

# **Digitalisation of spatial planning and building processes in Norway. Innovative collaboration between public and private sector, and the necessary re-thinking of our geospatial infrastructure**

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## **SUMMARY**

Spatial planning is key to the development of a society. In Norway the municipalities are the main planning authorities. They handle both spatial plans and building permissions. But the municipalities often depend on different system vendors to create solutions for the flow of geospatial information in these processes. As a result, private constructors spend unnecessary time and money adapting to a variety of systems. In addition, both competence, capacity and complexity vary between small and large municipalities. The time undertaken to fulfil a spatial plan, and/or a building permission, can therefore be very long. Long and costly processes lead to a further increase in housing prices. This paper presents how we work towards a full digitalisation of spatial planning and building processes to limit both time and costs, and the rethinking of our geospatial infrastructure that follows.

One lesson learned is that large public bodies, such as ministries and municipalities, are rarely the most agile stakeholder. However, they are crucial to provide standards, legislation, and equal opportunities for both urban and rural districts. We therefore need to find new and innovative ways to collaborate between the public and private sector. One small public agency has been given the role as leader of the work. Their approach is to work step by step, use new technology such as AI, create small successes on the way, and build competence and capacity as they move along.

The paper will present some of the objectives, challenges and successes that has come from the work so far.

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