Legal and Policy Frameworks
Australia update
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GEOSCIENCE AUSTRALIA IS THE AUTHORITY ON PROVIDING FUNDAMENTAL GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION FOR THE NATION
Australia’s broader policy framework

Federation of states and territories

- States, territories and the federal government all set their own policies
- Willingness to collaborate, and compliance where needed

Digitisation provides opportunities for economic growth and better decision making

- People should have access to information about themselves

Geospatial information is a critical part of the information economy

- Everything happens somewhere
- Can be used to join and analyse other types of information

Desire for privacy and confidentiality is still important, but can be managed
How are geospatial agencies responding?

Federation of states and territories

- Federal, state and territory government cooperate to improve currency, accuracy and availability of geospatial information
- Govern how geospatial and other information should link together
- Mix of collaboration, consistency in policies, and some compliance

Geospatial information is a critical part of the information economy

- Release as many national geospatial datasets to the whole of economy as possible
- Monitor use of datasets to show economic impact, cost and time savings, and new uses
What will we have?

**Foundation Spatial Data Framework**: policy framework that describes the national datasets, who is responsible for them, and how they can be used

**ELVIS**: collaborative infrastructure to store, integrate, transform and deliver national datasets, and monitor usage

**Location Index**: governance framework that manages how statistical, environmental, economic, and business information can be joined together without the need for GIS

**National Data Commissioner**:
- creation of *Data Sharing and Release Act*
- recognition of datasets of national importance