



# ONEMAP MYANMAR

## *Building a national GeoPortal for cross-sectoral data integration*

Geospatial Capacity Building Symposium

25 May 2018

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Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC



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# OneMap Myanmar Factsheet



## **Initiative of the Government of Myanmar**

### **Main objective:**

Generate and share accurate land map (spatial) data on an online database to support land management and land use planning

**Financial support by:** Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

**Start date:** August 2015 - **End date:** July 2023

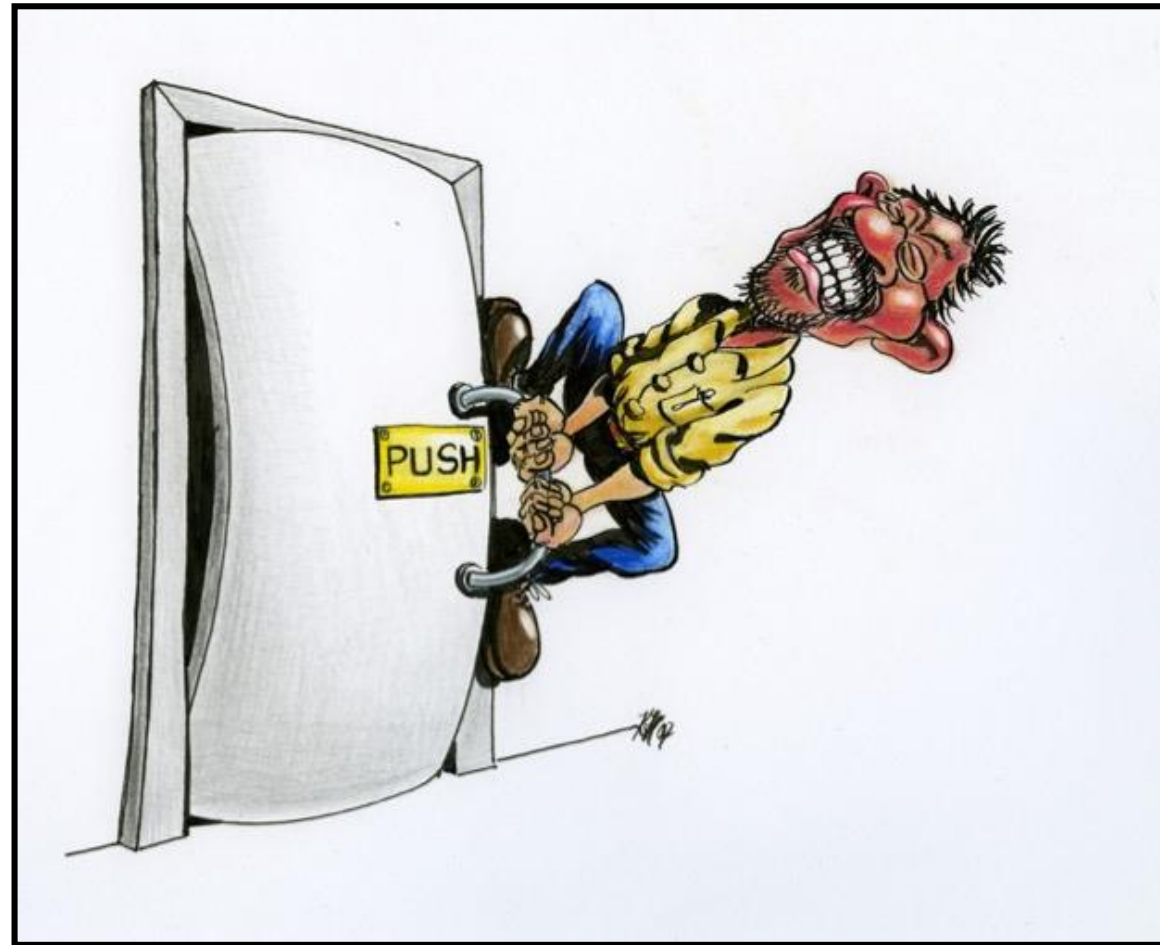
**Total duration:** 8 Years through

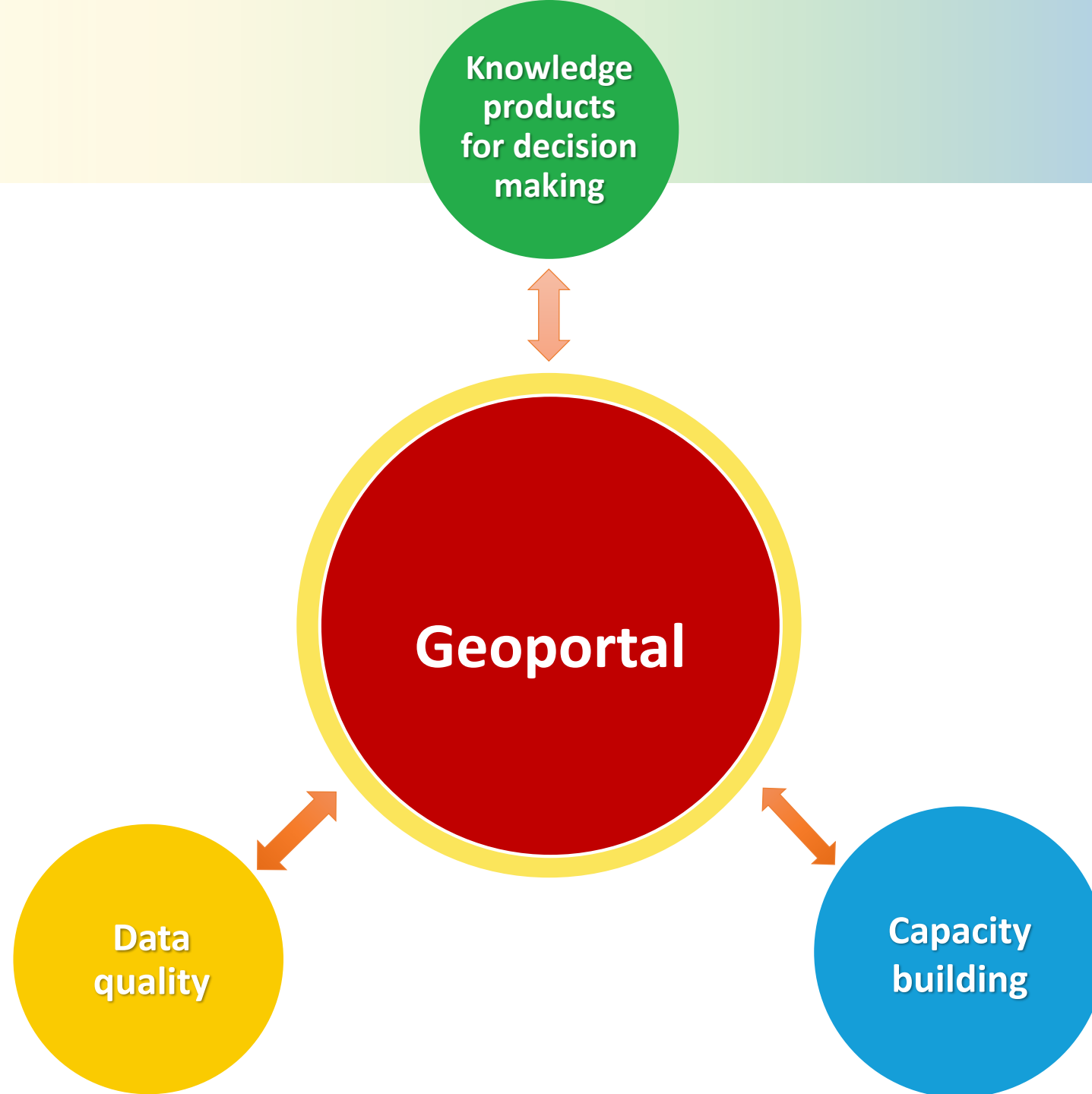
### **Implementing agencies:**

**Government partners:** 26 line agencies (from 11 Ministries and 3 City Councils)

**Technical Assistance Implementing Agencies:** Centre for Development and Environment from University of Bern (Switzerland) & the Land Core Group

