INSPIRE Directive
Back in the beginning of the milennium

Policy Needs

Better information needed to support policies

But … EU has islands of information & data of different standards and quality…

Pan-European issues

- **Data policy restrictions** (pricing, copyright, access rights, licensing policy)

- **Lack of co-ordination** across borders and between levels of government

- **Lack of standards** (incompatible information and information systems)

- **Existing data not re-usable** (fragmentation of information, redundancy, inability to integrate)

Policy Response

- **14 March 2007 -** DIRECTIVE 2007/2/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing an Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (INSPIRE)

- **15 May 2007 - Entry into Force**

- **15 May 2009 - Transposed in National Law**

The INSPIRE Directive

Objective: create a European Union spatial data infrastructure to enable the sharing of environmental spatial information among public sector organisations, facilitate public access to spatial information across Europe and assist in policy-making across boundaries.

Rules

- Builds on existing Spatial Data Infrastructures

- Spatial data held by/on behalf of public authorities

- Does not require collection of new data

- Framework Directive with detailed implementing provisions in Implementing Rules

Implementation

- Defines 34 spatial data themes that are in scope

- Requires Member States to

  - transpose the Directive
  - set up a national coordination structure
  - identify relevant spatial data
  - document identified data
  - publish data and metadata for download, view and reuse
  - make data interoperable

Monitoring & Reporting

- Monitoring data is harvested from 35 online catalogs in the Member States and indicators are automatically calculated on a yearly basis.

- Reporting consist of yearly updating an online country fiche.

Deadlines have passed – data should at least be available as-is

Metadata

03/12/2010: Metadata available for spatial data sets and services corresponding to Annex I and II

03/12/2013: Metadata available for spatial data sets and services corresponding to Annex III

Netwerk services

09/11/2011: Discovery and view services operational

28/12/2012: Download services operational

Interoperability

23/11/2017 Implementation of Commission Regulation (EU) No 1089/2010 of 23 November 2010 implementing Directive 2007/2/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards interoperability of spatial data sets and services for Annex I spatial data sets

21/10/2020: Other Annex II and III spatial data sets available in accordance with IRs for Annex II and III

INSPIRE Monitoring 2019 - transition year

- Defined by the new Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/1372 of 19 August 2019*

    - Guidance document for calculation of 19 indicators (new indicators: PDS, Spatial scope, Downloadable, Viewable data sets from EU Geoportal) was prepared (7/2019).

    - The process of MS metadata collection and indicator calculation integrated with the process of publication of MS metadata to EU Geoportal.

    - The first use of Reference Validator for a bulk automated validation of MS Metadata for data sets and services (*MDi 1.1 & MDi 1.2*).

    - The whole activity executed and coordinated by JRC with big support of MS experts (i.e. MIWP 2018.1 sub group on Monitoring & Reporting, MIG-T, National MD catalogue administrators.)

* https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32019D1372&from=EN
** Guidance document for the calculation of indicators (DOC 6)

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# INSPIRE Monitoring 2019 – selected stats

- 35 MD Catalogues harvested (32 National / 3 Regional)
  - 159 316 Metadata of data sets records
  - 3 203 Metadata of data set series records
  - 98 541 Metadata of spatial data of services

- 260 000+ metadata records validated by Reference Validator

https://inspire-geoportal.ec.europa.eu/mr2019.html

INSPIRE MS Data sets availability
Spatial scope (DSi 1.4; DSi1.5)

Total: 159 003 MD of data sets, series (DSi 1.1)

