

Legal and Policy Frameworks for Geospatial Information Management

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- Raise awareness of the legal and policy issues concerning location data and other types of geospatial information.
- Promote development of consistent and transparent policy and legal frameworks for collection, use, storage and distribution of geospatial information.
- Identify solutions to legal and policy issues that limit the sharing of geospatial information to address critical transnational issues such as the Sustainable Development Goals.

Background

- Committee of Experts adopted Decision 6/105 confirming the essential need for all legal and policy frameworks that could have an impact on geospatial information be developed through coordination between geospatial community and legal/policy communities.
- International Forum on Legal and Policy Issues and Frameworks for Geospatial Information – Kuala Lumpur (October 2016)
- UN-GGIM-AP adopts “Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Policy and Legal Frameworks for Geospatial Information”
- Compendium on Licensing of Geospatial Information (July, 2017)
- UN-GGIM Working Group on Legal and Policy Frameworks for Geospatial Information Management (?)

Objectives of Side Session

- Engage, inform and raise awareness of the importance and need to engage in multi-stakeholder discussions on policy and legal issues that could have an impact on acquisition, accessibility and application of geospatial information.
- Discuss the necessary and needed legal and policy mechanisms to foster effective and efficient sharing and use of geospatial information to achieve:
 - National development aspirations; and
 - Commons goals for sustainable development,

Agenda

Moderator

- Mr. Kevin Pomfret (Centre for Spatial Law and Policy/Williams Mullen) – United States

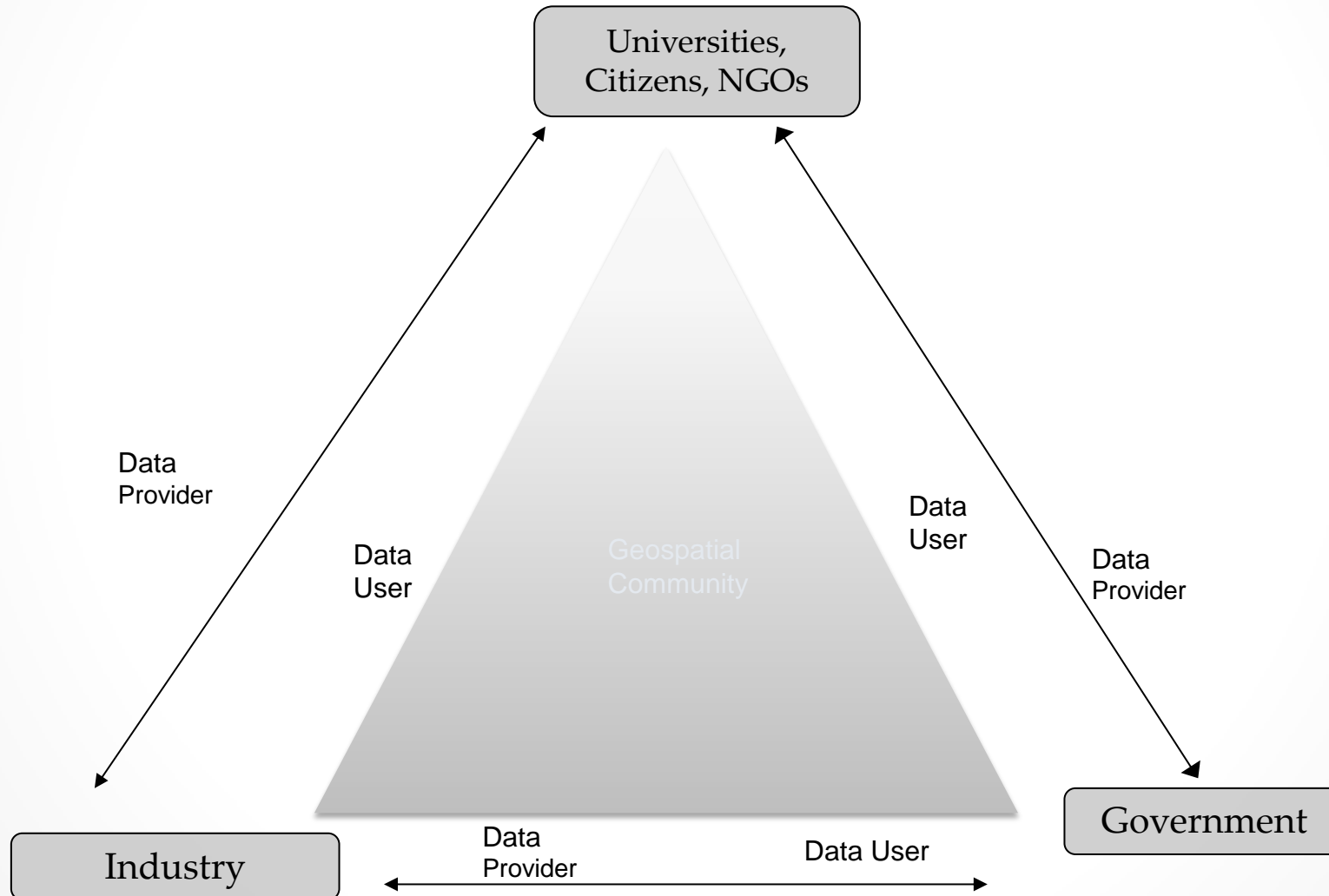
Panelists

- Mr. Bengt Kjellson (Swedish Mapping, Cadastral and Land Administration Authority) - Sweden
- Ms. Lesley Arnold (Cooperative Research Centre for Information) - Australia
- Ms. Diana Marina Cooper (PrecisionHawk) – United States

Why Issue is Important?

