

GEOGOV SUMMIT

10-12 SEPTEMBER, 2024

THE WESTIN WASHINGTON DULLES AIRPORT

THEME **ADVANCING NATIONAL
GEOSPATIAL ECOSYSTEM**
STRATEGY TO IMPLEMENTATION

Preliminary Report to the National Geospatial Advisory Committee

17 October 2024

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GeoGov Summit 2024

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- Theme: Advancing the Nation’s Geospatial Ecosystem: Strategy to Implementation
- Planning workshop February 2024 @ USGIF Trajectory Events Center, Herndon, with monthly virtual planning sessions through June
- Summit convened 10-12 September
 - 203 attendees
 - Government, Industry, NGOs, Academia and Research
- Post event report in progress, available by mid-November
- Program (www.geo-gov.com)
 - 10 September: Pre-conference Workshops
 - 11 September: Plenaries, Keynotes
 - 12 September: Deep Dive sessions

Notable Findings

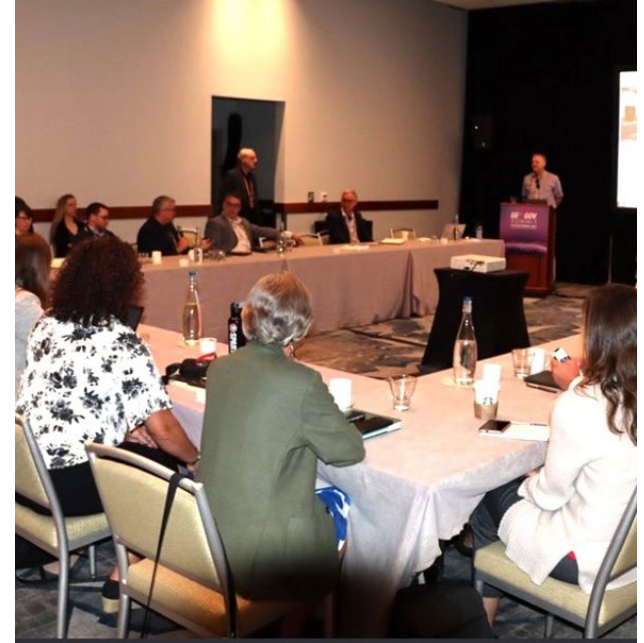
- General agreement on draft NSDI Strategic Plan, incorporates most strategic recommendations from 2023 Summit
- NSDI is here and now, providing significant benefits, but has opportunity for growth through improved outreach, collaboration, resources
- Industry is benefitting significantly by building on NSDI
 - Financial (Bloomberg)
 - Analytics/Space (NuView Space)
 - Insurance/Risk (Aon, Riskthinking.ai)
 - Energy (Duke Energy)
- Understanding of NSDI
 - Action on marketing needed - NSDI largely unknown at the local level, and across industry and academia
 - Continuing conundrum – lack of unified understanding of NSDI – what it is, what it isn't and its value



Key Findings / Recommended Actions

Governance:

- Collaborative governance pilot planning underway to test and advance a national collaborative governance process by addressing specific NSDI areas of challenge.
- This activity flowed from GeoGov Summit 2023
- Stakeholder committee comprised of reps from each of the communities identified in the GDA
- Discussion at GeoGov Summit 2024 focused on further detailing objectives, outcomes, potential stakeholders / participants, data themes, etc:
 - *Routing and Navigation*
 - *Public and private service delivery*
 - *Improving Community Resilience*
 - *Critical Infrastructure Support*
 - *Protecting our public lands*
- Seeking funding, with a planned start of 1st quarter CY2025