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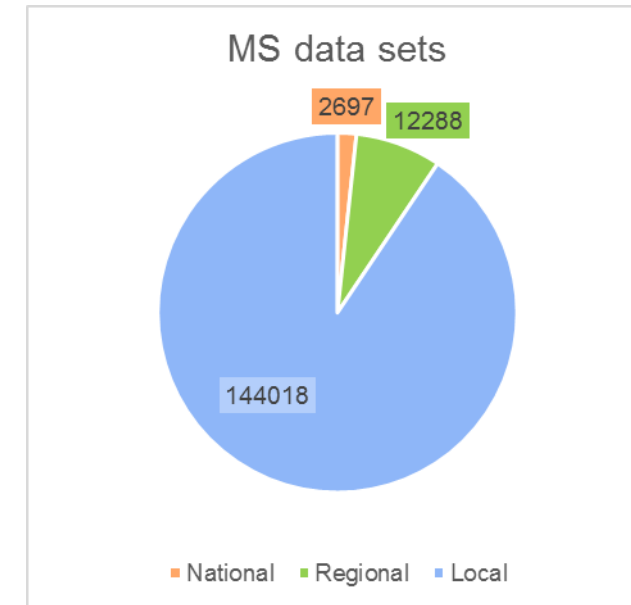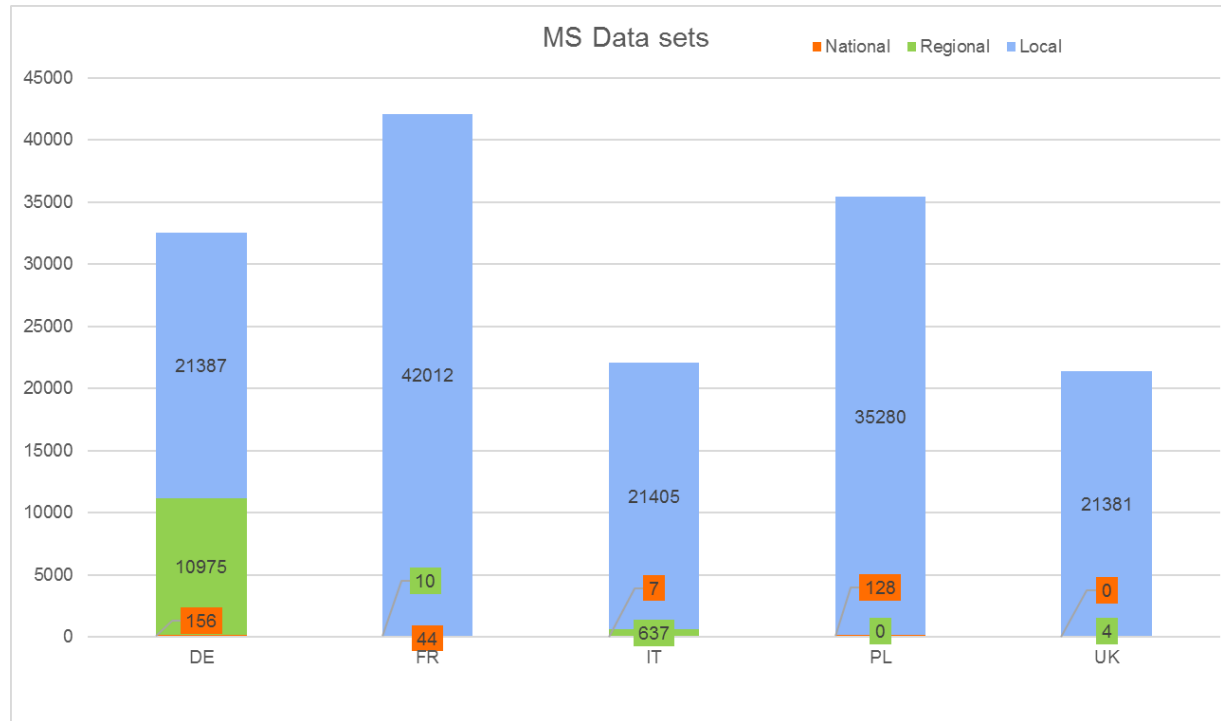https://inspire-geoportal.ec.europa.eu/mr2019.html
