

## Abstract

# NYS GIS Coordination Program

December 2001

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In the early and mid-1990s, a central issue facing New York State (NYS) was how to organize and sustain a collaborative effort across all levels of government and with the private sector that would take advantage of the analytical power of GIS to improve government services, drive down costs, and stimulate economic development.

At the time, New York State lagged behind most other states in terms of Geographic Information System coordination. A statewide policy on GIS was issued in September 1996 and established a framework for the development of the NYS GIS Coordination Program through a broadly representative GIS Coordinating Body drawn from state and local government and the private sector. A formal Data Sharing Cooperative was established that supports easy sharing of spatial data sets among federal, state, and local government agencies and universities and other nonprofit organizations.

In addition, the NYS Spatial Data Clearinghouse, based on CTG prototype, houses extensive metadata records for a wide variety of publicly-available GIS data plus information and links to specific projects and educational resources.