Non-Profit

Several members of our staff, including management have been involved in volunteer efforts and *pro bono* projects applying GIS technology in the developing world and for humanitarian assistance and disaster mitigation. These included the Boxing Day tsunami in 2004; ongoing efforts in Haiti in collaboration with Catholic Relief Services, including the 2010 Earthquake; volunteer efforts for a community activism and education project using maps in Baltimore City; and support of USAID's Farmer-to-Farmer activity in Zimbabwe.

In the past year, Spatial Systems Associates, Inc. (SSA), has also been involved in assessing and conceptualizing a large scale, global GIS implementation for a respected Non-Profit organization within the agricultural and international trade sector. We have become aware of the challenges and practices of working with a global organization and have applied solutions that capitalize on the strengths of the technologies available to meet those demanding needs. Through this endeavor, SSA has performed extensive research into the availability of existing global GIS data, open source GIS data, and support of statistical tabular information for several countries in Asia and Africa. SSA has identified credible sources of data to be incorporated into different projects at different scales. We are experienced in discerning accurate data based on our work in data creation and standardization, as well as evaluating potential sources, and making the necessary decisions and communications to facilitate acquiring the datasets.

As a corporate practice, SSA maintains a keen awareness and understanding of the latest technologies available to the GIS community and we believe it is imperative to consider the upcoming trends and tools when building a solution that will coalesce over a given time frame of months to years. We are currently investing resources into cloud computing and cloud data storage, as we ascertain the benefits of building our solutions using this technology. These concepts have been heavily promoted by some of the top GIS software companies as the vision of the near future, and we recognize the capacity of such technology to help alleviate the

burden to our clients of overhead costs for hardware and software licenses. We see the promise of the cloud as holding several capacities for accessing services and GIS tools without having to invest heavily in infrastructure or expensive software. Cloud computing also allows for greater flexibility in the logistics of managing data and services around the clock for users and facilities across different global regions.

As an Esri Business Partner, we have the ability to fast-track enrollment of organizations in the Esri's Non-Profit Program, which allows compliant non-profit organizations to acquire the full range of Esri's GIS offerings at a significant discount.

Please visit www.esri.com/nonprofit for more information.

Projects

1-2, Your Haitian Voice

3, Maps-on-Purpose, Community Mapping, Baltimore, MD

4, CNFA-Zimbabwe, USAID Farmer-to-Farmer Program

5, Support for Catholic Relief Services: Haiti

Boxing Day Tsunami (not pictured)