



## INDUSTRY

### User

North Macedonian Agency for Real Estate Cadastre (AREC)

### Challenge

Launch a new national geoportal to open up access to government data in compliance with the INSPIRE Directive.

### Solution

AREC built its solution using Esri's ArcGIS® platform.

### Results

The geoportal rapidly provided easy access to authoritative government data, saving time and cost for users.

## National Geoportal for North Macedonia Opens Up Access to Government Data

The North Macedonian Agency for Real Estate Cadastre (AREC) has launched a new geoportal that simplifies access to a range of authoritative government data from approximately 20 agencies. The geoportal provides, for the first time, a single point of access for users to find, assess, download, and share data to support a wide range of applications and economic development in the country.

### The Challenge

Finding and sharing information across multiple agencies can be a time-consuming and costly process. AREC had already built a portal to provide access to its own geographic and land information. The next logical step was to build a new portal that integrated data from all agencies as part of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI), consistent with a move toward a more open data policy. AREC was also tasked, under national law, with implementing a solution that was compliant with the Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe (INSPIRE Directive) as part of the North Macedonia's effort to join the European Union.

### The Solution

AREC has been a long-standing user of Esri® ArcGIS technology and had recently signed an enterprise license agreement (ELA) to maximize its use and value within the organization. GDi, the local Esri distributor, worked closely with AREC to deliver the geoportal using the Esri ArcGIS COTS platform, including the ArcGIS for INSPIRE solution and Esri Geoportal™ Server open-source software. The solution integrates with business systems to provide document management and e-commerce functionality for premium services.



“The geoportal has acted as a catalyst for our efforts, providing metadata, NSDI catalog, and web services functionality, improving access to and purchase of geological data.”

The Geological Survey of North Macedonia

Today the geoportal provides access to many authoritative datasets, including two themes from the INSPIRE Directive—Administrative Units and Elevation—for which AREC is responsible. Another two INSPIRE themes, Hydrology and Geographical Names, will be published in the national geoportal by the end of this year. With around 20 different contributing agencies, the geoportal forms the centerpiece of the country’s NSDI.

### The Results

Launched in May 2015, the geoportal promptly began delivering a number of benefits, particularly improving access to authoritative data and saving users time searching for and assessing the quality of the data. On average, the geoportal has had more than 1,000 visitors per month since its launch. Its value was clearly demonstrated following terrible flooding in and around Skopje in August 2016, which caused extensive damage to land and property as well as loss of life. Using the geoportal, government officials were able to quickly evaluate the damage and identify homeowners who qualified for compensation. The geoportal is also contributing to the government’s overall policy on open data, encouraging greater reuse of government data to stimulate business and economic development, and supporting better management of the environment.



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