# Agreed changes to the INSPIRE Technical Documentation for "D2.8.II.2 INSPIRE Data Specification on Land Cover – Technical Guidelines" version 3.0

**Color coded legend**: <mark style="background-color:red">onlineDescription</mark>   - red color: what is agreed to be changed

<mark style="background-color:yellow">externalDescription</mark> – yellow color: what is the precise change

**Change: 1**

Affected documents: **TG**

Themes: **Land Cover**

**Subject**: Clarification of the concept and content of the Land Cover Value code list versus the content of the Land Cover documentation [LC]

**Description**: The text implies that it is not required to supply a machine-readable code list, which it actually is. It recommends to provide the RGB values as part of the code list. The code list is not the place for the RGB values. Instead the RGB values and the code class definitions should be provided in the documentation, if you're using the externalDescription attribute. If you provide your documentation using the externalDescription attribute it is due to the theme-specific requirements of the IR required to define for each class, at least a code, a name, a definition and a RGB value to be used for portrayal. That is not a recommendation to provide the RGB values, but mandatory. However, if you're provided your documentation using the alternative embeddedDescription attribute, then providing the RGB values are not mandatory.

**Corrigendum**: Clarify that the Land Cover Class Values has to be provided as a regular INSPIRE code list and that the Land Cover classification also has to be described by a document. Clarify that the RGB values shall be provided as part of the documentation and not as part of the code list.

Presently the TG LC says: On page 19, that

<mark style="background-color:red">*"One particularly important part of the documentation is a code list of the land cover nomenclature. This code list is included in the core model and therefore mandatory in INSPIRE. The code list can have any format found appropriate by the data provider. The primary use of a code list is to check that a code found in a land cover data set is valid, and to use the code list as a lookup table to find the textual legend associated with a code. Multi-lingual code lists are recommended in order to support the reuse of data across Europe. Introducing portrayal rules (eg RGB codes) in the code list will promote visual harmonization." and continues on page 22 by saying "Documentation interpretable by computers, allowing applications to convert data between different classification systems automatically help to improve interoperability. This level of harmonization is outside the scope of INSPIRE. Consequently, the data specification does not require machine-readable code lists. It is still recommended to establish machine-readable documentation. It is also*</mark>

*recommended to include portrayal rules and a formal definition of the codes. The formal description can either be done by using the Land Cover Meta Language (LCML) defined by ISO standard (ISO 19144-2) or by using a Feature Catalogue as described in ISO 19109 and 19110 (Geographic information - Rules for application schema & Methodology for feature cataloguing)."*

**The proposal is to replace the previous text with the following one**

*"One particularly important and mandatory part of the land cover data models within INSPIRE is a code list defining the land cover nomenclature (classification). The primary use of this code list is to check that a code found in a land cover data set is valid, and to use the code list as a look-up table to find the textual description associated with a code. Multi-lingual code lists are recommended in order to support the re-use of data across Europe. It is also mandatory to describe your land cover classification with an external document or with a description embedded in your GML file. This description should preferably be provided in English to support European wide use. When referring to an external document on the Internet, you shall for each land cover class provide at least a code, a name, a definition and a RGB value to be used for portrayal and in case of raster data, also an integer grid code. A description can also be done by using the Land Cover Meta Language (LCML) defined by ISO 19144-2 or by using a Feature Catalogue as described in ISO 19109 and 19110 (Geographic information - Rules for application schema & Methodology for feature cataloguing)."*

**Discussion link:** https://themes.jrc.ec.europa.eu/discussion/view/27660/is-the-land-cover-class-code-list-to-be-used-or-not


**Change: 2**

Affected documents: **IR, TG**

Themes: **Land Cover**

**Subject:** Typo (name of the attribute) mentioned in the theme-specific requirements on Land Cover

**Description:** There is a theme-specific requirement pointing to the attribute onlineDescription that no longer exists. It has been replaced by the externalDescription attribute in newer versions of the Technical Guidelines and in the Implementation Rules, except for in this theme-specific requirement.
The proposal is to replace the following text in the Implementation Rules and in the TG on Land Cover:

*IR Requirement Annex III, Section 2.6 Theme-specific Requirements:*

*"If an onlineDescription attribute is provided for a LandCoverNomenclature data type, the referenced online description shall define, for each class, at least a code, a name, a definition and a RGB value to be used for portrayal. If the online description describes the nomenclature for a LandCoverGridCoverage object, an integer grid code shall also be provided for each class. This code shall be used in the range of the LandCoverGridCoverage to represent the corresponding class."*

**…with the following text:**

*IR Requirement Annex III, Section 2.6 Theme-specific Requirements:*

*"If an <mark>externalDescription</mark> attribute is provided for a LandCoverNomenclature data type, the referenced external description shall define, for each class, at least a code, a name, a definition and a RGB value to be used for portrayal. If the external description describes the nomenclature for a LandCoverGridCoverage object, an integer grid code shall also be provided for each class. This code shall be used in the range of the LandCoverGridCoverage to represent the corresponding class."*

**In Technical Guidelines the same correction is needed on page 27 in the IR requirement description.**

**Corrigendum:** The textual typo (wrong name of the attribute) has to be corrected in IR as well as in TG to point correctly to the existing attribute.

**Discussion link:** [https://themes.jrc.ec.europa.eu/discussion/view/32480/mistake-typo-in-the-implementation-rules-regarding-land-cover](https://themes.jrc.ec.europa.eu/discussion/view/32480/mistake-typo-in-the-implementation-rules-regarding-land-cover)