

Land Administration and Spatial Data Infrastructures

Ian WILLIAMSON, Donald GRANT and Abbas RAJABIFARD
Australia

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SUMMARY

Internationally the spatial data infrastructure (SDI) concept has focussed on national SDIs. However SDIs are increasingly focussing on large scale people relevant data (land parcel based data or build environmental data) with the result that today it is suggested most SDI activity worldwide is at this level. A central aspect in understanding these developments is the evolution of mapping, and the growth of land administration systems and national mapping initiatives in different countries.

The objective of this paper is to discuss the evolving nature of SDIs away from a simple national concept to a complex hierarchy where large scale SDIs are the major influence. The paper concludes with a discussion of policy development and the impact of institutional arrangements in managing spatial information.