The National Land Survey of Iceland National report 2017

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| Section 1: About The National Land Survey of Iceland (NLSI) | |
| * Employees * Organisation, organisational changes * Vision, strategy * Running activities, products, projects * Finances * Quick facts | Total 26; in Reykjavík 90 and Akureyri 17.   * At the beginning of 2017 the Director General, Magnús Guðmundsson, went on a four-month   study leave and during this time Eydís Líndal  Finnbogadóttir, the director of service and SDI  Division took his post. The focus during the study leave was to acquire knowledge on how sister institutions in the Nordic countries are run.     * Government Election took place in Iceland in autumn 2017. Guðmundur Ingi Guðbrandsson took office as new Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources on November 30th, 2017 for the Left-Green Party. He holds a Master’s degree in Environmental Management. * After changes in the implementation of the state budget, the NLSI was placed in a category called Statistical reports, state primary databases, and information policies. * A pilot project on telecommuting was decided and started 1. Jan. 2018, where employees may now work from “home” one day a week. * The NLSI received authorization from the Ministry of Welfare, to use the equal pay certificate. * Geodesy, Spatial data infrastructure, Geodata, Corine Land Cover, Map making for governmental projects, International cooperation. * A bill to amend the Act on surveying and basic mapping was unanimously approved in the parliament in May 2017. Amendments to the Act were made to remove barriers to using and disseminating the best and most accurate spatial data and to confirm that all NLSI data is free of charge. * A new version of Iceland’s Geodetic Reference System was introduced by the end of 2017. The new version is based on calculations and results of the re-measurement of the Geodetic Reference System that took place in the summer of 2016. With the new Geodetic Reference System, the accuracy of the system increases, as well as the accuracy of all surveys in Iceland. * Turnover in 2017: 325 m. ISK. 2,56 m. EUR.   5-year financial plan by the government.   * 26 employees * Tasks: Geodesy, Spatial data infrastructure, Geodata, Corine Land Cover, Map making for governmental projects, International cooperation. * Placed in Akranes, 50 km North of Reykjavík * 30% living outside Akranes |
| Section 2: Production | |
| * News, new activities * Hot topics | * New contract regarding CORINE landcover * New datum and Geoid for Iceland * New DEM data from ARCTIC DEM and methods in improving Arctic DEM * From 1. September 2018 will GD Magnús Guðmundsson fulltime take over as a Manager for the Vatnajökull National Park as a request from the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources. Eydís will take over as Acting DG from that time for one year. |
| Section 3: Challenges | |
| * Challenges | * To get better understanding among government institutes regarding the importance of providing an easy access to data. * To get the understanding by Parliament members and Ministers regarding the importance of spatial data and the need of better base data for Iceland. NLSI has already sent request for funding to update Images/Orthophotos, DEM and coastline data. * To get further funding for our virtual reference system with even more dense network of Permanent stations. |