# Data is needed... But data alone is not enough



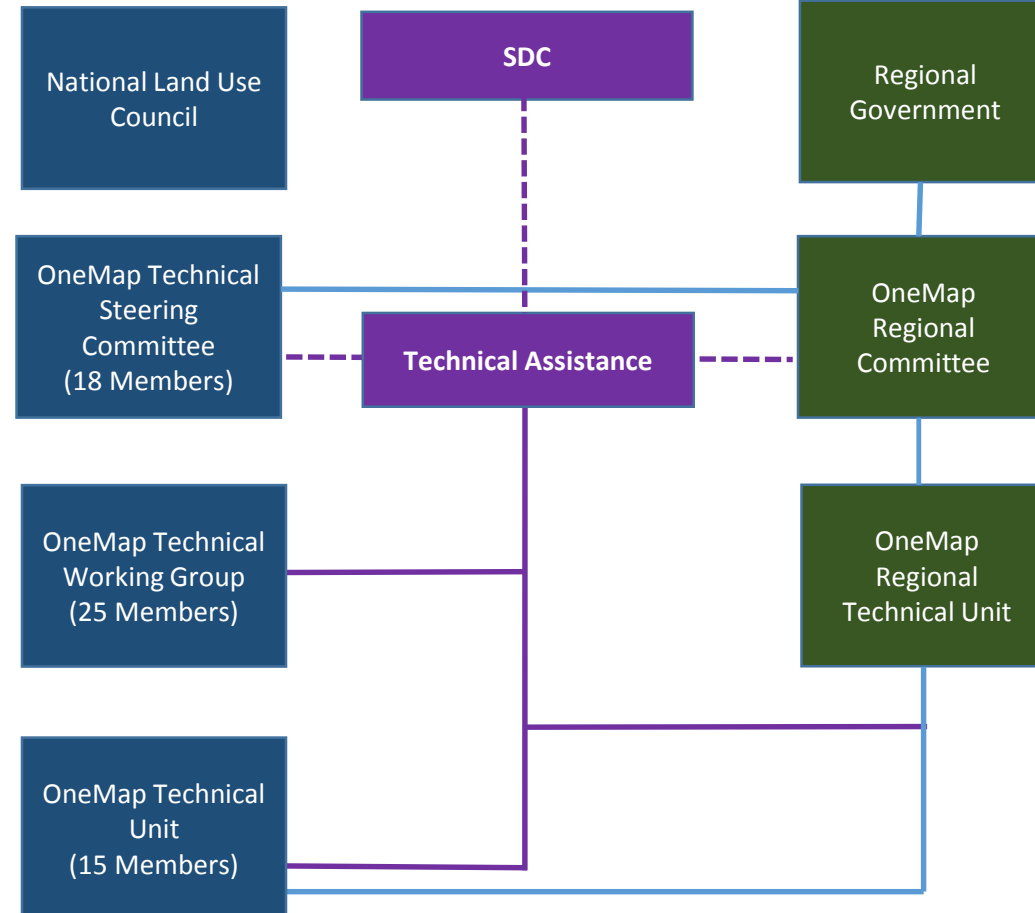


# Interagency coordination for OneMap Myanmar

Agencies involved
Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, Livestock and Fishery
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation
Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development
Ministry of Immigration and Population
Ministry of Construction
Ministry of Education
Ministry of Home Affairs
Ministry of Transport and Communications
Ministry of Electricity and Energy
Ministry of Defense
Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement
City Development Councils

## Union Level Government

## Regional Government





# Which data can be included in OneMap Myanmar?



## Base data

- Topographic maps
- Rivers and water bodies
- Elevation
- Aerial photos
- Satellite imagery

