

Joint UNECE/Eurostat Work Session on methodological issues involving the integration of Statistics and Geography
(Tallinn 25-28 September 2001).

Topic (i): NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIS APPLICATIONS CREATED THROUGH COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP

Notes for the Discussion

Prepared by Daniel Rase

The documents that are proposed to illustrate this topic demonstrate, by means of concrete examples, the usefulness and the diversity of the possible ways of co-operation:

- ?? international co-operation (Working Parties, seminars, creation of national and global geographical data infrastructures, creation of databases and common metadata services, etc.);
- ?? co-operation between public bodies at the local, regional or national level;
- ?? public/private partnership;
- ?? creation of consortia or multidisciplinary teams to solve methodological problems, specific thematic questions, adopt common standards, etc;
- ?? partnership between the more advanced countries in the field of GI/GIS and the less advanced ones.

This list is not exhaustive. There are many different possible ways and levels of co-operation.

Due to the far-flung subject, it is proposed to the participants to concentrate the discussion on the actions that could be undertaken to improve and strengthen co-operation at all the levels.

The discussion could be based on the two following questions:

- ? ? How can we encourage and promote the adoption of national associations and the creation of compatible geographical information infrastructures?
 - ?? this question is related to the various components of the geographical infrastructures: co-ordination mechanisms, reference data and metadata, the data policy and the political dimension.
- ? ? How can we encourage the creation of consortia or work groups in fields such as: understanding the users requirements, methods and procedures, the creation of applications, research, spatial analysis, the selection of standards, etc.?