Key Findings

Workforce Readiness

- Increase emphasis on competencies and micro-credentials, not just formal degree programs.
- Boost focus on geography / geomatics in K-12
- Increased emphasis on non-traditional geospatial professionals
- Workplace should also be a focus:
 - Assure readiness for the future workforce.
 - Accommodate different learning styles and professionals of varied backgrounds
- The trainings we offer folks in the workplace and in school should count towards Continuing Education Units (CEUs)
- Need to better understand how the geospatial profession is changing
 - Prompt educators to consider changes in their curriculum
 - How / who can provide GIS BOK to see what is added and removed over time to help make sure educational and training programs are always teaching what industry needs
- Need a governing body that will bring academia and industry together to discuss how to best collaborate and train the workforce.
- Encourage inclusion of young professionals on advisory boards of FGDC, geospatial NGOs, and GW LLC

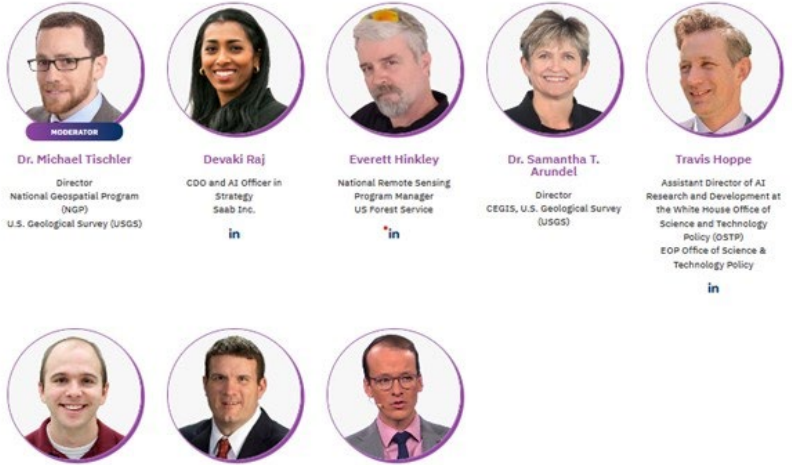


Key Findings / Recommended Actions

GeoAI:

- **Prepare the people, prepare for the people:** If AI reflects the people who build it and use it, then we need to prepare those people and prepare FOR those people, both culturally and computationally, in our organizations.
- **GeoAI Playbooks:**
 - **Practitioner:** To operationalize this goal, we can develop a "GeoAI Playbook for Practitioners" that acts as a training manual, establishes protocols and procedures, and provides points of contact to ask questions.
 - **Governance:** To guide practitioners, we can develop a "GeoAI Playbook for Governance" that aligns with policy and establishes the principles and definitions that need to crosscut across units.
- **Communities of Practice:** In support of playbooks, practitioners (the builders and users) and governance (the leaders and decision-makers).

0900-1030 hrs.
Advancements in GeoAI Policy, Application, and Implementation



Dr. Michael Tischler
Director
National Geospatial Program (NGP)
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

Devaki Raj
CDO and AI Officer in Strategy
Saab Inc.

Everett Hinkley
National Remote Sensing Program Manager
US Forest Service

Dr. Samantha T. Arundel
Director
CEGIS, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

Travis Hoppe
Assistant Director of AI Research and Development at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)
EOP Office of Science & Technology Policy

Dr. Eric Shook
Associate Professor
University of Minnesota

Mark Hogsett
Head of Federal Growth
Rendered AI

Andrew Turner
Director & CTO
R&D Center DC Esri

And there is the networking...



