



**GEOSPATIAL LINE OF BUSINESS
DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN**

MARCH 3, 2008



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Geospatial Line of Business (LoB) is a government wide initiative sponsored by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) supporting effective geospatial investments and better performance across the Federal government. The Geospatial LoB focuses on improving the effectiveness of government through the more widespread use of geospatial information, which can often improve the quality and timeliness of agency decision-making across a wide variety of programmatic contexts. The Geospatial LoB helps to improve the efficiency of government by making geospatial data more accessible, reliable, and less expensive to acquire through enhanced data-sharing and more effective management of investments.

Reflecting decades of cooperative interagency activity in the geospatial arena, the Geospatial LoB is itself an interagency activity. The Department of the Interior's U.S. Geological Survey has been designated by OMB as Managing Partner for the initiative, but governance truly is shared across more than two dozen other partner agencies. The primary mechanism for this coordination is the interagency Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC), established decades ago pursuant to OMB Circular A-16.

FGDC promotes the coordinated development, use, sharing, and dissemination of geospatial data through mechanisms such as Geospatial One Stop (GOS). The GOS online "card catalog" of geospatial holdings, the portal for accessing data, and the marketplace functionality represent critical tools for advancing the National Spatial Data Infrastructure. Many Geospatial Line of Business tasks will enable the government to better leverage and expand usage of GOS capabilities.

The purpose of this Strategic Plan is to present key goals and deliverables for the Geospatial LoB based on the objectives of this initiative and overall goals of FGDC. This document rests on foundation documents that include a Common Solution and Target Architecture (CSTA) document, a Performance Management Strategy, and an OMB Exhibit 300. This Strategic Plan is eighteen months more current than the CSTA, is essentially a high level version of the more detailed and recently developed Performance Management Plan and specific work plans for each work group, which in turn address the tactical approach the Geospatial LoB will employ to achieve its goals and objectives over the next several years. The milestones and task completion dates within this Strategic Plan reflect a bottoms-up analysis by each work group based on a thorough analysis of level of effort of the objectives set forth in the CSTA approximately 18 months ago.

There are ten tasks to be undertaken by the Geospatial Line of Business:

- enhance governance:

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- define the geospatial data lifecycle,
 - establish lifecycle responsibilities,
 - utilize SmartBUY,
 - develop outreach programs,
 - adopt grants language,
 - adopt procurement language,
 - reach common services agreements,
 - define IT infrastructure, and
 - provide broker services.

Many of these tasks are expected to be fulfilled over a timeline that extends through 2013. However, FY 2008 emphasis will be given to grants and procurement guidance, common services, and Smart-Buy initiatives, in order to produce and demonstrate measureable results during calendar 2008. Additional steps will occur during FY 2008 to initiate other tasks that involve extensive planning and analysis needed prior to implementation.

This strategic plan will be reviewed annually to ensure performance and outcomes are in alignment with the goals of the Geospatial LoB throughout the lifecycle of this initiative.

1 INTRODUCTION

This Geospatial Line of Business (LoB) Strategic Plan herein referred to as the “Plan” provides a framework that lays out the LoB tasks and provides an accountability framework for results. It addresses our approach for FY08 and FY09, but is a living document that will be updated annually as we learn more about the most effective ways to focus our efforts and accomplish outcomes.

1.1 Background

This Plan is based on the Geospatial LoB Performance Management Plan (PM Plan), completed in January 2008, which identifies key goals and strategies for delivering timely, useful, and cost-effective geospatial data and services to federal agencies and, U.S. citizens. The Plan provides a framework to assess progress towards the completion of the Geospatial LoB tasks across several dimensions, including the capability to:

- Enhance performance and accountability;
- Assess, track, and report on planned schedules and performance measures;
- Assess, track, and report on cost and schedule performance;
- Assess, track, and report on outcome-oriented metrics, reflective of customer-centric result;
- Assess operational performance of the LoB; and
- Assess reporting and compliance performance of the LoB to manage risks.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to convey the goals, strategies, tasks, schedule, and performance targets for the Geospatial LoB. The Plan provides a framework to guide the achievement of LoB tasks and to provide accountability for measuring and evaluating progress in pursuit of these goals and strategies. This Plan builds structured timelines, introduces anticipated deliverables, and identifies dependencies associated with the completion of tasks and subtasks. The foundation for the Plan comes from a comprehensive performance framework found in the PM Plan that serves to: 1) provide over-arching end outcome goals that shape nearer-term intermediate outcome goals, strategies, and tasks; and 2) serve as a context for aligning every part of the effort in an integrated manner.

1.3 Performance framework

The Geospatial LoB has created a performance framework that follows a conventional performance management logic model approach. The approach shows the relationship between specific tasks to the overall Geospatial LoB vision. The performance framework is consistent with the Geospatial LoB Common Solution and Target Architecture document and the federal enterprise architecture performance

model. This model outlines intermediate outcomes designed to produce measurable progress toward the end outcomes annually based on a set of complex tasks, each with its own detailed work breakdown structures.

