to entrusted entities for the management and implementation of the Copernicus Services in the framework of the Copernicus Services.

Your national data can only be used to create and validate data and services for the service for which you have signed the Annex. No other use or dissemination is allowed.

Furthermore, the original national geospatial reference data will not be available for extraction and reconstruction by end-users from information included in products unless the data is made openly available.

The service will credit your organisation as the source of the relevant data.

What data do the Copernicus Services need?

Copernicus Emergency Management Service (CEMS)

- Orthophotos, accuracy = to or better than 0,5 m
- Raster topographical maps 1:50 000 or larger
- Georeferenced datasets in vector format with an accuracy equivalent to a scale of 1:50 000 or larger
 - Administrative boundaries
 - Transportation infrastructure
 - Built up areas
 - Building (blocks, footprints and / or points)
 - Production and Industrial Facilities
 - Utility and Governmental Services
 - Toponyms / place names
 - Hydrography
 - Addresses
 - Cadastral parcels
- Digital Elevation Models:
 - Digital Terrain Models (DTM) with a resolution of 1m – 10m (accuracy: horizontal CE90: 1m-25m; vertical LE90: 1-10m)
 - Digital Surface Models (DSM) with a resolution of 1m – 10m (accuracy: horizontal CE90: 1m-25m; vertical LE90: 1-10m)
 - LiDAR point cloud data (including classified data), from which Digital Elevation Models can be derived
- Land Use Land Cover (ideally with a resolution of 1m – 10m)
- Population and demographics data

Copernicus Land Monitoring Service (CLMS)

- Orthophotos, accuracy = to or better than 0,5 m
- Digital elevation models (DEM) with a resolution of 1m – 25m (accuracy: horizontal CE90: 1m-25m; vertical LE90: 1m-10m)
- Ground control points
- Land use / land cover 1:50 000 or larger (raster/vector)
- Land parcel identification system (LPIS) data
- Geo-spatial aid application (GSAA) data
- Raster topographical maps 1:50 000 or larger
- Ground motion and/or single structure/building displacement measurements
- Phenological observations
- National forest inventories
- Georeferenced datasets in vector format with an accuracy equivalent to a scale of 1:50 000 or larger (please select all you give permission for)
 - Administrative boundaries
 - Shoreline
 - Transportation infrastructure including roads and railway network
 - Built up areas
 - Toponyms / place names
 - Hydrography / hydrographic networks

- Buildings
- Addresses
- Cadastral parcels
- Natural protected sites
- Natural habitats and biotopes
- Monitoring data on natural disasters (e.g. wild fires, landslides, etc.)

Copernicus Security Service (CSS)

- Orthophotos, accuracy = to or better than 0,5 m
- Digital Elevation Models (DEM) with a resolution of 1m – 25m (accuracy: horizontal CE90: 1m-25m; vertical LE90:1-10m)
- Land use / land cover
- Population data
- Raster topographical maps 1:50 000 or larger
- Georeferenced datasets in vector format with an accuracy equivalent to a scale of 1:50 000 or larger
 - Administrative boundaries
 - Transportation infrastructure including roads and railway network
 - Built up areas
 - Toponyms / place names
 - Hydrography / hydrographic network
 - Buildings
 - Reference buildings (e.g. diplomatic buildings, educational, medical, religious, point of interest)
 - Addresses
 - Cadastral parcels
 - Bathymetry
 - Border Crossing Points (BCP)
 - nautical charts
 - Utility and governmental services infrastructure
 - Harbour infrastructure
 - airfield infrastructure
 - Production and industrial facilities

Who signs the Copernicus Framework Services Agreement and how?

EuroGeographics members sign the Copernicus Framework Services Agreement and the associated annexes depending on which services they can give permission to access their data.

Do I have to sign up for all of the Annexes?

You choose the annexes you wish to sign up to.

However, to enable the greatest access to our member's official national data, we would encourage you to consider signing all three annexes.

Can I choose which datasets I make available under the Annexes?

The annex for each service lists the data required by the end users. Each Annex has a list of datasets allowing you to simply check-off those for which you wish to give permission.

Does my data have to be open to be included in the Annexes?

Data does not have to be available as open to be accessed by the Copernicus Services. The agreement ensures that the data is only used for the purpose of the specific service, and that your data is attributed correctly, thus allowing for all data to be used where possible.

Even if your data is open, we would like it to be included in the Annex giving the Copernicus Services permission to use it. The Copernicus Services respect the data policy of the NMCAs and also like to have a technical contact point even if the data is fully open.

How many members have signed the Copernicus Services Framework Agreement and Annexes to date?

Total numbers of members who have signed the FLA: 27

Total numbers of members who have signed the EMS Annex: 27

Total numbers of members who have signed the CLMS Annex: 15

Total numbers of members who have signed the CSS: 15

How was the Copernicus Services Framework Agreement developed?

EuroGeographics first engaged with members on the actions to facilitate access to their data.

The Association then worked with a lawyer to draft the Copernicus Services Framework Agreement and the individual annexes. Members were sent the documents at each stage of the process for comment and then verification.

The final version was confirmed and sent for members E-signature via DocuSign.

How does my data get accessed technically?

Copernicus Reference Access Data CORDA provide the platform through which your data is accessed. CORDA is a single-entry point node to the relevant national and regional geospatial reference data. It holds an index of URLs to the relevant for Copernicus Services and digitally available national and regional reference data and services across Europe.

Access is restricted to Copernicus Services providers. As the coordinating body it is the EEA ensures that only authorised users, namely Copernicus Service providers, have access to the index of URLs.

How will CORDA get in touch with me?

When you sign the Annex, EuroGeographics Head Office will confirm which Annex and datasets you have given permission for. The CORDA technical team will be copied into the email. They will confirm to you and EuroGeographics that they have received the information.

How can I get in contact with CORDA?

The contact email for the CORDA technical team is corda.support@eea.europa.eu

How will CORDA access my data?

CORDA holds an index of URLs to the relevant for Copernicus Services and digitally available national and regional reference data and services across Europe. They will run regular checks on the URLs to ensure they are accessible. If your service is not working, they will contact you direct.

How does it work for the Emergency Management Service?

In the event of an activation, CORDA will access your data as per the agreement. If they need something in addition, they may contact you or copy you into a request to another agency in your country so you are aware (e.g. regional agency).

What happens if your data is not available through your servers?

In exceptional circumstances when your data is not available through your servers, CORDA will work with you to find a solution.

Please contact corda.support@eea.europa.eu with the subject 'Data not available through our servers', listing the name and size of the datasets affected. CORDA will then contact you with details about how to proceed.

If the size (once zipped) is acceptable, CORDA will host it.

If the size is not acceptable, a process will be established with you to allow them to obtain the data when there is a requirement. This process will be agreed in advance with the data provider to allow data access when there is an emergency.

How can members find out more?

More information is available at:

<https://eurogeographics.org/calendar-event/members-webinar-series-implementation-of-the-copernicus-services-framework-agreement/>

<https://eurogeographics.org/calendar-event/members-webinar-series-members-data-to-support-the-copernicus-land-security-services/>

<https://eurogeographics.org/calendar-event/eurogeographics-workshop-supporting-the-eea-with-copernicus-in-situ-data/>

<https://eurogeographics.org/calendar-event/implementation-of-data-to-copernicus-joint-eurogeographics-eea-webinar/>

<https://www.copernicus.eu/en/copernicus-services>

<https://www.copernicus.eu/en/copernicus-services/emergency>

<https://www.copernicus.eu/en/copernicus-services/land>

<https://www.copernicus.eu/en/copernicus-services/security>