Requirements Analysis for Developing a National GIS Infrastructure for Trinidad and Tobago

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Abstract

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) provide a better storage and distribution mechanism for spatial data than the classical hardcopy map, hence, the growing increase in the demand for a national or corporate approach to its development. A national GIS will serve the spatial data needs of several public and private agencies to meet their various land management activities. The development of a national GIS, however, hinges on the existence and continual maintenance of three basic infrastructure elements: data, technology and institutions. This paper analyses elements of this infrastructure vis-a-vis requirements for the establishment of a national GIS in Trinidad and Tobago.