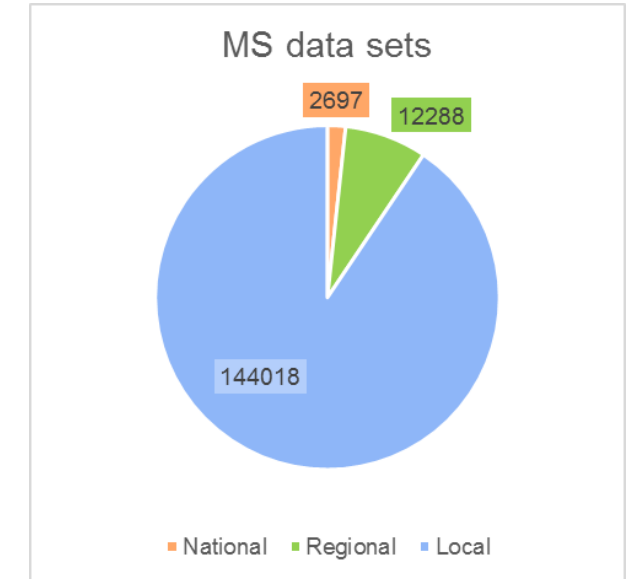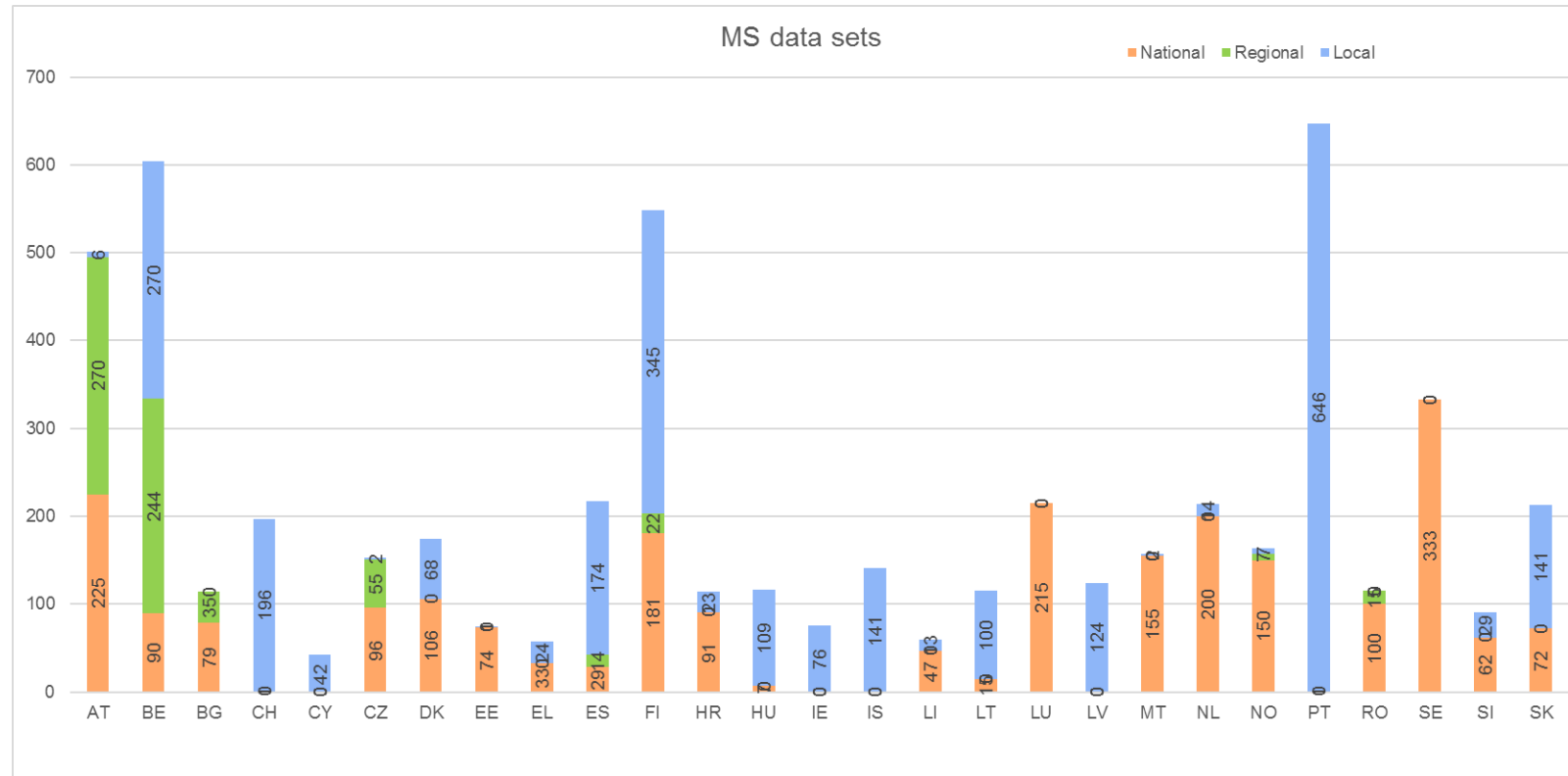
INSPIRE Overall MS Resource conformity (MDi1.1-1.2; DSi 2.0; NSi 4.0)

