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Spatial Data Sharing: A Cross-Cultural Conceptual Model

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Abstract

In order to make full use of Spatial Data Infrastructures, Spatial Data Sharing (SDS) is essential. Various authors indicate that the attitude of both individuals and organizations towards SDS is quite often problematic. For various reasons and motivations, SDS is far from optimal. However, studies on understanding individual as well as organizational behavior towards SDS are in its infancy and a challenge for new theory development.

The objective of this paper is to shed light on the interaction between individual and organizational behavior of SDS and their social and culture aspects. A new theoretical model is proposed. This model integrates concepts of multiple theories: Theory of Planned Behavior, Culture (Grid-Group) Theory and Hofstede's cultural dimensions. The relationships within the model are formulated in 23 hypotheses. The model is formulated but the hypotheses are not yet tested at this stage of the research. Knowledge about relationships among individuals and organizations derived from the emerging model may provide insights regarding the attitudes of individuals and organizations in sharing spatial data.