Arctic Spatial Data Infrastructure

Enabling Access to Arctic Land and Marine Data Across Borders, Across Time

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Outline

• Arctic SDI – Definition
• Components:
  – Governance
  – Stakeholders requirements and technical support
  – **Data and standards**
  – Operational policies
  – Applications (i.e. Geoportal)
• Catalogues and Spatial Web Services Harvesting
• User Needs Assessments

Video:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VtITedwelAk
A Spatial Data Infrastructure
Allows sharing geospatial data in an efficient and flexible way

The Arctic SDI...
...adheres to Open Data Standards

Important datasets are produced and distributed by many stakeholders...

... and its development is facilitated by the National Mapping Agencies of the eight Arctic Countries.

... most of it can be geographically referenced
A Cooperative Model in the Arctic

The Arctic SDI is focused on:

- Working with organizations to make their data available, with a focus on the Arctic Council,
- Understanding the needs and requirements of stakeholders,
- Information Management best practices (lifecycle of geospatial data),
- Open data standards and provision of authoritative data,
- Helping users and data contributors understand how to participate.
## Arctic SDI Strategic Plan 2015-2020: 6 Objectives

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Arctic SDI Data Working Group

The Data WG is a sub-group of the Technical Working Group with Terms of Reference approved Jan. 2018. Areas of interest include:

- Focus on Arctic issues by evaluating spatial data requirements,
- Advise and engage in Geoportal related data activities, and
- Engage in outreach and communication activities.

Proposed Activities 2018/19

- Arctic SDI high level data flows diagram
- Process for thematic data separation and prioritization
- Arctic Council data priorities
- Marine Data Infrastructure: Collaborating with International Hydrographic Organization - Arctic Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group (ARMSDIWG)
- Academic and scientific data
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Data Lifecycle and Standards

- **Acquisition**: Earth Observation, Statistical, Vector, Sensor Data
- **Management**: Description, Metadata and Storage
- **Access**: Discovery
- **Use**: Analysis, Preservation
The Arctic SDI provides, via a web portal, easy access to:

- A searchable metadata catalogue
- Authoritative reference data as a Web Map Service (WMS) 1:250,000
- Thematic data (birds, ice cover, ship routes, land cover change, flora etc.)
- A geoportal for geospatial data viewing and discovery
Arctic SDI Metadata Catalogue

The Metadata Catalogue for Arctic SDI is built on GeoNetwork 2.6. It provides a machine to machine Discovery Service API (OGC CSW) but also a GUI (Graphical User Interface) for administration (e.g. configuration of harvesting metadata from other metadata catalogues). The official UI for the Metadata search is the Arctic SDI Geoportal.

Responsibilities
The service is operated by the Swedish Mapping, Cadastral and Land Registration Authority in the Arctic SDI cloud environment hosted by the Norwegian Mapping Authority.

Standards Compliance
The Catalogue is compliant with the OGC CSW API version 2.0.2 and ISO 19115/19139 metadata profiles.

Access Information
The metadata catalogue can be openly accessed through the Search tab -> Metadata Search tab in the Arctic SDI Geoportal.

Link to Catalogue Service API (Capability file):
http://arcticsdi.lm.se/geonetwork/srv/en/csw?service=CSW&request=GetCapabilities

Essential interactions in a service-oriented architecture
Arctic Web Services Harvesting
An Evergreen Catalogue Approach

Service identification (crawler)

Arctic SDI member websites / geoportals

Update service descriptions

Database

Monitor QoS

Control datasets

Tune and refine the filter (weights and thresholds)

Choosing data & services relevant for the Arctic SDI domain
Authoritative Topographic Basemap

Provided Directly from the
8 Arctic National Mapping Agencies

- Common Cartographic Specification
- A Trusted Source of Detailed Information

Southern Svalbard: Arctic SDI Basemap vs. Google Maps
Arctic SDI Geoportal / Arctic-SDI.org

Functionalities

- Location Search
- Metadata Search
- Map Layers & Coordinate Tool
- Time Series (WMS-T)
- Embedded Maps Wizard
- Your Own Maps
- Geoportal Administration
Technical Support

- Assisting CAFF with thematic data services
- MODIS satellite data derived products:
  - Vegetation Indices (incl. NDVI)
  - Land Cover Type
  - Snow Covered Area
  - Sea Surface Temperature (SST)
  - Marine Chlorophyll-a
- Time-Series Migratory Bird Index
- ...
Embedded Maps

2012 Arctic Report Cards describe dramatic changes in the Arctic (December 4, 2012)

December 4, 2013, U.S.A - The Arctic Council, through the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) and the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna's (CAFF) Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Programme (CBMP), has contributed to the Arctic Report Card, an annual report released today by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) that monitors the often-quickly changing conditions in the Arctic.

The peer-reviewed report contains contributions from 141 authors from 15 countries. For this year's issue CAFF's CBMP developed and edited the terrestrial and marine ecosystem chapters in cooperation with others, while AMAP organized an independent peer-review process involving international experts.

The Arctic region continued to break records in 2012—among them the loss of summer sea ice, spring snow cover, and melting of the Greenland ice sheet. This was true even though air temperatures in the Arctic were unremarkable relative to the last decade, according to the report.

