



The Science Data Coordinator Network (SDCN)

Presentation given to
USGS Community for
Data Integration (CDI)
on May 13, 2012

First, Some Specifics

- **Pilot project formed in August, 2011 at the CDI annual meeting**
- **Representation from each USGS region; partnership with CSS**
- **Initial work: develop charter and project plan (tasks)**
- **Re-establish ties lost during USGS realignment**

What is the SDCN?

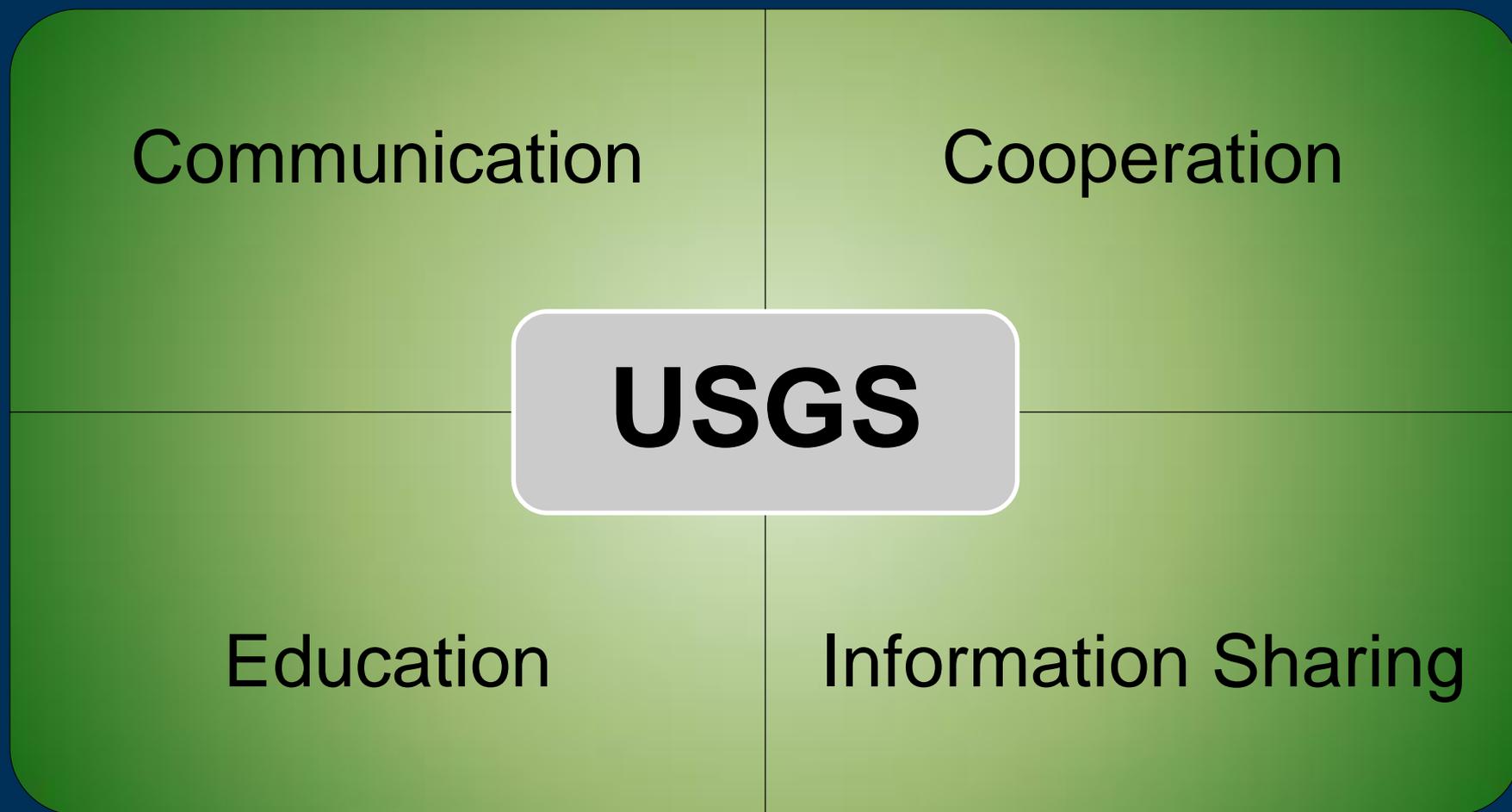
Connecting Resources in the USGS

SDCN facilitates collaboration across



- **Scientists, Managers & Information Specialists**
- **Data, Services, and Tools to Support Science**
- **Expertise & Skills to Solve Information Management Problems**

It's About *People* ... A Communication Network



The SDCN is *NOT*:



