

NSDI COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS PROGRAM

MAY 2009

The National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) represents a broad consortium of government agencies and non-government organizations that work together to promote more cost-effective production, ready availability, and greater utilization of geospatial data across a wide range of disciplines. The NSDI Cooperative Agreements Program (CAP) was established by the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) to help form partnerships among organizations to implement the NSDI.

The CAP funds innovation in the GIS community to build the infrastructure necessary to effectively share, manage, and use digital geographic data. Some of the pieces that fit into this broad effort are people, organizational know-how, best business practices, collaboration, education, tools, technology, the Internet, standards and data. This collaboration has become an integral part of GIS organizations in leveraging the limited resources available to them to meet the demand of communities to create and use geospatial data for sound decision-making.

CAP participation is open to all sectors, except for Federal agencies, and has included:

- ❖ Federal agencies prior to 2008
- ❖ State governments
- ❖ County and City governments
- ❖ Tribal organizations
- ❖ Academic institutions
- ❖ Regional organizations
- ❖ Private organizations

CAP FUNDING PHILOSOPHY

- ❖ Reach new organizations
- ❖ Implement proven solutions
- ❖ Sustainable projects
- ❖ Encourage/require partnerships and collaboration
- ❖ Seed funding
- ❖ Require in-kind resource match (dollars) as appropriate
- ❖ Fund infrastructure development
- ❖ Once implemented move on to new startups

CAP PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS

- ❖ Funding in categories
- ❖ Cooperative Agreement funding vehicle
- ❖ Encourage information exchange
- ❖ Year performance period
- ❖ Projects results can be measured
- ❖ Since 1994, over 600 projects funded
- ❖ Grants range between \$25,000 to \$100,000

CAP FUNDING CATEGORIES

- ❖ Clearinghouse implementation
- ❖ Metadata tool development
- ❖ Educational outreach
- ❖ Framework data demonstration projects
- ❖ Standards development and implementation
- ❖ Establishment of coordination groups
- ❖ Development of State strategies and business plans
- ❖ Geographic information integration
- ❖ Geo-Enabled Federal business initiative

For more information about NSDI CAP activities, please visit:
<http://www.fgdc.gov/grants> or contact:
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