

Geospatial data infrastructure

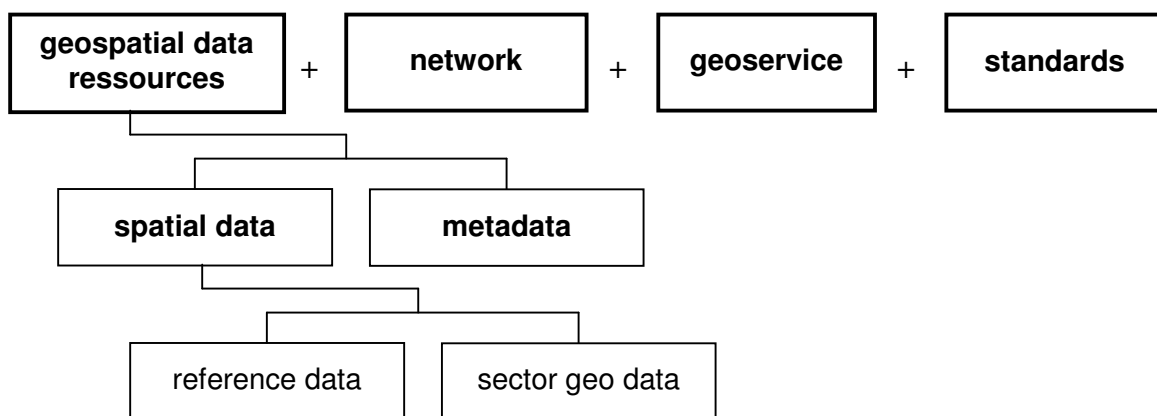
The purpose of a geospatial data infrastructure is to share location-based digital geo data that are existent in many areas of public administration and the economy via internet services. Due to the rapid the changes of the growing the information society the Free State of Saxony meets the demands of a rising demand for geo information through effective measures and the establishment of high-capacity structures. To create a sustainable concept for the future a wide circle of stakeholders from public administration, economy and science participates in the **gdi.initiative.saxony** to evolve a common geospatial data infrastructure for the Free State of Saxony.

About gdi

Networks that connect producers, providers and users of geo data and allow interlinking and sharing of decentralized existing spatial data, are called geospatial data infrastructure (GDI). A geospatial data infrastructure does not only contain the technical communication regulations for data models and interfaces between developers, providers and users. In fact it contains the entirety of political, technical and organisational measures, to provide geo data and to access and exchange them.

A spatial data service is an application, which enables the usage of geo information in different areas of application web-based interfaces. A spatial data service can be used by users and/or other services.

geospatial data infrastructure

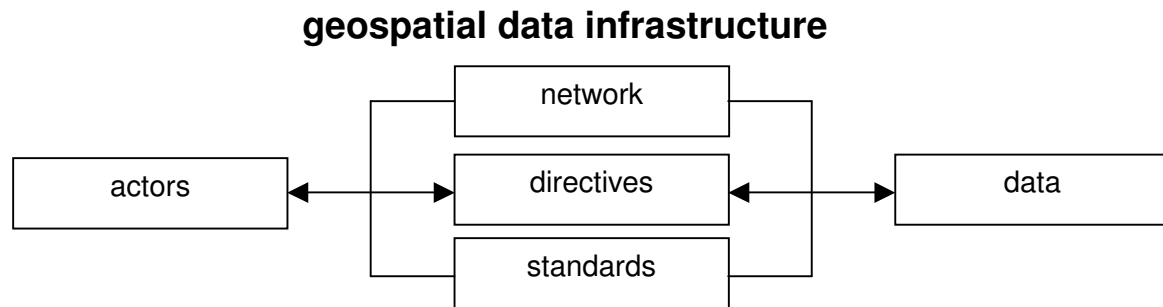


The geo data resources are the total stock of geo data which are available within a geospatial data infrastructure. Geo data resources are:

- **Reference Data (INSPIRE)** (*Geospatial Information*) including landscape, buildings and property cadastre with a common spatial frame of reference
- **Sector Geodata (INSPIRE)** (*Geospatial Data*) describing defined factual issues with a common spatial frame of reference
- The spatial data sets describing the **metadata**

The technical system for connectionless transport of data is called network, generally speaking the world wide web. **Standards** are essential, to ensure the data exchange and interoperability between large varieties of providers. The international standards help to control the contents of data storage, data selection, linking functionality and data transfer. Standards are generally accepted rules for the operation of a gdi.

