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NIGERIA' NATIONAL GEO-SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE : PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS

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1. INTRODUCTION

- Nigeria has commenced the implementation of a national Geospatial Data Infrastructure (NGDI)

- A Draft National Policy on NGDI is ready

- The Apex Coordinating Agency Has been selected

- National Committee on NGDI has been put in place

- Sub- Committees are now being created

- Contractors and service providers for NGDI have been appointed

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2. National NGDI Policy Framework

- National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA), an Agency under the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology is the Apex coordinating Agency

- Vision Statement include among others
  - i. To Facilitate cooperation and collaboration among stakeholders in generating geospatial databases
  - ii. To establish institutional, legal, technical and administrative framework for acquisition of datasets, access to data and efficient sharing of data
  - iii. To promote research, training, education and capacity building
  - iv. To promote investments in the production of geospatial databases
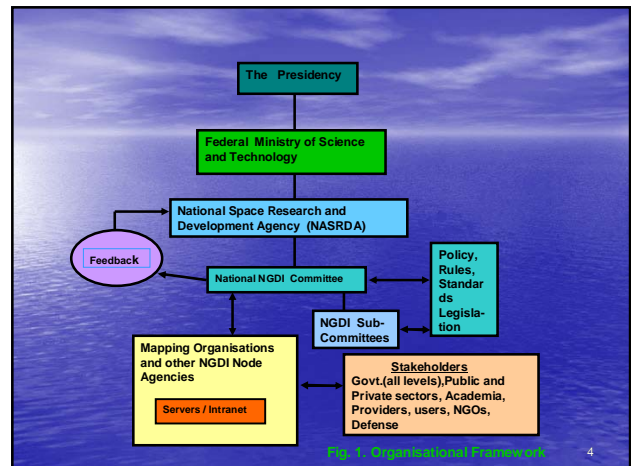
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Fig. 1. Organisational Framework

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3. Policy Issues on NGDI Components

- Geospatial Datasets
  - a. Fundamental Datasets (Geodetic control database,Topographic Database/DEM,Administrative boundaries, Transportation data,Hydrographic data, Landcover / Landuse data, Geological and Demographic Database
  - b. Thematic Datasets: The policy identified two categories
    - Those that can be produced only by legally mandated agencies
    - Those that can be freely produced according to specific user requirements
- Standards: The policy acknowledges universally accepted standards for for GI acquisition, presentation and transfer
  + Portability, Interoperability and access, Maintainability +
- Metadata
- Legal Issues (Ownership, copyright, confidentiality)
- Data Access and Data Security (Restricted and Community Access)
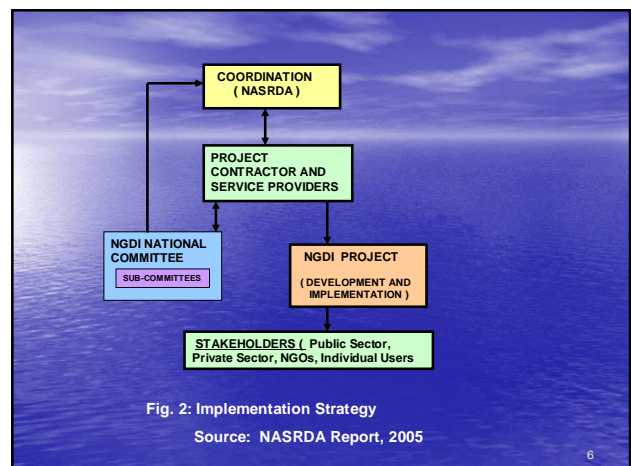- Institutional Arrangement (see fig. 1)

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Fig. 2: Implementation Strategy

Source: NASRDA Report, 2005

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5. Problems

- Lack of current fundamental and thematic datasets in the country

- Necessary laws and legislations on NGDI policies and standard not yet in place

- Inadequate Technology: Telecommunication facilities still problematic. Electricity Power supply to back NGDI activities still very poor

- Problems exist in the Institutional arrangement yet to be addressed

- Availability of trained personnel still a problem

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6. Prospects

- Development of Cadastral Database for the Country

- Creation of large pool of current digital topographic and thematic Databases for the Country

- Increased Funding for GI activities in the Country

- Increased efforts at capacity building, training and research.

THANK YOU

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