

A Modern Odyssey in Search of Relevance

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The search for relevance

1. New expectations for spatial services
2. Are we ready to meet these expectations?
3. Removing barriers using strategic partnerships and national infrastructure

Some current drivers for new services

- Maximising economic, social and environmental benefits using spatially referenced information;
- Facilitating industry development;
- Rising community expectations for online services;
- Globalisation;
- Converging technologies;
- More healthy and safe communities;
- Environmental degradation and natural resource depletion.

Some Major Applications

Social (provision of community services, decision-making in local communities, disaster management);

Economic (wealth creation, critical infrastructure protection, effective siting and use of facilities and assets)

Environmental (sustainable development, biodiversity, evaluation and monitoring).

What's the problem?



So what's been the problem with accessing and using spatial information?

- Immature institutional and user/ provider relationships;
- Inconsistencies in the availability and quality of data;
- Incomplete knowledge about existing data;
- Inconsistent policies for access to and use of data;
- Lack of best practice in using enabling technologies;
- Inadequate access to and pick up of R&D.

These problems transcend:

- economic sectors (public, private, academic);
- user communities;
- traditional disciplines (such as surveying, mapping and remote sensing)

User-provider relationships - we keep making the same mistakes



User

Provider

Opportunities for service providers

- The value to users of trusted information;
- Placing spatial information into business processes;
- Innovation through merging technologies;
- Use of new international best practices;
- Opening up new domestic and international markets.



The Players

- Public (on-budget, local, semi-government)
- Private (commercial, not for profit)
- Professional (associations, institutes)
- Academic (secondary education, tertiary institutions, research bodies)
- Community groups and individual users

Australian Situation

- Australia is a federal system:
 - National government
 - 6 State & 2 Territory governments
 - Around 600 local governments
 - Growing commercial sector
- Spatial data infrastructures are being built at state and national levels and by a number of local governments – all of these have to link seamlessly together

Bringing it together

- Common drivers across agencies and jurisdictions;
- A common vision:
 - “Australia’s spatially referenced data, products and services are available and accessible to all users”
- Address common policy, people and technology issues.



ANZLIC the Spatial Information Council

ANZLIC will achieve the national vision through:

- Leadership and advocacy;
- Partnerships between the community, industry and governments;
- Shared experience;
- Promoting more open access to spatial information and associated services.



National Institution Building

ANZLIC – the Spatial Information Council

Intra and inter-jurisdictional coordination, engaging with local government

Australian Spatial Information Business Association formed in 2001

A common strategy - Action Agenda signed in 2001

Spatial Industry Steering Committee formed in 2002

Spatial Sciences Institute formed in 2003

Australian SI Education and Research Assoc in 2003

CRC for Spatial Information established in July 2003

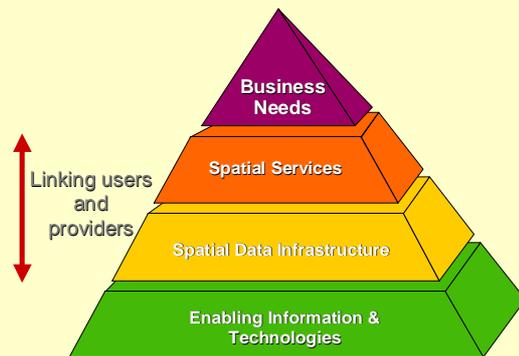
Australian SDI Action Plan 2003-2004



Building Partnerships with Users

- Land administration
- Natural resource management
- Terrestrial and marine environment
- Emergency management and counter terrorism
- Social and economic infrastructure

Connecting Users with Providers



Creating a common framework

The Australian Spatial Data Infrastructure (ASDI) comprises the people, policies and technologies necessary to enable the use of spatially referenced data through all levels of government, the private and non-profit sectors and academia (and ultimately the community).



The ASDI is:

- Driven by user needs;
- Enabled by use of international best practices;
- Delivered through innovative online services.

A Value Chain Enabled by SDI

DISCOVER tell me what data/services are available
 ACCESS give me access to it
 COMBINE let me combine it with other inputs
 USE give it in a form I can use

Current Situation

- Some elements are already in place:
 - national spatial institutions operating;
 - data policies and best practice guidelines;
 - comprehensive directory;
 - capacity building within governments, enterprises and academic bodies.

Some current activities

- Infrastructure development through ASDI Action Plan;
- Capacity building with user communities;
- SDI development in most jurisdictions, focus on EM/CT;
- ASIBA/OGC-A Interoperability Demonstration Project;
- Implementation of Best Practice Toolkits.



NATURAL RESOURCES INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
 Building capacity to implement natural resources information management solutions
TOOLKIT
<http://www.nlwra.gov.au/toolkit>
 Natural Heritage Trust National Land & Water Resources Audit ANZLIC
 A joint initiative of the National Land & Water Resources Audit and ANZLIC – the Spatial Information Council

Different products for different audiences

Structure

- Three parts
 - Executive Summary
 - Concise Guide for Technical Managers
 - Technical Modules

Format

- Three Formats
 - Hardcopy, CD & Web
 - Hardcopy, CD & Web
 - CD & Web only

NRM Toolkit: Content and Structure

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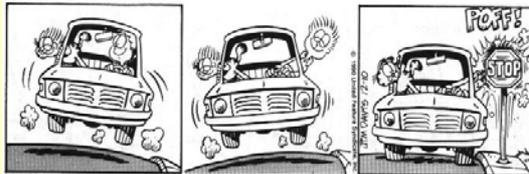
The toolkit approach – putting the ASDI on the ground

CONCLUSION

To link users with providers you need a framework:

- Partnerships to match up needs with capabilities;
- Institutions and investments that focus on capacity building;
- Development of services and products;
- Using international best practices;
- That meet the needs of decision makers;
- To improve the way we all live, work and play.

Even when the wind is in your hair, it pays to look where you are going!



ANZLIC
the Spatial Information Council

For further information:

<http://www.anzlic.org.au>