

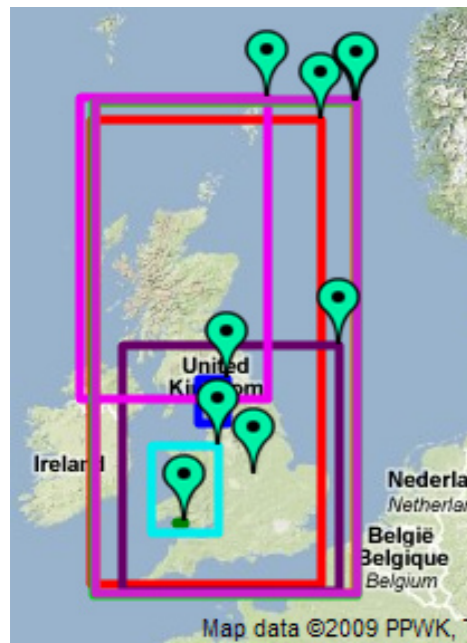
### What is ShareGeo?

ShareGeo is a geospatial data sharing facility within the EDINA Digimap service, freely accessible to registered Digimap users. The data offered by ShareGeo includes geospatial data derived from datasets already licensed through Digimap, as well as open-access data collected or generated by individuals and submitted for others to re-use.

There is no restriction on the geographical extent or coverage of a dataset; it can be for a very small area or be a global dataset and it can be for anywhere in the world.

#### What can I do with ShareGeo?

**1) Find geospatial datasets** – users can search for user-contributed, research generated and derived datasets using a variety of search mechanisms including keywords, titles, contributors, browsing or by using a map search interface.



Screenshot of map search showing 'found' dataset outlines

**2) Re-use geospatial datasets** – users can download datasets for research and teaching in the original format that they were deposited in (including TIFF, Shapefile, KML and CSV). Downloaded data can be used in a variety of GIS applications and manipulated, visualised, combined and made into maps. (See Table on this page.)

**3) Share geospatial datasets** – users can contribute their own datasets to ShareGeo. A simple to use step-by-step process guides users through the process of contributing geospatial datasets.

#### What Metadata do I need?

The metadata required to contribute a dataset to ShareGeo is limited to basic information about the dataset, including some spatial elements which are automatically populated when the dataset is uploaded. More extensive metadata can be created in the Go-Geo! metadata creator tool, Geodoc, and included with the submitted dataset package.

#### How do I access ShareGeo?

Access to ShareGeo is from the on the EDINA home page <http://edina.ac.uk> or from the link on the Go-Geo! homepage <http://www.gogeo.ac.uk>

A range of documentation and help is available on the external ShareGeo website at: <http://edina.ac.uk/projects/sharegeo>

If you would like any more help or information please contact the EDINA Helpdesk at [edina@ed.ac.uk](mailto:edina@ed.ac.uk)

Dataset Type	Example datasets
Reference datasets	National grid squares at various resolutions, GB postcode area boundaries, national boundaries, effective Westminster constituencies etc.
Historical datasets	Digitised raster and vector datasets from historical sources, including London in the 19th century.
Freely available data converted into more easily accessible formats	DCW (Digital Chart of the World) data originally in .e00 format converted to Shapefiles for the UK.
Derived boundary datasets	Health region boundaries, government office boundaries, national park boundaries etc.
User collected data	GPS track logs collected using satellite navigation systems.
Geo processed aerial or satellite images	CORONA and Landsat satellite images.
Field survey data	Archaeological project datasets.
Background maps	Small scale background maps from Ordnance Survey e.g. 1:1M OS MiniScale and 1:250,000 colour raster.
Selections from existing OS, geology or marine datasets	Transportation network for Scotland selected from OS Strategi dataset.

Table of example datasets currently in ShareGeo

#### About EDINA

EDINA, based at Edinburgh University Data Library, is a JISC-funded national datacentre. It offers a library of data, information and research resources. All EDINA services are free of charge at point of use. For information on institutional subscription fees, visit the EDINA web site, or contact us (details below).

