

Expanding Use of the GIS Inventory System

Category 3: 2012

NSDI Cooperative Agreements Program Expanding Use of the GIS Inventory System

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Project title: Expanding Use of the GIS Inventory System

Final report

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Collaborating Organizations:

- 1) City of Miami, Ita Ntekim, GIS Coordinator, Ntekim@miamigov.com,
- 2) Water and Sewer Department, Jose L. Lopez, Computer Services Manager,
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- 3) GIS Planning and Zoning, Computer Services Manager, Ileana J. Cea, 111 NW 1st
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- 4) GIS Environmental Solutions, Computer Services Manager, Charlton Lewis, 701 NW 1st
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- 6) City of South Miami, Hector Mirabile and Carmen V. Baker, City Manager and Chief
Coordinating Officer, 6130 Sunset Drive, South Miami, FL, 33143.
- 7) Miami-Dade GIS Users Group, Chair, Josh Brashears, 5680 SW 87th Avenue, Miami,
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Executive Summary

The main objective of the project was the publication of metadata for layers that were available for public access. Up to March 2015, a total of 253 new layers were documented. During the total period of the project, staff received training in the use of the GIS Inventory System. The principal investigator received training in the use of the harvesting tools and used it for the automated publication of the metadata files. In August 2013, a paper was presented at the ESRI International User Conference: “Metadata Publication in the National GIS Inventory (Ramona

System)”. In September 2013, another presentation was held at the Miami-Dade GIS Users’ Group for local GIS experts and users. An application was developed to eliminate metadata tags that were not needed for publication. In March 2015, two training sessions were held with various GIS Managers and power users in the use of the GIS Inventory. A presentation was created for that purpose, which is included as a separate addendum.

Overall, the project was a very good initiative to support the creation and maintenance of metadata for the County’s GIS datasets. The use of the GIS Inventory system gives Miami-Dade County the opportunity to participate in a national project that promotes the dissemination and sharing of geographic datasets metadata in order to plan and build a statewide data infrastructure (SSDI). The initial scope of the project has been completed, and Miami-Dade County plans to continue publishing its data in the GIS Inventory.

Project Narrative

The project was divided into various phases. The initial phase was the identification of the GIS datasets available for public access that were lacking metadata. The objective was to document them all, and it was accomplished. A total of 253 layers were published in the GIS Inventory. The publication of these layers was done by using the automated harvesting tool provided in the GIS Inventory. This tool helped in reducing the time for publishing the data. Part of the metadata files contained tags that were not needed in the inventory, and for that reason, an automated tool was developed to eliminate those tags. The second phase was the registration of the GIS Managers in the Inventory. The final phase was the correction of some of the metadata files based on the results of the harvesting process with its subsequent re-harvest after fixing the files. The final phase also included the preparation of a PowerPoint presentation for the training of the GIS managers that was subsequently published in the County’s SharePoint site. The training was coordinated and shared with Miami-Dade County’s Category 1 Metadata Trainer and Outreach Assistance Principal Investigator.

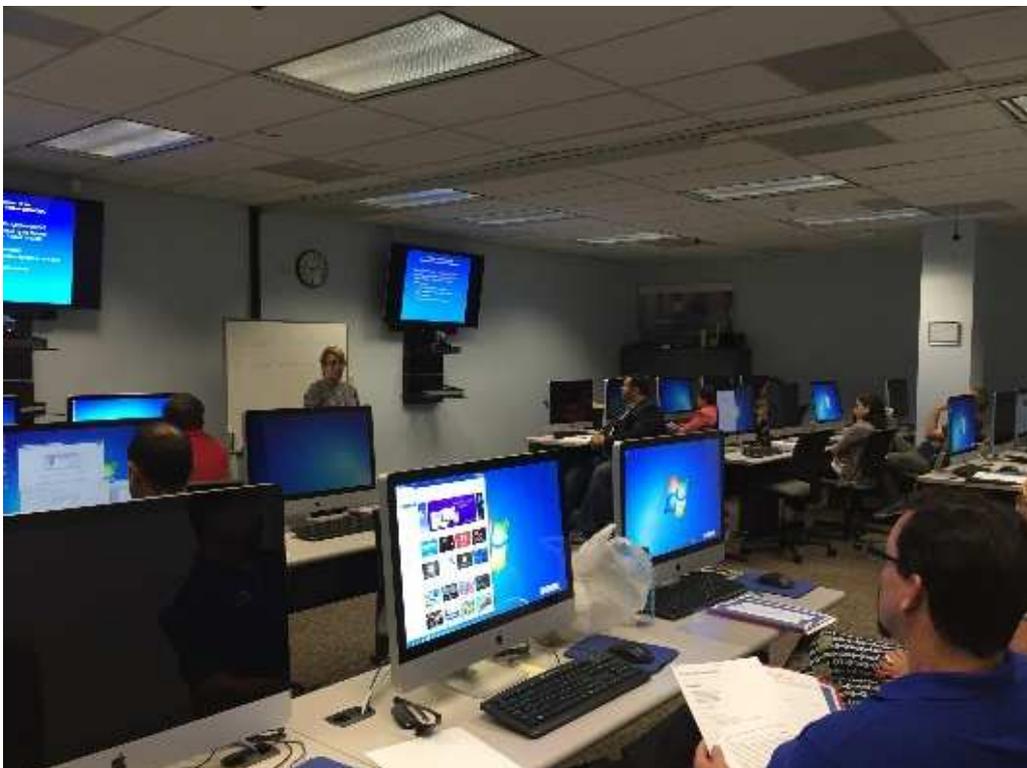
The following GIS managers have accounts on the GIS Inventory System.

