

1st INDIA - AUSTRALIA SPACE AND GEOSPATIAL BUSINESS SUMMIT **New Delhi| June 7, 2023**

Concept Note

Background

The Indian geospatial industry is gradually undergoing a transition from data to knowledge, and from being a service driven to a solutions driven industry. Owing to the recent significant policy reforms announced by the Government of India, Geospatial industry can be regarded as the foundation of digital infrastructure in India and is at the helm of becoming one of the most potential industries to provide the nation with enormous socio-economic advantages.

Opportunities in Geospatial and Space

The Geospatial industry is emerging as the next 'Big Opportunity' worldwide, both as an 'advancing market in itself' as well as 'augmenting business processes' of mainstream IT, Engineering and Autonomous industries. 'Data Insight' is today the driving wheel of the knowledge economy, penetrating and integrating across workflows and processes of every industry. Data serves as 'oil' to the knowledge economy resulting in economic business models, greater efficiency, productivity, transparency and compliance. Therefore, geospatial industry would continue to provide accurate and rich foundation to data infrastructure and increasingly add the 3rd dimension to 'everything we do' leading to 'geospatial by default' embedded in digital twin and metaverse impacting how humans interact with the digital and physical world in near-real-time.

Increasing number of countries in the Asia Pacific region feel a compelling need for new thinking for space strategy and space activity is one of the major drivers of security systems. Many are also aspiring to acquire indigenous capabilities for space activities. Moreover, increasing private/commercial activities are seen in this region resulting in the growth of competitive market for technology, applications and services. Many have been actively using space systems like communication and remote sensing satellites to meet various social needs, disaster monitoring, natural resources management, tele-education, tele-medicine, national communication, navigation services, etc.

It is, indeed, an exciting time as India is witnessing a coordinated and holistic approach towards opening up much needed geospatial and space industry for commercial companies while continuing its commitment to nurture and handhold commercial companies to play meaningful role in national development.

Indian Geospatial Industry Outlook (source: *Geospatial Artha 2022*):

- India's domestic geospatial market is estimated to grow at a significantly high CAGR, i.e., approximately 13.5 percent between 2021 and 2025. The market is forecasted to rise from INR 13.90 thousand crores (approximately 1.68 billion USD) in 2021 to INR 23.09 thousand crores (approximately USD 2.79 billion) in 2025
- India's GNSS and Positioning to hold approximately 59 percent market share in 2022, followed by GIS and Spatial Analytics market with approximately 23 percent of the total market share

- GIS and Spatial Analytics and Earth Observation (Satellites/Drones) to drive the Indian Geospatial Market between 2022 and 2025
- The geospatial market of India in 2022, and 2025 is dominated by Defense and Intelligence, Urban Development, and Utilities sector. Together in 2022, these sectors accounted for 38.91 percent, up from 37.98 percent in 2021 – with each sector accounting for 14.35 percent, 13.29 percent, and 11.27 percent, respectively

Geospatial Industry and World Economy

Global Geospatial Market size is estimated to be US\$ 452 billion in 2022 and it is forecasted to grow at 14.61% CAGR to be US\$ 681 billion by 2025. Thereafter it is expected to grow at much faster rate of 16.1% CAGR post 2025, taking it to US\$ 1.44 trillion by 2030. The current growth rate is driven by technology innovation, integration of workflows, and augmentation of spatial analytics in business processes.

As geospatial industry is maturing and mainstreaming, associated trade and commerce is gaining momentum too, duly augmented by public policy reforms towards commercialization and industrialization of geospatial technology and infrastructure globally. There have been several policy initiatives towards opening up of data and facilitation of private sector engagement through incubation programs. This has played a key role in scalability of applications and maturing of user adoption levels. However, growing demand of geospatial services and harnessing huge business potential would require greater partnerships with commercial enterprises, and therefore it is imperative for progressive stakeholders to play a proactive role in developing ‘geospatial infrastructure’ and creating a conducive and enabling business environment, and promoting trade and commerce in global market.

COOPERATION BETWEEN INDIA AND AUSTRALIA

India and Australia upgraded their bilateral relationship from a ‘strategic partnership’ in 2009 to a ‘Comprehensive Strategic Partnership’ in 2020. Over the past few years, several institutional mechanisms have been implemented to promote bilateral cooperation. Bilateral mechanisms include high-level visits, Annual Meetings of Prime Ministers, Foreign Ministers’ Framework Dialogue, 2+2 Defence and Foreign Ministers’ Dialogue, Joint Trade & Commerce Ministerial Commission, Defence Policy Talks, Australia-India Education Council, Defence Services Staff Talks, Energy Dialogue, JWG’s on different issues etc.

