

# 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  
10-13 April

## 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
  - All types of geoinformation
  - Provides for adequate funding levels/support
  - Identifies a lead organization
  - Encourages data access and sharing
  - . . .

## Conduct Gap Analysis

- Review of existing laws and regulations
  - What laws and regulations are hindering collection/use/sharing of geospatial information?
  - What laws and regulations are needed to facilitate collection/use/sharing of geospatial information?
  - Areas to consider
    - Intellectual property rights
    - Privacy
    - Liability
      - 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:
  - Users
  - Lawyers
  - Data providers
  - Industry
  - Government
  - ...

## Future Proof

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

## Questions

- Kevin Pomfret
- [kevin@spatiallaw.com](mailto:kevin@spatiallaw.com)
- +1 804 928 5870
- @kpomfret