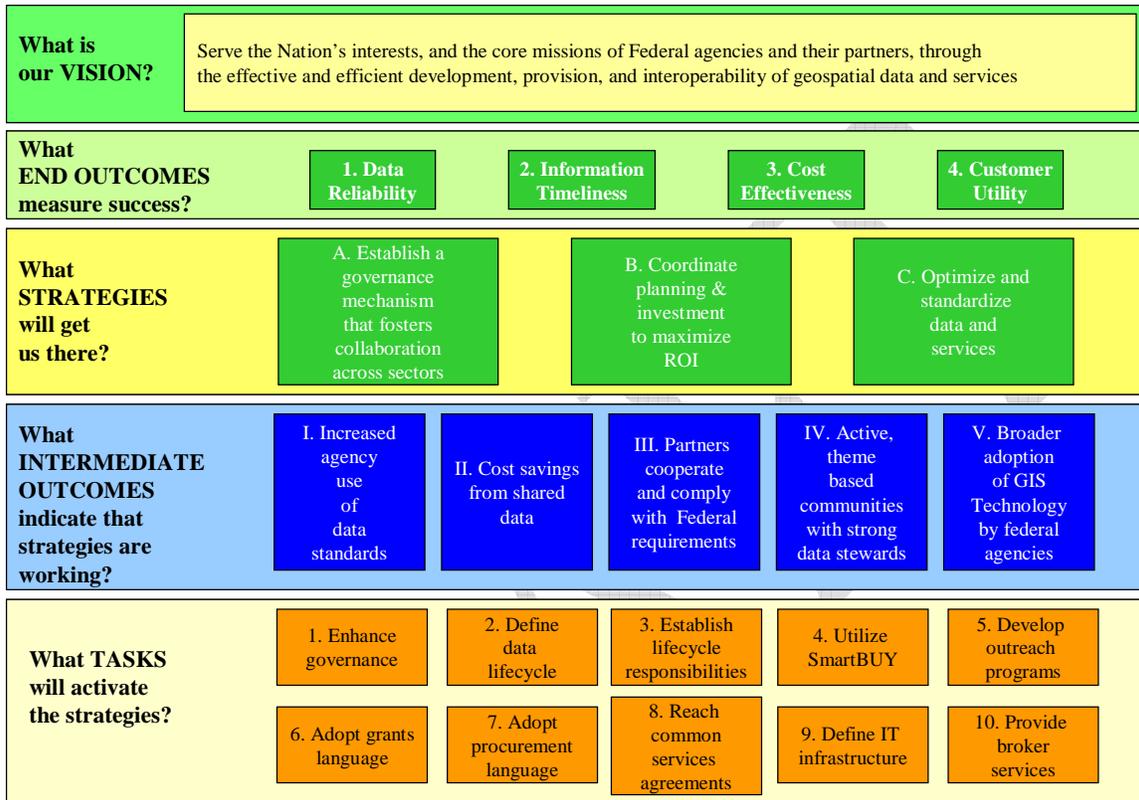


Figure 1-1: Geospatial LoB Performance Framework

The Geospatial LoB Performance Framework, represented in Figure 1, depicts the vertical alignment that links individual tasks and subtasks to higher-level strategies and outcomes. The framework also illustrates horizontally how the goals, strategies, and tasks are unified across the network of data providers and users. The use of standard performance management terminology promotes effective communication and coordinated action as well as allows participants to better understand the specific contexts in which they carry out their roles and responsibilities in the LoB.

2 OVERVIEW OF GEOSPATIAL LINE OF BUSINESS TASKS

A set of ten key tasks are planned for FY08 and FY09 to support the four overarching strategies within the geospatial framework. Table 3-1 elaborates on each of the ten tasks and depicts the associated strategies as well as the intermediate and long-term outcomes supported.

Task #	Task	Associated End Outcomes				Associated Strategies			Associated Intermediate Outcomes				
		Data reliability	Information timeliness	Cost effectiveness	Customer utility	Establish governance	Maximize ROI	Optimize data/services	Increased agency use of data standards	Cost savings	Grant/contract policy compliance	Active communities	Broader adoption of GIS technology by agencies
1	Enhance governance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	Define data lifecycle	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	Establish lifecycle responsibilities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Utilize SmartBUY	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
5	Develop outreach programs		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
6	Adopt grants language	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	Adopt procurement languages	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Reach common services agreements			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
9	Define IT infrastructure				✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10	Provide broker services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Table 2-1: Alignment between Geospatial LoB Tasks and Performance Framework

To accomplish all of these tasks, interagency work group participants from partner agencies have been formed. Work groups are responsible for deliverables associated with target beginning Quarter of Completion. Table 3-2 depicts the major deliverables targeted for completion by each work group within FY08 and FY09.

