



Strategy **GeoStandards.ch**

Steering Committee **GeoStandards.ch** - Version 1.0 of 7 June 2021

1 Initial situation

The main objectives of **GeoStandards.ch** are the sustainable and benefit-oriented standardisation of geoinformation in Switzerland and the effective management of the development of solutions and software tools in the context of GeoIG and the national geodata infrastructure (NGDI).

The activities within the framework of geographic data standardisation must be pursued taking into account technical developments and applying national and international standards in such a way that an effective and sustainable NGDI is gradually created.

In addition to other sources of funding, the "earmarked NGDI funds" [\[link\]](#) additional funding for the area of geographic data standardisation. With this To ensure that the greatest possible impact can be achieved in the long term, work financed in this way must be aligned with the needs of the Swiss geoinformatics landscape and appropriate strategic guidelines must be followed.

2 Basics

The **GeoStandards.ch** strategy is based on legal provisions, overarching strategic guidelines and defined optimisation potential in the Swiss geographic data standardisation landscape:

- Swiss Confederation: GeoIG [\[link\]](#), GeoIV [\[link\]](#), GeoIV-swisstopo [\[link\]](#)
- Swiss Confederation: eGovernment Strategy Switzerland 2020-2023 [\[link\]](#)
- Swiss Confederation + BPUK: Swiss Geoinformation Strategy [\[link\]](#)
- Conference of Cantonal Governments: Guidelines of the cantons on digital administration [\[link\]](#)
- Swiss Confederation: Digital Switzerland Action Plan [\[link\]](#)
- Canton Glarus + Canton Solothurn: Position paper "INTERLIS-Biotop" [\[link\]](#)

3 Purpose and scope of application

The **GeoStandards.ch** strategy provides the general framework for all activities within the new **GeoStandards.ch** organisation. The strategy defines the principles according to which the thematic leadership, the office and the operational committee work as a whole. The strategy thus defines how the Swiss geoinformatics landscape, including INTERLIS, should develop over the next five to ten years.

4 Basic strategic principles

The following strategic goals derived from the eGovernment Strategy Switzerland [↗](#) form the basis:

- Support the digitalisation and networking of public institutions;
- Achieve efficiency and transparency;
- focus on broad benefits in all our work;
- Establish organisational structures and processes;
- Achieve future-proof standardisation.

The following equivalent, strategic basic principles of **GeoStandards.ch** result from this and from the other sources listed in Section 2:

- I. **GeoStandards.ch** supports the **digitisation of the administration** and interested third parties through automated, standardised processes, data and services. Further technical framework conditions (e.g. architecture) are to be defined separately.
- II. The **focus** is on **developing software tools** with proven benefits and a **high level of user-friendliness**. Innovative and open-source solutions are to be favoured, as they optimally support widespread use.
- III. The **results of the work**, such as concepts, recommendations, standards, source code and documentation, are **always open and freely available and documented** in accordance with the usual rules.
- IV. The **future viability of standardisation** is supported by the fact that the **tools** are fully **documented**, are **further developed in line with requirements** and are **broadly supported**.
- V. **Transparency** applies to all technical, organisational, financial and personnel issues. If persons from the private sector are involved in the organisation, this must not result in any advantage or disadvantage in the allocation of public funds. Possible conflicts of interest must be clarified and avoided through appropriate regulations in the organisational manual.
The principle of equal treatment in public procurement applies.
- VI. **Training, further education and support** are key success factors that need to be promoted more strongly.
- VII. Activities related to geodata, data models and their implementation implement the **model-based method** (with INTERLIS and the corresponding software tools) for solving interoperability problems.
- VIII. **Standards** in the area of geodata infrastructures must be observed and further developed from a **Swiss and international** perspective (e.g. metadata, geoservices).