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It has been a while since the last Go-Geo! newsletter and there have been a number of significant improvements to the service since then. There has also been a lot going on in the world of metadata. In this issue we will highlight what's new on Go-Geo! and discuss how the EU INSPIRE Directive, and the UK Governments GEMINI 2, will impact on the UK academic community.

### What's new on Go-Geo!

The most obvious change is to the Go-Geo! home page itself. We have moved things around to make better use of the space, and responding to user feedback, news and events are more visible on the home page.



Figure 1 - New look Go-Geo! home page

#### News ticker and shout image

Important current news items now scroll across the top of the homepage; clicking them will take you to the news item.

Adjacent to the ticker we have inserted what we are calling our "shout image". This allows us to draw visitors attention to important content on Go-Geo! or an external website.

#### RSS

Another feature users requested was an RSS feed. We have implemented one which also includes positional information where appropriate. The RSS feed picks up news items at present, and may be extended to other categories. You can subscribe to this feed by clicking the RSS logo at the top of the Web Resources section.

#### Mobile and Schools

Staying with Web Resources, we have added Mobile and Schools to the category listing. The mobile GIS sector saw significant growth in 2009 and location based services are likely to be big in 2010. The new schools section should support the increased use of GIS in schools, focusing on material specifically designed for primary and secondary education.

The final change to the front page is that we have shifted some of the metadata search boxes around. All metadata search tools are now located to the left of the map keeping things neat and tidy.

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#### Searching Go-Geo!

We continue to add resources to Go-Geo! and it is by far the largest index of GIS resources in the UK. However, there is a danger that users might not find what they are looking for straight away. With this in mind we have improved our search function. The indexing has been improved and searches now return results by category. If you are searching for books on "Hydrology and GIS" the search results page will allow you to see how many books mention "Hydrology". This should help you drill down through our resources to find what you want efficiently.

Metadata searches have also been improved to ensure that the most appropriate results are returned each time. This is a difficult thing to do as metadata searches combine a What and a Where term. We think we have the balance just about right but welcome feedback from users about search results.

#### Noteworthy new content

All Go-Geo! content is interesting and useful, but we feel it is worth highlighting a couple of new resources:

##### 1. GeoPods

A series of instructional videos have been made by The University of Leicester which demonstrate how to use field apparatus and take accurate measurements. These were produced for the SPLINT project but we have agreed to host them and hope other users will submit new Geopods to the collection.

##### 2. eLearning

We have also been improving our Resources for Geospatial Metadata section. We have added a new eLearning module that provides a gentle introduction to creating metadata. We hope to produce more modules that concentrate on the trickier aspects of metadata if this one proves to be useful.

# Release of Geodoc: the INSPIRE and UK GEMINI 2 compliant metadata editor tool



New Geodoc home page

A new version of Geodoc is scheduled for release in early May of 2010. Geodoc users will find the same template form, but with new enhancements which will allow for the creation of INSPIRE and UK GEMINI 2 compliant metadata records using the new UK Academic Geospatial Metadata Application Profile, Version 2 (UK AGMAP 2). This updated Profile supports the documentation of UK and international spatial datasets, dataset series and spatial data services for the creation of discovery and descriptive level metadata which can be published on the Go-Geo! portal or other INSPIRE or UK GEMINI 2 geo-portals. UK AGMAP 2 and Geodoc meet the INSPIRE Directive [2007/2/EC] requirements which mandates metadata creation across the EU Member States. The INSPIRE Regulations 2009 No 3157 came into force on 31 December 2009 and applies to England, Northern Ireland and Wales. Scotland's Parliament has enacted a complementary regulation which came into force on the same date. This issue of the Go-Geo! Newsletter has an article (INSPIRE Act of 2009 comes into force in the UK) which addresses this new regulation in more detail.

Geodoc provides new functionality to facilitate the onerous task of creating, validating editing, exporting and publishing metadata records.

Geodoc offers users direct access to the General Multilingual Environmental Thesaurus GEMET list for entering mandatory keywords which describe the data resource or service.