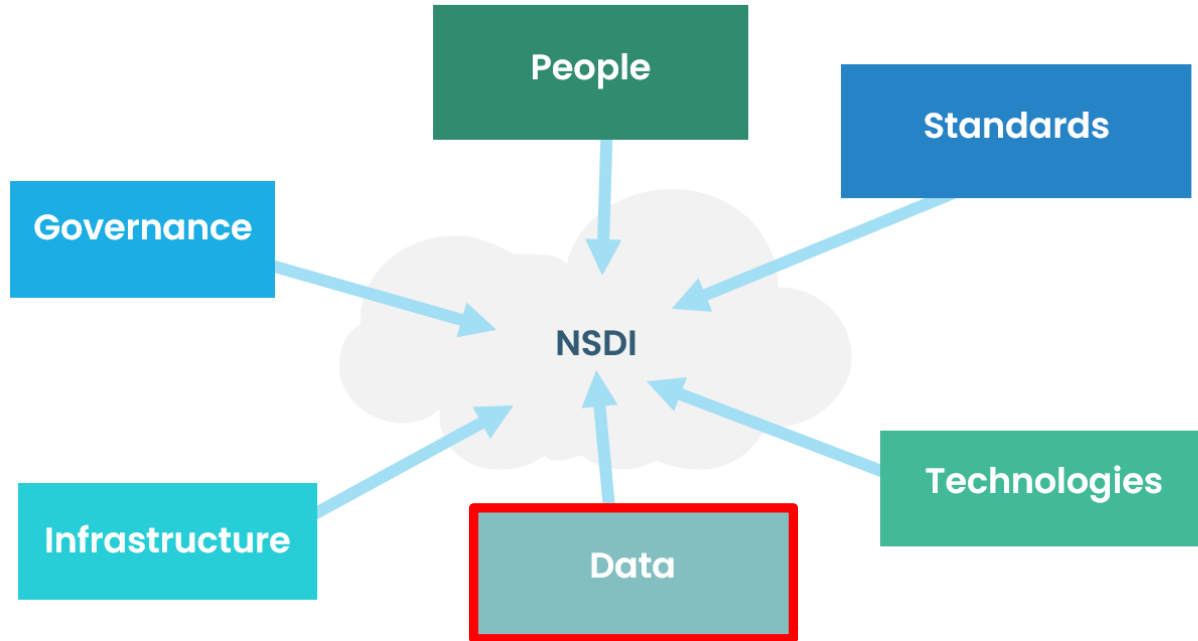
Unified Understanding...

- Understanding of NSDI
 - Action on marketing needed - NSDI largely unknown at the local level, and across industry and academia
 - Continuing conundrum – lack of unified understanding of NSDI – what it is, what it isn't and its value

Challenge: Continuing conundrum...

lack of unified understanding of NSDI – what is is, what it isn't?

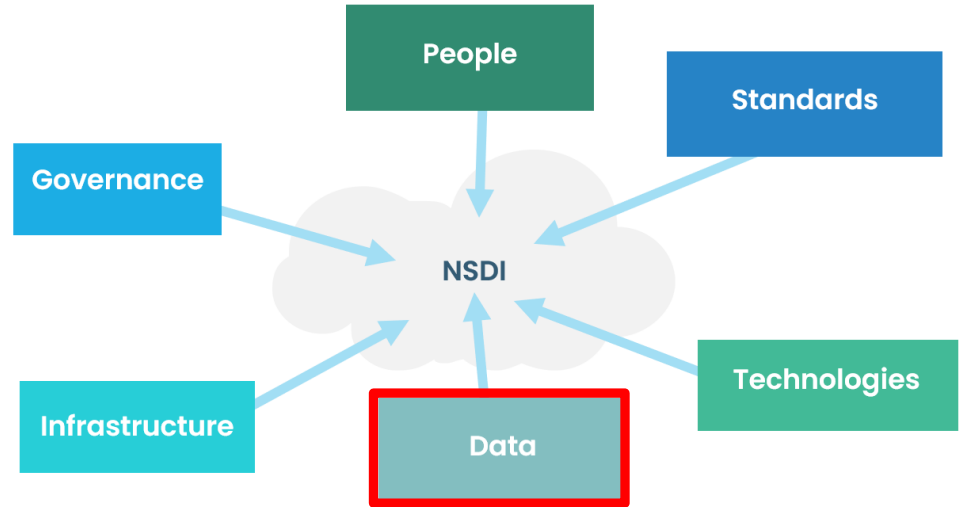
NSDI is a conceptual framework for HOW data is created,
published and used



The tangible part of the NSDI...

What is the NSDI?

