

EuroGeoSource: INSPIRE compliant information on energy and mineral resources on your Android phone

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A central problem Europe is facing today is to secure its energy and non-energetic minerals supply. EU authorities currently compile their long-term policies regarding the need for oil, gas and minerals, including estimates of the required import, from national reports contributed by the member countries. The high level of generalization of these reports and the lack of easily accessible, reliable and detailed data that could support decision making do not allow a fast response to crisis situations and significantly reduce the accuracy of the long-term planning of the geo-energy supply of Europe.

In three years (April 2010 – April 2013) the EuroGeoSource project (www.eurogeosource.eu) will develop a multilingual web GIS system that will allow users to identify access, use and reuse aggregated geographical information on geo energy and mineral resources, provided by geological surveys from at least ten countries in Europe.

In April 2012 the EuroGeoSource system is implemented in the cloud, supporting both desk top and Android clients. Furthermore it supports two languages (Dutch and English), serves data from five countries, provides services that calculate summary statistics on the fly, has incorporated tiled maps from other existing services (e.g. OneGeology Europe, Corine 2000, Open Street Map), and views services for 93 additional geological maps from the Southern Permian Basis Atlas.

In EuroGeoSource system can easily be expanded to cover data from other countries and support additional languages. To facilitate this, tools used in the project to map existing data to the EuroGeoSource data model and create web services from this are freely available, together with a detailed cookbook. As such, the EuroGeoSource system can be the first stepping stone for an European Geological Data Infrastructure, ensuring sustainability and creating opportunities for the ambitions in the Europe 2020 strategy.