

GSDI Small Grants Program 2017 Proposals Reviewed



The GSDI Association has been making Small Grants Program awards since 2003 – the association's longest-running project. These grants are for USD2,500. Although this is not a large amount of money, in emerging nations and developing SDIs it can go a long way toward SDI preparedness, for building some component of an SDI and/or to add to SDI sustainability. It may also help to engage other organisations in collaboration and additional co-funding.

The GSDI Association's call for proposals for its Small Grants Program 2017 stimulated a terrific level of response. GSDI (Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association) is thrilled to have received over 30 proposals, with submissions from 27 countries in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, North and South America. The GSDI is looking forward to having a truly

global representation of the leadership, organisational practices, and technical innovation that is collectively transforming local and national geospatial data infrastructure initiatives into a worldwide information ecosystem.

It is clear that individuals, organisations, and governments are coming to grips with the critical role of geospatial data in addressing many shared challenges more collaboratively. For this grant round, GSDI hopes geospatial professionals will join GSDI to further extend and enhance Spatial Data Infrastructure globally, for institutions, themes, countries and regions.

Particular niche

The GSDI is inspired by the varied initiatives of so many colleagues to address the spatial data and SDI needs they see in their country and community. The range of needs represented by the grant proposals is evidence that the GSDI Small Grant Program fills a particular niche. Thanks to the generosity of GSDI's members and partners who support the association, GSDI is privileged to be able to give a boost to varied efforts striving to make data available and accessible make a difference, having funded more than 110 projects over the past 14 years.

The association has completed the process of reviewing the proposals and selecting the four that GSDI can fund this year from its own reserves. However, that means many valuable proposals will not receive funding, unless they receive more assistance from the global geo community. Thus, GSDI is actively seeking further funds for this round of Small Grants proposals. Stay tuned to the GSDI website and social media channels for an announcement of the successfully funded grants. Also, they will provide updates on the grants as activities progress. For any questions about the Small Grants Program, please reach out to one of the team members at smallgrants@gsdi.org.