Total: 257 524 MD of data sets, series, services (MDi 1.1 & 1.2)

https://inspire-geoportal.ec.europa.eu/mr2019.html
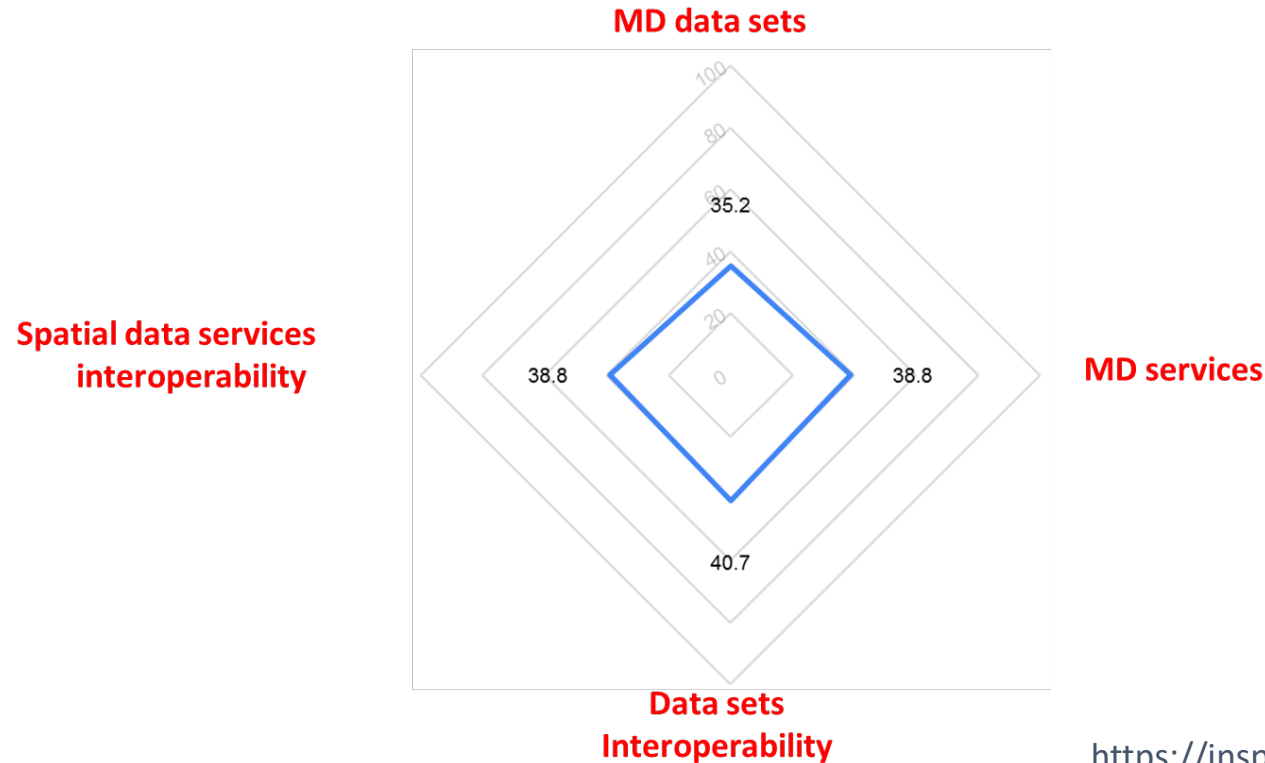
INSPIRE MS Data sets accessibility (NSi 2.0-2.2)