Work Group	Responsible Tasks	FY08 Milestones	FY09 Milestones
Performance Management	<p>Task One: Review/update FGDC Guidance Documents</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memorandum from DOI Deputy Secretary Scarlett transferring LoB management responsibility from LoB Task Force to FGDC Coordination Group (08Q2) • Geospatial LoB Performance Management Plan (08Q2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OMB concurrence with proposed changes to A-16 appendix on data themes (09Q2)
Common Services	<p>Task Four: Expand SmartBUY (and Alternatives) for Geospatial Data and Technologies</p> <p>Task Eight: MOUs/ SLAs/ELAs for Common Geospatial Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELA scope requirements and acquisition plan(s) (08Q2) • Selection of ELAs to pursue (08Q3) • ELA negotiation strategy (08Q3) • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of two multi-agency ELA agreements (09Q1) • Deployed/hosted registry of reusable tools and components (09Q2)
Lifecycle Management	<p>Task Two: Evaluate and define the nine stages of the geospatial data lifecycle and identify common capabilities to allow cost-benefit return on investment (ROI) for shared services</p> <p>Task Three: Define and establish A-16 data steward lifecycle responsibilities and performance measures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FDGC-approved lexicon of data lifecycle stages (08Q2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a repeatable process for modifying A-16 appendices and recommendations for specific A-16 changes (09Q4) • Proposal for government wide management of data lifecycle for most significant data sets (09Q4)

Work Group	Responsible Tasks	FY08 Milestones	FY09 Milestones
Geo-Enabled Business	<p>Task Five: Develop outreach programs to demonstrate the value of “place-based” approaches and geospatial technology</p> <p>Task Ten: Provide a broker service for data searching among agencies which will build on and improve existing systems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Communications Strategy and Implementation Plan (08Q2) • CAP grants evaluation and compilation of best practices (08Q2) • Development and dissemination of two best practice articles supporting agencies in geo-enabling their programs (08Q4) 	To be determined
Grants and Contracts	<p>Task Six: Develop and implement common grants language for geospatial information and services</p> <p>Task Seven: Develop and implement geospatial requirements language for Federal contracts (FAR, DFAR)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of proposed grants guidance language in 2 CFR (08Q4) • Development of voluntary agency-specific contract language models (08Q4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved timeline for changes to FAR/DFAR or addition to contracts (09Q1)
Technical Architecture	<p>Task Nine: Develop Requirements and Recommendations for Technology and Telecommunications Infrastructure Required to Deliver Geospatial Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of FEA Geospatial Profile, Version 2.0 (08Q4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Web services testing and requirements reporting (09Q4)

Table 2-2: Geospatial LoB FY08 and FY09 Work Groups, Tasks, and Milestones

3 FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009 GEOSPATIAL LINE OF BUSINESS STRATEGIC PLAN

This section provides summary information on the ten major tasks outlined in the PM Strategy. It briefly provides information on the draft subtasks currently expected to be initiated in FY08 and FY09, and offers estimates of Federal and contractor resources associated with these subtasks.

3.1 Task One: Review/update FGDC guidance documents

Review guidance governing FGDC, including OMB Circular A-16 and the Geospatial LoB Common Solution and Target Architecture (CSTA), to determine recommended changes to FGDC organizational structure and membership, roles and responsibilities, stewardship lifecycle operating procedures, standards development, and related activities.

Task Lead: John Mahoney, DOI-USGS

Intermediate Outcomes: Increased agency use of data standards, grant/contract policy compliance, active communities, broader adoption of GIS technology by federal agencies

End Outcomes: Data reliability, cost effectiveness, customer utility

3.1.1 Description

The review and update of FGDC governance processes and documents will result in more effective and coordinated management of Federal geospatial programs and investments.

Interagency collaboration for geospatial-related activities and investments across all levels of government is a prerequisite for effectively leveraging taxpayer dollars. Subtasks will serve to re-energize the FGDC and make it easier for FGDC member agencies to:

- Identify, evaluate, and implement common geospatial priorities, services, processes, and best practices;
- Signal effective Federal leadership and competence to non-Federal geospatial stakeholders; and
- Enhance coordination among geospatial community stakeholders.