## Forest

- Permanent Forest Estates
- Forest Cover
- Forest Plantations
- Forest Zones

## Agriculture

- Agricultural zones
- Vacant lands

- Large scale plantations
- Land holdings
- Shifting cultivation
- Crop types

## Population

- Demography
- Poverty
- Health
- Education

## Infrastructure

- Housing
- Transportation networks

## Geology & soils

- Soils type

- Geological layers

## Mining

- Mining exploration areas
- Mining sites

## Settlements

- Village and settlement name and location
- Land parcels
- Buildings

## Land cover

## Natural hazards

- Risk maps
- Vulnerability maps

Etc

# Currently, data quality, availability and accessibility is very limited

## Data situation

Many data still in paper format

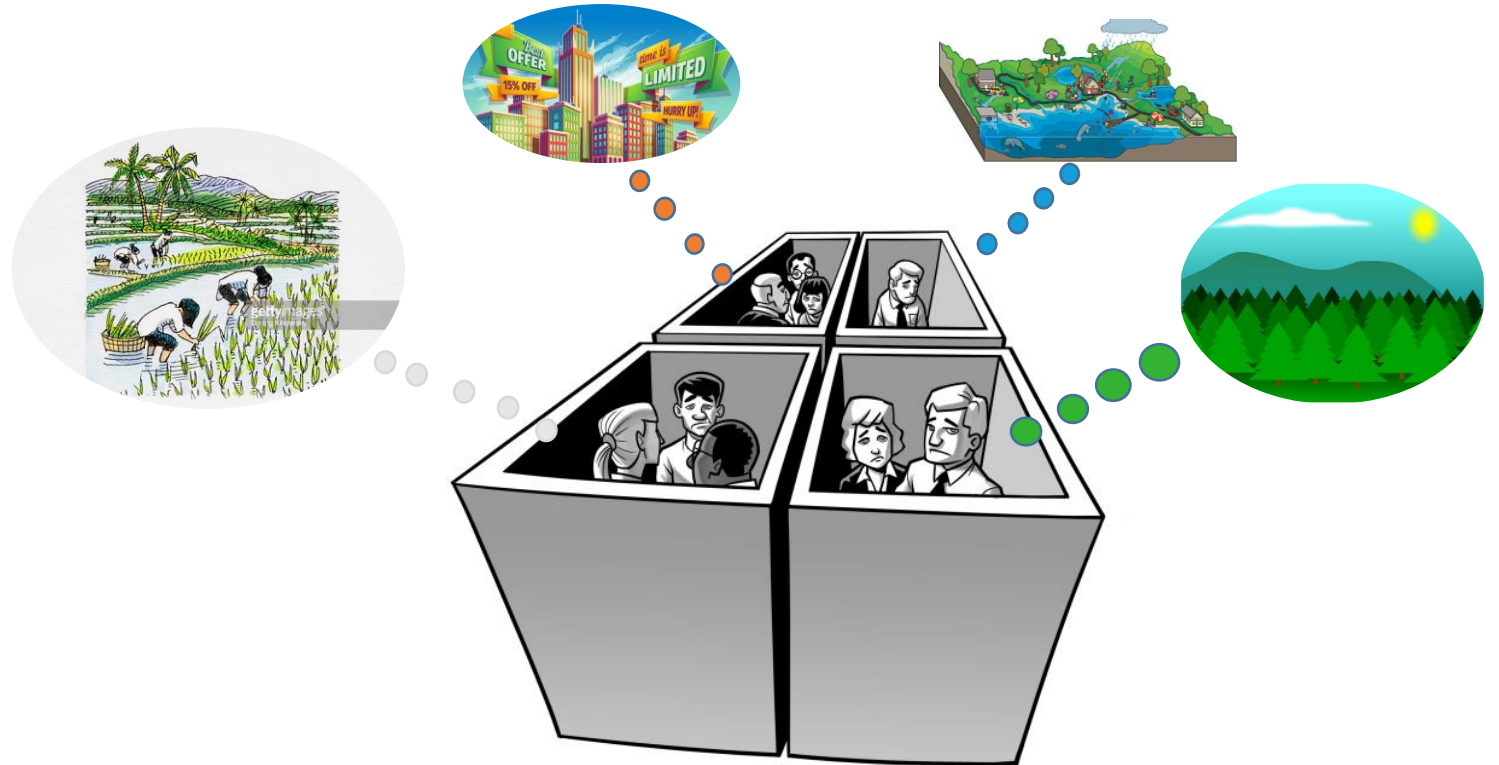
Digital data not managed systematically

Low data quality due to old methods and lack of capacities (technical, financial, etc)

