



OSCE

PROJECT ON MODERNIZATION OF ADDRESS AND CIVIL REGISTRATION SYSTEMS IN ALBANIA

e-NEWSLETTER

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Minister of Interior meets mayors

On 8 June 2010, the TA Project in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior held a meeting with Mayors and Heads of Municipal Councils of 73 Local Government Units LGUs that are lagging behind on the address system implementation, more specifically the street naming process. The meeting was addressed by Minister of Interior Lulzim Basha and Deputy Minister of Interior Ferdinand Poni.



From L to R: F.Nan (OSCE), L. Basha (Mol), F. Poni (D/Mol)

Minister Basha stated that: "Decisions on the street names and other parts of the public territory should be taken no later than end of June 2010. The Ministry of Interior considers it unacceptable that completion of this task is delayed by the lack of decisions in the municipal councils for those streets which are still unnamed. This situation is even more unacceptable and intolerable in those LGUs where technical work has been completed months ago.

I appeal to your sense of cooperation and of building together a European future for Albania, for which we are committed irrespectively of our political beliefs. We committed to take joint decisions and to cooperate at a central and local level in order to conclude this important phase of the address system implementation".

The TA Project and Mol are aiming to finish the address work for 220 LGUs that cover 3.8 million registered citizens by July 2010.

Progress on address system implementation

There has been continuous progress on address system implementation throughout Albania. At the end of June some 75 out of 373 Local Government Units (LGUs) finished work on creating an address system for their territories. Compared to the previous month, additional 20 LGUs have finished their tasks in identifying streets, naming them and marking buildings and their entrances. Some of the largest municipalities that have completed the work during the last month include Permet, Pogradec and Kruja.

Currently, the address system is completed for 75 LGUs where about 33 percent of the citizens are registered.

Out of these 75 LGUs address data for 64 of them is uploaded on the internet. Therefore, currently about 1.2 million albanian citizens are able to identify their addresses. The remaining areas require further clarification on the exact boundary between the LGUs to complete the work. Regular meetings on resolution of boundary issues take place under the auspices of the Ministry of Interior.

Highlights

Address system presented to students

On 10 June 2010, the TA Project and Address System Unit of the General Directorate of Civil Status (GDSC) met with students of the Civil Engineering Faculty of the University of Tirana to introduce the principles of the new modernized address system and the National Register of Addresses. In addition, students were informed on the legal framework, work done so far for the digitization of maps and the way ahead.

The aim of the event was to raise the awareness of these experts-to-be on the work done on the address system as well as invite them to think about working for the address system in the future.



Students of Polytechnic University of Tirana

Speaking to the student audience, the TA Project Manager Mr. Frank Nan challenged the students to consider acquiring GIS skills that would enable them to work on the address system or any other form of GEO information, which will become relevant and vital for future spatial planning in Albania. The General Director of the GDSC Mr. Armand Teliti encouraged the students to contact the Address System Unit about any questions they may have on address related issues.

The TA Project and GDSC consider students of the Faculty of Civil Engineering as potential urban planners and GIS experts who may work both at local and central government institutions for address related planning activities.

European Address Conference

The TA Project participated in the first conference on the European Address Infrastructure – Addressing the future – which was held in Brussels on 15 June 2010.

The conference was held to inform participants on the results of EURADIN, a project co-funded by the EC.

Conference topics, amongst others, included “Addressing Europe – Why addresses are important for Europe?” and “Global perspective: Location matters – Addresses for all”. In addition, business cases on social and economic benefits of a functioning address system on local and central level were presented.

At the conference the European Address Forum (EAF), which will build upon the results of the EURADIN project, was launched. The EAF aims to support the development of well structured addresses and the availability and efficient use of harmonized and good quality address data throughout Europe.

IT training for GDSCS

On 31 May 2010, the TA Project started the specialised IT training of the General Directorate of Civil Status (GDSCS) staff responsible for maintaining the National Register of Civil Status (NCRS). Training of the GDSCS staff is a significant component of the TA project.