3.1.2 Major Milestones and Subtasks

Milestone Name	Quarter of Completion
Memorandum from Deputy Secretary Scarlett designating FGDC Coordination Group as assuming the responsibilities of the Geospatial LoB Task Force	08Q2
Geospatial LoB Performance Management Plan	08Q2
OMB concurrence with proposed changes to A-16 appendix on data themes	09Q2

Subtask Name	Subtask Description	Quarter of Completion
1.1	Transition LoB Task Force roles and responsibilities to FGDC Coordination Group as defined in LoB Common Solutions/Target Architecture document	08Q2

Subtask Name	Subtask Description	Quarter of Completion
1.2	Review and revise FGDC operational organizations (theme-based and LoB sub-groups) to align with JBC and Program Management Plan objectives (including procedures and criteria for changing data themes and theme leads)	08Q4
1.3	Complete Performance Management Plan	08Q2
1.4	Review OMB Circular A-16 to identify desired changes, particularly with respect to data themes and theme leads, and secure FGDC Steering Committee and OMB approval	08Q4
1.5	Align FY09 FGDC CAP grant solicitation with JBC and Program Management Plan objectives	09Q1
1.6	Review A-16 and revise appendices to include Data Lifecycle Management (nine stages) requirements for Data Stewards; develop/define A-16 common terminology, processes, and procedures	09Q2

3.1.3 Task Dependencies

Task 1 has the following dependencies:

- Task 3: Define and establish A-16 data steward lifecycle responsibilities and performance measures, and
- Task 5: Develop outreach programs to demonstrate the value of “place-based” approaches and geospatial technology.

3.2 Task Two: Evaluate and define the nine stages of the geospatial data lifecycle and identify common capabilities to allow cost-benefit ROI for shared services

Define the nine stages of the geospatial data lifecycle (including identifying and developing common terminology and practices as well as assessing existing practices) in order to determine best practices that allow for shared services.

Task Lead: Wendy Blake-Coleman, EPA

Intermediate Outcomes: Active communities

End Outcomes: Information timeliness, customer utility

3.2.1 Description

Current geospatial efforts are largely conducted independently across Federal agencies based on agency-specific geospatial business requirements. Duplicative efforts to capture data and services result in parallel business processes and potential disinvestment. There is a need to foster an environment where Federal agencies use common standards to publish and share geospatially-enabled data. As geospatial

data stewards and consumers better articulate needed investments in thematic data, more effective strategies can be employed to meet data user requirements of Federal agencies and other users.

Specific attention is needed to:

- Create cost-efficient access to geospatial data and information facilitated by shared requirements, acquisition strategies, and flexible processing methods;
- Coordinate geospatial requirements and capabilities; and
- Enhance thematic data layer portfolio management on an interagency basis.

After identifying authoritative datasets and their sources, this work group will coordinate with Geospatial One Stop (GOS) to ensure that information on these datasets is posted on the GOS portal for others to access.

3.2.2 Major Milestones and Subtasks

Milestone Name	Quarter of Completion
FDGC-approved lexicon of data lifecycle stages	08Q2
Proposal for government wide management of data lifecycle for most significant data sets	09Q4

Subtask Name	Subtask Description	Quarter of Completion
2.1	Define the nine lifecycle stages and create a detailed lexicon including the following: inventory, collect/produce, process, analyze/use, store, publish, distribute, archive, and dispose	08Q2
2.2	For each A-16 data theme: a) identify known data sets; b) based on available information, for each data set, list current leads, production schedules, milestones, performance measures, and budget; and c) based on agreed-upon criteria, identify the most significant data sets for each theme	08Q2
2.3	Define geospatial data lifecycle stages (e.g., common terminology, practices, and procedures); propose how to reconcile terms under key Federal documents (e.g., LoB, CSTA, A-130, and FEA); establish a matrix depicting the geospatial lifecycle phases/sub-elements and determine granularity	08Q3
2.4	Based on identification of the most significant data sets for each theme, quantitatively assess opportunities to capture efficiencies in development and maintenance (cost, schedule, and quality) of lifecycle stages on a government wide basis; identify 'best practices' for each lifecycle phase	09Q4
2.5	Structure annual A-16 theme data steward report consistent with the lifecycle lexicon	09Q2

3.2.3 Task Dependencies

Task 2 dependencies include:

- Task 1: Review/update FGDC guidance documents,
- Task 4: Expand SmartBUY (and alternatives) for geospatial data and technologies, and
- Task 8: Implement MOUs/SLAs/ELAs for common geospatial services.

3.3 Task Three: Define and establish A-16 data steward lifecycle responsibilities and performance measures

Identify and evaluate key stakeholder geospatial data requirements and compare these requirements to work under way on A-16 themes and associated data, including definitions/standards, data production schedules, milestones, and budgets. Make recommendations for improving the management of the A-16 portfolio, including developing interagency communities of interest under data steward leads, adjusting the content of the A-16 portfolio inventory, and make recommendations for applying these approaches to non A-16 data sets of national significance.

Task Lead: Wendy Blake-Coleman, EPA

Intermediate Outcomes: Increased agency use of data standards, cost savings, grant/contract policy compliance, active communities, broader adoption of GIS technology by federal agencies

End Outcomes: Data reliability, information timeliness, cost effectiveness, customer utility

3.3.1 Description

Although information sharing is occurring within some communities of interest, the atypical nature of common data acquisition, sharing, standards, and practices results in unnecessary inefficiencies and costs. Establishing partnerships, communities of interest, and lead agency (data steward) responsibilities and budgets will promote accountability and efficiency across government.