- Platform for integrated data discovery
- Basemap for USA
- Intelligent platform for decision-making



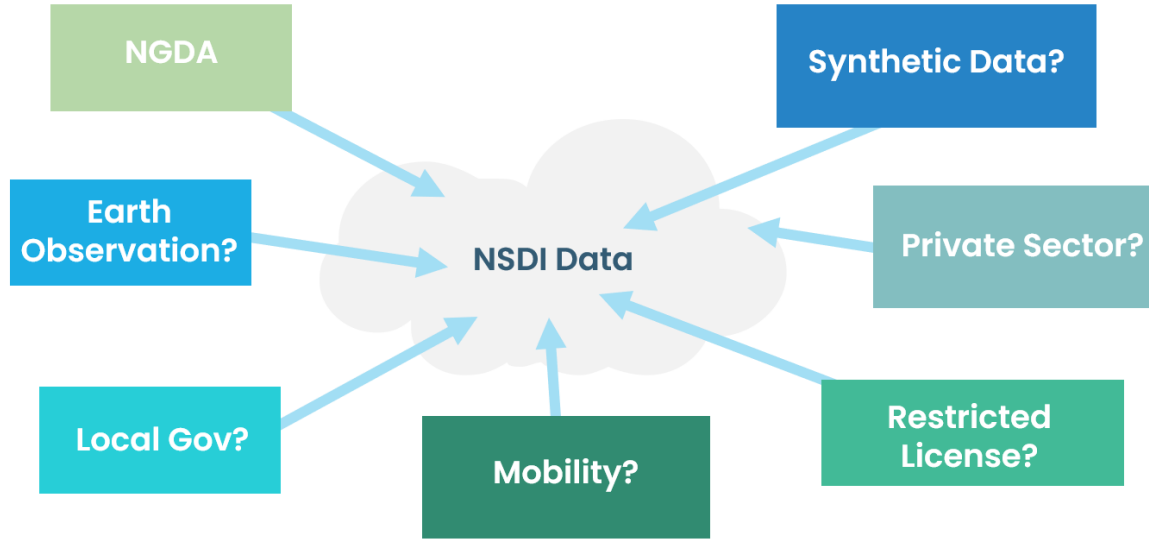
Vision

The overarching vision for the NSDI is that, by 2035, **the NSDI will be a seamlessly interconnected national geospatial ecosystem.**

Mission

The mission of the NSDI through 2035 is to **deliver highly responsive, timely, dependable, and interoperable geospatial data, applications, and services that provide knowledge on demand and actionable insights to inform decisions;** address local, regional, national, and global challenges; and benefit all people.

Challenge: Unified understanding about what data is part of the National Geospatial Ecosystem



Recommended Action:

Community based review of NGDAs - prioritization and assessment based on mandates, funding, roles and responsibilities of all sectors

Challenge: Simplify and redefine terminology

GeoGov Session: Community Assessment of Our **NSDI Geospatial Coverages**

*This session strove to identify and prioritize key areas of challenge which can be used to establish a roadmap for action and process that can be convened by the community to address **NSDI foundation theme** challenges.*

Foundational Layers

NSDI Data = only NGDA?

Minimum Viable Product

NGDAs = Framework Themes

National Geospatial Data Assets (NGDAs)



Challenge: Terminology and Lexicon Impediments

Decision-Ready



Authoritative

Legal requirement?

Data Quality?



Trusted

Base on what?

Data Quality?

Fit for Purpose

Looking into the Geospatial Community

- Value of outside perspective
- If intent is to communicate value outside the geospatial community we need to start communicating differently
- Less emphasis on data, governance, geospatial and standard – think impacts and follow the money



Sarah Hodgetts

Director
UK Geospatial Commission
DSIT



Andy Neal

Senior Managing Director
Aon

Challenge: Strategic communications and outreach

Recommendation:

Brand the NSDI – establish web-presence

What is the purpose?

- Platform for integrated data discovery
- MVP Basemap for USA
- Intelligent platform for decision-making
- Outreach and education?
- Who are the end-users?

USAMAP.gov*

***Powered by the NSDI**