The online system of the NCRS is based on the Austrian model modified in compliance with the Albanian reality and legal framework. The NCRS is a complex system, which requires in-depth knowledge on the part of the GDSCS staff, in order to be able to administer and maintain the system. To achieve this objective, the technical competencies of the GDSCS staff need to be strengthened through specific training on all the components of the NCRS system.

BACKGROUND

What is EURADIN?

EURADIN stands for European Addresses Infrastructure. EURADIN is a project that aims at constituting a Best Practice Network to promote the European Addresses harmonization. The emphasis will be put in defining how access to existing address data should be made to ensure the interoperability of existing address data and working out a strategy on how to build up access services to national or regional addresses infrastructures.

In everyday life and in a large number of systems (e.g. cartography, cadastre, postal services, health and risk management, rescue services, transportation and logistics, emergency situations management, tourism), addresses are used as a common reference. The number of IT applications is very big and, given the importance of address infrastructure as a useful tool for public and private services, it is logical to expect that the EU should have an adequate address infrastructure allowing access in a seamless and interoperable way to the existing European addresses.

The EURADIN project's main result will be the proposal for the European Addresses Infrastructure and the implementation, testing, and validation of a pilot European Addresses Infrastructure in line with the EU INSPIRE Directive. The results shall be used as a reference for all European Member States.

WebLinX



OSCE Presence in Albania
<http://www.osce.org/albania>



Delegation of the EU to
 Albania

http://ec.europa.eu/delegations/albania/index_en.htm



Albanian Ministry of
 Interior

<http://www.moi.gov.al>



General Directorate of
 Civil Status

<http://dpgjc.moi.gov.al>



Albanian Data Protection
 Commissioner

<http://www.kmdp.al>



Council of Europe

<http://www.coe.al/index.php?&lng=en>

EVENTS

CAMBRIDGE, UK, 5 - 7 July 2010

Privacy Laws & Business 23rd Annual International Conference - *Privacy Practices on Trial*

Regulators in many countries are increasingly being backed by stronger laws and a determination to use their enforcement powers. Fines imposed by both Data Protection Authorities and the courts are becoming more common. Conference participants will see not only the big picture on data protection but also the nuances of international and national policies which affect their organisations.

ADDIS ABABA, 13 - 14 August 2010

1st Conference of African Ministers responsible for Civil Registration - *Towards improved civil status information for efficient public administration.*

Absence of comprehensive civil registration has been and is continuously counteracting development efforts. With the exception of 2 to 3 countries, none of the African countries has maintained the civil registration system to the international standards. The First Conference of African Ministers responsible for Civil Registration is expected to address the long overdue fundamental challenges of civil registration and vital statistics systems in the region.

SINGAPORE, 19 - 22 October 2010

GSDI 12 World Conference - *Realizing Spatially Enabled Societies*

Geographic information technologies and spatial data infrastructure play critical roles in allowing governments, local communities and the commercial sector to solve problems.

This conference will explore the complementary roles of government and private industry in realizing better means for sharing geographic data and technologies and developing improved location-based services.

FEEDBACK

Send us your comments

We thank you in advance for your feedback and hope to receive your contributions regularly. Please do not hesitate to let us know if you find the e-NEWSLETTER informative and /or what kind of information you would wish to see in future issues.

For comments and other information regarding this e-NEWSLETTER and activities of the TA Project, please contact us.

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IN THE NEWS

• Address System in Albania

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/idUKTRE64D3HK20100514>

• Launch GDCS Website

<http://www.gazetastart.com/lajme/Aktualitet/15197/>

http://www.ikub.al/1005047742/Article_Gjendja-civile-tashme--edhe-me-faqe-online.aspx

http://www.newsit.gr/default.php?pname=ArticleAL&art_id=25141&catid=8&la=3

• Top Channel, Klan TV, News24, Vizion Plus, 31 May 2010

At a meeting with the Democratic Party parliamentary group, Prime Minister Berisha said that progress in the visa liberalization process was owed to government reforms. He stated that the modernization of the Civil Registry was pivotal to the process.