Date

Tuesday 14th July 2009

Title of session

Workshop: Spatially Enabled Government Societies

Charging policies & user requirements in a Danish perspective

Name of presenter/chair

Magnús Guðmundsson, Managing Director, National Land Survey of Iceland - Chair

Kim Lindskov Knudsen, Head of Division Deployment & Advisory Services, Danish Ministry of the Environment National Survey & Cadastre - Presenter

Name of rapporteurs

Gillian Horner & Peter Standen

Kim Lindskov Knudsen is Head of the Deployment and Advisory Services department which formed 11 months ago. In 1989 the National Survey and Cadastre merged. Now part of the Ministry of the Environment there are 280 employees and a budget of €30 million. The department is looking to make savings of 10% this year and will be reducing staff numbers. Data is collected in house and the department will look to coordinate land and sea mapping.

New Approach to charging policies in the public sector
In January 2009 the department moved from a policy of individual agreements to a new collective agreement policy. There are three agreements that cover the public sector with a set fee for all data and services. These agreements have encouraged data use and reduced admin costs. A representative from each ministry meets at a forum to discuss data needs.

Need for a new Approach to widen data usage
The department have identified a need to better understand their customers' strategic goals in order to support them in meeting their challenges. There is huge pressure on government departments to provide better services for the aging population. Authorities need to coordinate their services, particularly in emergency situations.

Value data vs. Services

Data charges are currently based on the cost of production. The department is looking for a new approach where data is the core, but not the whole business. The department will work with partners more to avoid the 'come and get my data' attitude. They're also monitoring new technologies and cultures such as community collected data.

Data needs to be easily accessible both in terms of time and money. If data is made available cheaply or at zero cost and is of value, returning customers will be prepared to pay for updates. If the data is of no value to customers then it should not be produced. The department hopes to foster a new culture where they are seen as facilitators rather than owners of the data. An API has been released which is built using Open Source Software.

What about the Private Sector?
The private sector is seeing increasing use of data and new user patterns. Consumers apply pressure to the public sector to provide better services. There is huge potential for public sector data perhaps by a pay per view/pay per click approach.

Questions/Comments	Answers
John Naustdal – Land Mapping Division, Norway Is it possible to get thematic and environmental data through your API?	Kim Lindskov Knudsen Not directly through the API but it should be possible to get these datasets through the portal.
Professor Bas Kok – GSDI President Is the data used for political/citizen purposes?	Kim Lindskov Knudsen Yes, it was used during the election to present statistics.