

**NSDI Cooperative Agreements Program
Metadata training & Outreach Project
Final Project Summary**

**Agreement Number: 06HQAG0114
FINAL Report**

Organization: Strategic Consulting International
1323 E. 71st St. Suite 102
Tulsa, OK 74136

Project Leader: Eric Jones

Project Narrative:

Strategic Consulting International conducted 7 training workshops to a diverse group of end users. Activities consisted of creating and preparing metadata class materials and investigating and learning the various tools that can be used to create and serve metadata. The workshop was well received by the attendees. The attendees were provided the necessary tools to begin the process of metadata creation and publication. Overall, there was an excellent response to the workshops.

Metadata training and outreach assistance

-The following organizations received metadata training:

- Oklahoma Corporation Commission
- Oklahoma Biological Survey
- Oklahoma House of Representative
- Oklahoma State Department of Health
- AT&T
- ACOG
- American Associates of Petroleum Geologist
- Cherokee Nation
- Muscogee Nation
- Citizen Potawatomi Nation
- Chickasaw Nation
- INCOG
- Oklahoma Boll Weevil Eradication Organization
- Oklahoma Water Resources Board
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Indian Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Lake Region Electric Corp
- Aerial Data Service, Inc
- Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality

- City of Edmond
- Enercon Services, Inc.
- Parsons / Tinker Air Force Base
- University of Arkansas
- Williams Companies
- Corps of Engineers

-Competency of individuals and organizations

Based on the time spent with the attendees, it was apparent that competency of the attendees varied. This is to be expected. Some state agencies have a great deal of experience in creating geospatial data and are therefore aware of metadata. Other agencies are just beginning geospatial data creation and have no concept of the value of metadata.

-Level of proficiency or competency of trainees

The attendees were generally proficient in the use of GIS software, which helped in the training process. Several of the attendees were frequent GIS users. All attendees were able to utilize the metadata creation tools utilized in the workshop.

-Number, duration and venue of workshops

The following workshops were presented:

- SCI training room, Oklahoma City, OK - July 25, 2006, 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. 10 attendees
- SCI training room, Tulsa, OK - August 9, 2007, 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. 10 attendees
- SCI training room, Oklahoma City, OK - August 30, 2006 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. 7 attendees
- DEQ training room, Oklahoma City, OK - Sept 7, 2006 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. 11 attendees
- SCI training room, Oklahoma City, OK - October 25, 2006, 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. 7 attendees
- SCI training room, Tulsa, OK - February 28, 2007, 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. 8 attendees
- COE training room, Tulsa, OK - March 31, 2007, 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. 12 attendees

-Character of workshop and participants

The workshops consisted of a PowerPoint presentation on the definition, value and use of metadata and the NSDI Clearinghouse. In addition, the workshops also consisted of demonstrations of various metadata creation tools and hands-on assistance in metadata creation using the attendees' own geospatial data sets. A variety of participants attended the workshops. Participants came from diversified fields and backgrounds; Tribes, Federal agencies, State agencies, and private companies. Many different disciplines were represented such as; Oil & Gas, Environmental quality, Educational, Political, and Geological.

Status of Metadata Service

Currently, Oklahoma has two metadata clearinghouse nodes: Strategic Consulting International and the University of Oklahoma's Geo-Info System's Oklahoma Data Warehouse. To date, no metadata entries have resulted from this project.

Next Steps

SCI has completed the training workshops for this project

-We will continue to provide metadata creation assistance to any entity that requests it. We will also be adding a special metadata creation portion to our regularly scheduled training classes.

-SCI recognizes the value of metadata standardization and because of this has established relationships with several entities to promote metadata creation within the state. We have a good working relationship with the State Geographic Information Systems Council as well as the University of Oklahoma's Geo-Information Systems and Oklahoma State University's Oklahoma Center for Geospatial Information. We will strive to develop relationships with other geospatial creators as the opportunity arises.

-After SCI completes this series of metadata workshops, we plan on continuing the promotion of metadata creation within the state, by working through established organizations, and forging new alliances.

-Metadata creation can be a challenge, particularly for those new to the process. It is imperative that steps be taken to make metadata creation as painless as possible. The new software tools currently available make metadata creation much easier, and the continued development of such tools would be welcomed.

-SCI believes the FGDC is working in the right direction by providing local incentives to promote metadata and train users in the creation of metadata. It is important that the entire metadata creation process be as user-friendly as possible to ensure that all data creators feel comfortable in creating and sharing their data.

-SCI hopes that metadata creation and hosting activities will continue after the end of the project performance period. SCI also hopes that those workshop attendees who successfully create and post their metadata will share their experiences with others, who will then begin the process of creating their own metadata.

Feedback on Cooperative Agreements Program

-The Cooperative Agreements Program has served the geospatial industry well of the past several years by providing funding to the local level to meet local needs. The wide variety of projects funded has served as catalysts to the development of many additional worthwhile activities. Like most grant programs, funding remains an issue, but the FGDC does an excellent job of doing the most with the amount of funding available.

-The program makes the greatest difference at the local level, where funds for training and development of pilot projects are often nonexistent.

-SCI believes that the assistance provided by the grantor has been both sufficient and effective. Of particular benefit was the workshop in Denver conducted by Sharon Shin. The workshops assisted by providing a good foundation on what was expected by the cooperative agreement and also by being the source of good workshop materials.

-As new grantees to the Cooperative Agreements Program, SCI has no recommendations on what should be done differently.

-We are not aware of any missing factors or needs to consider. The Cooperative Agreement provides sufficient freedom to create and conduct quality metadata creation workshops to meet the needs of at the local level.

-The time frame is sufficient to meet the terms of the agreement.

-When we do this again, we will begin offering the workshops earlier. However, it takes time to develop workshop materials and this must be factored into the process.