Review of: "Analyzing the nexus between Spatial Data Infrastructure Development and e-Government"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The paper tackles a legitimate and valid application which is the development of a SDI -last generation SDI- in Zimbabwe extending upon the e-government portal. Yet it needs major revision.

Firstly it may be clearer to merge the first parts (numbered 2 and 3), namely presenting what is a SDI and presenting the status of SDI in Zimbabwe. The definition of SDI could be improved by adding the component "core data" -and then analysing if they are some in Zimbabwe-, adding the notion of governance -and then assessing the authorities that provide data and decide on what data to produce, what standards to use- . Maybe UNGGIM-Africa is part of the picture here. Please, use an article before "SDI" or "geoportal" in the text. It may be useful to use a reference figure from the SDI papers showing the data providers, data users and the geoportal component, because it makes things clearer. In the description of geoportal it would be clearer to distinguish the client -what interactions with the users are supported : searching, visualising, downloading, ..- and the server -DBMS and Web services-. The definition of metadata is fuzzy and needs revising, maybe you can merge 2.2 and 2.3. In the industry, it is important to mention OGC and W3C, and to mention standards like ISO19115 and DCAT. As you quote a number of papers on SDIs and Africa you could in each part mention if there exist specific standards in Africa.

Then it was not clear to me what is the status of the geodata, geodata services and clients within e-Government solutions. Here also, presenting firstly e-Government as a solution that can use an underlying SDI and then focusing on the Geoportal would make things clearer. Also users presented in the paper only are end users who look at maps and not developers who search for data. It may be worth mentioning that there are different users in a SDI : these who search for data, and these who consume maps and services developed based on SDI. This would be a way also to get back to economics concern mentioned in the introduction. Last, the recommendations are sound but are not enough grounded on the paper. You may want to enrich your paper to introduce these items and make your recommendations more legible for the reader.