



Addressing the needs of INSPIRE: The Challenges of improving Interoperability within the European Union

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INSPIRE Objective

Combine spatial datasets from the EU member states in a consistent way and share them between multiple users and applications.



Components of INSPIRL

- Discovery Metadata Specification;
- Interoperability and harmonisation of spatial data and services for selected themes;
- Network services and technologies;
- Measures to promote sharing spatial data and services;
- Coordination and monitoring measures.

Priority Themes



- Cadastral Parcels;
- Administrative Units;
- Geographical Names;
- Transport Networks;
- Addresses;
- Hydrography;
- Protected sites;

and their Coordinate Reference Systems

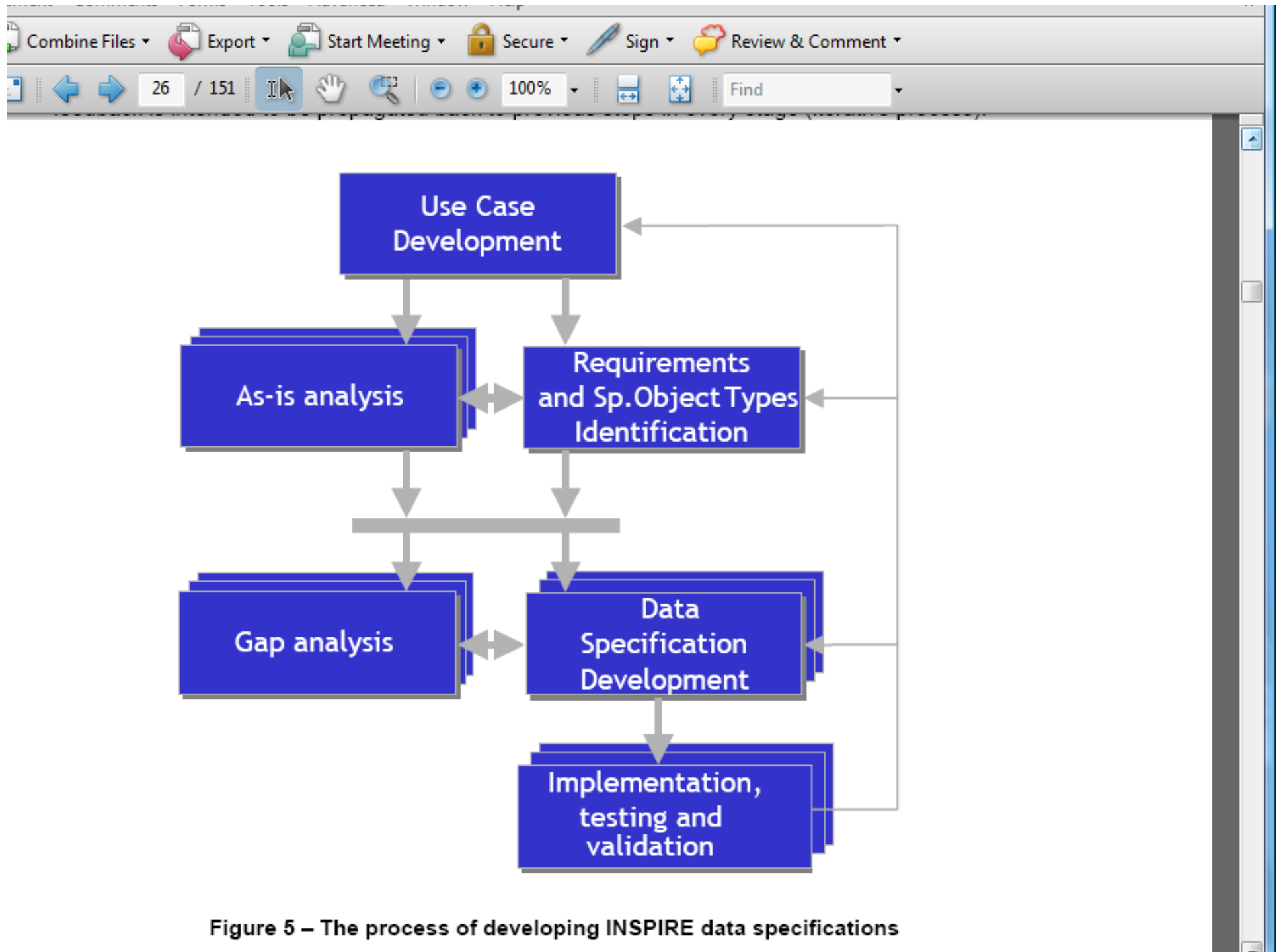


Figure 5 – The process of developing INSPIRE data specifications

(A) INSPIRE Principles	(B) Terminology	(C) Reference model
(D) Rules for application Schemas and feature catalogues	(E) Spatial and temporal aspects	(F) Multi-lingual text and cultural adaptability
(G) Coordinate referencing and units model	(H) Object referencing modelling	(I) Data translation model/guidelines
(J) Portrayal model	(K) Identifier Management	(L) Registers and registries
(M) Metadata	(N) Maintenance	(O) Quality
(P) Data Transformation	(Q) Consistency between data	(R) Multiple representations
(S) Data capturing	(T) Conformance	

Figure 3 - Data harmonisation components



Successes

- Quality of Experts represented on TWG
- Team Building – very positive experience
- Support from Commission
- Reference materials – lots!
- Methodology
 - ISO Standard Adoption
 - UML
 - Enterprise Architect

Challenges

- Technical Language
- Working Methods
- User Requirements
- Cross-theme overlaps



Conclusions



- Process is an important step in building a pan-European SDI;
- A technical consensus on the data specification will be achieved;
- Implementation will need:
 - Political will;
 - Sustained funding;

These are less certain !