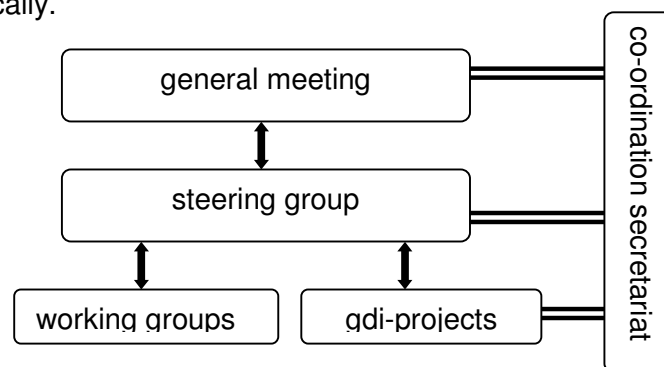
With a different approach L. Bernard defines a GDI with the constituent parts actor, data, network (here from a technical point of view), directives and standards.



Organisation

In the ***gdi.initiative.saxony*** all institutions are united as members, which declare their accession. The institutions are represented by one appointed person with voting power. Furthermore nonvoting persons can be named which co-operate in the ***gdi.initiative.saxony***. All persons that were appointed by the institutions are kept in the index of members.

Significant characteristic of the ***gdi.initiative.saxony*** is the self-organisation of the members. The ***gdi.initiative.saxony*** consists of a general meeting, the steering group, the co-ordination secretariat, working groups and gdi-projects. The figure shows the organisational structure schematically.



Co-ordination secretariat

Besides the task of day-to-day business the co-ordination secretariat is responsible for public relations, scientific consultancy and the co-operation with the GDI-DE (the gdi initiative on the national level).

The co-ordination secretariat is acting as a contact point and manages the index of members, receives information and forwards the information adequately. The secretariat supports the organisation of events, prepares the reports for the GDI-DE and takes over co-ordination and documentation of voting procedures of the ***gdi.initiative.saxony***.

The scientific consultancy by the co-ordination secretariat shall particularly give the necessary support to the steering group and the members of the ***gdi.initiative.saxony***. Furthermore it should identify and support the usage of different funding possibilities of the Free State of Saxony, Germany and the EU and patronise gdi-projects.

Within the task of public relations the co-ordination secretariat represents the ***gdi.initiative.saxony***, participates in events and exhibitions and is responsible for the website of the initiative.

At meetings with the GDI-DE (the initiative on the federal level) the co-ordination secretariat acts as representative of the Free State of Saxony

Steering Group

The steering group of the ***gdi.initiative.saxony*** acts as organ and leader of the geospatial data infrastructure of the Free State of Saxony. The composition shall represent the branches of state administration, local self-administration, science and economy. The steering group makes the operational decisions in the ***gdi.initiative.saxony***, in particular:

