Theme: Innovations, visualisation and data analysis

Title: NordMap – web-mapping tool for the Nordic Region

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Abstract:

There is a growing need for interactive mapping focused on regional development in the Nordic Region. The map users are more demanding than before and they request solutions for producing customizable maps in a short period of time with a limited cost. NordMap, the Nordic interactive web-mapping tool (www.NordMap.org), presents a possible solution with new ways of visualizing socio-economic data. Maps at two administrative levels – municipal and regional - covering the Nordic Region are available on the portal with free access. The focused themes are demography, labour force and economy. Two additional categories, namely featured maps and typology, are also available.

The indicators on NordMap have up-to-dated data and some of them have data back to 2000 the earliest. Thus, one of the key challenges addressed in the tool is to show data over time with evolving administrative boundaries. The time series analysis functionality enables the users to observe changes in the data along with the administrative reforms that took place within the time period. Besides administrative vector data, it is NordMap's aim to incorporate the grid/raster data into the tool, as a response to the era of big data/new data. Another innovation of NordMap is the comparative analysis functionality, with which users can identify and locate the similar regions and municipalities of their interests. Last but not least, users have the possibility to customize and download the map in their selection of indicator, administrative level, data year and colour scheme, and this customization improves map producers' workflow to a large extent.