

Open Data on Geospatial Information for Urban Planning

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SUMMARY

The promise of open data by focusing on geospatial information for urban planning and land administration is beyond the cadastral mapping and tax valuation purposes. The emerging tools and platforms provide an opportunity for inclusive development plans for all, specifically vulnerable communities, to have access to land and property related services.

In this regard, open data has revolutionized the way cities collect and analyze information, especially in urban planning. This initiative allows governments to make public their datasets for people to access and use it freely. By doing so, they are fostering transparency and inclusivity while providing a valuable resource for researchers, developers, businesses, and citizens. Providing a feeding channel from clients can serve as a robustness tool to strengthen such platforms as well.

Open data platforms provide urban planners with quickly access to accurate information on demographics, land-use patterns, transportation infrastructure, and environmental factors that affect communities' health and quality of life. With these insights at hand, city officials can devise more efficient strategies to reduce risks associated with natural disasters or public safety issues.

Furthermore, open data boosts innovation by allowing entrepreneurs to develop new applications or technologies that cater to specific needs within the city's ecosystem. It creates an opportunity for local startups or small businesses that otherwise would not have had access to this valuable information.

In regards to public services, the open geospatial data platform has made access to these services easier by providing information on where they are located, how they can be accessed, their availability, among other relevant details. Through this platform, urban planners can make

informed decisions that promote equitable distribution of public services across different regions while considering the needs of vulnerable populations such as the elderly, minorities, and people with disabilities. This ensures inclusivity in decision-making processes that affect communities at large.

Given the existence of initiatives and platforms to share geospatial data across the globe with customized option for specific regions, the Working Party on Land Administration (WPLA) is planning to fill the gap between availability and readiness to use of data by land registry agencies, city planners, private sector, academia and public users in ECE region. The challenge is part of developing evidence-based policies in support of the 2030 Agenda, referring to the Guidelines on evidence-based policies and decision-making for sustainable housing and urban development, a joint effort of the UNECE and UN-Habitat.