Geodoc also delivers a map interface tool for capturing and entering the Minimum Bounding Rectangle (MBR) co-ordinates which define the extent of a

data resource. The Geodoc user zooms and pans the map interface to the extent and North, South, East and West fields are updated with values associated with the map view. A click of the Submit button and the values are transferred to the respective fields on the Geodoc form.

The new version of Geodoc offers additional MBR automation for users. Data resources and services with MBRs

corresponding to the UK, Great Britain or individual nations can have those values entered with a click of the mouse.

Geodoc continues to offer contact detail automation using 'MyGo-Geo!', a customisation interface for users to bookmark Go-Geo! resources, list metadata records and private nodes (metadata catalogues), number of return results for metadata searches and Go-Geo! Metadata Newsletter subscription. In addition, there is a contact details form. Once entered, these contact details can be transferred to corresponding element fields in each new metadata record.

This feature, the automated MBR functionality and direct access to the GEMET thesaurus reduce the time dedicated to the creation of each metadata record, and other automation mechanisms will be investigated in the future to ensure the functionality is in place to simplify and hasten the process of metadata creation.

## Other Geodoc features

### Validation

Geodoc also offers users automated validation once a metadata record has been created. Unsuccessful validation of a record will alert the Geodoc user to incomplete mandatory fields or insufficient number of characters entered for data resource title or abstract. The Title element imposes a 10 character requirement; the Abstract element requires 100 characters to describe a data resource or geo service.

### Metadata record export

Geodoc supports the export of metadata records into multiple formats including the following:

UK AGMAP 2	XML and PDF outputs
ISO 19115	XML
INSPIRE	XML
UK GEMINI 2	XML
FGDC	XML
Data Documentation Initiative (DDI)	XML
Dublin Core	XML

These XML/PDF files can be downloaded and stored locally for data management purposes or bundled with shared spatial datasets.

### Metadata publication

Geodoc allows users at the click of the Publish Record button to submit their validated metadata records for publication on the Go-Geo! portal.

A window will open notifying the Geodoc user that the record has been successfully submitted for publication.

Next, the geospatial metadata co-ordinator at EDINA will contact the metadata creator to confirm that the record has been received and then will be reviewed for quality and compliance. The metadata record submitter will be contacted again if the record requires editing, or has been published on the Go-Geo! portal.

Geodoc users also have the option of publishing their metadata records on private, institutional nodes. These records are made available via the Go-Geo! portal to only those affiliated with the academic institution. This requires users to access their node through the Athens/Shibboleth authentication login service. A successful login will reveal the institution's node on the Go-Geo! portal's Advanced Search page. It can be found on the Go-Geo! network list.

The Geodoc metadata editor tool gives users the opportunity to create INSPIRE and UK GEMINI 2 metadata records for publication on the Go-Geo! portal. Geodoc offers users the functionality to produce a discovery level metadata record within 10 to 15 minutes. Another click of the button and your metadata record can be submitted for review and publication on the Go-Geo! portal or with your private institutional node.

A request for an institutional private node can be submitted to the Go-Geo! service team. It's as simple as that, and can be done with an email or phone call to the EDINA help desk.

# Metadata in the News

## INSPIRE Act of 2009 comes into force in the UK

The INSPIRE Regulations 2009 No 3157 came into force on 31 December 2009 and applies to England, Northern Ireland and Wales. Scotland's Parliament has enacted a complementary regulation which came into force on the same date. The law is in response to the INSPIRE Directive [2007/2/EC] which aims to create a European Union (EU) spatial data infrastructure. This will enable the sharing of environmental spatial information among public sector organisations and improve public access to spatial information across Europe. The INSPIRE Regulations 2009 No 3157 applies to those in the public sector which must comply with the Freedom of Information Act 2000; this includes UK academia.

These INSPIRE Regulations cover existing spatial datasets, dataset series and spatial data services. The Regulations do not require spatial data owners to create new datasets, but new datasets that are within scope of these Regulations must comply.

