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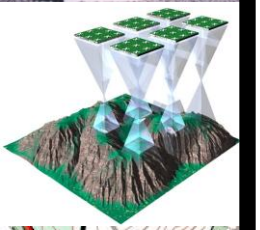
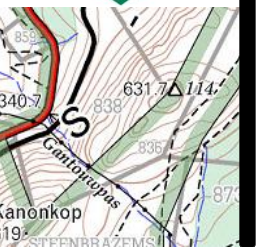
NATIONAL
GEO-SPATIAL
INFORMATION
MAPPING OUR NATION

SASDI





A VIEW ON POLICY FOR NATIONAL SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE

Dr Derek Clarke

South Africa

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Geospatial World Forum 2012

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Policy Environment

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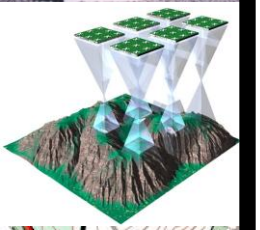

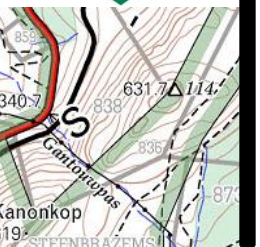

General Environment

National Policies

International & Regional Policies

National Legislation

NSDI Specific Environment

International & Regional Treaties and Conventions

Government Priorities

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NSDI POLICY SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENT

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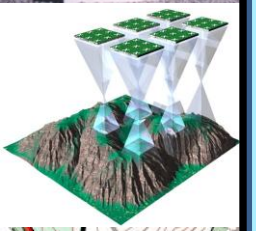

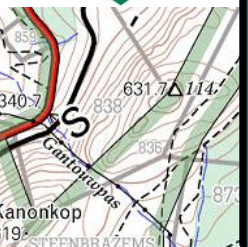

Societal needs

Impact

Government Priorities

(Education; Health; Security; Job creation; Skills development; Economic development; Rural development; Food security; Housing; Environmental resources)

National Policies

Impact

National Legislation

Directives

NSDI

NSDI Policies

International

Policy Development

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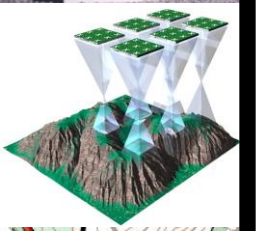

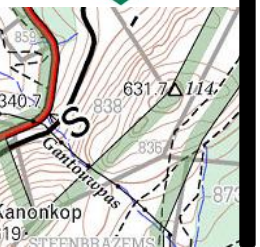

Different approaches:

1. Greenfields – No policy currently exists.
2. Tinkering (change)

   - Policy exists and must be amended. Only minor changes effected.

   - Policy currently does not exist but ‘borrow’ from other policies and adjust to own situation.
3. Radical (change) – policy exists and must be amended. Take radical change approach.

In all cases consultation with stakeholders is essential for buy-in and legitimacy.

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Policy Development for NSDI

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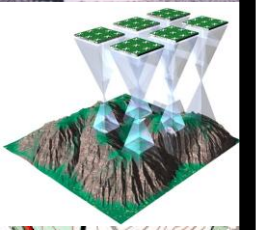

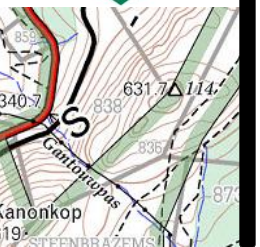

National Policy for Geo-spatial Information Management (provides framework policy)

Detail Policy

Detail Policy

Detail Policy

Guide -lines

Guide -lines

- Issue (content)
- Intent (purpose)

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The South African situation

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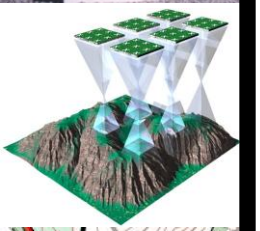

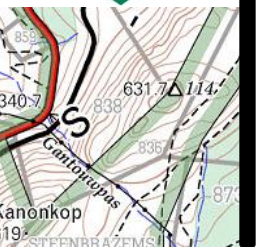

- No national framework policy exists.
- Taken the legislative approach (SDI Act passed in 2003; SDI Amendment Bill, 2012).
- SDI Act provides for:
  - Data sharing;
  - Data discovery;
  - Data custodians (with responsibilities);
  - Avoiding duplication of data collection;
  - Reporting of quality issues;
  - Safe-guarding of geo-spatial information.