No information sharing mechanism institutionalized

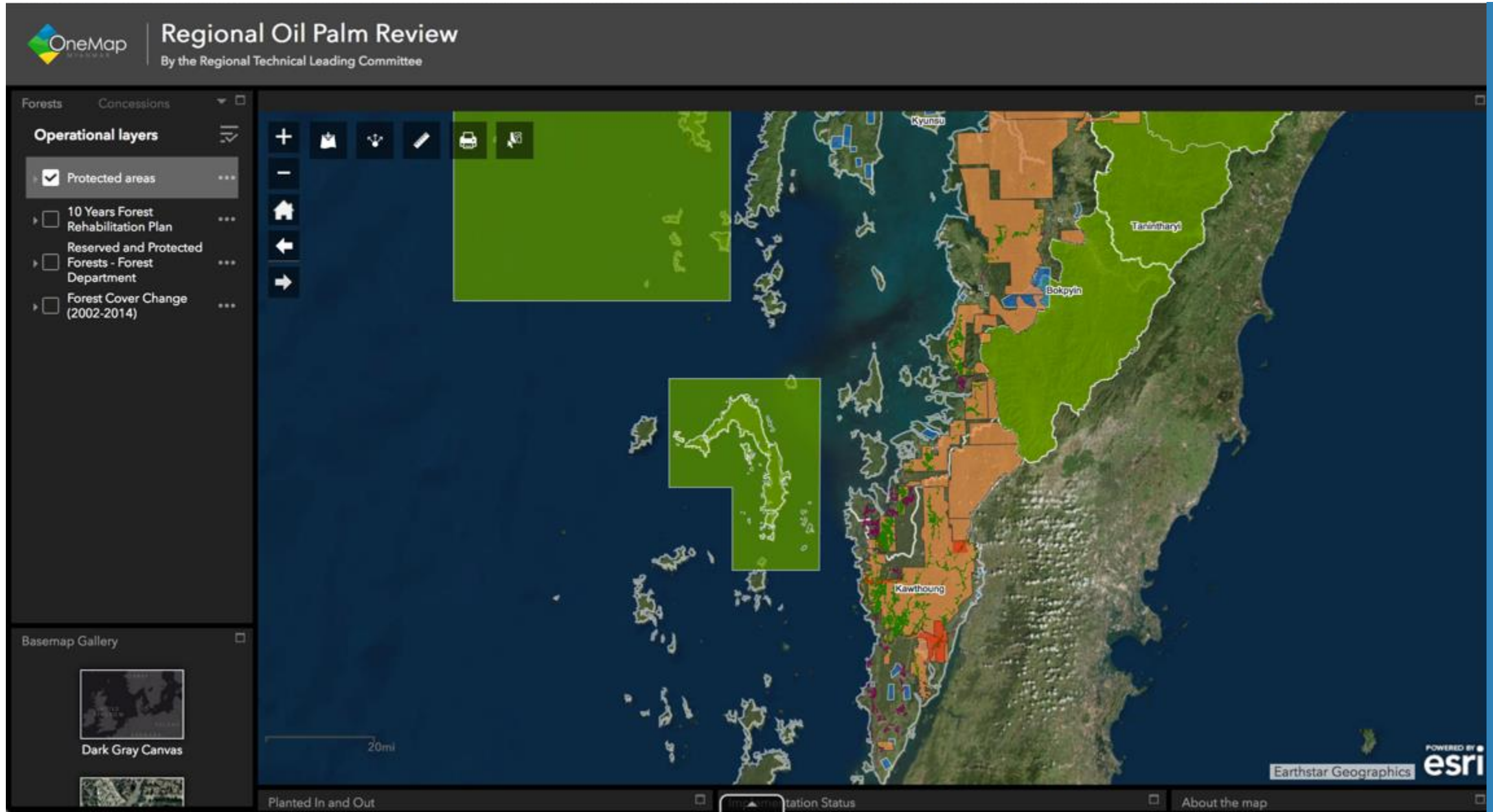
No data standards across agencies: data cannot be integrated between different sectors

## Coordination between agencies is limited



**Incoherent data leading to inconsistent planning & decisions**

Interagency coordination – including data sharing – is needed to move towards integrated land use and development planning



Spatial Data Situation in Myanmar



# Opportunities

- Increasing number of GIS users
  - Strong interest in government, academic and civil society
  - Establishment of GIS Units in many department
  - Citizens engagement
- Democratization of tools and access to data (financially and technically)
- Network of universities with GIS capacities as a foundation
- Sector specific training schools for future professionals (survey, land administration, etc)
- Online training opportunities
- Prominent role of GIS in international reporting (SDG, REDD+, etc) as an incentive
- More international projects promoting geospatial technologies

