

# EuroGeographics Update

**QKEN Plenary Meeting**  
Dublin, Ireland 23-25 May 2018

Carol Agius



# Technical meeting of EuroGeographics Data Producers in Lisbon

- More than 55 experts from 32 countries held a very successful meeting November 2017 in Lisbon, Portugal hosted by the Directorate General for Territory
- The annual meeting of the data producers, production managers, regional coordinators and the EuroGeographics Head Office
- Meeting focused on achievements, progress, working plans and technical issues related to creation of our pan-European products:
- EuroBoundaryMap (EBM), EuroRegionalMap (ERM) and EuroGlobalMap (EGM).
- Gives the opportunity to the experts for networking and discussing all details, issues and look for solutions together with the EuroGeographics Production Team and Regional Coordinators.



## EuroGeographics announces new additions to open data for 2018

EuroGeographics has released a new version of EuroGlobalMap, open data created from official national sources.

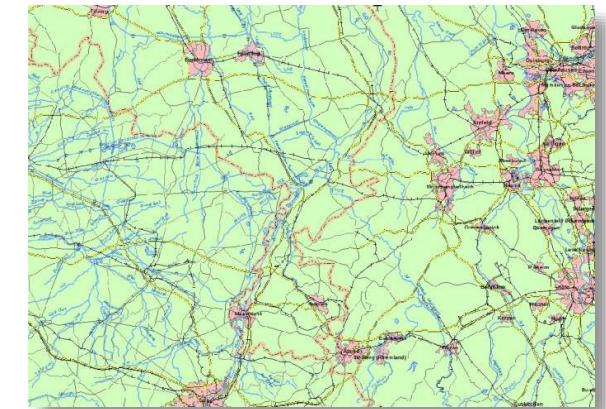
The 2018 release of EuroGlobalMap covers 45 countries and territories, and comprises six themes: Administrative boundaries, names locations, transport networks, settlements, elevation; and the water network.

EuroGlobalMap now includes:

- fields for the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) within the updated transport theme, specifically links for railways (RailrdL) and road networks (RoadL)
- information for the 1: 1 million dataset's administrative and settlement themes

Since its launch in 2013, more than 6,500 users have downloaded EuroGlobalMap.

It is available free of charge under an open data licence from [www.eurogeographics.org](http://www.eurogeographics.org) and enables a wide range of applications, including mobile mapping, demographic and socio-economic analysis, hydrology, energy and environment modelling and in education and research. It is also ideal for cartographic visualisation across Europe.



## New Core Reference Data (CRD) product

Following announced plans by the Environment Agency and DG Grow to develop a 'backbone' dataset for the second generation Corine Land Cover map, EuroGeographics is preparing proposal for a pan-European geospatial reference dataset that will meet the requirements for the CLC-Backbone, and also fulfil other demands in European Commission; where possible and available such data will be based on INSPIRE data services, but if these are not available it should be based on any available data from our members, or elsewhere if members are unable to provide the data.

The Secretary General and Executive Director wrote to members asking for their support in response to this matter, and to highlight the urgent actions required by members in contributing to the production of a Core Reference dataset (CRD).

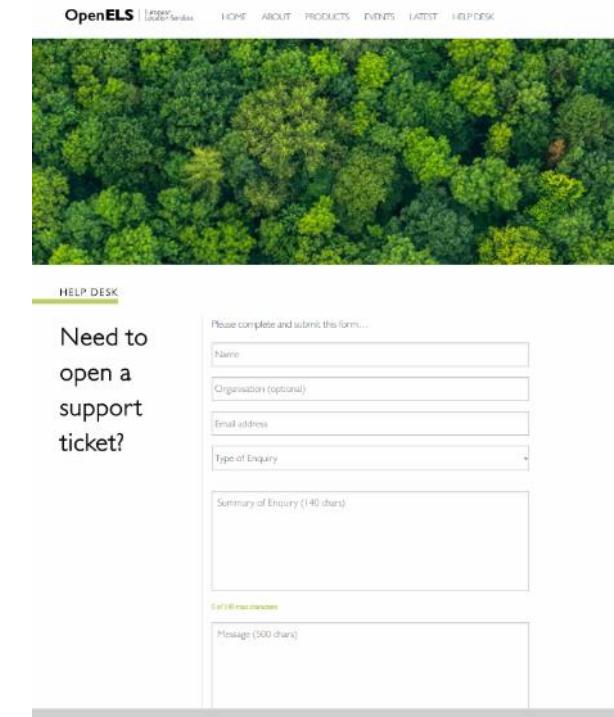
To create the dataset EuroGeographics requires data from members and will apply the pricing model for our existing products for the new Core Reference Dataset (CRD) product. This will be based on a base price' for national contributions to the product.