Total: 55 042 MS data sets accessible
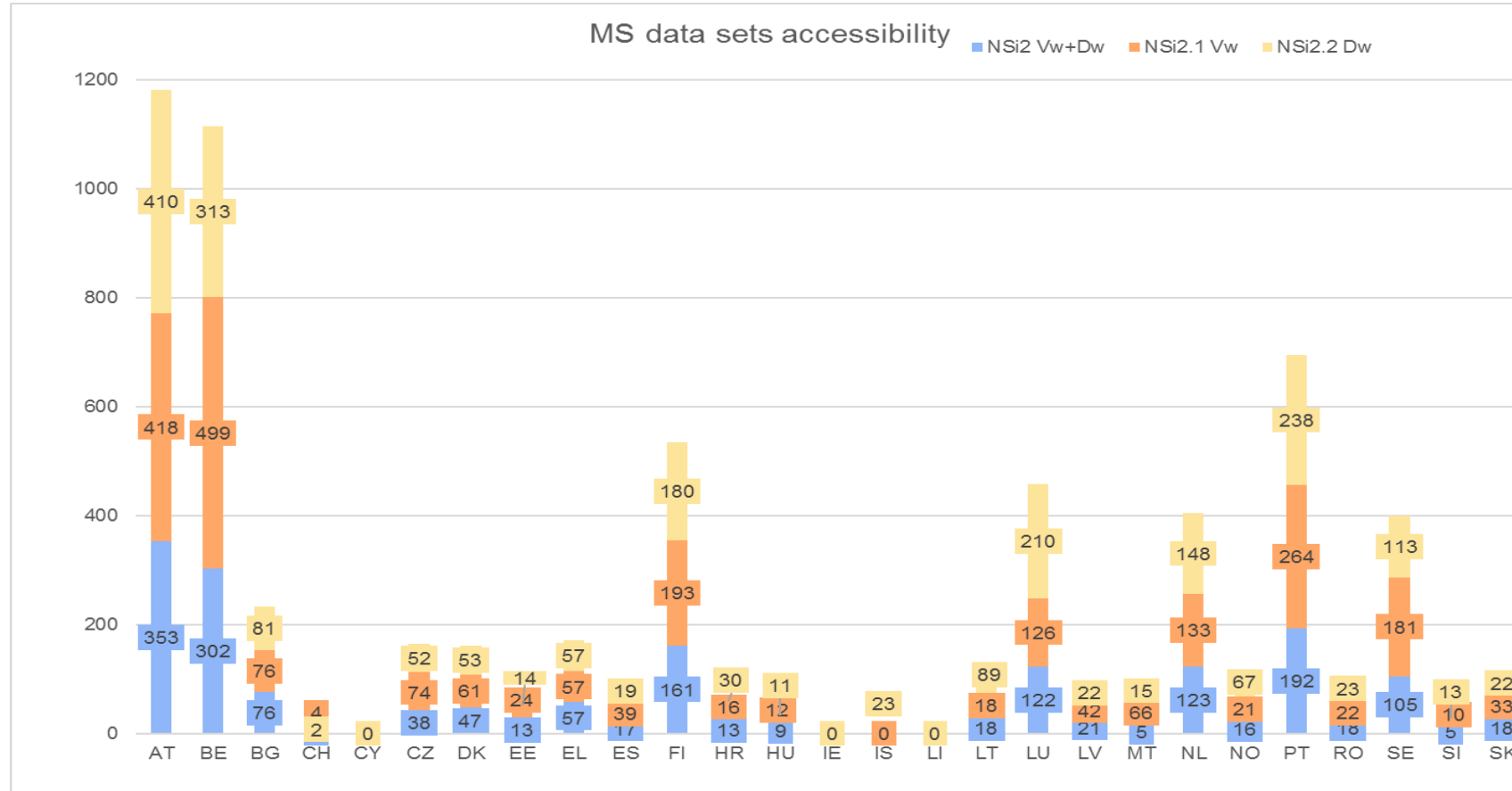
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