

Seminar “Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDI), latest trends and research” 09/11/2011

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Coördinatieceel Vlaams e-government (CORVE)

- ▶ **Co-ordination Cell Flemish e-Government** (www.corve.be):
 - Flemish central unit with **horizontal** (interdepartmental) responsibilities involving e-government
 - final responsibility for e-government service provision stays in the vertical departments and agencies!
 - primary mission: to be an **enabler**
 - develop the key building blocks for the e-government back-end
 - co-finance the use of these building blocks by the departments and agencies
 - secondary mission: to be a **facilitator**
 - define e-government policy
 - stimulate, co-ordinate, support and advise, communicate e-government actions & initiatives and projects
 - in continuous dialogue and close co-operation with the own vertical departments and agencies, and with the other e-government units
 - through formal working groups (and lots of informal meetings!)

- ▶ **The aim of the “Magda Geo platform”** is threefold.
 - MagdaGeo aims to **provide an e-office generator**, based on open and generic components which make it possible to generate and make available interactive e-offices. These e-offices can be used without any specific software (a web browser is sufficient), **both for consultation and management tasks**.
 - On the other hand, the aim of the platform is **to make authentic data sources adaptable and exchangeable, independently** of the GIS package or environment that is used.
 - **To make the Magda Geo platform available to the governments in Flanders as a platform that uses SDI components** (municipal, provincial, Flemish Government, federal government)

