SALB:
The European Experience on Administrative Boundaries
- contribution and perspectives from EuroGeographics

Mr. Mick Cory
Secretary General & Executive Director
EuroGeographics
The Benefits

- Provides authoritative geospatial data of administrative boundaries in support of the public good
- Supports reliable global geospatial information (Res/66/288) for measuring and monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (Res/70/1)
- Provides authoritative dataset for Europe which can then support UN operations
- Administrative boundaries are a priority core global fundamental geospatial data theme
EuroGeographics

- Not-for-profit Association
- 63 members from
- 46 European countries
- Responsible for geodetic, cadastral, land registry and mapping activities
Our Purpose & Activities

Defined formally in Articles of Association:

• Ensuring that members stay connected with policy developments at both European and international level;
• Representing members’ interests and promoting their activities;
• Providing a platform for sharing best practice and experience;
• Facilitating access to members’ data and expertise through products and collaborative projects.
European geospatial data from official sources

EuroBoundaryMap (EBM)
Administrative and statistical regions
1 : 100,000

EuroRegionalMap (ERM)
Topography 1 : 250,000

EuroGlobalMap (EGM)
Topographic and Administrative themes
1 : 1,000,000

EuroDEM
Digital Elevation Model
EuroBoundaryMap (EBM)

• Up-to-date geometry, names and codes of all administrative units for 55 countries* from 39 data producers
• Contains a European-wide unique identifier for all administrative units
• Yearly update
• Production managed by BKG, Germany

* According to ISO country code and Kosovo
EuroBoundaryMap: Detail
EuroBoundaryMap: LAU vs. NUTS

National administrative hierarchy of Austria

NUTS classification of Austria

Level 1
→ 1 Republik

Level 2
→ 9 Bundesländer

Level 3
→ 94 Bezirkshauptmannschaften

NUTS 1 Level
→ 3 units (groups of Bundesländer)

NUTS 2 Level
→ 9 units (identical with Bundesländer)

NUTS 3 Level
→ 35 units (groups of Bezirkshauptmannschaften)
EuroGlobalMap

- Topographic open data at 1:1 million scale.
- Generalised by IGN France
- Covers 45 countries and territories comprising 6 themes:
  - Administrative boundaries,
  - names locations,
  - transport networks,
  - settlements,
  - elevation;
  - water network.
- Available free of charge for any use under an open data licence.
EuroBoundaryMap: Statistical Atlas of Eurostat

http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistical-atlas/gis/viewer
Our Experience

- Recognise this is not a straightforward task, embrace the challenges;
- It takes time and organisation to do this;
- Trust & Mandate (as per our Articles);
- Central production - technical and organisational competence;
- Regional coordination;
- Clear annual production plan;
- Annual data producer technical meeting and webinars;
- Importance of capacity building;
- Finally - Continually improve, regularly review.
Thank you

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