One of the primary objectives of the Geospatial LoB Common Solutions/Target Architecture document is to optimize and standardize common geospatial functions, services, and processes to be more responsive to customers.

This task will promote objectives including:

- Implement guidance provided through the FEA Geospatial Profile;
- Adopt, deploy, and promote effective use of geospatial interoperability standards; and
- Establish an LoB-wide business architecture for common functions associated with geospatial information.

3.3.2 Major Milestones and Subtasks

Milestone Name	Quarter of Completion
Development of a repeatable process for modifying A-16 appendices and recommendations for specific A-16 changes	09Q4

Subtask Name	Subtask Description	Quarter of Completion
3.1	Compare the results of the FY06 and FY07 OMB Geospatial Data Calls and FY07 A-16 data theme/layers report to identify commonalities, inconsistencies, and discrepancies as a basis for defining data requirements or priorities	08Q2
3.2	Identify additional key /nationally significant data themes, data layers and associated data content standards not on the current A-16 list, but should be considered for inclusion based on user requirements and develop a repeatable process for modifying A-16 appendices (This subtask includes reconciliation of existing agency A-16 responsibilities with Homeland Security Information Program (HSIP) recommendations)	08Q4
3.3	Analyze the difference between work currently being done or scheduled under A-16 compared to user requirements for both A-16 and other nationally-significant data sets	09Q4
3.4	Complete plan to address identified gaps between current A-16 data work and user needs identified under task 3.4 to include harmonization of data definitions and feature classes, and standards, developing COI and adding/deleting data sets from A-16	10Q3
3.5	Make recommendation for establishing Minimum Data Standard, definitions and feature classes for non A-16/Nationally Significant Data Themes in support of NSDI (consult with NGAC)	10Q2

3.3.3 Dependencies

Task 3 dependencies include:

- Task 1: Review/update FGDC guidance documents, and
- Task 2: Evaluate and define the nine stages of the geospatial data lifecycle and identify common capabilities to allow cost-benefit ROI for shared services.

3.4 Task Four: Expand SmartBUY (and alternatives) for geospatial data and technologies

Expand SmartBUY (and alternatives) efforts for geospatial data and technologies and consider government wide licenses, or shared licenses for smaller agencies that could be facilitated by a designated agency.

Task Lead: Matthew Leopard, EPA

Intermediate Outcomes: Cost savings, active communities

End Outcomes: Cost effectiveness, customer utility

3.4.1 Description

The General Services Administration's (GSA) SmartBUY Program utilizes group discounts through volume purchasing. SmartBUY uses common, high utility, flexible agreements to improve access to and lower the cost of licenses. SmartBUY also ensures that smaller agencies or smaller groups of users can gain access to the best technologies at the lowest cost. Options to add geospatially-related products and services to GSA SmartBUY will be identified and evaluated. Work Group efforts will identify products and services or recommend use of SmartBUY or other government wide contract vehicles with the intention of providing meaningful tools and direction to Federal agencies consistent with the Federal Enterprise Architecture. Cost efficient acquisition, processing, and access to geospatial data and information can be facilitated by coordinated acquisition strategies within the Federal sector.

Designated lead agencies are expected to:

- Coordinate geospatial requirements and capabilities, and
- Identify opportunities and consolidate geospatial acquisition activities when cost-effective and when all essential agency requirements are met.

The Common Services Work Group will review data captured during the 2007 Geospatial LoB data call to identify Federal agency requirements for geospatial technologies and services including current contract vehicles. In addition, the Work Group will determine if a need for new vehicles, products, or services is identified by the data call. GOS will serve this work group as a channel for publicizing opportunities for sharing geospatial software as well as cross-agency collaboration to establish ELAs.

3.4.2 Major Milestones and Subtasks

Milestone Name	Quarter of Completion
ELA scope requirements and acquisition plan	08Q2
Selection of ELAs to pursue	08Q3
ELA negotiation strategy	08Q3
Establishment of two multi-agency ELA agreements	09Q1
Deployed/hosted Registry of Reusable Tools and Components	09Q2
Template for data, tool, and policy sharing	10Q2

Subtask Name	Subtask Description	Quarter of Completion
4.1	Review results of 2007 data call; compile summary pertaining to technology spending to establish baseline understanding; conduct a licensing needs analysis based on available information (2007 data call and other sources)	08Q2
4.2	Develop license purchasing scenarios for the federal community, identifying and redefining schedules based on scenarios as necessary, then tailoring technical and functional requirements to support profiles of small, medium, and large agencies	08Q3
4.3	Develop and implement cross-licensing agreements and contracts	09Q2
4.4	Develop and launch reusable tool component registry concept and publish list of Geo-tools	09Q3
4.5	Seek two to three tools and services for CY08 deployment	09Q2
4.6	Develop approach to continue to expand enterprise licenses and share data	09Q2
4.7	Assess "50 States Initiative" state plans to determine cost share opportunities	09Q1

3.4.3 Dependencies

Task 4 dependencies include:

- Task 2: Evaluate and define the nine stages of the geospatial data lifecycle and identify common capabilities to allow cost-benefit ROI for shared services,
- Task 5: Develop outreach programs to demonstrate the value of “place-based” approaches and geospatial technology,
- Task 8: Implement MOUs/SLAs/ELAs for common geospatial services, and
- Task 10: Provide a broker service for data searching among agencies which will build on and improve existing systems.

