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- Local governments expand use of GIS to implement enterprise-wide systems.
- The Cham district in Bavaria, Germany, now is an enterprise GIS-based organization.
- Gävle, Sweden, meets its goal of an established and maintained regional geographic database.

With growing populations, aging infrastructure, and an ongoing mandate to reduce costs while maintaining or expanding service levels, local governments throughout Europe are facing increasing challenges in meeting their civic and legal obligations. GIS technology has proved to be a unique tool in expediting the exchange of information among government agencies and underpinning citizen notification systems.

With the increasing need for accurate, up-to-date information, local governments are expanding their use of GIS beyond the fulfillment of departmental tasks to implement enterprise-wide systems capable of managing diverse spatial datasets for applications ranging from regional analysis to disaster management.

The following examples provide some uses of GIS among European local governments.

Bavarian Rural District Uses GIS to Improve Information Management and Distribution Cham, a rural district in the German state of Bavaria, includes 39

local municipalities and approximately 130,000 inhabitants within its boundaries. The population in the district is widely dispersed, and the inherent fragmented nature of the local government structure was beset with administrative problems. A major challenge was the need to integrate disparate information into an efficient data management system with the ability to easily maintain and exchange data within the district.

In 2005, Cham implemented an interdistrict GIS, locally known as IKGIS Cham. In addition, local public utility companies and other local government agencies agreed to participate in the development of the GIS.



With GIS, Cham integrated disparate information into an efficient data management system.

Concludes Eddie Larsson, GIS manager for Gävle Kommun, "With careful planning and management, we have successfully implemented a comprehensive regional GIS."

More Information

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