- Geospatial community is an international ecosystem that collects/uses/stores/distributes geoinformation.
 - Cuts across technology platforms, industry groups and user communities.
- All segments of community are contributing to community's growth
- Products and services increasingly being developed based upon aggregation all types of data collected from diverse sources.
- **As a result policies/laws that impact the collection, impact, and distribution in one segment will impact others.**
 - **Traditional stovepipe approaches are obsolete/detrimental**

We Are All Geospatial Information Collectors and Consumers



Law Is Still Tied to A Jurisdiction/Territory

**Intellectual Property
Privacy
Licensing
Regulation
Liability
National Security
Regulations
Insurance**

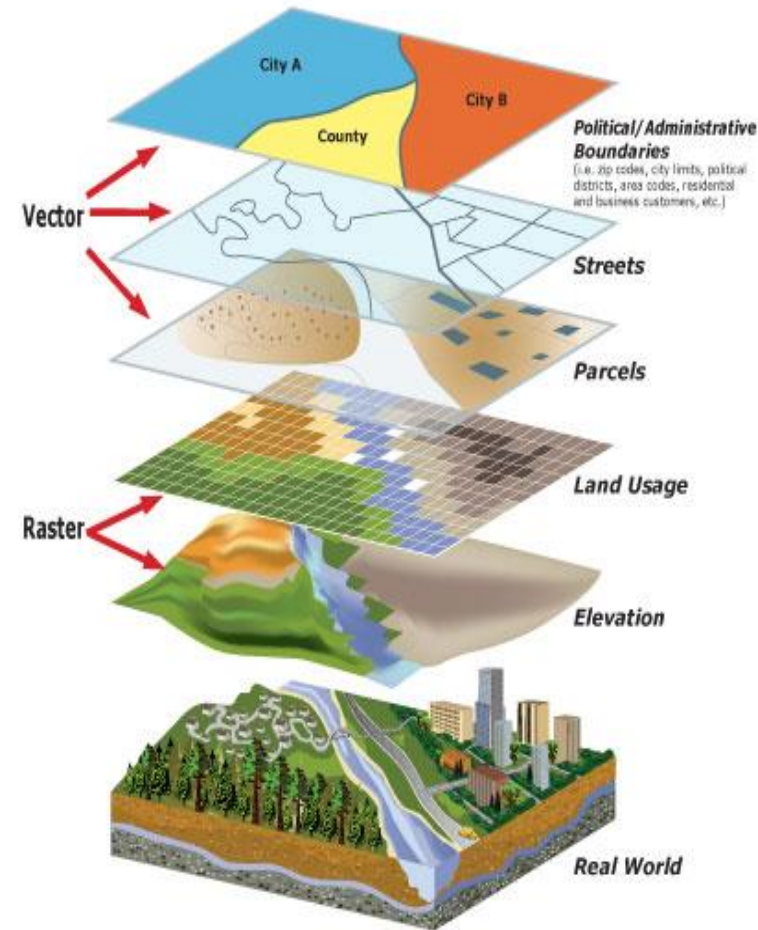


Geospatial Products and Services Becoming More Complex

Geospatial products and services are increasingly be developed using data from a variety of sources

- Government
- Industry
- Crowd

Each are subject to their own licenses/data sharing agreements with varying terms/restrictions



Licensing Increases Complexity

- A number of legal issues arise around the licensing of geospatial information, including:
 - Privacy
 - Intellectual Property
 - National Security
 - Open Data
 - Liability
- Issues may change depending upon type of data, how it is used and who uses it, but each of the issues must be considered.
- Becomes even more complex in international transactions.

Theory of Geospatial Data Aggregation

$$X = (A * B) C^2$$

Where:

X = complexity of aggregation

A = number of data sets

B = number of different jurisdictions (legal systems) involved

C = number of parties removed from original data source

Geospatial Community Will Need to “Share” Geoinformation with New Actors

- Developing around Big Data
 - Drones
 - Autonomous Vehicles
 - Smart Cities
 - Internet of Things
 - Business Intelligence
- **Each have their own language, concerns, motivations, etc.**
- **Subject to their own regulations and legal and policy frameworks**

Uncertainty Causes Friction

- Technology making it easier to share geospatial information seamlessly.
- Policy/legal communities don't understand geospatial technology, geoinformation, and/or the geospatial community. This causes friction:
 - From a policy standpoint -increased risk that regulations, precedents, policies will make it more difficult to collect, store, use and/or distribute geospatial information.
 - From a legal standpoint - when lawyers don't understand the technology or the use and the law is unclear, it is easier to say no than yes.

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