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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Government of Kenya, through its current National Development Plan 2002 - 2008, is implementing an initiative for the establishment of National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) for efficient management of Geospatial Data in the country.

This 2nd NSDI Workshop aimed at making the first concrete step towards the establishment of NSDI in Kenya as recommended during the first NSDI Workshop held on 12th November, 2001.

The participants were drawn from the main Government stakeholders, Universities, Regional, International Organizations and the Private Sector that dealt with Geo-information either as Data Producers or Data Users. Twenty two (22) out of the invited twenty five (25) institutions were represented. There were thirty eight (38) participants.

All the planned ten (10) presentation papers were made. These presentations were on the efforts being made for preparing Geo-information and its use in various organizations, various experiences as well as issues on the role of the National, Regional, International and Private Sectors in the country. The papers formed a basis of discussion on various issues in the establishment of National Committee on NSDI.

For any NSDI to work, the first task is to have an inventory of who has what data and of what type. This has already been started through questionnaire sent out to all participating institutions whose summary is included in these proceedings.

The NSDI Secretariat submitted a proposal on the structure of the National Committee on NSDI. The proposed structure was discussed at length before finally being adopted with some few amendments.

The workshop made and agreed on the following recommendations: -

- ? *The Structure of the National Committee was agreed on.*
- ? *The Terms of Reference of the National Committee including those of the Sub-committees/Working Groups (WGs) were defined.*
- ? *The committees that were agreed on were an Executive Committee, a Steering Committee and four (4) Working Groups (WGs), viz; Standards, Legal Education and Dissemination.*
- ? *The participating institutions indicated what Working Groups they wanted to serve in.*
- ? *The Survey of Kenya was asked to convene all the Working Groups, as a first step, after which chair /conveners were to be elected and schedule of the committee planned.*

OPENING SPEECH



H. NYAPOLA
DIRECTOR OF SURVEYS

Dear Participants,

Let me thank the organizers of this 2nd NSDI Workshop for bringing us together. We last met at KISM during the 1st NSDI Workshop and our aim was to familiarize ourselves with NSDI issues.

I want to go back a little bit and mention about the RIO Summit, which was held some years ago and came up with Agenda 21 on sustainable development.

The Government of Kenya is anxious on solving poverty related problems as addressed in the Agenda 21.

The summit came up with a number of initiatives and two of which are of interest to us are; -

- ? The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure and
- ? The Global Map Development

The two initiatives try to address the issues of coming up with proper tools for sustainable development.

The world is now focusing on RIO + 10 World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD) meeting of world leaders in August/September 2002 in Johannesburg, South Africa. Our Government has already prepared a paper for the summit.

Currently, Survey of Kenya has already prepared the Global Map of Kenya and a Draft Policy on Geo-information has already been developed to be incorporated in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Policy which will address the issue of Geo-information and NSDI component and issues related to sustainable development.

The Government has prepared its National Development Plan and has incorporated in its Action Plan development of NSDI for Kenya.

We are the major stakeholders of NSDI and the information held by our organizations is core in establishment of NSDI in Kenya, we must therefore strategize and see how to kick-off this NSDI knowing that Spatial Data Infrastructure is becoming as important as building of roads and provision of other basic services.

The components of spatial data infrastructure are core data sets, data documentation, standardization, information policies and communication technologies.

We as a country should;

- ? Adopt policies promoting greater public access to geo-information.
- ? Expand investment in the collection of basic digital geoinformation, based on assessment of existing and future information needs.
- ? Document geo-information resources and publish this information widely for decision makers, researchers, academia, etc

As custodians of the information, it is our role to make it available to be used in poverty eradication and other issues on policy documents of various ministries.

We should;

- ? Invest in human capacity to use geo-information including training of officers and personnel to move from traditional to modern ways of using and capturing data even at academic level.
- ? Invest in technical capacity to acquire, manage and provide access to geo-information.
- ? Initiate formal program for the development of our spatial data infrastructure and especially training people to be literate in information technology (IT).

This NSDI initiative can be used to convince the Government to avail the relevant funds and it is my hope that by the end of today we will have seen the light and the way forward.

I wish you a fruitful day in your deliberations.

Thank you.