



## ***Integrated National Thematic Frameworks***

**T**he concept of sustainable development implies finding a satisfactory balance between human activities and environmental factors. The **Integrated National Thematic Frameworks** project is designed to provide national-scale digital base maps (1:1M) which combine frameworks associated with people (census, transportation, populated places) and the environment (watersheds, protected areas, land cover). Integration at these scales implies correct relative positions rather than absolute accuracy. The term ‘thematic’ refers to the broad range of topics treated within the project, whereas the term ‘framework’ refers to an integrated geospatial dataset. Given the national scope of this project, integration will also be undertaken with the US and Mexican national-scale mapping programs with the goal of producing a set of North American frameworks with consistent geometry and classification systems.

In delivering national-scale cartographic frameworks, this project will complement the GeoBase (<http://www.GeoBase.ca>) program, which provides highly accurate regional-scale topographic frameworks via provincial partnerships. This project will also ensure linkages between national and regional scale frameworks. Stakeholders include NRCAN policy analysts, key federal sustainable development initiatives, and international agencies with sustainable development mandates.

Framework data is based on international standards to ensure consistency and compatibility. Development

of the framework datasets is partially funded through GeoConnections (<http://www.geoconnections.org>). Additional information on GeoBase and GeoConnections is available as a separate appendix.

This growing set of national-scale frameworks is available on-line through the GeoConnections Discovery Portal (<http://geogratias.gc.ca>).

### **Project Priorities:**

- The development of methodology to integrate national thematic frameworks with existing base geospatial frameworks.
- Maintaining the support of National Frameworks Themes planned for 2003.
- The creation of Land Cover & Protected Areas Themes in priority
- The evaluation of the need for other national framework themes
- Conducting a feasibility study to link 1M Thematic Layers and/or Core Framework
- The creation of a North American Drainage Basins Theme

### **For more information:**

Peter Paul  
Project Leader  
Natural Resources Canada  
615 Booth Street  
Ottawa Ontario K1A 0E9  
(613) 943-0572  
E-mail: [peter.paul@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:peter.paul@nrcan.gc.ca)

**GSDNR Web Site: [gsdnr.nrcan.gc.ca](http://gsdnr.nrcan.gc.ca)**

