NIGERIA’ NATIONAL GEO-SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE: PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS

Dr. J. I. Igboke
Department of Surveying and Geoinformatics
Nnamdi Azikiwe University
Awka, Nigeria

Dr. M. N. Ono
Department of Surveying
Federal University of Technology
Yola, Nigeria

1. INTRODUCTION
- Nigeria has commenced the implementation of a national Geospatial Data Infrastructure (NGDI)
- A draft National Policy on NGDI is ready
- The Apex Coordinating Agency has been selected
- National Committee on NGDI has been put in place
- Sub-Committees are now being created
- Contractors and service providers for NGDI have been appointed

2. National NGDI Policy Framework
- National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA), an Agency under the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology is the Apex Coordinating Agency
- Vision Statement include among others
  i. To facilitate cooperation and collaboration among stakeholders in generating geospatial databases
  ii. To establish institutional, legal, technical and administrative framework for acquisition of datasets, access to data and efficient sharing of data
  iii. To promote research, training, education and capacity building
  iv. To promote investments in the production of geospatial databases

3. Policy Issues on NGDI Components
- Geospatial Datasets
  - Fundamental Datasets: Geodetic Control
  - Topographic Database/DEM, Administrative Boundaries, Transportation data, Hydrographic data, Landcover/Landuse data, Geological and Demographic Database
  - Thematic Datasets: The policy identified two categories
    - Those that can be freely produced according to specific user requirements
    - Those that can be produced only by legally mandated agencies
- Metadata
- Legal issues (Ownership, copyright, confidentiality)
- Data Access and Data Security (Restricted and Community Access)
- Institutional Arrangement (see Fig. 1)

Fig. 1: Organisational Framework

Fig. 2: Implementation Strategy
Source: NASRDA Report, 2005
5. Problems

- Lack of current fundamental and thematic datasets in the country
- Necessary laws and legislations on NGDI policies and standard not yet in place
- Inadequate Technology: Telecommunication facilities still problematic. Electricity Power supply to back NGDI activities still very poor
- Problems exist in the Institutional arrangement yet to be addressed
- Availability of trained personnel still a problem

6. Prospects

- Development of Cadastral Database for the Country
- Creation of large pool of current digital topographic and thematic Databases for the Country
- Increased Funding for GI activities in the Country
- Increased efforts at capacity building, training and research.

THANK YOU