Members' contribution is needed to create the a new and exciting product which will demonstrate the capabilities of EuroGeographics and it members to respond to the needs of a key customer.

# Open ELS Helpdesk marks first Project milestone

The launch of the Open ELS Helpdesk (<http://openels.eu/help-desk>) marks the delivery of the Project's first milestone. This provides an important tool for data providers, potential users and others with an interest in European open data geospatial service to contact the Project team.

A dropdown menu enables users to select from a choice of enquiry topics, including evaluation of service and providing data. There is also the option to submit a general question. Enquires will be answered by the relevant expert in the Open ELS Project team. The aim is to help raise awareness of Open ELS and to deliver technical support to the data providers in a more efficient way.



Open ELS | European Land Survey

HOME ABOUT PRODUCTS EVENTS LATEST HELP DESK

**HELP DESK**

Need to open a support ticket?

Please complete and submit this form...

Name

Organisation (optional)

Email address

Type of Enquiry

Summary of Enquiry (140 chars)

Message (500 chars)

# Open ELS Products & Services workshop

A successful OpenELS Products & Services workshop was held in Edinburgh, hosted by Registers of Scotland.

The January workshop was attended by task leaders and others providing input into Open ELS Activity 4.

The agenda included an opportunity for everyone to share progress and agree next steps. The main focus was on defining products and services to be delivered in OpenELS, based on analysis from user workshop and the survey to members on data availability.



# Open ELS Open Data Policy and Licensing Workshop

Representatives from 21 NMCAs, NSIs and the research community met in March to learn about the open data policy and licensing framework for the Open ELS Project.

Participants learnt about the vision for European Location Services, of which the Open ELS Project is a key part, an overview of the results from the survey on open data already available from official national sources across geographical Europe. The research, which concluded in November 2017, includes information from 46 institutions in 32 European countries.

Presented the proposed Open ELS Open Data Policy which describes the common vision and approach for the Open ELS project and defines the open data so that it is distinguished from datasets provided via other platforms and services. It also sets out the legal and licensing framework principles that will guide user access and reuse. The Open ELS Open Data Policy provides all participating NMCAs, as well as those considering joining the project in the future, with a clear understanding of how their data will be licensed through the Open ELS services.

The policy is built on the following key principles:

- The Open ELS Project provides access to pan-European datasets compiled from national data that are open by default;
- The definition of 'open' for the Open ELS Project is data that is available free of charge, reusable by anyone and for any purpose, free of unnecessary conditions (registration, application), described, searchable and usable, licensed and usable for any purpose;
- The Open ELS Project and services respect national data access regimes; and
- The Open ELS Project is not demanding NMCAs change their existing national policies or charging conditions.

# Joint POLKEn and BiKEN meeting

In March 17 participants from 11 countries held a meeting of the Policy and Business Interoperability Knowledge Exchange Network, in the premises of EuroGeographics' Head Office. Discussions was focused on the Digital Single Market, INSPIRE and Environment Information System refit, Copernicus, Cadastral related issues, The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and BiKEN activities. The presentations are available on the Policy KEN website.



# Copernicus KEN workshop

First workshop 5th December, with 20 participants from members, EEA, and other organisations



The main purpose of the Copernicus KEN is to facilitate access to authoritative geospatial in situ reference data produced by the NMCAAs for use in activities initiated by EEA/Copernicus.



# INSPIRE KEN workshop

*“Land use/land cover products: challenges and opportunities”* workshop was held on 15 November 2017 in Brussels, in the Museum of Natural Sciences

It was co-organised by INSPIRE KEN, EuroSDR, the INSPIRE Thematic Cluster on LC/LU and EEA (European Environmental Agency).

It was attended by around 50 persons, coming from different communities, mainly national data producers and European stakeholders and also included representatives from industry and research.

The workshop provided a good opportunity to share our experiences about the evolution of Land Cover and Land Use data and to get a good overview of what is going on related to these two themes. In addition, the workshop was a good preparation to the CLC+ User Consultation that took place the following day, also in Brussels.

Presentations and video-records are available on the public EuroGeographics website.



## 2nd International Workshop on Spatial Data Quality

The 2nd International Workshop on Spatial Data Quality held at the Old University Campus in Valletta, Malta on 6th and 7th February 2018.

A wide range of topics presented from new methods of determining positional accuracy to looking at the motivations and barriers for implementing standards and from eliciting user requirements to presenting data quality in public dashboards.

Over 50 participants from over 18 countries, presentations can be found on the EuroGeographics website.