3.5 Task Five: Develop outreach programs to demonstrate the value of “place-based” approaches and geospatial technology

Develop outreach programs for program managers and architects to communicate the value of geospatial approaches to business processes, especially to audiences that have limited experience with geo-enabled decision-making. The Work Group’s vision is to prepare Federal program managers and executives to identify their geo-enabled business needs, gaps in their geospatial capabilities, and opportunities for collaboration in their business outcomes; collectively, leading to economies of scale, purchasing power, and cost-avoidance. FGDC communication vehicles (i.e. Spatially Speaking, the GOS website

geodata.gov), conferences, and government news publications will help facilitate the dissemination of communication products spearheaded by this work group.

Task Lead: David Paschane, VA

Intermediate Outcomes: Increased agency use of data standards, cost savings, active communities, broader adoption of GIS technology by federal agencies

End Outcomes: Customer utility

3.5.1 Description

Application and use of geospatial concepts and technologies continues to grow within the federal government with further potential for expansion. Increasing the use and demonstrating the value of geospatial technologies, in addition to promoting the geospatial “tagging” of data, would facilitate effective use of information and collaboration across agencies and levels of government.

Development of programs to educate, demonstrate, or pilot use of geospatial information and technologies through place-based outreach programs can increase the use of geospatial technology as well as improve service delivery and cost-effectiveness. Three activities to pursue in this area are:

- Support the identification and execution of communication activities;
- Assist other work groups to achieve their communication goals;
- Reach out to professional associations focused on specific programmatic mission areas that are non-traditional users of geospatial data and demonstrate the potential value of that information and technology; and
- Work with Senior Agency Officials for Geospatial Information (SAOGIs) to identify those data sets which would be most useful to agencies, and establish priorities and schedules to accomplish geo-enabling.

3.5.2 Major Milestones and Subtasks

Milestone Name	Quarter of Completion
CAP grants evaluation and compilation of best practices	08Q2
Final Communications Strategy and Implementation Plan	08Q2
Development and Dissemination of two best practice articles supporting agencies in geo-enabling their programs	08Q4

Subtask Name	Subtask Description	Quarter of Completion
5.1	Develop Geospatial LoB Communications Strategy and Communications Implementation Plan	08Q4
5.2	Execute Communications Implementation Plan	09Q1
5.3	Execute communication-focused FY07 Category 4 CAP grants and evaluate their effectiveness	08Q4

3.5.3 Dependencies

Task 5 dependencies include:

- Coordination of task-specific communications needed by other work group,
- Approval of drafts and content inputs from members of the Geospatial LoB,
- Completion of subtask by the awardees of the Category 4 CAP grants,
- Development of communication messages from the Geospatial LoB workgroups,
- Funding for communication materials from the FGDC or Geospatial LoB, and
- Conducting Federal market analysis through the Geospatial LoB data calls.

3.6 Task Six: Develop and implement common grants language for geospatial information and services

Review OMB grants policy and development guidance for terms and conditions, including a means of passing common-language information to grantors and grantees.

By providing guidance that requires Federal grantees to use Federally-approved geospatial data standards as well as report metadata on geospatial data acquisitions, geospatial data created as a result of Federal grant making will become more accessible and useful to the entire NSDI community. In addition, pointing grantees to metadata catalogues and data clearinghouses will help grantees avoid duplicative data acquisition and increase the value obtained from grant funds.

Task Lead: Lew Sanford, DOJ

Intermediate Outcomes: Increased agency use of data standards, cost savings, grant/contract policy compliance, active communities, broader adoption of GIS technology by federal agencies

End Outcomes: Data reliability, information timeliness, cost effectiveness, customer utility

3.6.1 Description

Federal grant programs are independently administered across Federal agencies. The Catalogue of Domestic Federal Assistance, managed by the Office of Management and Budget, provides metadata on Federal grant programs, and www.grants.gov allows on-line grant applications. While there are a few explicitly geospatial grant programs distributing a small amount of money, there are many Federal grants that do not have geospatial activity as their primary purpose, but may nonetheless produce geospatial information in the course of accomplishing their primary purposes. The geospatial spending associated with these non-geospatial grants can be significant. However, there is no consistent guidance for how grantees acquire or manage geospatial data they secure with Federal grants. The lack of common guidance provides an opportunity to enhance coordination among Federal agencies and their grantees regarding the management of geospatial information and services.