- Currently, mostly on the job, task specific trainings, based on project inputs rather than integrated training modules. Professionals often miss the fundamentals (eg: projection systems, data management, quality control).
- High diversity of needs, requirements, workflows => need tailored approaches
- Technological choices as legacy of old project: outdated technologies. Lack of updates after the end of projects. Not fit for purpose
- Cost of most advanced technologies as a limiting factor
- Capacities building often does not put enough emphasis on consolidated workflows and quality control.
- Brain drain from government to international organizations
- Lack of technical understanding of senior decision-makers. Wrong expectations.

# OneMap capacity building activities

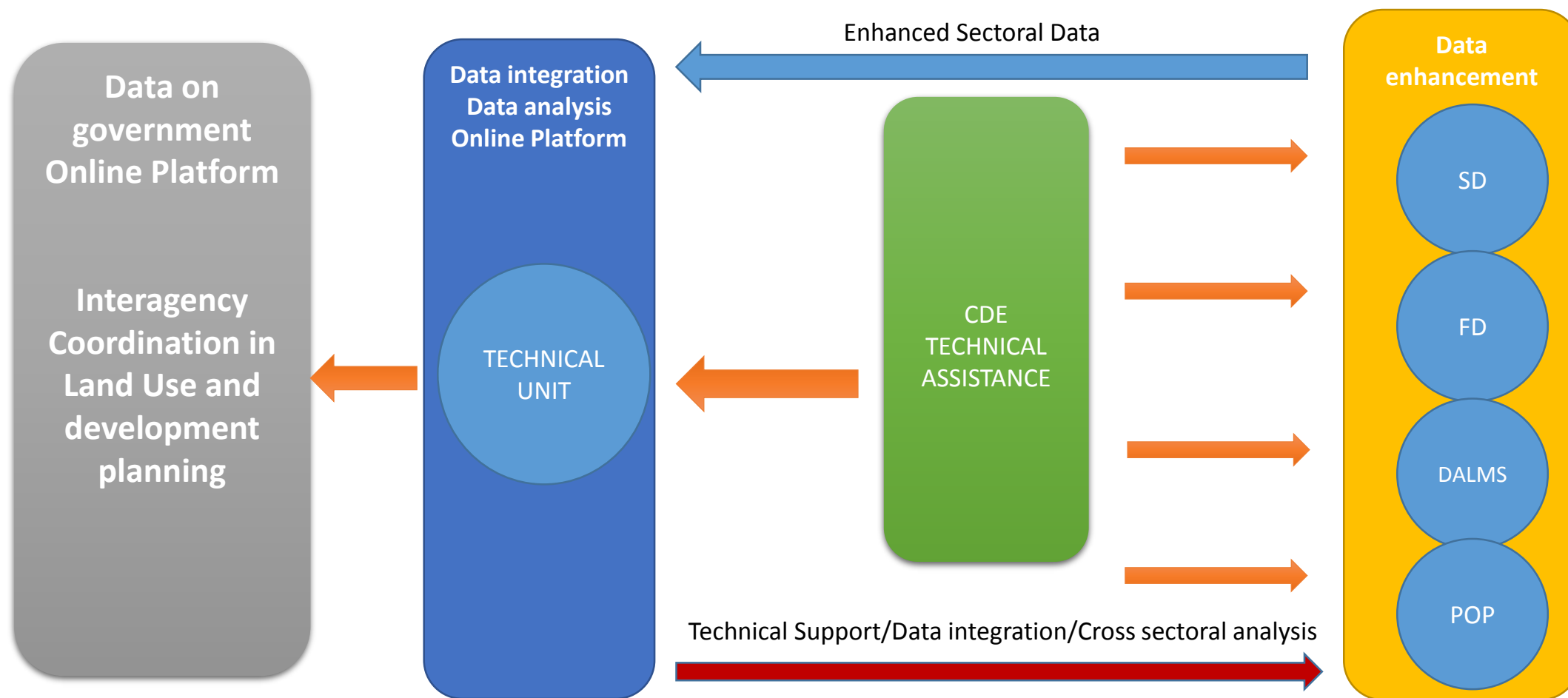


- RS/GIS trainings
- Google Earth training
- Google Earth Engine training
- Drone trainings
- Open Street Map
- Excel trainings
- Data management training