Major findings include:

- **Snow cover**: A new record low snow extent for the Northern Hemisphere was set in June 2012, and a new record low was reached in May over Eurasia.
- **Sea Ice**: Minimum Arctic sea ice extent in September 2012 set a new all-time record low, as measured by satellite since 1979.
- **Greenland Ice Sheet**: There was a rare, nearly ice sheet-wide melt event on the Greenland Ice sheet in July, covering about 17 percent of the ice sheet on a single day.
- **Vegetation**: The tundra is getting greener and there's more above-ground growth. During the period of 2003-2012, the length of the growing season increased through much of the Arctic.
- **Wildlife and Food chain**: In northernmost Europe, the Arctic fox is close to extinction and vulnerable to the encroaching red fox. Additionally, massive phytoplankton blooms below the summer sea ice suggest estimates of biological production at the bottom of the marine food chain may be ten times too low.
- **Oxyn**: Sea surface temperatures in summer continued to be warmer than the long-term average at the growing ice-free margins, while upper ocean temperature and salinity show significant interannual variability with no clear trends.
- **Weather**: Most of the notable weather activity in fall and winter occurred in the sub-Arctic due to a strong positive North Atlantic Oscillation. There were three extreme weather events including an unusual cold spell in late January on Arctic Siberia. 2013 also set new records in Eurasia, with more severe winter and record snowfall events and...
Operational Policies

Arctic-SDI.org:

- SDI Manual for the Arctic
- Data Sharing Agreements
- Guidelines for Data Providers (under creation)
- Geoportal Disclaimer (Terms of Use):

“This Arctic SDI Geoportal is intended to provide free and open access for any user. Some data available through this Geoportal may have usage restrictions. Using some features of the Geoportal may require registering and signing in as an authenticated user. The Arctic SDI incorporates data from multiple, distributed providers and each data set has a specific license. Arctic SDI's Geoportal Metadata Catalogue links to these data licenses as supplied by the respective data providers and it is the responsibility of the user to comply with these licenses, disclaimers, and/or copyright notices...”

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The objective of this project is to **conceptualise, document, frame and develop** detailed user needs assessments (UNAs) that will gather the requirements of Canadian stakeholders and the international Arctic community in terms of:

- data and services (land and marine),
- standards
- technologies (e.g. applications)
- operational policies
- collaboration, and
- leadership & governance.

Specifically, this project will consist of researching and detailing the SDI requirements of different communities:

- Canadian stakeholders (CGDI),
- International Arctic Community, and
- Indigenous Communities (First Nations, Inuit, Métis).
Data Providers, Platforms and Facilitators

- Arctic Spatial Data Infrastructure (Arctic SDI) Geoportal
- Polar Thematic Exploitation Platform (Polar TEP)
- GEOSS Portal
- Observing Systems Capability Analysis and Review Tool (OSCAR)
- Global Change Master Directory (GCMD)
- Polar Data Catalogue (PDC)
- Exchange for Local Observations and Knowledge of the Arctic (ELOKA)
- Atlas of Community-Based Monitoring in a Changing Arctic
Data Access and Use Issues

Access/Use of required data is impeded by a number of data issues

- Missing Metadata for OGC Web Services
- Proprietary/custom data formats
- Lack of styling for Vector Data
- Incorporating temporal characteristics into data
- Vendor Specific Solutions
- Openness and Accessibility of Data
- Poor Interoperability
- Inefficiencies of un-aggregated data
- Limited resources and capacity
Sponsored by NRCan and USGS, in collaboration with the Arctic SDI participants, this Open Geospatial Consortium Arctic Spatial Data Pilot:

- Defined land and sea climate change scenarios to break down information management silos with technical piloting activities:
  - Improved access to reliable data for monitoring, management, emergency preparedness and decision making in the Arctic,
  - Produced videos to showcase how standards and common approaches to data management are deployed.
- Addressed technology issues to meet the realities of Arctic frontier economies, such as in zero/low bandwidth Internet.

http://www.opengeospatial.org/projects/initiatives/arcticsdp
Arctic Spatial Data Pilot - Videos

VIDEOS
Case Studies by Pilot Participants
DATA SPECIFICATIONS - ARCTIC SDI

• Thematic datasets:
  – Data used in climate change modelling (e.g. ground/cloud albedo, sea-surface temperature, ice thickness, 30 year averages of snow/temperature, ice extent and thickness, glaciers, permafrost, ...)
  – Coastline and near shore data
  – Data related for flora or fauna and/or their habitat
  – Paleoclimatological data
  – Black Carbon
  – Greenhouse gases (e.g. Methane)
  – Ozone
  – ...?
Supported standards in Arctic SDI Geoportal

- WMS 1.3
- WMS-T (temporal)
- WMTS (tile)
- WFS 2.0 (GML 3.2)
- ESRI REST services
- CSW (if you can create one with NSIDC Arctic metadata)
  - ISO 19115, 19139, etc.
- Support for the following projections (amongst others)
  - EPSG 3571 - 3576 (polar projections)
  - Web Mercator

Standards that we are working towards and need further support include:

- WCS 2.0
- WPS and/or DGGS to support analytical and modelling exercises or, alternatively, existing models that can be instantiated with distributed data via WPS/DGGS standards (service chaining)
- SOS for near real time monitoring (e.g. currents, physical chemistry, pollutants, temperature, etc.)
- Marine standards (e.g. OGC Marine DWG, IHO)
- APIs that respect standardization efforts
- SLD and improving cartography

Reference: SDI Manual for the Arctic with its Glossary of Terms.
In Summary

• Improved access to geospatial data can help us better to predict, understand and react to changes in the Arctic.

• Responding to the impact of climate change and human activities in the Arctic requires accessible and reliable data to facilitate monitoring, management, emergency preparedness and decision making.

• Important datasets are produced and distributed by many stakeholders – public and private sector – and most of it can be geographically referenced.