Hardware Acquisition



Hardware Installation



Network/Hardware Maintenance



A Storage Repository

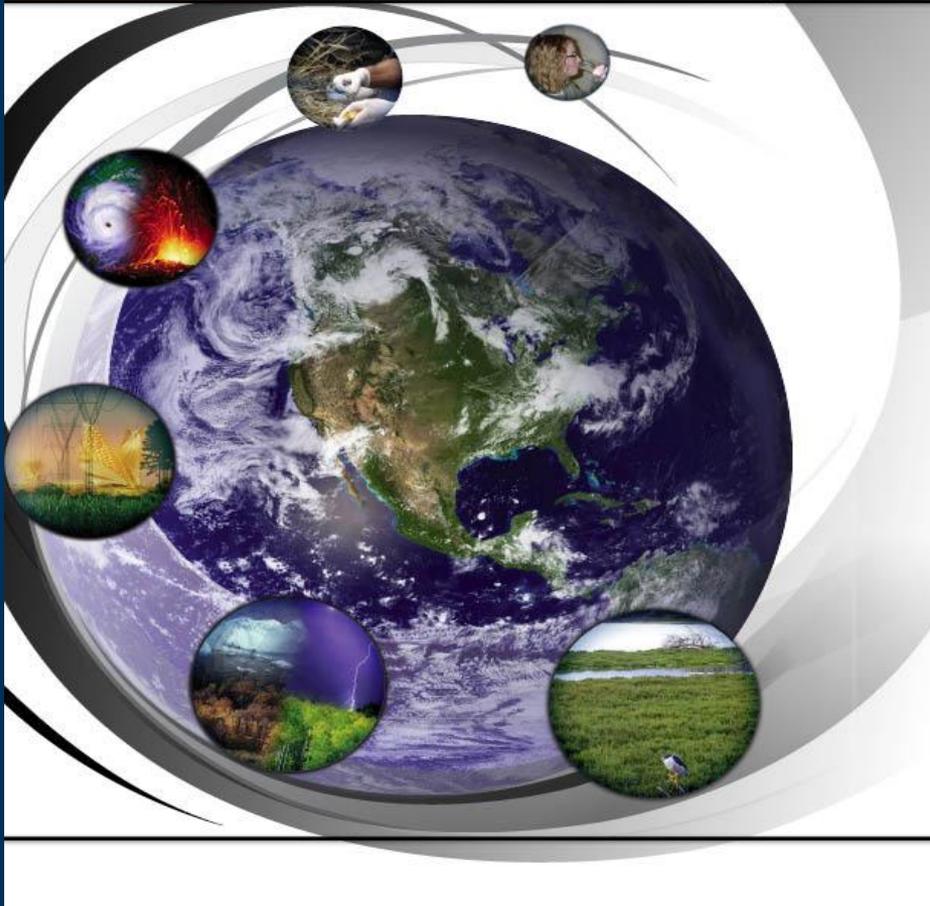


Prescriptive

Science Strategy Connection



Facing Tomorrow's Challenges—
U.S. Geological Survey Science in the Decade 2007–2017



“will use its information resources to create a more integrated and accessible environment for its vast resources of past and future data”

SDCN Enhances Existing Capability

- **Support collaboration on cross-cutting science issues by increasing information exchange**
 - **Increase interaction between Regions, Mission Areas & CSS**
 - **Provide Scientists & Managers mechanisms to share issues and learn about potential solutions**
 - **Facilitate access to USGS data, information & products**
 - **Augment USGS expertise on data management and integration**

SDCN Goals

- **Elevate ‘Best Practices’ from Science Centers and National capabilities**
 - **Promote common practices for consistency and efficiency**
 - **Improve data & information stewardship**
 - **Promote preservation, documentation & delivery**
 - **Promote services to meet local project/Bureau needs**
 - **Develop materials on data management, information services (including tools and technology), data sharing, and collaboration**

SDCN Current Activities

- Develop introductory documents, develop communication within and outside of the Network
- Identify people to participate in the Network (who/what/where)
- Identify issues, needs, and gaps; make recommendations
- Assess feasibility of data management assistance (compare eGIS, AskUSGS, AskAGeologist, for example)

Building the Connections

- Increase SDCN awareness
- Understand local information management issues, needs, and services
- Identify people who can help grow the Network's expertise and capability
- Participate in Community of Data Integration and other Communities to share knowledge about data management, services, tools, technology, and integrated science

CDI ↔ SDCN Connection

- Volunteer (CDI) vs. funded effort (SDCN)
- Focus on two-way communication using SDCN
 - Bring ideas, needs to a larger group (CDI)
 - Bring ideas, needs to a larger Survey community

CDI DMWG ↔ SDCN Connection

- SDCN identified 5 tasks, 3 of which have potential for collaboration with CDI Data Management Working Group (DMWG):
 - Landscape Characterization
 - Who, what, where
 - “Survey of surveys”
 - State of DM across the USGS
 - Data Management Help Desk
 - Review of existing support activities

Remaining FY2012 Work

- SDCN met in July and reviewed the status of our tasks
 - Finalized products and discussed what to hand off to other groups and how to best collaborate
- Begin communication between groups
 - Discuss how we might move forward together

SDCN Organization

- **Core staff that help facilitate a network across the Bureau**
 - **CSS**
 - **Areas**
- **Identify shared needs and strengths, and work to solve issues collaboratively**
 - **Bureau-wide participation as needed (not everyone all the time)**

Science Data Coordinators

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATIVE	CORE SCIENCE SYSTEMS REPRESENTATIVE
Northeast	Steve Tessler	Marcia McNiff
Midwest	JC Nelson Jessica Thompson	
Southeast	Heather Henkel	Jean Freeney
South Central	Leslie Armstrong	
Rocky Mountain	Dave Ferderer	Jennifer Carlino
Northwest	Jennifer Bayer	
Southwest	Derrick Hirsch	Julie Prior-Magee
Alaska	Carl Markon	

Next Steps for the SDCN

- Work together, focus on strengths, don't duplicate efforts
- Identify needs and challenges
- Ensure communication between SDCN and CDI is open
- Help each other

We want your feedback!

You can reach us at

- GS_SDCN@usgs.gov
- Through your Science Data Coordinator

Science Data Coordinator Network

Thank You

