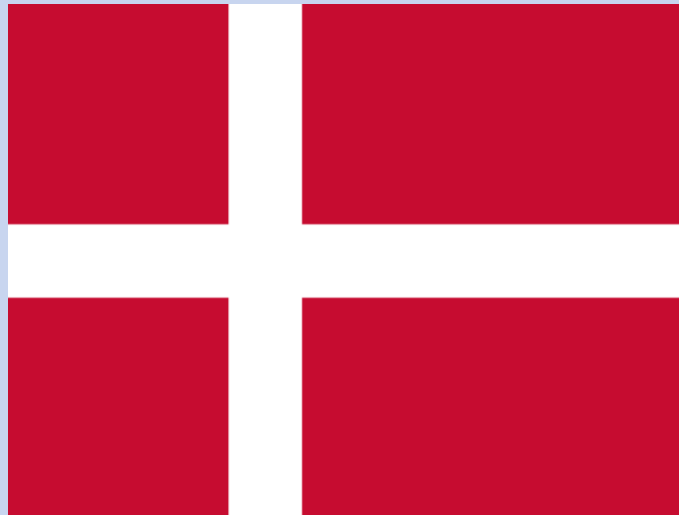


TARGETED ANALYSIS //

**DIGIPLAN – Fact sheet on digital
plan data in Denmark**

Annex 2.3 of final report

Final delivery // June 2021



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This deliverable does not necessarily reflect the opinions of members of the ESPON 2020 Monitoring Committee.

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Information on ESPON and its projects can be found at www.espon.eu.

The website provides the possibility to download and examine the most recent documents produced by finalised and ongoing ESPON projects.

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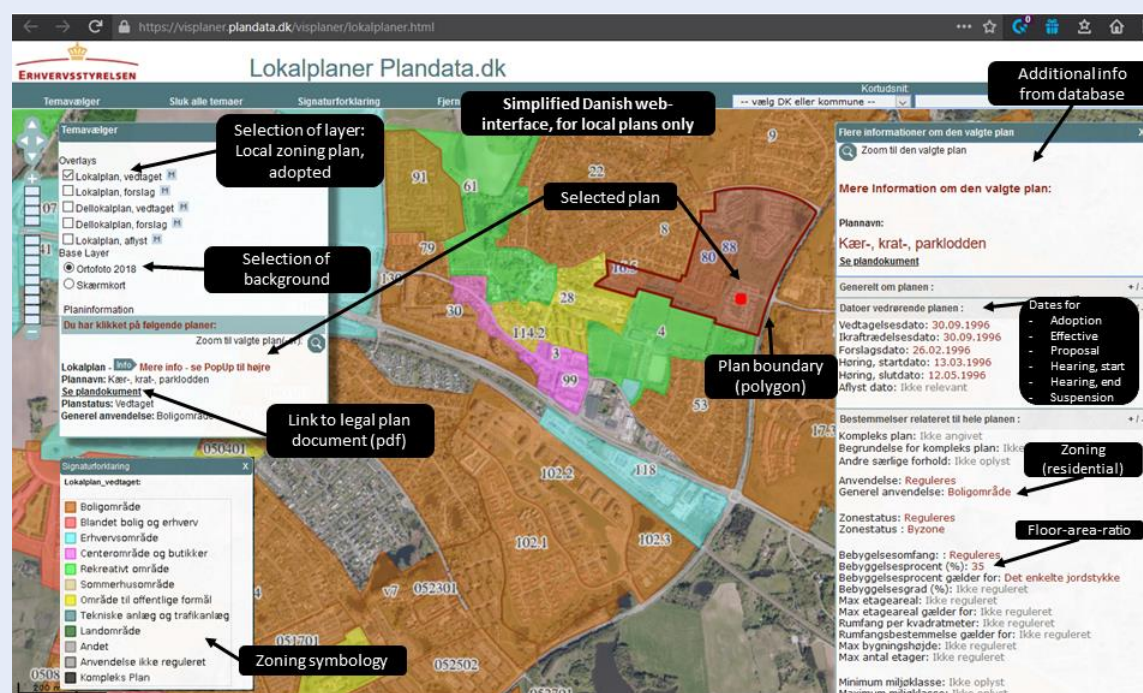
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This fact sheet summarises the experience in digitisation of plan data in Denmark. This explorative investigation includes information on the digitisation of plan data, on the digital platform that contains plan data, the current uses of digital plan data as well as foreseen developments of the investigated platforms. The inputs are based on both a desk study and interviews with experts at the senior consultants at the Danish Business Authority.

Denmark (Decentralised; two levels of government)

The Danish planning system significantly changed in 2007, when spatial planning instruments at the sub-national level were abolished. Today, all spatial planning on a local level is done by the 98 municipalities. The national level is responsible for all national legislation and planning (e.g. Planning Act) as well as spatial planning policies in specific topics, e.g. coastal protection. All plans done in the framework of the Planning Act have to be registered in the publicly available digital plan register Plandata.dk.

