Creating a Legal and Policy Framework To Support Geospatial Information Management

International Workshop on Legal and Policy Frameworks for Geospatial Information
Nuku'alofa, Kingdom of Tonga
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Objectives of This Module

• Suggestions on How to Create a national Legal and Policy Framework for Geospatial Information Management
Enabling Environment

• Create enabling legislation/policy that supports broad collection/use/distribution of geospatial information
  o All types of geoinformation
  o Provides for adequate funding levels/support
  o Identifies a lead organization
  o Encourages data access and sharing
  o . . .

Conduct Gap Analysis

• Review of existing laws and regulations
  o What laws and regulations are hindering collection/use/sharing of geospatial information?
  o What laws and regulations are needed to facilitate collection/use/sharing of geospatial information?
  o Areas to consider
    • Intellectual property rights
    • Privacy
    • Liability
      o Sovereign immunity
    • National Security
    • Open Data
    • . . .
**Address the Gaps**

- Work with legislators and regulators to address the gaps.
- Find examples from other countries (best practices)
- Tailor to jurisdiction’s existing legal and policy framework
- …

**Made Data Accessible**

- What is government’s plan for making data accessible?
- Is there a formal policy or legislation?
- How will geospatial community participate?
- Will they have a seat at the table?
- Are the unique aspects of geospatial information being considered?
- …
Licensing Arrangements

• Adopt/develop open [geospatial] licenses for sharing of geospatial information:
• Consult with:
  o Users
  o Lawyers
  o Data providers
  o Industry
  o Government
  o ...

Future Proof

• Consider Geospatial User Group/Council to consider legal and policy issues associated with future technologies/applications:
  o Drones
  o Autonomous Vehicles
  o Cloud technology
  o Machine learning
  o Internet of Things
  o Augmented Reality/Virtual Reality
  o ...
Questions

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