

## **ICAN GOVERNANCE MODEL**

ICAN – a partnership approach to Coastal Atlas development and sustainability. In order for this to proceed, stakeholders would need to sign up to an MOU or non contractual arrangement that has clear objectives, milestones and deliverables. Stakeholders can comprise two levels: Full participating partners and stakeholder membership. The former gives “executive” benefits in terms of defining the strategic direction of ICAN, objective setting and input technical/ business developments. The latter gives a passive benefit in being able to keep abreast of developments

### **Central Coordination Team [CCT]**

The proposal for the longer term governance of ICAN would migrate towards the setting up of a long term sustainable management cell comprising 3-4 people whose primary aim would be to coordinate ALL Marine & Coastal Atlas activities on a global basis whether such initiatives are trans national, national or regional in nature.

The activities of such a body would comprise:

- Delivering the strategy
- Operations [including finance, staff management and work plan].
- Communications and public relations [inc; events and marketing]
- Membership matters [including quarterly e-newsletter]
- Liaison with Service Providers
- Management of service provision through the ICAN portal
- Out reach activities

### **Steering Group [SG]**

In order to ensure the objectives of ICAN are delivered on time, to budget and in a responsible manner and to ensure good governance of ICAN, the setting up of a steering group is vital. Membership of the SG would be open to those who are full participating members and from the user community [the most important community as they will decide whether developments in MCA’s are fit for purpose for their needs].

- The Chair would be independent of the ICAN team and stakeholders to ensure transparency in activities are preserved.
- It may be necessary for members to be elected if competition for seats exceeds the number required.
- Members should serve a period of 3 years to ensure fresh impetus is injected.
- The secretariat should be provided by CCT.

- The chair of the Technical Task Force [TTF] shall be a member of the SG for the purposes of reporting.
- The Chief Operating Officer of the CCT shall be a member of the SSG for the purposes of reporting.

Activities would centre on:

- Business Strategy development and endorsement [with CCT]
- Ratifying Operational issues requiring SG endorsement
- Policy area decisions
- Priority requirements
- Stakeholder issues
- Funding of ICAN [including securing funding streams where necessary]
- Represent the User community
- Represent Data Providers
- Arbitrate in the case of disputes and / or grievances amongst members.

### **Technical Task Force [TTF]**

In order for ICAN to progress in developing leading edge solutions for development and delivery, there is a clear need for a TTF. TTF Membership will be open to participating members who have an interest in technical issues [e.g. ontologies; metadata, network services, interoperability]. The chair of the TTF will be elected from the TTF membership and will revolve on a 3 year basis. Secretariat will be provided by CCT.

The activities would include:

- Metadata
- Data/ organisational interoperability
- Data specifications
- Data theme requirements
- Network services
- Technology tracking
- Knowledge transfer
- Innovation
- Structure
- User support/ after care
- Technical training
- Interface extensions
- Digital Rights Management [DRM]

# GOVERNANCE - A MODEL!

- REG'S
- CONSULTATION/PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT.
  - Tol's

