

CoGIS

Collaborative GIS

A herd of elephants of various sizes, including several adults and a few calves, are gathered around a small water hole in a savanna landscape. The elephants are standing on dry, reddish-brown earth. In the background, there are rolling hills and a blue sky with scattered white clouds. The text 'CoGIS' is centered at the top, 'Collaborative GIS' is centered below it, and 'SAEON Data Portal' is centered at the bottom.

SAEON Data Portal

CoGIS – SAEON Data Portal

- CoGIS is a collaborative platform for sharing data and metadata
- Apart from SAEON, the CSIR is a major contributor to the development, maintenance and extension of the platform
- Other contributors include the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs and the National Research Foundation (NRF)



CoGIS – SAEON Data Portal

- The portal has been designed to support the following metadata standards
 - ISO 19115
 - ISO 19319
 - SANS 1878
 - EML
 - Dublin Core
 - Soon: Darwin Core, FGDC and cross-walks between the standards
- CoGIS is designed to integrate data from different sources, in different formats, scales and resolutions, into an integrated product for the end user



CoGIS – SAEON Data Portal

- The data can come from different sources and can be located in different organizations, so long as the relevant standards are adhered to
- The portal provides an interface for searching through a large number of metadata records, to find data records which are of specific interest
- The portal is SAEON's "tool" for delivering on its mandate to manage an information network to secure long-term data for current and future analysis of environmental change



CoGIS – Data Archiving

- Data archiving is critical for the long-term preservation of data
- The portal provides a platform for researchers AND students to archive their data and make it publically available for future use by fellow scientists
- Data does not need to be immediately disseminated to the public, it can be used for archiving your data until your project is complete – Backup tool
- The portal also provides a platform for these same researchers and students to access other datasets which are of use for their research
- The portal allows the user to search through 1000s of metadata records, stored in a huge variety of locations



CoGIS – Data Access

- SAEON promotes the responsible archiving and broadest possible dissemination of data
- Data archived with SAEON can fall into the following groups:
 - Publically available
 - Sensitive data (localities of rare/endangered species, data under copyright etc.)
 - Embargoed data (restricted access until the completion of the project, research, university degree, journal publication etc.)
- Data provider can specify the conditions of data access for a limited period or due to data/project sensitivity
- The metadata for sensitive or embargoed data will usually be available, with the necessary data owner contact details, so that a prospective user can contact the owner, if required.



CoGIS – Live demonstration

<http://data.saeon.ac.za>

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CoGIS, SAEON, CSIR, and Stakeholders

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What is CoGIS?

CoGIS is a collaborative platform for the sharing of spatial data and its meta-data. It is also capable of handling non-spatial data and document content, and provides support for additional domain-specific meta-data standards. It provides extensive search capabilities that can be tailored to

What is SAEON?

The South African Earth Observation Network (SAEON) is a major user of the CoGIS portal. SAEON consists of a number of biome-specific nodes, located throughout South Africa. SAEON's mandate includes long-term earth and environmental observation, education, and information management in our con

CoGIS Stakeholders

In addition to SAEON the CSIR is a major contributor to the development, maintenance, and extension of the CoGIS platform. Past contributors include the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs (DME) and the National Research Foundation (NRF). Possible future

Other Data Portals

- How does CoGIS differ from other data portals?
 - GBIF (Global Biodiversity Information Facility) www.gbif.org
 - SANParks (South African National Parks) <http://dataknp.sanparks.org/sanparks/>
 - SANBI Biodiversity Advisor <http://biodiversityadvisor.sanbi.org/>
- There are 100s of other data portals available
- CoGIS is an integrated portal – it will have all SANParks, GBIF (South Africa) and other's metadata as searchable records.
- It allows for a geographical search of all metadata across many of these portals



Questions

