Pasquale Di Donato's presentation on SwissTopo
02 December 2019, documented by **Tientso Ning**

Pasquale started by presenting some history and information regarding the context of geo-data, and the importance of it in terms of applications. He outlines some of the difficulties faced by geo-data collection/utilization, such as data policy restrictions, lack of coordination, lack of standards for collected data, how current existing data has difficulty being reused, as well as different quality in the available information. Thus, the solution that was created was to standardize the data collected, and have an infrastructure that supports the data and its utility. This is the IFDG (Infrastructure fédérale de données géographiques). This platform addresses the issues mentioned before by centralizing data as well as providing an infrastructure for it. Creation of this caused a better trend for geo-data. The results were also a better application of geo-data. For instance, taking a look at map.geo.admin.ch, you can see all sorts of different map data, spacial images, 3D renderings, aerial views, solar irradiation, etc. The infrastructure is connected to be able to be used via API calls, as well as being compatible and managed via cloud infrastructure, allowing a better organization of data as well as ability to leverage linked data.

I personally have very little background regarding geo-data, and have very little experience working with it. However, the presentation seemed interesting, and proposed a good case for why geo-data would be useful. I think that for someone who travels very often and relies on geo-data constantly to make plans and routing, I have a lot of appreciation for geo-data. I think the presentation gave me an idea of how geo-data could be relevant beyond just something like a map.

I have no addtional questions at this time.

Notes

- IFDG -> Infrastructure fédérale de données géographiques

- GeoAdmin API

- Geospatial Data

- SIG -> geoinfo system. Considers it to be as useful as the creation of the map

- (history of geo-data, Michael Goodchild, 1963 first GIS, cmap, Esri, etc...)

- Discussion of what the problems are – data policy restrictions, no coordination, no standards, existing data cannot be reused, different quality of available information, etc...

- potential solution? IDG, systems of geoinfo that has a standard. Spatial Data Infrastructures.

- Addressing issues such as lack of geodata, lack of documentation, etc...

- Creation of the department caused a better trend for geodata.

- COSIG and GCS -> produced a way to better geoinfo data.

- They fixed the data and techniques to better apply geodata.

- There are lots of uses for this geodata -> for research, etc...

- eCH-0056

- portal access via mobile, IFDG (Infrastructure Federal of Data Geographic)

- lots of layers to IFDG

- the tip of the iceberg being a bunch of geodata that we could scrape

- map.geo.admin.ch , visualization of the geodata, free, don't need installation or plugins,

- aerial photos, solar radiation, paths for skiing, meteorological data, 3D renders, etc...

- API usage for api.geo.admin.ch

- connected to be able to be used with JSON, PostgreSQL, etc...

- you can get the data in multiple different formats

- Cloud infrastructure

- ability to have linked data

- there's a collab with the W3C