Productive intergovernmental collaboration for geospatial-related activities and investments across all sectors and levels of government is a critical goal needed to leverage taxpayer dollars. Efforts around this task will provide a coordinated approach for developing and implementing grants requirements in order to:

- Enhance coordination across geospatial community stakeholders, and
- Enhance LoB-wide portfolio management.

Additionally, GOS portal users will directly benefit as additional geospatial metadata and data are made available by grantees at the GOS portal.

3.6.2 Major Milestones and Subtasks

Milestone Name	Quarter of Completion
Adoption of proposed grants guidance language in 2 CFR	08Q4
Development of voluntary contract language models	08Q4

Subtask Name	Subtask Description	Quarter of Completion
6.1	Determine process for both grants updates to 2 CFR	08Q2
6.2	Work with OMB to finalize grants policy guidance and terms and conditions language	08Q4

Subtask Name	Subtask Description	Quarter of Completion
6.3	Conduct meetings to resolve policy issues; meet with OMB (all); meet on Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) issue with OMB/OIRA concerning grants; track and resolve open items	08Q3

3.6.3 Dependencies

Task 6 dependencies include:

- Task 7: Develop and implement geospatial requirements language for Federal contracts (FAR, DFAR).

3.7 Task Seven: Develop and implement geospatial requirements language for Federal contracts (FAR, DFAR)

Develop and implement voluntary language requirements for federal contracts related to geospatial technology and develop a strategy for the implementation of FAR and DFAR language revisions.

Task Lead: Lew Sanford, DOJ

Intermediate Outcomes: Increased agency use of data standards, cost savings, grant/contract policy compliance, active communities, broader adoption of GIS technology by federal agencies

End Outcomes: Data reliability, information timeliness, cost effectiveness, customer utility

3.7.1 Description

Many agencies use contractors to acquire geospatial data, or to perform work for the government that the contractor decides requires them to acquire geospatial data using Federal funds. This activity is largely conducted independently across Federal agencies based on individual program requirements. There are few efforts to ensure that contractors acquire data to commonly approved standards, or that they routinely make that data accessible to other Federal agencies, leading to duplicative spending on geospatial data and services. This task will promote the following objectives:

- Avoid duplicative data acquisition by Federal contractors, and
- Ensure that data acquired by contractors and owned by the government is collected to appropriate standards and readily discoverable by and accessible to other Federal and non-Federal agencies.

Additionally, GOS portal users will directly benefit as additional geospatial data metadata is made available by contractors on the GOS portal.

3.7.2 Major Milestones and Subtasks

Milestone Name	Quarter of Completion
Approved timeline for changes to FAR/DFAR or addition to contracts	08Q1

Subtask Name	Subtask Description	Quarter of Completion
7.1	Work with acquisition community to assess the feasibility of developing voluntary, agency-specific contract language	08Q4
7.2	Engage OMB and GSA to develop a strategy for FAR and DFAR geospatial contract language provisions	09Q3
7.3	Brief key stakeholders to reacquaint them with intended grants/contracts language	08Q3
7.4	Set timeline for changes to FAR/DFAR or addition to contracts	09Q1

3.7.3 Dependencies

Task 7 dependencies include:

- Task 6: Develop and implement common grants language for geospatial information and services.

3.8 Task Eight: Implement MOUs/SLAs/ELAs for common geospatial services

Implement MOUs/SLAs/ELAs to facilitate secure geospatial information sharing for rapid access and retrieval of existing sensitive geospatial information from reliable government repositories or commercial sources.

Task Lead: Matthew Leopard, EPA

Intermediate Outcomes: Increased agency participation, cost savings, active communities, Geospatial LoB awareness

End Outcomes: Data cost effectiveness, customer utility

3.8.1 Description

Some Federal agencies have access to geospatial data that would be extremely useful to other agencies. A mechanism is needed to facilitate easy but appropriate sharing of geospatial information across the Federal government to benefit agencies that have programmatic need for information possessed by or available to other agencies through the formulation of Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs). The availability of the SLAs and ELAs accomplished under this task would be communicated at GOS's geodata.gov portal, among other venues.

3.8.2 Major Milestones and Subtasks

Milestone Name	Quarter of Completion
Template for Data, Tool and Policy Sharing	08Q2

Subtask Name	Subtask Description	Quarter of Completion
8.1	Identify existing MOUs/SLAs/ELAs across Federal government for secure data sharing (HSIP)	10Q2
8.2	Recommend best practices for establishing MOU/SLA/ELA for additional data sharing across stakeholder communities	11Q2

3.8.3 Dependencies

Task 8 dependencies include:

- Task 2: Evaluate and define the nine stages of the geospatial data lifecycle, and identify common capabilities to allow cost-benefit ROI for shared services, and
- Task 4: Expand SmartBUY (and alternatives) for geospatial data and technologies

3.9 Task Nine: Develop requirements and recommendations for technology and telecommunications infrastructure required to deliver geospatial services

The majority of activities under this task will be occurring in FY2009 and FY2010. As a result the subtasks are presently not fully defined. Members of the Technical Architecture Work Group responsible for executing this task led the development of the Common Solutions/Target Architecture document which serves as a foundation for other tasks, especially Tasks 2-4. Technical Architecture Work group members will also continue to assist with interpretation and implementation of the CS/TA to accomplish other Geospatial LoB tasks.