Integration of Geographical information: Magda Geo

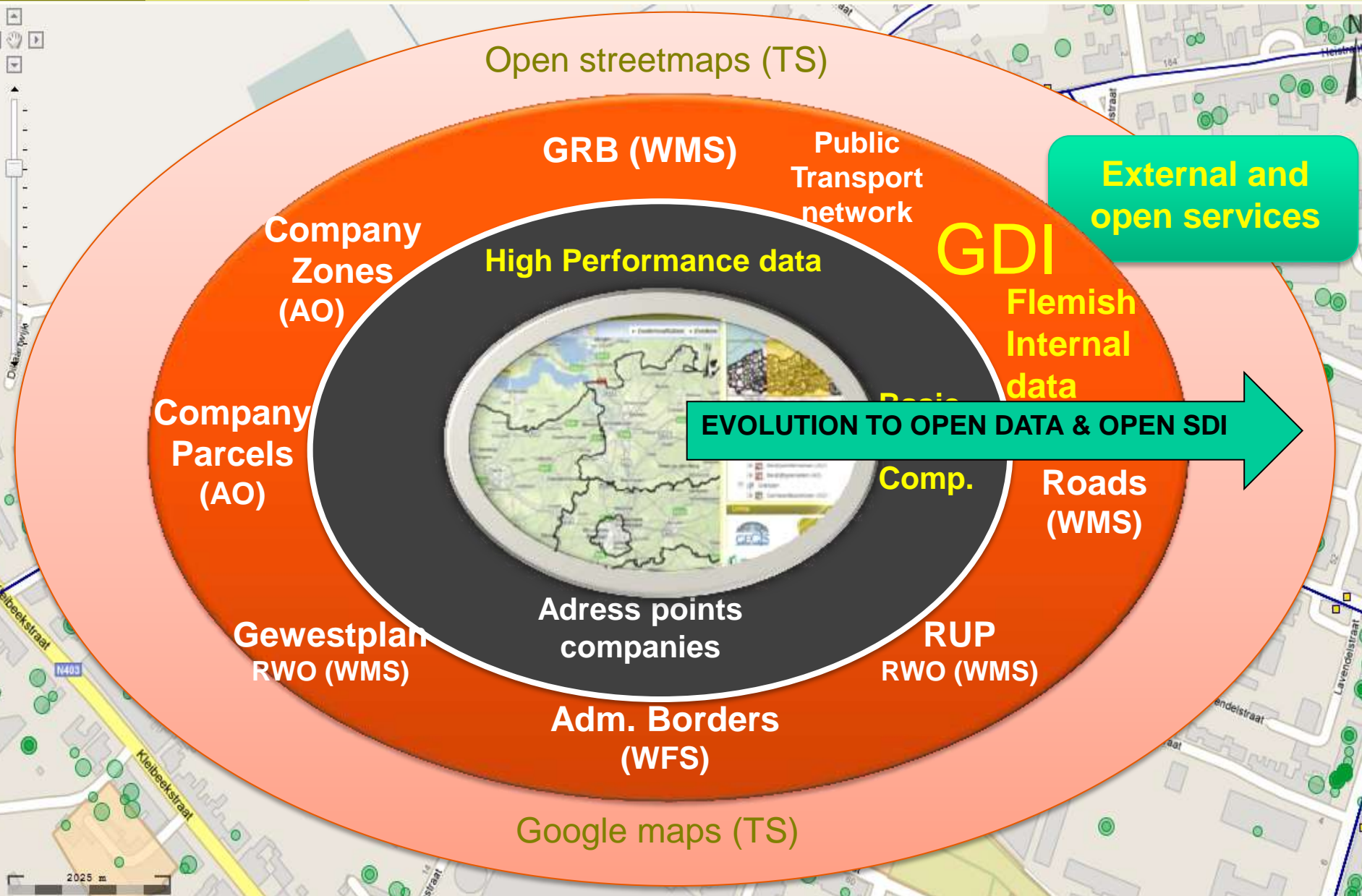
▶ The Magda Geo platform

- a **webservice-based infrastructure for the exchange of GIS data**
 - **SDI** (Spatial Data Infrastructure): integration of GIS data and numerical data
 - free space for home building & factory construction, flood & nature areas, ...
- a tool for generating **client applications for GIS data**
 - both the **consultation** and the **management** of GIS data
 - editing GIS layers, adding numerical data
 - both for use within the **administration** and for use by the **citizens**

▶ Based on a open source model

- **Based on open standards** for the exchange of GIS (WMS, WFS) and non GIS data (soap, XML)
- **client application developed under a AGPL v2 licence**
 - no installation required (GML, VML), no licensing costs

Example VKBO Geo – GDI Overview



History Magda Geo / GeoMAJAS

- ▶ **2006**: CORVE launches call for tender to prototype a generic GIS web app.
- ▶ **2007**: The prototype application was realised and used by RWO, Landbouw
- ▶ **2008**: Geosparc is formed as a spin-out, supported by IBBT (Institute of broadband technology) and Geomajas web GIS framework is released
- ▶ **2010**: CORVE started to build an open source Geo platform (Magda Geo)
- ▶ **2010**: Geomajas internationally **recognized as a fully graduated project by OSGeo organisation** (www.osGeo.org)
- ▶ **2011**: CORVE could **start to roll out the platform** and realize some “open Geo data” projects
 - All companies online
 - All educational institutions online
 - All cultural heritage locations online
 - All institutions for people with disabilities online

The local e-government situation, why GDI & open source?

- ▶ Local government is the first point of contact of the citizens, but the budgets of the local governments are (sometimes very) limited.
- ▶ Setting up local authentic geo data is not a main task for a local community
- **A GIS system is very expensive for a small community (less than 15.000 inh.) and in many cases reserved for a few public servants.** The local government has the least people and resources available to create a complete e-government services offering
 - close co-operation of the local level of (e-)government with the higher levels of (e-)government is crucial:
 - for the higher government (because the local governments are necessary to provide exact authentic data like new street addresses, empty company spaces, register of plots, which have not been build up,...)
 - for the local government (authentic data, software, technical advice,...)
 - providing easy solutions to do management tasks for **NON GIS USERS** is crucial to have qualitative data
 - providing good data models + integration of this models in their local software is crucial incl. appropriate exchange mechanisms



The local e-government situation – GDI Challenges

► Challenges:

- **local authorities have different needs and different capabilities**
 - 13 Flemish “central cities” (Antwerp, Ghent, Leuven, Bruges, ...) have well-established and successful e-government offerings
 - smaller municipalities have a lot less or very little at all to offer
- **both the federal and the regional level are still looking for the right model to co-operate successfully with the local level**
 - CORVE has carried out a study into the organisational & technical challenges
- **several players are active on the public GIS market**
 - Flemish government agency for Geographical information (AGIV)
 - Flemish government for e-government (CORVE)
 - provinces (some of them have their own GIS network to the local communities)
 - private GIS providers and solution designers for the local governments
- **More intensive coöperation on specific projects is needed**
 - Data projects (providing qualitative authentic sources)
 - Intergration of processes (electronic building- and environmental permits)

