

EuroSDR Strategy

Purpose

EuroSDR is a non-profit organisation that provides a pan-European network that brings together mapping / cadastre agencies and academia for the purpose of applied research, and securing timely, research-based knowledge that allows the agencies to play their role as content providers and government competence centres for geographic information and spatial data infrastructures.

Vision

EuroSDR is the recognised provider of research-based knowledge to a Europe where citizens can readily benefit from geographic information.

Mission

To develop and improve methods, systems and standards for the acquisition, processing, production, maintenance, management, visualization, and dissemination of geographic reference data in support of applications and service delivery.

Strategic objectives

Strengthen the network of mapping and cadastre agencies, and academia

EuroSDR will provide an effective network for knowledge exchange between the member countries. We will expand the number of member countries, and will reach out to more agencies, universities and research institutes in the domain of geographic information in the member countries.

Advance research-based knowledge

EuroSDR will be a leading force in spatial data research in new technologies and processes, will contribute to standardisation activities, and will recognize policy and legal issues relevant for deriving benefit from its research. EuroSDR will also provide educational activities ensuring the dissemination of the research-based knowledge gained.

Support the activities of young professionals with a view to building spatial data research capacity

EuroSDR will encourage young professionals – both male and female – to become part of the geographic information professional community and to engage in spatial data research.

Encourage the involvement of industry in spatial data research

EuroSDR will engage with industry by sharing views on development directions, identifying research topics and cooperating in specific research projects.

Facilitate funding of spatial data research projects

EuroSDR will promote spatial data research as an important component in the European research agendas, will encourage and contribute to co-funding of projects and will partner in research project consortiums. EuroSDR will be the initiator and coordinator of collaborative research projects funded by its members.

Increase the visibility of EuroSDR

EuroSDR will have a solid alliance with its member organisations and will have strong communication with the professional community

Operation

EuroSDR aims to prioritize activities that generate research-based knowledge that give maximum cost benefit to its stakeholders.

EuroSDR considers cooperation between mapping / cadastre agencies and academia as well as related geo-associations and industry as important elements in its operation.

The strategic objectives will be achieved through the following means:

Delegates meetings

Delegates meetings gather R&D leaders from the member organisations and are held twice per year.

Research plan, projects and results as well as other relevant scientific, technical and administrative matters are discussed and necessary decisions are made.

Workshops

Workshops are dialogue-based events where real world problems, industry achievements and developments are discussed amongst experts and researchers. Workshops may result in identification of research topics and may also be used for planning and dissemination of information on research activities. These workshops are documented and information is available for members.

Research projects

A rolling research plan is maintained to define the framework within which EuroSDR research is performed. The research activities are carried out through projects. The projects can be executed by EuroSDR alone or in collaboration with other organisations and companies.

Publishing

The EuroSDR web-page is the prime vehicle for information dissemination from EuroSDR. Reports including results from research projects and workshops, annual reports and newsletters containing information about activities of EuroSDR are in addition published by other media.

Educational activities

Specific E-learning courses are offered to facilitate the transfer of outcomes from EuroSDR's research activities. The educational activities will complement the research and workshop reports and address the issue of capacity building and competence development amongst stakeholders.

Governance

The Board of Delegates consists of representatives of the EuroSDR member countries and is the supreme decision-making body of EuroSDR. It meets twice per year and handles scientific matters as well as other matters supporting the EuroSDR vision and mission.

The Board of Delegates elects the Executive Team, which consists of the President, the Vice-President and Commission Chairpersons. The President chairs the Executive Team, the Vice-President advises and coordinates the EuroSDR research agenda and the activities of the Commissions, and the Commission Chairpersons advise and coordinate the EuroSDR scientific activities.

The Board of Delegates and the Executive Team are supported by a Secretary-General, who is responsible for daily administrative and financial matters, day-to-day organisational and business development, and information dissemination from EuroSDR.