**OGC®**

Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)



Call for Participation (CFP)

for

USGS Interoperability

Assessment Virtual Exercise

CFP Issuance Date: May 1 2014

**Response Due Date: May 31 2014**

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# Introduction

## Purpose

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC®) has released this Call for Participation (CFP) to in order to solicit interest in participating in interoperability assessment exercises. In particular, this is an invitation to communities of use of USGS data. The overall goal is to improve the user’s experience with USGS data services. The exercise will help evaluate the current tools, service instances, standard services, and best practices. The recommendations derived from the exercises serve users and developers: They will guide the developers of tools and standards to better serve the needs for the communities of use, whereas the communities of use learn about additional tools and approaches to optimize their workflows.

## Background

USGS data services get over 1 million hits per day, with data being used by a range of communities at the state, county, city, and other levels for a variety of purposes, such as science and decision-support. There’s interest to investigate whether the USGS data services meet user requirements. The National Geospatial Program (NGP) has the role to lead these types of investigations.

The vision of the NGP is to "satisfy the needs of users by providing geospatial products and services that users incorporate into their decision-making and operational activities." To support that vision the User Engagement (UE) team acts as the NGP technical outreach group and performs the following activities:

* Systematically gathers, analyzes and reports user requirements for The National Map (TNM) products and services from high priority communities of use
* Helps users exploit TNM products and services to meet their core mission requirements
* Develops and maintains relationships with users and sources of authoritative data sources
* Communicates NGP program activities and directions to the broad audience of government, commercial, academic and public professionals.

The NGP with help from the OGC is currently evaluating the different USGS services. The assessment is performed under the OGC Interoperability Program, that runs global, hands-on and collaborative projects designed for rapid development and validation of open, consensus based standards specifications.

The outcome of this evaluation will be a set of recommendations regarding the use of the tools, including both clients and services, as well as possible feedback to OGC standard working groups. The recommendations will help improve the process of users of incorporating USGS data into their decision-making and operational activities.

# The Exercise

Participants will engage in a two-hour virtual session to show how they use their tools and access USGS services to solve a problem. Details of the session are as follows.

* Each participant will do the following:
	+ Talk about a specific problem (decision making exercise or operational procedure)
	+ Demonstrate, sharing their screen how the problem was solved using their commonly used software tools and accessing USGS services and data
	+ Talk about issues related to:
		- Discovering the available data
		- Accessing the data
		- Repurposing (e.g. re-formatting) the data for their specific need
	+ Talk about proposed improvement on how they use the tools, services and the data
* Participants per session: It is expected to have various participants in one session if they are interested in a common problem or if they use common tools.
* Recording of the session: The session will be recorded and will only be used for generating a report where it details the use cases, tools, issues and improvement. The recording will not be made public; however, it will be available to OGC members.

# Master Schedule

The following table details the major events associated with this CFP:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Milestone** | **Completion Date** |
| Call For Participation Issued |  May 1 2014  |
| Responses due | May 31 2014 |
| Participants are contacted to schedule exercise date | June 1 - June 9 2014  |
| Interoperability virtual exercises with communities of use for USGS data | June 1 - June 30 2014 |
| Interim Recommendations Report based on the initial testing of services and exercises with communities of use. | July 31 2014 |
| Invitation for solution providers to participate in final meeting | August 1 2014 |
| USGS Interoperability Assessment Results virtual meeting* Overview of the project
* Results of testing exercises of USGS services
* Use cases from virtual exercises
* Recommendations
* Solution providers show case
 | September 23 2014 |
|  |  |

# Proposal Submission Information

## General Terms and Conditions

Documentation submitted in response to this CFP will be distributed to members of OGC staff, the IP Team, and sponsor staff. Submissions will remain in the control of this group and will not be used for other purposes without prior written consent of the proposing organization.

## How to show interest in participating

Interested persons should fill, but the 31st of May a short participation form available at the following URL.

**http://tinyurl.com/usgs-ogc-ia-survey**

Participants will be contacted the first week of June to schedule the 2 hours session.

## Questions

Any questions should be sent electronically to Luis Bermudez, at lbermudez AT opengeospatial.org.