

# National spatial digital mapping

BY ELIA ICONOMIDOU | NOVEMBER, 2019

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The Invest in Greece Law introduces the notion of a Consolidated Digital Map (CDM), a platform which shall depict all geospatial data and shall be kept, administrated and updated by the Ministry of Environment and Energy and the Ministry of Digital Governance, Development and Investments, and National Defense. The purpose of the newly enacted provisions is to reduce the lack of linkage among the GIS users and/or the Hellenic Cadaster (HC) within central government organizations which maintain, manage and use spatial data.

Entities pertaining to the public sector or ministries (e.g. of Environment and Energy, of Digital Governance, of Development and Investments, of National Defense, of Culture and Sports, of Infrastructure and Transport, and HC) are obliged to provide with the competent authority digital access within six (6) months from the enactment of the law all updated geo-spatial information kept within their registries for harmonization purposes and in order to elaborate the National Digital Map.

The spatial data information that should be registered includes not only cadastral registration of ownerships, encumbrances or land related claims but also (a) building terms and conditions; (b)

land use restrictions; (c) town plans; (d) building lines; (e) cadastral parcels (for the areas where initial cadastral registrations are finalized); (f) forest and

forest areas (included in areas where forest maps are posted and validated); (g) protected areas and habitats of Natura2000; (h) seashore, backshore and ports' or marinas' delimitation; (i) rivers', streams' and lakes' delimitation; (j) archaeological sites or historic areas; (k) traditional settlements' or cultural sites' delimitation; (l) special zoning plans for productive activities and for strategic investments' implementation or other special regional or development plans.

On top of the above, the notion of geo-spatial information includes any other land-related detail or requirement linked to the licensing of any investment or construction.

As of the integration of all required data in the Consolidated Digital Map and after the lapse of a two-years period of time, during which a pilot run has successfully been carried out on the basis of a joint decision by the above mentioned Ministers, the spatial information registered therewith shall be binding vis-a-vis the public sector and all public entities, without any further requirement.

The Invest in Greece Law explicitly provides that the licensing of any investments may not be blocked or refused on the grounds of geospatial data not registered within the Consolidated Digital Map. Should this happen, civil liability of the Greek State may be established.

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