The digital plan data portal investigated is <http://kort.plandata.dk>



Background information

Main stakeholder(s)	Danish Business Authority ¹
Level of digitalisation of the geoportal	Intermediate: the user can make a limited number of simple operations based on the available plan data (e.g. storing, authoring, and sharing digital plan data).

The digitisation of plan data

Main purpose(s)	The platform is a digital register for spatial planning in Denmark, which ensures that plan data is digitally accessible. The main purpose is to comply with the Law on Planning, which specifies which plans, decisions, etc. must be digitized and published through the platform.
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¹ It is the authority of housing and planning in Denmark

Denmark (Decentralised; two levels of government)	
Added value	<p>To ensure one place where everyone (citizens, businesses, municipalities, public agencies, etc.) have access to all plan data (dictated by the Planning Act) across administrative boundaries such as municipal boundaries.</p> <p>To facilitate municipal workflows by simplifying the submission of plans to the state</p> <p>To assign geography on all plans in order to precisely identify plan boundaries.</p>
Main driver(s)	<p>The drive for digitalization of plan data emerged in the 1990's as the benefits of digital plan data developed and time-consuming analogue processes could be phased out. In the past few years, the development of Plandata.dk was driven by a demand of the tax authority to use plan data for property tax evaluation. This has led to a great expansion of the data model, and resulted in a legal requirement of municipalities to reflect the legally binding plan (the pdf-version) as good as possible in the plan data.</p> <p>There is a high degree of the municipalities' own interest in the system, Plandata.dk, today: the municipalities can avoid hosting their own plan database, as data can be pulled from Plandata.dk. Furthermore, the municipalities can refrain from developing data models and systems. When the municipalities pull data from Plandata.dk, it ensures that the data is current and linked to other types of data and neighbouring municipalities' plans are available in the joint system, in order to provide an overview of all plans.</p>
Main obstacle(s)	<p>Digitization of plan data started on a voluntary basis, but it was necessary with legal requirements that the plans must be published in a common system to involve all municipalities. Following recent expansion of Plandata.dk, two obstacles have been observed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data quality, especially regarding old plans and their digitalization. • Plandata.dk's development having been more focused on meeting the tax authority's demands rather than the municipal planners' interests. <p>The data quality has however improved recently and planning and the municipalities' needs have come into focus again.</p>
Standards and methods	<p>The Danish planning law is focusing on the planning process and thus no map symbols are defined in the law. This means the municipalities have different ways of defining regulations and intentions in their plans, which requires flexible definitions in the plan register.</p> <p>Each type of plan has its own data model. When registering plans via Plandata.dk, the limitations of the data models are automatically built in.</p> <p>The municipalities are responsible for the quality, accuracy and legality of the data for local and municipal plans. The municipal data is not assessed by the Danish Business Authority. The Danish Business Authority is responsible for entering the plan data for the national plans.</p>
The current platform	
Type of digital plan data included	<p>All national planning directives as well as all municipal plans and local plans are included. Plans with the status proposal, adopted, and cancelled are available public, drafts are only available to authors.</p>
Legal status of the digital plan data	<p>The geodata available in the portal is not legally binding. The legally binding plans are those in pdf-version, published over Plandata.dk.</p>
The current uses of digital plan data	
Type of users	<p>Users are not monitored. However, indications show that users include:</p> <p>Planners, e.g. from municipalities, planning consultant, universities etc. as well as public agencies, private businesses, and private individuals</p>
Number of users (monthly or yearly average)	<p>No information</p>

Denmark (Decentralised; two levels of government)

Example of evaluation of planning practices or innovative practices

Several major private companies are recipients of all plans, i.e. that every time a new plan is created in the system, a message is automatically sent to the company. For example, a major supermarket chain can be interested in where new residential and commercial areas will be developed and has therefore subscribed to get information on all new plans in Denmark. In addition, there may be plans directly for other retail businesses, and the company can thus see that their competitors are planning retail construction.

Foreseen developments

The Danish Business Authority, a hand full of municipalities and other stakeholders have started an informal and voluntary collaboration, where they discuss, among other things, current deficiencies in the system as well as aspirations for future digitization. In 2021, the Danish Business Authority will be looking into making municipal plans increasingly digital, so that the binding plan, or at least parts of it, can be submitted and made public solely digitally, without a pdf-version.

In addition, integration of plan data in hearing processes (or the other way round) and the change of legal status of geodata could be significant improvements.

Levels	Planning instruments (Name in English)	Planning instruments (Name in local language)	Included in the geoportal?
National	National planning reports	Landsplanredegørelse	No
	National planning directives		Yes
	National planning directives for Greater Copenhagen	Fingerplan	Yes
	Summary of national interests	Oversigt over statslige interesser	No
Local	Municipal strategy for planning (Kommuneplanstrategi	Yes
	Municipal plan	Kommuneplan	Yes
	Local plan	Lokalplan	Yes



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