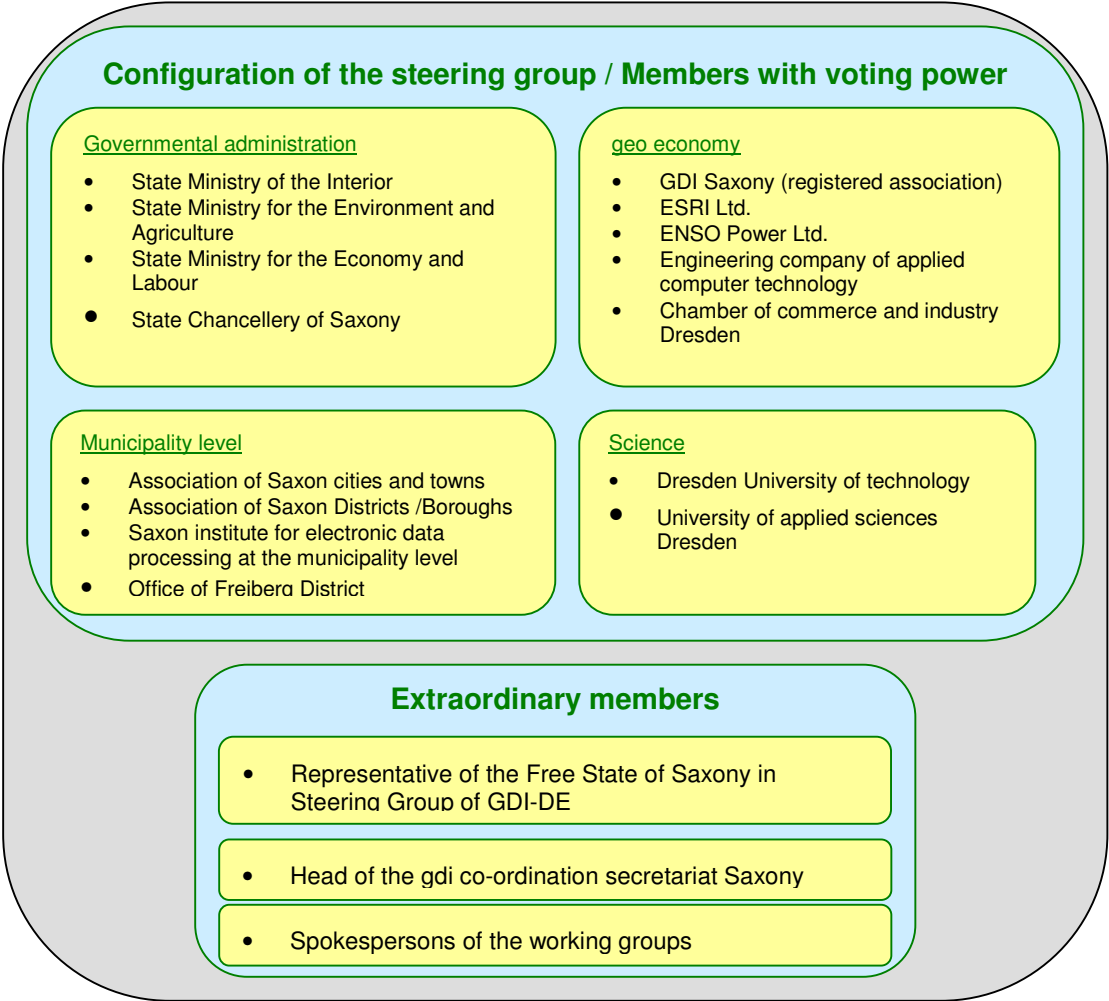
- the constitution of working groups and the implementation of gdi-projects
- the initiation of review processes and
- elaboration and discussion of documents

The steering group has to report accurately to the annual general meeting. The steering group has to compile the action plan and update it regularly. The steering group is obliged to meet quarterly.

The meetings are attended – beside the members – by

- the representative of the Free State of Saxony in the steering group of the GDI-DE
- the head of the co-ordination secretariat of the ***gdi.initiative.saxony*** and
- the spokespersons of the working groups

In addition other persons can be invited if required. Among the steering group a spokesperson is appointed.



Composition of the steering group

Working Groups

The working groups of the ***gdi.initiative.saxony*** are organising themselves independently, to deal with special issues for the installation of the Saxon geospatial data infrastructure (e. g. meta data). They develop possible solutions within the framework of the ***gdi.initiative.saxony***.

For the initiation of a working group the issue and the objective have to be presented in a short abstract to the steering group. If the issue of the working group is relevant for the installation of the geospatial data infrastructure in the Free State of Saxony, the working group is going to be established and the members are going to be informed at the annual meeting.

The developed solutions are brought in the ***gdi.initiative.saxony*** as follows:

1. Present the draft to the Steering group
2. Review of the solutions within the meeting of members
3. Confirmation of the solution by ballot in the meeting of members

Additional tasks of the working groups are the verification and consolidation of confirmed solutions.

The working group is represented by a spokesperson.

GDI-projects

GDI-projects provide the basis for the systematic development of components of the Saxon geospatial data infrastructure and the evaluation of solutions in practical experience.

An issue for a gdi-project is presented to the steering group in a short abstract with objective, content and duration. If the issue of the project is relevant for the installation of the geospatial data infrastructure in the Free State of Saxony, the gdi-project is embedded conceptually in the ***gdi.initiative.saxony*** and the members are going to be informed at the annual meeting.