**50 +  
training  
~ 900  
trainees**

*\* Above trainings were conducted in close collaboration with MIMU and SERVIR Mekong*

# Strengthening technical capacities of government



# Working bilaterally with key departments



- **Objective:** to improve the quality and availability of spatial datasets
- **Process:**
  - Conduct joint technical assessment to identify needs, priorities, opportunities and challenges
  - Develop long term technical assistance based on self defined priorities
  - Pilot new approaches in selected areas
  - Provide training, equipment and technical advise for the implementation of the workplan
  - When the department is ready, it can decide which data should be shared with whom.
- **Technical Focus**
  - Data quality and accuracy
  - Tailored and integrated workflows using centralized geo database systems
  - Web mapping technologies
  - Adoption of data standards



# Working bilaterally with key departments (2)



## Capacity building approach

- Ensure fundamentals are acquired
- Tailored, demand-driven
- Hands-on as much as possible
- Long term targets

## Challenges

- Diversity of technical needs and requirements vs OMM's internal capacities = need to outsource some components
- Staff time and turn over
- Reluctance to adopt new workflows, tools, software, etc
- Complexity of workflows vs limited technical and financial capacities to adopt powerful tools

# Piloting Drones Application for cadastral mapping in Taungoo





# ArcGIS training in Survey Department (Yangon)



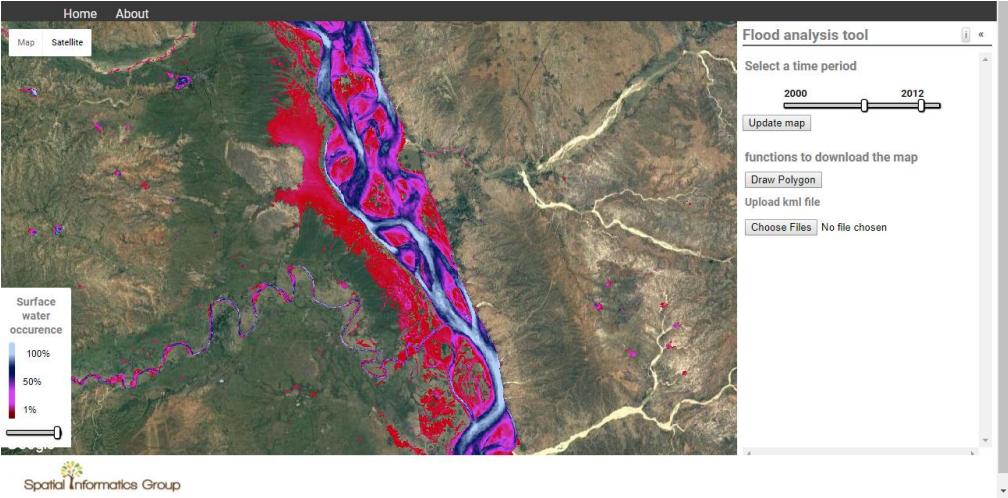
# Department of Population Village tract boundary validation