The workshop was co-organised by the EuroGeographics QKEN, EuroSDR, ISO/TC 211, OGC and ICA. Over 50 participants attended the event



# PosKEN Communication workshop

A very interesting Communication workshop of Positioning KEN was held on 27-28 April at the premises of IGN-Belgium. 23 delegates attended the event in person and 17 joined us by webinar. Representatives from EuroSDR, CLGE, EUREF, EUPOS, GSA, UN-GGIM provided a good overview about the major achievements and ongoing initiatives in positioning in Europe, 11 NMCA's provided valuable reports as well. The records of the presentations are available at the EuroGeographics YouTube channel: [Day 1](#), [Day 2](#). The workshop's attendees supported the PosKEN workplan and the intention to hold an annual workshop next year. They agreed to organize communication events focused on specific topics in form of webinars.



# Common Vision Conference 2017

The Austrian Federal Office for Metrology and Surveying BEV organised the Common Vision Conference 2017 in conjunction with the 200-years-celebration of the Austrian cadastre.

It was a joint conference by EuroGeographics, CLGE, FIG, ELRA, PCC, EULIS and UNECE-WPLA and took place on 5-6 Oct. 2017 in Vienna, Austria. Presentations, the Summary and the Wrap-up findings are available on the EuroGeographics website on the Cadastre and Land Registry KEN page



# PCC Plenary meeting in Tallinn

The Estonian Land Board hosted the PCC conference and plenary meeting “*Towards Digital Europe and Specially Enabled Societies*”, in November in Tallinn.

Representatives from the cadastral and land registry organisations from 22 countries across Europe participated in the conference in order to discuss the latest developments and best practices in the field of cadastre. EuroGeographics was represented by Daniel Steudler, chair of CLRKEN.

Conference topics included: free movement of data as the fifth freedom of the EU, governmental interoperability framework, smart ID and e-cadastre, blockchain and its use in land registration and other public services, land acquisition for major infrastructure projects, and the use of cadastral data from user perspective were discussed.

The latest trends in cadastre featured in the conference programme included crowdsourcing, 3D cadastre, cadastral valuation process, and public-private partnerships.

All presentations are available on the conference webpage <http://www.maaamet.ee/pcc2017/> and the PCC webpage.

The next PCC meeting will take place in spring 2018 in Sofia.



# 10th Annual Conference of the European Forum for Geography and Statistics

Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSi) together with Central Statistics Office Ireland (CSO) co-hosted the 10th Annual Conference of the European Forum for Geography and Statistics (EFGS2017) at Dublin Castle on 2-3 November.

Attracting participation from NMCAs and NSIs together with relevant stakeholders, the event showcased the current work in the integration of statistics and geography.

Jack Dangermond gave the keynote expanding on the theme of what makes the science of where so important. Colin Bray, CEO of OSi and EuroGeographics Management Board Member, presented on establishing Ireland's Data Hub.

EuroGeographics actively participated in the event, with Dominik Kopczewski speaking about collaborating to produce trusted, authoritative data, and Carol Agius chairing the session focusing on Data Visualisation & Analysis.

Taking advantage of a strong participation from our members the PolKEN held a meeting on the side of the EFGS17 conference.

More information can be found on the event website. <https://www.efgs2017.ie>



# EuroGeographics panel proves popular at DGI 2018

Breakthroughs in digital technologies are disruptive for National Mapping Agencies but also present huge opportunities, Europe's largest defence and government geospatial intelligence conference has heard.

The panel chaired by Mick Cory, EuroGeographics Secretary General and Executive Director was made up of Ingrid Vanden Berghe, Head of NGI Belgium; Hansjoerg Kutterer, President BKG Germany; and Nigel Clifford, Chief Executive of Ordnance Survey Great Britain.

Discussions focused on:

- how technology such as artificial intelligence and machine learning impacts on the work of NMCAs The changing role of NMCAs from trusted data provider to information broker, making it easier for government to find trusted, validated and integrated data
- the potential for NMCAs to play an important role in quality control, assessment and data validation
- the need for NMCAs to 'absorb data and have it ready when the user requires it'
- Understanding new uses for data and where NMCAs can add value was a recurring theme.

The session was very well-received with one delegate approaching Mick over lunch to say it was one of the best panels ever at DGI.



# Extraordinary General Assembly

Representatives from 34 member organisations participated in EuroGeographics 2018 Extraordinary General Assembly, held in Leuven, Belgium.

As well as launching a new logo and branding, the two-day event also gave a preview of the Association's new website. Members also heard updates on products and the European Location Framework whilst Eurostat and Copernicus explained how geospatial data from official sources is used within the European Commission.

