



Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure

The Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI) is a collection of publicly available geospatial data, applications, policies, and standards to help Canadians find, use, and share geospatial information. CGDI is a distributed 'system of systems' based on a high level of interoperability.

CGDI users include producers and consumers of data. Enabling access to geospatial data, developing capacity, and fostering collaboration among users and producers of geospatial data provides real benefits to people, the environment, and the economy.

Canadians use the CGDI every day, even if they don't realize it. When we check weather forecast or navigate using a smartphone app, we are creating and using geospatial data enabled by the CGDI.



CGDI Graphic: Showing data, policies, standards, technologies, applications and resources and how they fit together as puzzle pieces to enable collaboration

Benefits of the CGDI



Access to information saves time and money

CGDI helps users discover existing data to improve their knowledge and ability to address challenges and take advantage of opportunities in environmental management, climate change, and sustainable development. Creating data is expensive; CGDI helps avoid duplication of effort. In turn, data producers have an interest in ensuring that potential users know what data is available.



Keeping pace with digital technology development

Change in the technology industry is constant. CGDI helps users adopt standards technologies and applications, stay up-to-date, and adapt to potentially disruptive change.



Ensure systems can communicate and are interoperable

We live in a world where digital systems are increasingly connected and reliant on each other. Standards ensure that interconnected systems can be developed and share and access data, such as weather forecasts that can be accessed, used, and published to multiple platforms and devices.



Building capacity and fostering collaboration

CGDI datasets, technologies, policies, and standards provide a framework for users to understand how to use and share spatial data. Where gaps exist, training materials and other resources are available to support CGDI users with varied capacities.

How Do I Get Started?

The GeoConnections program under Natural Resources Canada provides leadership for development of the CGDI, supporting collaboration among users and providing knowledge and training materials for new to advanced users. Important Government of Canada contributions to CGDI include the Federal Geospatial Platform and contributing geospatial data to Open Canada.

Primer	Cookbook	Data Access	Resource Centre
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the CGDI? Benefits Components Getting started 	Recipes on planning, data, technology, policies, standards, and collaboration	Collections of data for areas and topics such as climate change and water resources	Access numerous CGDI Resources and studies at the link below ↗

LINK: <https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/earth-sciences/geomatics/canadas-spatial-data-infrastructure/8904>