### Metadata

Separate INSPIRE metadata regulations have also come into force and are more applicable to UK academia. Metadata must

be created before for INSPIRE's Annex I, II and III spatial data themes (see table below). Deadlines have been set for the end of 2010 for Annex I and Annex II themes; December 2013 for Annex III. Most of the spatial datasets within UK academia fall under the Annex III theme.

In summary, metadata created for spatial datasets, dataset series and spatial data services must include the information that UK AGMAP 2 covers and the Geodoc metadata editor tool supports. UK AGMAP 2 and Geodoc are compliant with the INSPIRE metadata guidelines, and also to UK GEMINI 2, the UK standard that was revised in 2009 to be INSPIRE compliant.

UK AGMAP 2 has been extended to support the eclectic range of disciplines creating spatial data in UK academia. The core mandatory elements of UK AGMAP 2 support discovery level metadata; the full complement of 91 elements support the creation of descriptive level metadata, which is important for data management. There is also a version of UK AGMAP 2 with 40 elements that supports the documentation of spatial data services such as those EDINA (Digimap) and Mimas (LandMap) deliver.

More information about the INSPIRE Regulations can be found via the links below.

- The INSPIRE Regulations 2009 No 3157**  
<http://tinyurl.com/ybf99w2>
- The INSPIRE (Scotland) Regulations 2009**  
<http://tinyurl.com/y9h1rpb>
- The INSPIRE Directive [2007/2/EC]**  
<http://tinyurl.com/y29cgep> (PDF file)

## Geospatial Metadata Workshops

Want to know more about this INSPIRE Directive and how the Go-Geo! portal service can provide the tools for you to create and publish INSPIRE-compliant metadata, please contact Tony Mathys, the geospatial metadata co-ordinator at EDINA, to arrange for a geospatial metadata workshop at your department or institution.

All that is required is a computer lab with internet access. The Go-Geo! service team will organise the workshop, provide publicity material and take bookings. Catering costs can be covered as well if refreshment are served during the workshop's break.

There have been 25 workshops already conducted across many academic institutions across the UK. Typically, the workshop comprises a one hour presentation which covers metadata standards, the UK AGMAP profile, Go-Geo! portal and the Geodoc metadata editor tool; a 15-minute break; and a hands-on session. Workshop participants will be invited to bring a spatial dataset file to the workshop as part of a Geodoc exercise to create a metadata record.

Introduction to INSPIRE, UK GEMINI 2 and the Go-Geo! resources becomes even more important as many students will continue in academia or move to GIS-related posts in the public sector. Spatial data created in support of research or public services will have to be documented and published as metadata records on a geo-portal.

Please contact Tony or the EDINA help desk for further information and to schedule a metadata workshop.

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Annex I Metadata Deadline: 03 December 2010	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordinate reference systems</li> <li>2. Geographical grid systems</li> <li>3. Geographical names</li> <li>4. Administrative units</li> <li>5. Addresses</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Cadastral parcels</li> <li>7. Transport networks</li> <li>8. Hydrography</li> <li>9. Protected sites</li> </ol>
Annex II Metadata Deadline: 03 December 2010	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Elevation</li> <li>2. Land cover</li> <li>3. Orthoimagery</li> <li>4. Geology</li> </ol>	
Annex III Metadata Deadline: 03 December 2013	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Statistical units</li> <li>2. Buildings</li> <li>3. Soil</li> <li>4. Land use</li> <li>5. Human health and safety</li> <li>6. Utility and governmental services</li> <li>7. Environmental monitoring Facilities</li> <li>8. Production and industrial facilities</li> <li>9. Agricultural and aquaculture facilities</li> <li>10. Population distribution and demography</li> <li>11. Area Management/restriction/regulation zones &amp; reporting units</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12. Natural risk zones</li> <li>13. Atmospheric conditions</li> <li>14. Meteorological geographical features</li> <li>15. Oceanographic geographical features</li> <li>16. Sea regions</li> <li>17. Bio-geographical regions</li> <li>18. Habitats and biotopes</li> <li>19. Species distribution</li> <li>20. Energy Resources</li> <li>21. Mineral Resources</li> </ol>