

The project ”Norge nå!”

Knut A. Iden (1), Rune Engeset (2), Ketil Isaksen(1), Eli Alfnes (1), Hans Olav Hygen (1), Trond Michelsen(1), Nils Kristian Orthe (2), Bjørn Lytskjold (2), Roy Mellum (3),

Arvid Lillethun (3).

(1) Norwegian Meteorological Institute,

(2) The Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate

(3) The Norwegian Mapping Authority

knut.iden@met.no

The Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate (NVE), The Norwegian Mapping Authority (SK) and The Norwegian Meteorological Institute (met.no) are establishing an Internet portal “Se Norge” (www.se.norge) where data of gridded time series are presented. The objective is to realise our vision “Give a picture of Norway - for each place and for each time with regard to different themes by applying Internet/GIS-technology” for the themes weather, water, energy and climate. The authorities, the public, commercial activities, education will be aimed user groups. The distribution of such huge information amount is made possible through the present development of communication net with very high capacity.

Through the portal “Se Norge”, the user can navigate, both in time, space and themes in an archive consisting of maps, presented as picture files through Web Map Services (WMS) technology. The use of image formats that support transparent backgrounds allows the lower layers to be visible. Furthermore, individual map layers can be requested from different servers. The WMS specification thus enables the creation of a network of distributed map servers from which clients can build customized maps. By using this service, users will have access to the most current and accurate data sets, without necessarily knowing what institution is holding this information. This information system will be a powerful tool in dealing with flooding, drought, securing power supply, effects of climate changes and so on. Elements of the information system that are established may be applied within other fields.

NVE is the owner and administrator of the project Norge nå! met.no and SK are collaborating very close, both in this and other projects and in public management where coordinated actions are required. There is a very close cooperation in establishing a common public infrastructure regarding gridded time series data for the themes weather, water and climate. SK is the leading body in Norway in the field of standardization, national coordination and communication.