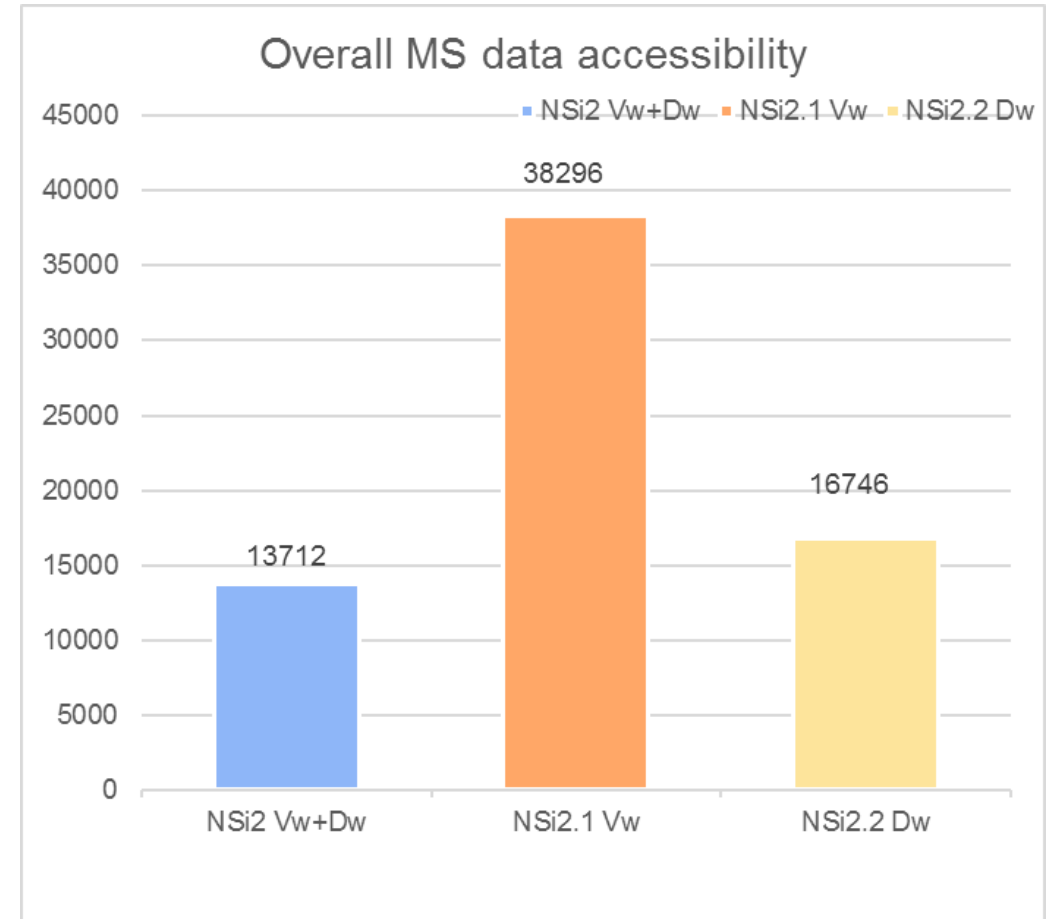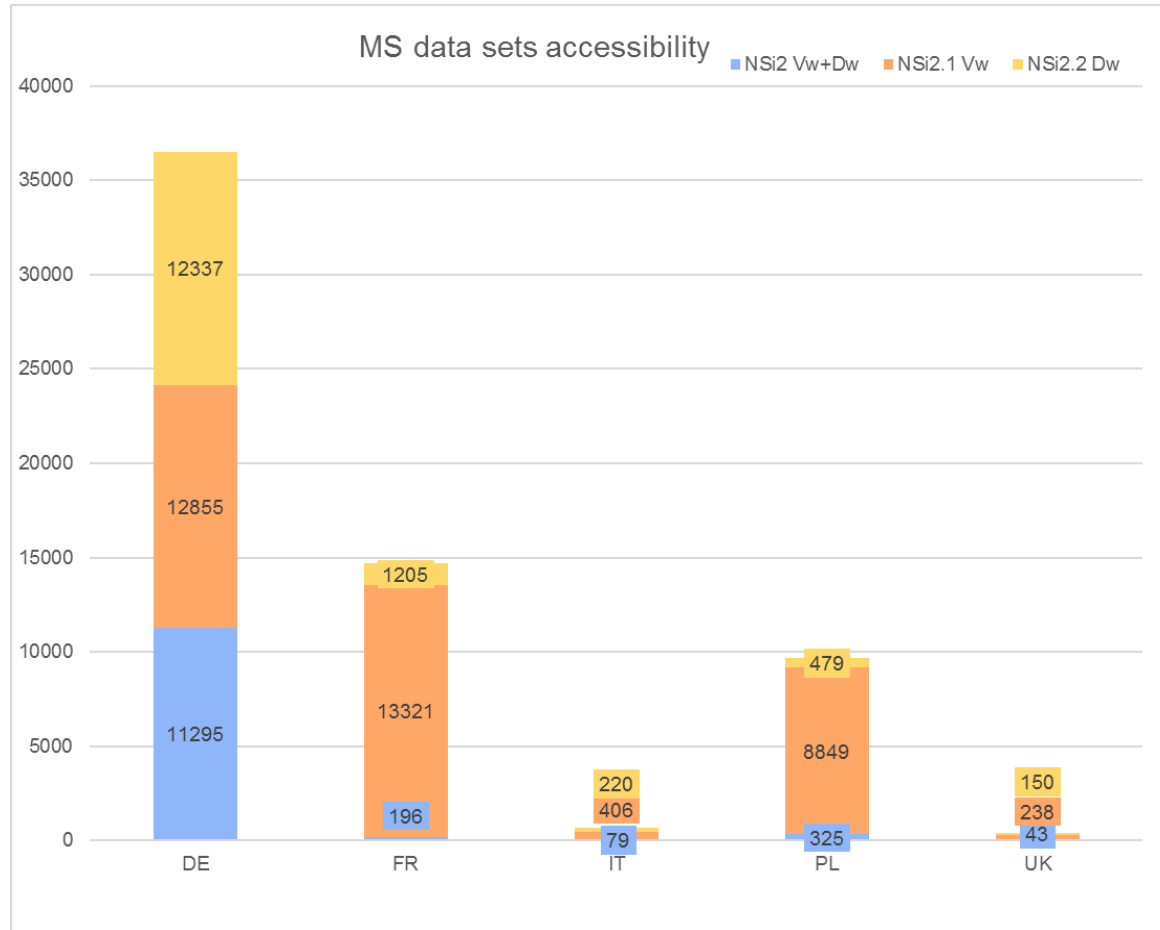
INSPIRE Monitoring 2019 Lessons learnt

