

# GeoData

Geospatial data - geodata for short - is the source code for maps, the building material for spatial applications. New models are emerging for user participation in collecting, correcting and maintaining geodata; the OpenStreetmap project is an early example with a lot of potential.

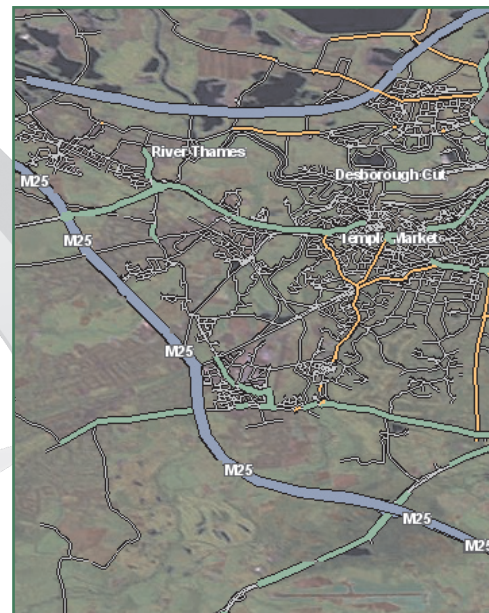
In the US, a great amount of spatial and environmental data is in the public domain. In most other countries it is subject to copyright and heavier licensing fees than an individual project or a small business can afford.

The Public Geospatial Data Committee collects the experience of OSGeo members who are working to introduce open source and open data practise within government, academia and business. Where geodata is openly available, we aim to help developers gain easier access to it via common web standards.

We hope to raise awareness of the importance of open access to data on the emerging "geospatial web", and to create and promote tools that allow anyone to participate in its creation.

## Goals

- Promoting the use of open and free standards for geodata exchange
- Promoting open licenses for geographic data
- Advocating for public access and contribution to national geodata
- Maintaining a repository of open-licensed data
- Providing support for educational packages for OSGeo projects
- Connecting open source projects to data holders



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