

GAO Report and NSDI Strategic Plan Update

GIS-T 2013 Conference
Boise, ID

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GAO Report

- *GAO-13-94, Geospatial Information: OMB and Agencies Need to Make Coordination a Priority to Reduce Duplication*, was released in November 2012
- Focused on efforts within the departments of Commerce, Interior, and Transportation
- Found that none of the three federal departments have fully implemented important activities for coordinating geospatial data

USDOT Response to the GAO Report

- The Secretary of Transportation (S-1) appointed a Senior Agency Official for Geospatial Information (SAOGI)
- S-1 will soon announce the formation of a Geospatial Coordination Council
 - Chaired by the SAOGI and the GIO
 - Comprised of representatives of each USDOT Operating Administration

USDOT Response to the GAO Report

- The council will oversee the development of written USDOT policies regarding metadata and the NSDI clearinghouse
- The council will oversee the development of a USDOT Strategic Plan
 - Extend the TFTN Strategic Plan to cover all modes of transportation
 - Borrow heavily from successful strategic plans
 - Will tie in to the NSDI Strategic Plan (more to follow)

NSDI Strategic Plan

- What?
 - A concise updated strategic plan to guide the Federal government's activities toward the further development of the NSDI.
- Why?
 - Current plan is outdated
 - Technologies and applications have changed
 - GAO Report
- When?
 - Planning has started. Draft by end of FY 2013.
- Who?
 - Led by the FGDC with input, engagement and feedback from the Geospatial Community

Outreach

- Strategic Visioning Workshop (March 5, 2013)
 - Purpose: Set the context; build the foundation
 - Participants: Representatives of the Federal geospatial community
- NSDI Leaders Forum (March 7, 2013)
 - Purpose: Set the context; solicit ideas; engage with the greater geospatial community; discuss roles of the sectors
 - Participants: Leaders of professional organizations
- National Geospatial Advisory Committee brought in to provide input (April 2013, ongoing)

What we hope to achieve...

A concise updated Strategic Plan to guide the Federal government's activities toward the further development of the NSDI

- A shared vision of the NSDI
- Defined roles for the Federal government, partners and stakeholders
- Strategic goals and objectives from which to build implementation plans and actions

How you can help...

- Discuss with your colleagues, partners, and organizations
- Offer input through meetings, professional organizations, and online discussions
- Provide input to the plan – especially the role of the Federal government
- Provide feedback on the plan and results
- For more information or to provide input, visit: www.fgdc.gov/nsdi-plan

NSGIC Comments

- TRENDS

- Geographic and other data types are converging
- Must embrace Open Data movement
- Geospatial applications are revenue producers, help the economy and private sector can play a much larger role
- Downward costs of automation and improved availability of broadband will drive an explosion in geospatial technology and interconnectivity

NSGIC Comments

- Customers and Social Media
 - All data users are now consumers of geospatial data whether they know it or not
 - Social media are major consumers (and producers) of geospatial data
 - Social media will not drive development or standardization of geospatial technologies
 - Government needs to provide leadership to deliver benefits to citizens

NSGIC Comments

- Uncertainties
 - Everything is uncertain – is Sequester temporary?
 - Budgets are likely to decline and coordination will become increasingly important
 - Geospatial data and technology can be used to leverage limited resources in tight economic times
 - That is why the NSDI and Geospatial Platform should be implemented to leverage resources and create opportunities

NSGIC Recommendations

- Appoint a Federal government-wide GIO
- Undertake an economic study to show the national importance of geospatial technologies
- Assign oversight of Federal geospatial activities to a Congressional Committee
- NGAC should be strengthened and become the oversight committee for the NSDI
- Federal focus should be on:
 - Data/services development, acquisition, integration and delivery
 - Facilitation and empowerment of local, state and tribal government, academia and the private sector

Questions?

Thank You!