- The level of MS MD conformity is low (cc. 35%) & still in TG 1.3. (95+%)

- The level of MS data accessibility (download, view) is still low (cc. 30%).

- The gap between the nr. of existing spatial data services (cc. 100 000) and data accessibility is still big.

- The high MS demand for detail ICT support is not / can hardly be satisfied by JRC INSPIRE Support team.

INSPIRE Monitoring 2019 Lessons learnt

- Very good feedback and overall positive interactions with MS experts led to better mutual understanding of the MS & as JRC Geoportal MD systems.

- Substantial improvements of INSPIRE Reference Validator as well as further simplification of Geoportal back-end.

- The introduction of the new indicators (i.e. keywords for spatial scope, PDs) led to increased data usability potential + provides a better overview of EU SDI data availability/accessibility.

- The reliable base line for the EU Spatial data infrastructure has been jointly set up (good reference for monitoring progress towards agreed INSPIRE landing zones, INSPIRE evaluation, …).

- The IT systems improvements, gained knowledge on both sides, represent a good perspective for smoother and even more integrated INSPIRE Monitoring 2020 exercise.

Looking forward

The evaluation of the INSPIRE Directive & the links with the GreenData4All initiative and the broader green/digital agenda

General introduction to the evaluation

- Mandatory evaluation of the Directive by 1 January 2022

- The 2016 REFIT will feed into the evidence base for the evaluation.

- A Public consultation is planned for December 2020, targeted consultations for Dec – Jan 2020. The Commission will publish the results of the evaluation in the form of a Staff Working Document (SWD) in Q4 2021.

- **Geographical scope**: all EU Member States and the EEA/EFTA countries.

- **Temporal scope**: 2014-2020.

- Better Regulation **evaluation criteria**: effectiveness, efficiency, coherence, relevance and EU added-value.

- The findings of the evaluation may lead to further EU action, such as revised legislation subject to the results of a possible impact assessment.

INSPIRE REFIT 2016 Findings

- INSPIRE Directive is still fit for purpose
- The overall relevance of the Directive remains high, and is expected to increase given the drive towards a digital economy.

Recommendations for Member States

- Improve INSPIRE coordination
- Close specific implementation gaps
- Publish data relevant to environmental law conform to INSPIRE
- Further remove inefficiencies in data policies
- Align the national INSPIRE implementation with the drive towards an EU Digital Single Market