The Cooperation between India and Australia puts emphasis on a) working to shape technology, technology governance in support of the shared vision of open, inclusive and prosperous Indo-Pacific region and b) enhancing the already strong critical tech work being done between Australia and India. The two countries have expanded their strategic partnership, focusing on maritime security, counter-terrorism, and regional stability in the Indo-Pacific region.

Current trade trends between India and Australia

India and Australia have entered into an Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement. The #IndAusECTA was signed on 2nd April, 2022; after Ratification and Exchange of Written Instruments, the Agreement has come into force on 29th December 2022.

India’s imports from Australia amount to 17 US \$ billion while its exports to Australia amount to 10.5 US \$ billion. However, what we need to realize that India’s imports from Australia are primarily (96%) raw materials & intermediate goods. They are highly concentrated in Coal (74% of Australia’s exports to India) out of which 71.4% is coking coal. On the other hand, India’s exports to Australia are broad-based and dominated by finished products (consumer goods). India also spends \$ 4 bn approx. each year on education of students in Australia.

Australia-India Cyber and Critical Technology Partnership

The \$12.7 million Australia-India Cyber and Critical Technology Partnership (AICCTP) contributes to Australian Government priorities to promote a stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific. The AICCTP complements the Australia-India Framework Arrangement on Cyber and Cyber-Enabled Critical Technology Cooperation signed by Australia's former minister for Foreign Affairs Senator the Hon Marise Payne and India's External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar as part of the Australia-India Comprehensive Strategic Partnership announced during the Leaders' Virtual Summit on 4 June 2020.

The next generation of technological developments merges new discoveries in physical, digital, and biological systems. India and Australia have a key role to play in contributing to the global development of critical and emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), next generation telecommunications (5G/6G), Internet of Things (IoT), quantum computing, synthetic biology, blockchain and big data.

Australia-India Space Partnership

India's space program is one of the fastest growing in the world. It is expected to grow by US\$43 billion to 2025. Australia and India have a long history of working together in space. In 2021, our nations signed a memorandum of understanding relating to space. The Australian Government is unlocking opportunities for Australian businesses and researchers to tap into India's booming space industry. The \$25 million expansion of the International Space Investment (ISI) initiative will support Australian organisations to work with:

- Indian Space Research Organisation
- Broader Indian space sector

Australia is also supporting India's inspirational Gaganyaan human spaceflight mission. That will make India the fourth nation to send humans into space. The expansion of the ISI comes after 10 projects were supported in 2020 with a total of \$11 million. 24 Australian businesses and research organisations were involved in the projects.

Geospatial World Chamber of Commerce (GWCC)

Geospatial World (GW) has established **Geospatial World Chamber of Commerce (GWCC)** – a non-profit body, headquartered in India, to promote trade and commerce globally, and with special attention to facilitating growth of trade and commerce of Indian geospatial industry with primary partner countries of India in the context of evolving geo-political world order.

As a first step, we are organising the **1st India Australia Geospatial & Space Business Summit** in India on June 7, 2023 with **Geospatial World (GW) as Knowledge Partner**. GWCC emphasises on continued engagement and cooperation in the field of technology transfer, manufacturing, and joint ventures in the field. Additionally, we wish to do bilateral business summits leveraging geospatial and space capabilities towards strengthening the strategic relations that the two countries share.

The very first edition would also provide greater opportunities for strengthening institutional and business relationship between the two countries. This is an opportune time for the industry to join hands with the Government stakeholders towards realising the National Geospatial Policy milestones in India. We would appreciate your kind consideration and strategic view to the above

proposal and look forward to making a meaningful engagement towards strengthening the bilateral relation between the two countries.

Who will attend?

Industry Leaders | Government Functionaries | Thought Leaders | Business Users | Implementing Agencies

Highlights of the Programmme

- Dialogue forums consisting of participation from Government, Industry and Civil Society leaders
- High Level Networking Reception

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Registration (By Invitation only - Online or On the Spot)

- **Inaugural Session: India Australia Space and Geospatial Business Summit**
- **Ease of Doing Business in India towards strengthening Trade and Commerce**
- **Geospatial and Space Infrastructure and Services: Business Opportunities and Bilateral Relations**
- **Technology Transfer & Joint Collaboration**
- **Space & Geospatial Market Opportunities**
- **Indo Pacific Region: Expanding Partnerships**

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