Task Lead: Doug Nebert, DOI-USGS

Intermediate Outcomes: Increased agency use of data standards

End Outcomes: Customer utility

3.9.1 Description

There are certain statutory powers provided to agency CIOs and OMB's E-Government Executive that the Geospatial LoB can take advantage of to achieve its vision. For instance, the Clinger-Cohen Act allows OMB to impose legally-binding requirements on agency IT managers. The CIO Council has a role in the development of legally-binding Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) for agencies. The CIO

Council also has oversight of the Federal Enterprise Architecture (FEA), which includes the Geospatial Profile, and is therefore in a position to advocate necessary changes to the Geospatial Profile or FEA as the Geospatial LoB evolves. A longer-term goal of the LoB is to better utilize these processes to promote the success of the Geospatial LoB.

3.9.2 Major Milestones and Subtasks

Milestone Name	Quarter of Completion
Publication of FEA Geospatial Profile, Version 2.0	08Q4
Web services testing and requirements reporting	09Q4

Subtask Name	Subtask Description	Quarter of Completion
9.1	Solicit and process comments on the Geospatial Profile, V2, conclude agency review and approval, gain approval from the CIO Council and FGDC Coordination Group	08Q4
9.2	Promote the Profile through all possible channels to expand awareness and adoption; assess and develop supplementary documents and documentation to support additional audiences and improve uptake	10Q3
9.3	Process and advance periodic updates to the FEA Geospatial Profile as a result of LoB requirements and feedback and changes and evolution of FEA and external standards and practices	10Q3
9.4	Investigate and document operational demands and requirements of geospatial Web services as "Best Practices" for federal operators or contractors	10Q1
9.3	Engage other Geospatial LoB activities in the definition, operation, or acquisition of common geospatial services to assure adherence to the FEA Geospatial Profile and referenced reference model guidance	11Q1

3.9.3 Dependencies

Tasks 2, 4, 5, 8, and 10 – all related to implementation context

3.10 Task Ten: Provide a broker service for data searching among agencies that will build on and improve existing systems

A long-term goal of the Geospatial LoB is to explore enhancements or alternatives for a broker service/Help Desk function for data searching among agencies (peer-to-peer, service-to-service) that will build upon and improve existing services. It will steer novice agency users of geospatial information in the right direction in terms of meeting their data, services, software, and hardware needs. The majority of activities under this task will be occurring in FY2009 and FY2010. As a result the subtasks are presently not fully defined. GOS will be explored as a possible delivery mechanism for these services.

Task Lead: David Paschane, VA

Intermediate Outcomes: Increased agency use of data standards, cost savings, active communities, broader adoption of GIS technology by federal agencies

End Outcomes: Data reliability, information timeliness, cost effectiveness, customer utility

3.10.1 Description

Many facets of geospatial data and technology are complex. Users of this data and technology often vary in their ability to access existing data and services as well as in their understanding about how to use the data and services. An improved broker service/help desk function can alleviate some of these challenges by guiding novice users as they access and use geospatial technology, as well as assisting experienced users with more complex data searches. Additionally, the broker service/help desk function will assist all users in connecting to active communities of interest where they can find more geospatially-experienced colleagues with similar programmatic interests who can act as coaches. This service will increase data reliability, efficiency in accessing data, cost-effectiveness in terms of reduced unnecessary data acquisition, and customer utility through better decision making informed by geospatial information. The Geo-Enabled Business Work Group will look at current broker models and explore means to give novice geospatial users more streamlined access to the geospatial data that best serves their needs.

3.10.2 Major Milestones and Subtasks

Milestone Name	Quarter of Completion
Evaluation of existing and alternative geospatial broker services	09Q3
Complete pilots to assess the geo-enabling of information exchange networks among Federal and partner networks	11Q1

Subtask Name	Subtask Description	Quarter of Completion
10.1	Identify geospatial best practices and comprehensive listing of existing broker services and later, define broker services approach that best supports needs of target communities.	09Q3
10.2	Conduct pilots to assess the geo-enabling of information exchange networks among Federal and partner networks	11Q1
10.3	Develop a communications approach for cross-agency investment strategy for data management and use within a geo-enabling business framework; regularly update the Communications Strategy and Implementation Plan to reflect changes in approach	10Q4

3.10.3 Dependencies

- Task 4: Expand SmartBUY (and alternatives) for geospatial data and technologies, and
- Task 5: Develop outreach programs to demonstrate the value of “place-based” approaches and geospatial technology.

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