- 1) Mary Fuentes, Director, Information Technology Department, Enterprise Solutions Division, mmh@miamidade.gov
- 2) Martha Guerra, Systems Support Manager, GIS Technical Support, mrg@miamidade.gov
- 3) Patty Madrid, Computer Services Manager, GIS Solutions, apm@miamidade.gov
- 4) Charlton Lewis, Computer Services Manager, GIS Environmental Solutions lewisc@miamidade.gov
- 5) Ileana Cea, Computer Services Manager, GIS Planning and Zoning, icm@miamidade.gov
- 6) Jose L. Lopez, Computer Services Manager, GIS Water and Sewer, jll@miamidade.gov

Summary report of all entries from the GIS Inventory entered or updated as a result of the award

Category	Number of Layers in Ramona
Biota	2
Boundaries	62
Economy	1
Elevation	2
Environment	11
Geoscientific Information	2
Health	26
Imagery/Base Map/Earth Cover	8
Inland Waters	5
Location	2
Oceans and Estuaries	2
Planning/Cadastre	15
Society	34
Structures	38
Transportation	36
Utilities and Communication	7
Total	253

Photos of Metadata Class on March 2015



Next Steps

- *Project's activities that will continue after the performance period*

Miami-Dade County plans to continue updating the GIS Inventory to keep it up to date.

- *Formal or informal organizational relationships that have been established to sustain activities beyond performance period.*

The Principal Investigator of this grant has been working closely with the Principal Investigator of the Category I grant in Miami-Dade County in order to keep the metadata as updated as possible. They have created good organizational relationships with the professional staff that support the GIS Inventory system and the FGDC Metadata Committee.

- *Next phase of project*

The next phase will consist of standardizing the keywords and tags used in the metadata to conform to standards. Besides that, the County will continue creating metadata for new datasets and plans to continue their publication in the GIS Inventory.

- *Requirements (more technical assistance, software, other)*

Continue participating in the Quarterly FGDC Metadata meeting.

- *Other areas that require work*

Metadata needs to be created for the GIS layers that are not available for public access and that are not documented.

Feedback on Cooperative Agreements Program

- 1) What are the CAP Program strengths and weaknesses?

The CAP Program provided Miami-Dade County with the funds to create the missing metadata for the County datasets as well as the startup funds to publish its metadata in the GIS Inventory. The GIS Inventory is an essential resource for state and local governments for the dissemination of geographic information. Using the GIS Inventory, staff found other entities that maintain data that can be of interest to the County.

- 2) Where did it make a difference?

The CAP Program allowed the County to have a presence in the GIS Inventory with national reach.

3) Was the assistance you received sufficient or effective?

Miami-Dade County received excellent and prompt assistance in all technical issues related to the harvesting tool and the publication of the metadata files. A demo was requested as part of the help for new users, and a video of a live demo was created and provided in a prompt manner.

4) What would you recommend that the FGDC do differently?

All recommendations were made during the period of the grant, and they were satisfied.

5) Are there factors that are missing or are there additional needs that should be considered?

There are no additional needs for Miami-Dade County.

6) Are there program management concerns that need to be addressed, such as the time frame?

There are no concerns from a program management perspective. Due to limited resources and other concurrent projects, Miami-Dade County had to request two extensions for the completion of the project, and they were immediately granted.

7) If you were to do the project again, what would you do differently?

Miami-Dade would evaluate more closely existing projects, expected workload and available resources before committing to complete project within expected timeframe

Closing statement

Miami-Dade County appreciates the funding that was made available to allow the County to have a presence in this important one stop geographic site of national reach.