ANZLIC
the Spatial Information Council

Meeting Highlights
31 August 2022

Highlights from the August 2022 ANZLIC meeting include a geospatial update from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, a presentation on the proof of concept for a New Zealand Property Spine, and Geoscience Australia's Exploring the Future program. These presentations highlight the extensive progress underway across the jurisdictions to modernise spatial data and make it more open and accessible.

Australian Bureau of Statistics geospatial update

Australian Bureau of Statistics

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) presented on the ABS foundational geo-statistical data, infrastructure, and capability and how these contribute to the Foundation Spatial Data Framework (FSDF).

The ABS play a central role in the collection and distribution of geospatial data and infrastructure at the national, state, territory, and regional levels. Some key products include the data by region profile - a publicly accessible, open source product that presents a range of key social and economic data to enable users to search and explore data for regions across Australia. Population Data from the 2021 Australian Population Census has been released. Additional datasets will be released later in 2022 and 2023 including employment and location-based variables.

Members discussed the ABS' role in influencing and contributing to Australia's geospatial landscape particularly due to their strong strategic partnerships in the geospatial sector, their role in setting and maintaining geospatial standards, and work on data workforce capability across the APS. ANZLIC will work to strengthen its partnership with the ABS to support a coordinated approach for updates to the FSDF and leverage efforts to address geospatial skills shortages.

New Zealand Property Spine – Proof of Concept between LINZ and Stats NZ

Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand

Stats NZ Tatauranga Aotearoa

The New Zealand Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) and Tatauranga Aotearoa (StatsNZ) demonstrated their proof of concept on the New Zealand Property Spine. The NZ property data spine organises and links corresponding data points between LINZ's existing National Property Spine (a collection of data on individual properties) and StatsNZ's census, dwelling and business data. The NZ Property Spine extends on an existing conceptual model developed by LINZ (the Property Data Management Framework[1]) that describes the relationships necessary between various data to form a picture of an individual property.

A proof of concept was established to determine whether LINZ's National Property Spine could be extended beyond its existing implementation to connect dwellings data from StatsNZ. Dwelling and business scenarios were tested, including whether it was possible to place a dwelling into a building situated on a complex property such as retirement village and an apartment.

The proof of concept has shown strong initial results and has the potential to extend beyond the StatsNZ use case to connect multiple, disparate property data in different datasets across government. By enabling data linking and standardisation across the NZ Government, the spine will reduce duplication of effort across government, reduce cost, enable data quality improvements, and support emergency response efforts.

[1] https://www.linz.govt.nz/our-work/property-information-system/property-data-management-framework

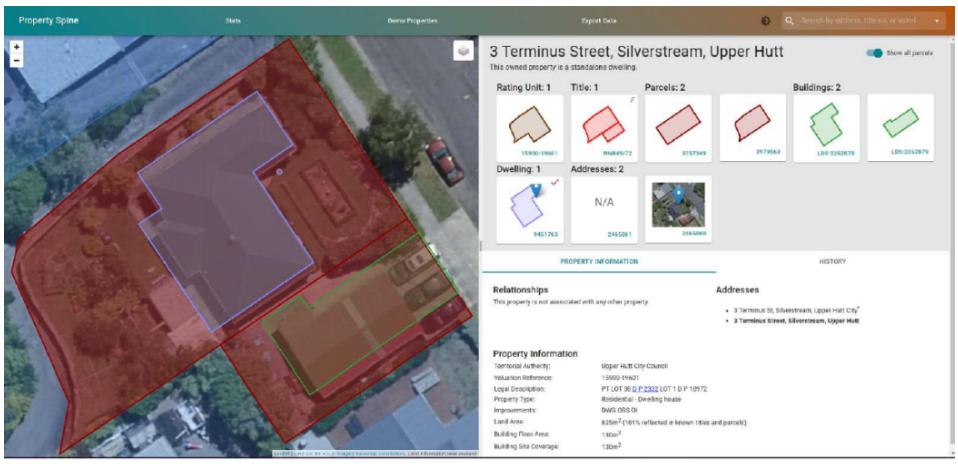

Image: This scenario shows a property with two buildings that did not have an address point attributed to a particular building. By applying geospatial proximity, the "most likely" dwelling to building link was formed. This scenario demonstrates that data linked in the NZ property spine, combined with innovative thinking can determine connections that would not otherwise be possible.