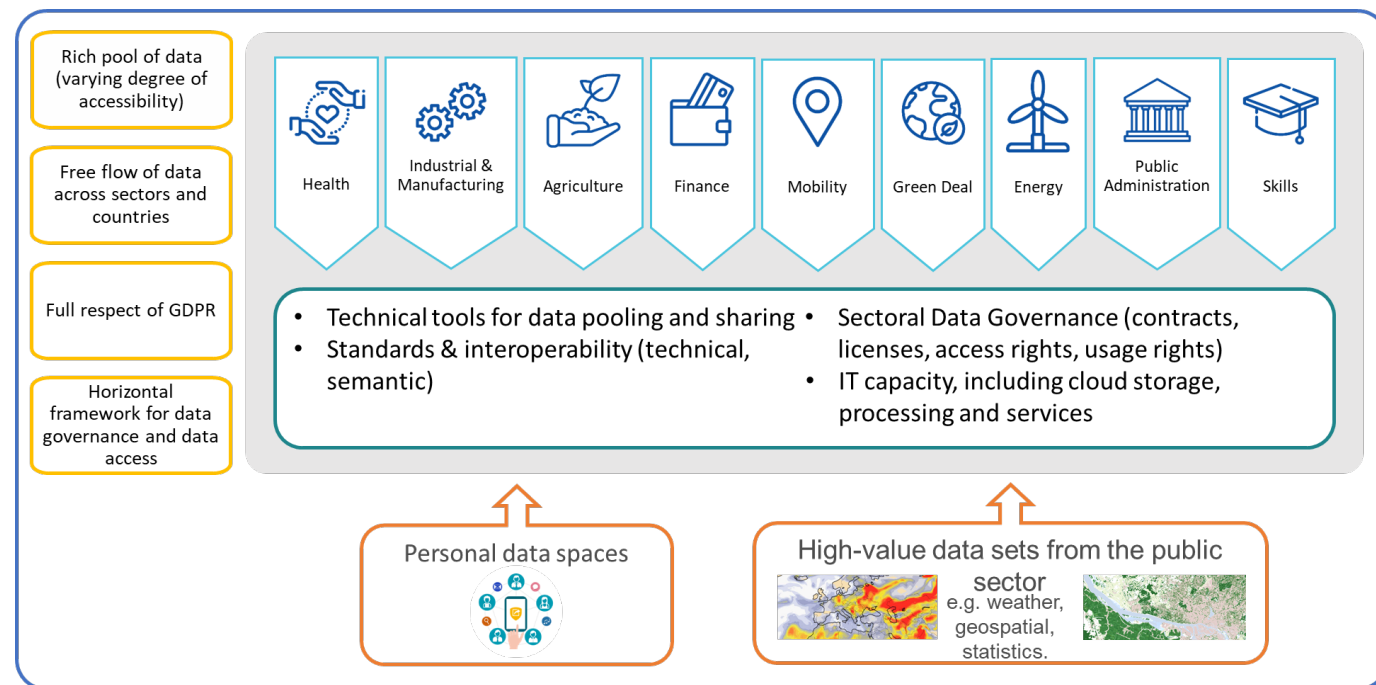**Recommendations for the European Commission**

- Reflect on possible revisions of the legislation
- Priority setting
- Develop EU-level end-user applications
- Adapt INSPIRE to better regulation principles
- Address the lack of resources by exploring funding programmes opportunities to help capacity building

INSPIRE as digital enabling instrument

- The European Data Strategy announces a 'GreenData4All' initiative to
  - Evaluate the INSPIRE Directive and look at the coherence with the public access to environmental information Directive 2003/4/EC,
  - modernize both Directives to align them with the contemporary state of technology,
  - promote active dissemination and sharing of government- and private-held public data in support of the environmental acquis, the Green Deal objectives and the development of European common Green Deal data space.
- Opportunities to strengthen the coherence and synergies with the recently revised European legislation on Open Data
  - specifically on aligning provisions on data sharing and re-use

Interoperability between data spaces is key

The European Green Deal

Rich pool of data (varying degree of accessibility)

Free flow of data across sectors and countries

Full respect of GDPR

Horizontal framework for data governance and data access

Health | Industrial & Manufacturing | Agriculture | Finance | Mobility | Green Deal | Energy | Public Administration | Skills

- Technical tools for data pooling and sharing
- Standards & interoperability (technical, semantic)
- Sectoral Data Governance (contracts, licenses, access rights, usage rights)
- IT capacity, including cloud storage, processing and services

Personal data spaces

High-value data sets from the public sector e.g. weather, geospatial, statistics.

A NEW INSPIRE MIWP 2020-2024

"Towards a Common European Green Deal data space for environment and sustainability"

- Favourable political and technological context for the evolution and sustainability of INSPIRE within the Green Deal Data space and beyond

- Under discussion in the INSPIRE MIG

- 3 areas of work

- 6 core actions

3 areas of work

1. **A digital ecosystem for the environment and sustainability** (objective 1)

2. **Towards a common implementation landing zone** (objectives 2-4)

3. **GreenData4All** (objective 5)

- All areas of work will start in parallel
- Preparatory activities already ongoing for aligning the work

6 core actions

1.1 Towards a digital ecosystem for the environment and sustainability

2.1 Need-driven data prioritisation

2.2 Roadmap for priority-driven implementation

2.3 Simplification of INSPIRE implementation

2.4 Central infrastructure components

3.1 GreenData4all initiative