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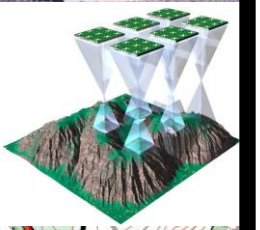

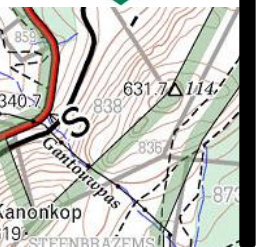

- Currently detail policies being formulated.
- Policy formulation process takes time, mainly due to the consultation process that is essential.
- Detail policy consistent with SDI Act, other national legislation, relevant national policies and strategic objectives of South African SDI.
- Developing strategy and strategic objectives in lieu of a NSDI national policy framework.

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A Vision for the SA Spatial Data Infrastructure

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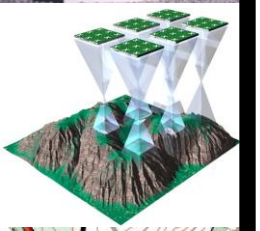

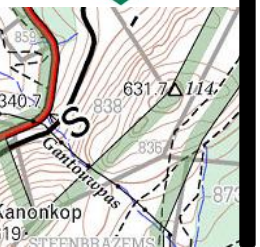

Appropriate choice is made by all stakeholders in the development process and everyday life through the effective use of meaningful geo-spatial information for the benefit of all humankind and the environment.

Geo-spatial information is pervasive in geo-spatially enabled government

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Strategic objective of SASDI

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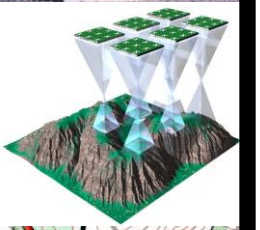
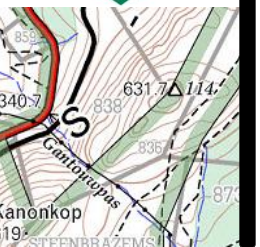
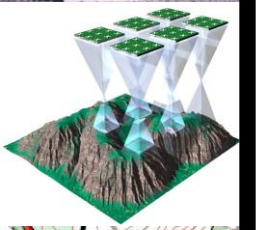


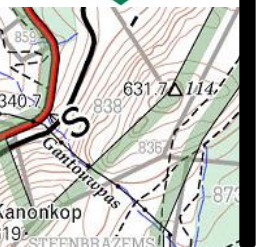


Ensuring *access to* and *use of* relevant geo-spatial information by policy makers and planners, and implementers of programmes at all levels in the public sector and community leaders for effective and efficient decisions

Strategic objective of SASDI (cont.)

SASDI





This can be achieved by:

- Ensuring **access to** and **use of** geo-spatial information by policy-makers and planners at all levels in the public sector and community leaders for effective and efficient decision-making.
- Establishing a **synergistic-cooperative approach** wherein institutional commitment by all stakeholders to **communication, cooperation, coordination and collaboration** is essential.
- **Empowering** citizens and communities by providing them with access to relevant, current, accurate and comprehensive geo-spatial information and services.

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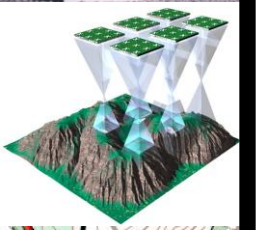

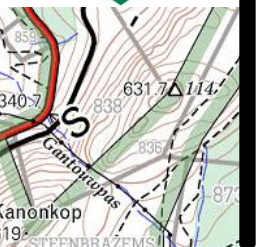

Thank you