


 Latvian Geospatial Information Agency
Geographical Names Database of Latvia
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<http://www.lgia.gov.lv>


29-30 June 2015


History




1998 -
the project of
Geographical Names Database was
launched by the State Land Service,
on initiative of the
Laboratory of Toponymy

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History

A table of attributes for geographical features was imported in GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES DATA BASE from the Satellite Map 1:50 000



In result GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES DATA BASE got about 100 000 records of features with co-ordinates


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Description of the Database



A brief description of the Database in English is available on the Products and Services website of the Latvian Geospatial Information Agency (LGIA):
http://map.lgia.gov.lv/index.php?lang=0&cPath=3&txt_id=24

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 **The legal basis**

Geospatial Information Law

- Accepted on December 17, 2009
- Provides that the Geographical Names Database is maintained by the Latvian Geospatial Information Agency

The State Language Law

- Accepted on December 9, 1999
- Determines the Latvian language protection and use by state, municipal and other institutions

Regulations on Toponymic Information

- Accepted on January 10, 2012
- Prescribe the procedures for maintenance of the Geographical Names Database of Latvia


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 **Database objectives and tasks**





Toponymic data storage, processing and updating

 **Database objectives and tasks**



Providing toponymic data for cartography and geodesy


 **Database objectives and tasks**



Providing toponymic data for geographical names standardization (especially - for natural feature names)

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Database objectives and tasks



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Providing data and data compilation for gazetteers...

Database objectives and tasks



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...and geographical names dictionaries

Database objectives and tasks




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Providing toponymic data for different other needs (meteo-services, state police, education, science etc.)

The main sources of the data

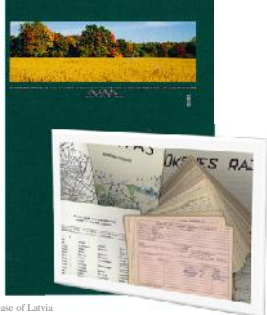
- Toponymic field-work
- Maps (contemporary and historical), other cartographic materials
- Legislative acts
- Geographical names dictionaries
- State information systems (e.g. National Address Register, Cadastre Information System etc.)




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 **The main sources of the data**


- Literature (geographical, onomastic etc.) and different other publications
- Unpublished scientific and local study works, card files
- Internet sources (eg., Amelioration Digital Cadastre; «Balticmaps» etc.)




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 **Coverage of the data**


The Database stores geographical names data covering the territory of **Latvia** (mainly) and border areas of neighbouring Lithuania, Belarus, Russia and Estonia




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 **Coverage of the data**

The Database stores geographical names data referring to map scales 1:50 000-1:25 000 with exceptions in certain areas up to the scale of 1:10 000 and larger



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 **Data entry example**
J rkalne (village)



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Example
J rkaļne – map view

Button for switching to the LGIA Map Browser

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Contents of the database

Category	Count
Administrative units	1 300
Populated places (except homesteads)	13 000
Homesteads	87 000
Relief forms	5 800
Water bodies	9 500
Woodland, trees	2 900
Hydro orographic object	1 000
Bogs, mires or swamps	3 000
Fields, meadows, gardens	1 900
Natural or historical areas	1 800
Cemeteries	2 100
Other	1 800

151 000 names for 118 000 features

Graphics


The database data are supplemented by **point, line and area graphics (geometries)**


For example - watercourse is depicted graphically as a line (in red colour)

Public version


- Public (short) version of the Database is available at: https://vietvardi.lgia.gov.lv/vv/to_www.sakt
- Comprises 89 000 names for 66 000 objects (the information updates every day- along with updating the data in the working Database)
- Language of the interface - only Latvian yet

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 **Public version**
Data entry example
J rkaļne (village)




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 **Development directions**

- Increasing both quantity (up to the map scale 1:10 000) and quality of the Database data
- Public interface should be translated in other languages (in English at least)
- Data selection and reporting tools for creating data sets should be developed
- Increasing amount and quality of geometries
- Etc.

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Thank you!

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