



2001 NSDI Cooperative Agreements Program

The National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Cooperative Agreements Program (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 organizations in leveraging the limited resources available to meet the demand of communities to create and use geospatial data for sound decision-making.

Since 1994 the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) has funded in partnership with the geospatial data community projects that advance the NSDI. Over the Internet **metadata** is becoming an internationally established means for organizations to preserve the knowledge that went into creating a dataset as well as providing the user with a basis for data discovery and evaluation. Globally, there are over 200 **clearinghouse** sites that provide for data access. In addition, evolving web-based technologies present an opportunity to develop the next generation of geospatial data access and display. There is a growing acceptance of the need for the availability of common basic data – **framework** that can be relied upon for timely, cost-effective applications.

Visit the FGDC web site for detailed information on these NSDI topics, web site links, and contact information of past NSDI CAP projects.

Approximately \$1,000,000 is available for the FY 2001 CAP program. Collaborative and sustainable projects are encouraged as well as projects that support state or regional GIS infrastructure goals. Federal, state and local government, academic, regional, tribal, profit and non-profit organizations may apply.

The CAP will fund projects in four areas:

(1) Don't Duck Metadata: Metadata Creation and Implementation provides assistance to organizations in acquiring the skill and knowledge to document data for clearinghouse discovery. Metadata is a basic first step in implementing the NSDI.

(2) Don't Duck Metadata: Metadata Trainer Assistance funds trainers to train organizations in metadata implementation.

(3) Clearinghouse Integration with Web Mapping Projects provide funding to extend clearinghouse nodes with OpenGis Consortium compliant web mapping service capabilities for integrated data viewing.

(4) Canadian/US Framework Collaborative Project provides funding assistance to U.S. organizations who are collaborating with Canadian counterparts to share, create and maintain data over a common geography.

General award guidelines for the CAP are: to reach the participation of new organizations, and to provide seed funding amounts to initiate the NSDI in sustainable endeavors. Please note that as a program to promote the implementation of the NSDI, the CAP does not provide funding for the creation of geospatial data. For more information contact David Painter at dpainter@usgs.gov or visit <http://www.fgdc.gov/funding/funding.html>

2001 CAP Application Materials and Instructions will be accessible at the FGDC web site. The program open period is January 17 through March 15, 2001. During the 60-day open period project proposals may be submitted.

www.fgdc.gov

National Spatial Data Infrastructure
2001 Cooperative Agreements Funding Program
Program Announcement 01HQPA0013

More information

- A total of \$1,000,000 is available for projects in 4 Categories.
- Applications are accepted from all U.S. organizations including Federal, state and local government, and academic, tribal, for profit and non-profit organizations. Federal organizations should note that these funds are for FY 2001.
- Closing date is **March 15, 2001** for the submission of proposal materials.
- One year awards will be announced this May and the project performance to begin in September 2001.
- Application materials and other information is on-line at the FGDC website:

<http://www.fgdc.gov/funding/cap2001.html>

CAP Program Categories

Category 1: Metadata Implementation Assistance

This category is appropriate for organizations beginning NSDI implementation.
Funding up to \$6,000, approximately 35 projects to be funded
In-kind match of 50% required

Category 2: Metadata Trainer Assistance

Funding up to \$30,000, approximately 4-5 projects to be funded
Applicant must demonstrate knowledge of metadata.

Category 3: Clearinghouse integration with Web Mapping

Funding up to \$20,000, approximately 10 projects to be funded
Applicant must have a registered clearinghouse node serving metadata.

Category 4: Canadian/U.S. Framework Project

Funding up to \$75,000, one project to be funded.
In-kind match of % 100 required.
Partnerships required and documented, one partner must be from private sector.

The fine print

- Program awards are made through a cooperative agreement; it is neither a contract nor a pure grant.
- Each of the four program categories has different goals and outcomes. Submitted proposal applications should represent only one of the categories. An organization may submit for more than one category, however, each category should be represented by a separate application proposal document.
- The intent of the CAP is to assist organizations in implementing the infrastructure (NSDI) necessary to improve the ability to discover, share, maintain and use digital geographic data. Program funds are not intended to support the creation, digitizing, purchase or collection of geospatial data. Nor is funding intended to initiate, upgrade or provide on-going support of an organization's GIS operation through acquisition of equipment or staff.
- When an in-kind match is required, geospatial data cannot be used as an in-kind match. Resources such as salaries, travel expenses and equipment dedicated to the project may be used.
- Funding is provided on a monthly or quarterly cost reimbursable basis.

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