Exploring the Future - impact pathway

Geoscience Australia showcased the Australian Government's $225 million Exploring for the Future program and impact pathway which produces pre-competitive geoscience data to improve our understanding and management of Australia's vast, valuable, and untapped mineral, energy and groundwater resources.

Australian Government
Geoscience Australia

Using electromagnetic surveys, Geoscience Australia and its partners have collected geological data unprecedented in scale and detail from deep beneath the Earth's surface. The data has revealed resource-rich areas previously untapped such as the discovery of Sulphate of Potash - a vital fertiliser - in Western Australia.

The program supports government priorities including securing Australia's food and energy supplies, the transition to net zero, regional development and informed decision making across Australia, resulting in jobs and growth.

Geoscience Australia has collaborated with Commonwealth, state and territory government agencies, National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy facilities and cooperative CRCs, and university partners on Exploring for the Future program projects.

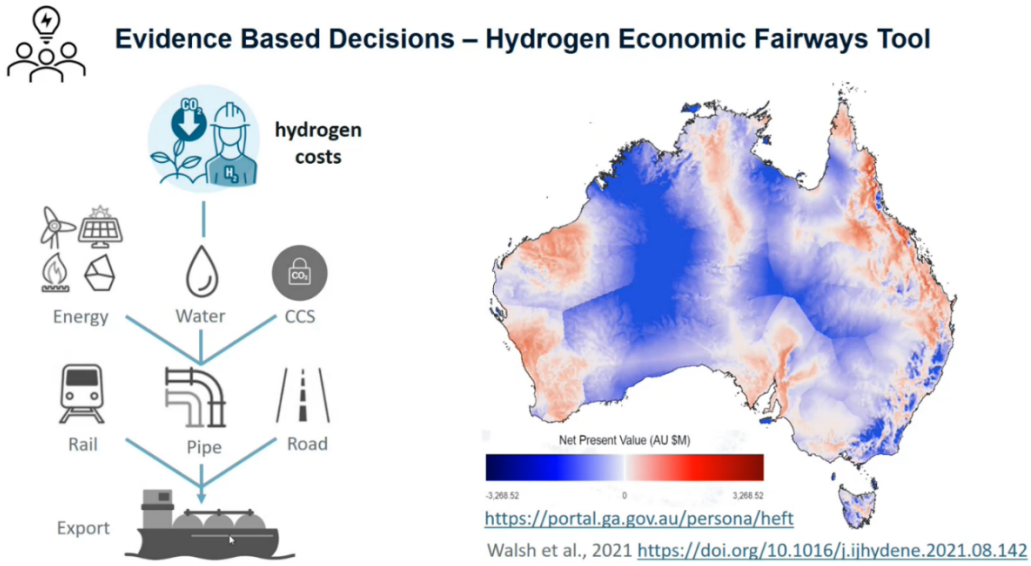

Image: The Hydrogen Economic Fairways Tool is a free online tool that shows the net present day value of potential hydrogen developments across Australia.[2]

[2] https://portal.ga.gov.au/persona/heft

Updated Roadmap to continue to implement ANZLIC's Strategic Plan 2020-24

ANZLIC and the Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying and Mapping (ICSM) are progressing the priority initiatives and enablers from ANZLIC's updated roadmap to continue to implement its Strategic Plan 2020-24.

ANZLIC continues to modernise the Foundation Spatial Data Framework through the release of the ICSM Addressing Working Group's Addressing 2035 strategy. Development of Geoscience Australia's Digital Atlas of Australia is progressing with a beta prototype available by mid-2023. The Department of Industry, Science and Resources continues to publish updated versions of Geoscape's Administrative Boundaries and Geocoded National Address File (G-NAF) on data.gov.au quarterly. The latest release in August 2022 includes a new product, G-NAF Core, which makes accessing geocoded addresses easier.

Jurisdictions are working collaboratively to progress their digital twin and spatial innovations. In August 2022, Victoria launched their Digital Twin Victoria platform. The platform brings together more than 4,000 local, state and national datasets to create 2D, 3D and live data that is accessible to people across the world.

In May 2022, ANZLIC and ICSM Members attended the Locate22 Conference and the meetings and networking events surrounding the event to support collaboration and engagement across the spatial sector. ANZLIC Chair, Melissa Harris, presented at a plenary session on ANZLIC's strategic priorities and update on the national roadmap.

To support improved diversity and inclusion in the spatial sector, ANZLIC collaborated with peak industry bodies to develop the Space, Spatial and Surveying Inclusion@Work report published in July 2022.