The agenda also included discussions on legislation, partnerships, UN-GGIM: Europe and a lively session on Knowledge Exchange.

The Extraordinary General Assembly was followed by workshops on development and funding and disruptive technologies.

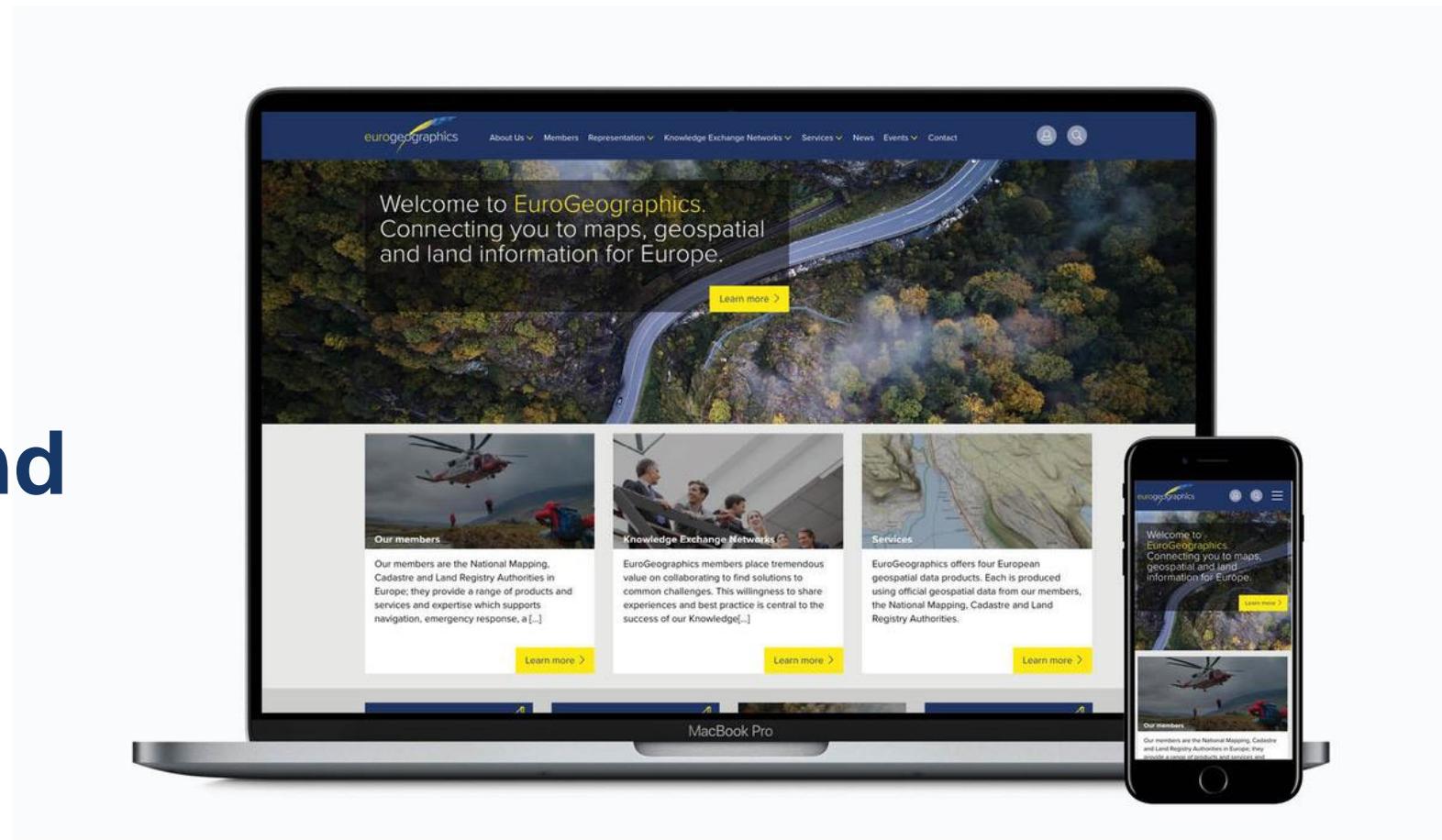


# Knowledge Exchange

More opportunities for Knowledge Exchange,  
networking



# Launched a new website and brand



# Head Office changes

At the end of December, during our last 2017 Team meeting we said a sad farewell to Igor Caldeira, Financial Manager and Association Secretary. He has taken up a new role at the Commission.

Also joining us at Rue du Nord is Jari Reini who is on secondment from NLS Finland. Jari is part of the European Location Services team and is taking the lead on Technical Systems Group coordination.



# Securing a future for your geospatial data

#mapsforeurope



# Thank you