Capacity building



# OMM-RRD-SERVIR-Mekong



Capacity building



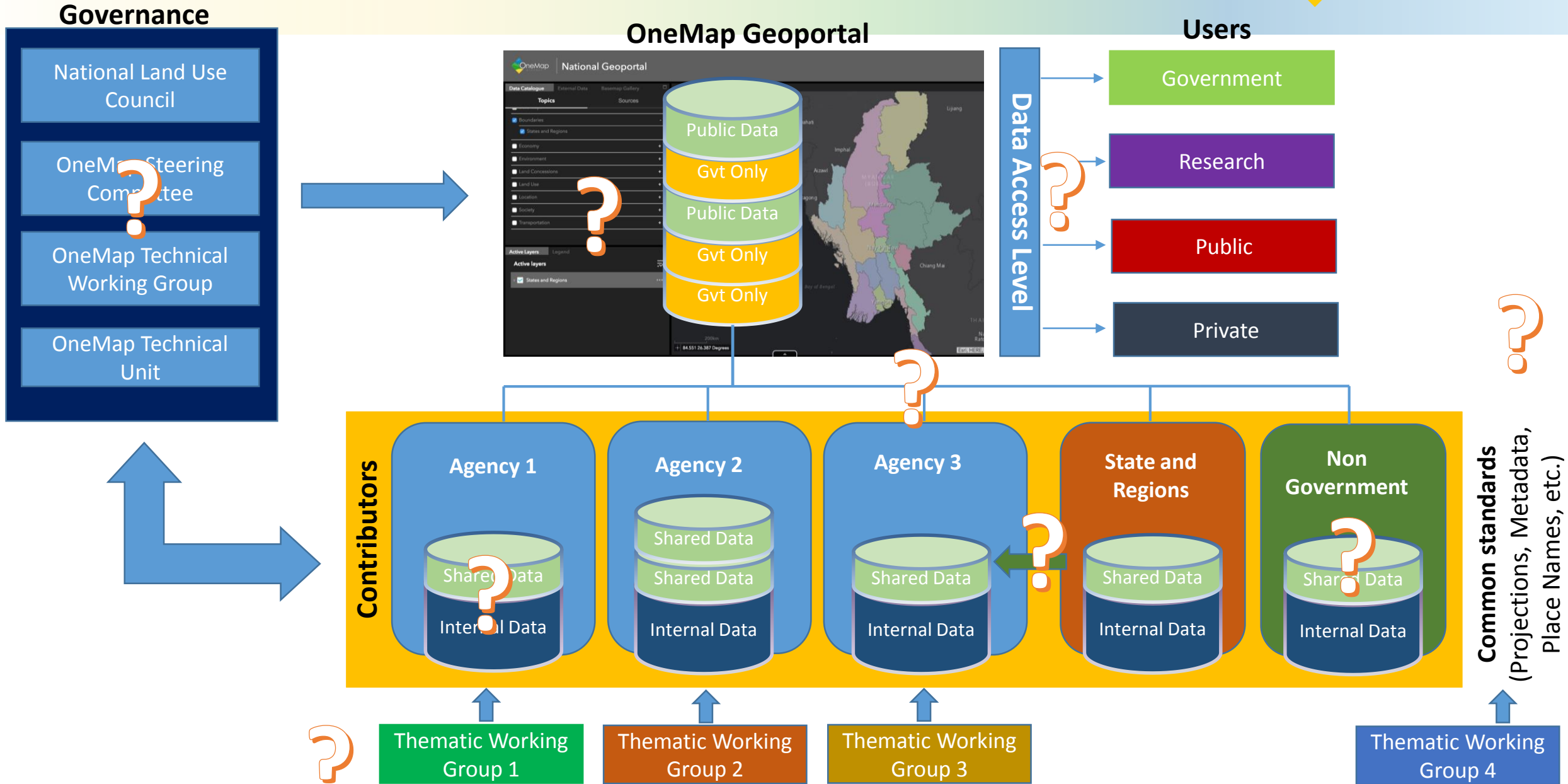
# Technical Units: implementing cross-sectoral data integration



- Establish interagency technical units at central and State/Region level.
- **Objective and mandate:**
  - Foster data integration and harmonization across thematic sectors
  - Deliver cross sectoral data analysis services and products to the government
  - Update and maintain the online portal and related databases (national level only)
- **Training areas**
  - Basic and advanced GIS
  - Geo database management
  - Web mapping
  - Data analysis
- **Capacity building approach**
  - Both formal and task based trainings
- **Challenges**
  - Commitment of respective agencies
  - Staff turnover
  - Unsuitable Nomination
  - Significant Capacity gap

# Consolidating the national geospatial framework:

## Towards a OneMap national policy



# Conclusions



- Growing availability of professionals with GIS, but still insufficient
- Universities have an important role to play:
  - capacity building of future professionals.
  - Identifying needs. Asking the right question
  - Developing tools and data
  - Turning data into knowledge
- Geospatial data still at very early stage in the country. Additional fit for purpose support is needed
- Technologies are at a tipping point with the development of web-based GIS, satellite data sources and cloud computing. Training curriculum should reflect the technological changes
- Donor and implementing agencies coordination is needed to avoid overlaps.



Thank you

[www.onemapmyamar.info](http://www.onemapmyamar.info)

Coming soon...



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