Information and Communication Tools for Community Economic Development and Social Inclusion:
Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

September 2005
This project was funded by the Community Development and Partnerships Directorate of Social Development Canada. The views and interpretations expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Social Development Canada.

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*Ce document est aussi disponible en français.*

**Published by:**
© The Canadian CED Network, 2005
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Foreword and Project Description

This document is part of a larger research project conducted by the Pan-Canadian Community Development Learning Network, which is itself part of the Canadian Community Economic Development Network (CCEDNet).

The Pan-Canadian Community Development Learning Network research project is financed by Social Development Canada and is being conducted over a two and a half year period from October 2003 to March 2006. Its aim is to promote community-based initiatives and to examine how such initiatives contribute to social inclusion. There are ten distinct but complementary components of the overall project:

- A literature review providing an annotated summary of relevant research on social inclusion and community-based initiatives;
- Resources on mapping and socio-economic indicators;
- A profile of effective practice, the core of the project. This is being carried out in two stages; an investigation of more than 75 community-based, followed by a detailed profile of 15 so-called ‘innovative’ organizations;
- A skills development resource;
- A tool-box;
- Peer learning events for practitioners and stakeholders;
- A presentation of project progress at the 2004 Pan-Canadian Congress in Trois-Rivières, Quebec, entitled Communities Creating the World We Want;
- A presentation of project progress at the 2005 Pan-Canadian Congress in Sault-Sainte-Marie, Ontario, entitled Building an Inclusive Movement;
- A final presentation of the project at the 2006 Pan-Canadian Congress in Vancouver, British Columbia, entitled Rooting Development in Community;
- A final report.

An Advisory Committee was responsible for leading and monitoring the research project. This committee consisted of practitioners from rural, northern, native and urban groups which were faced with issues around social exclusion. Committee members met four times a year, once in person and three times via teleconferencing. Their task was to process the information gathered and to discuss key issues around the project’s design and content.

This document is therefore part of a larger research project which required the participation of a number of players in the community economic development sector. We would like to thank these individuals for their support and for the time they have contributed to the project’s development.
Part I: Introduction to Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Community Economic Development is a strategy for intervening and taking responsibility within a community which is based around the knowledge of the individuals involved and on the forces at play within an environment at any one time. In this document we present two tools which will enable community economic development (CED) practitioners to inform themselves about the social conditions and changes within their environment and among the population that they serve. These tools are indicators and mapping.

Used correctly, indicators and mapping will among other things encourage the participation of key players in the development process, a greater mobilization by the community, efficient documenting of organizational achievement and the introduction and use of tools which can be presented to funders and political partners.

For this project we could have selected and mapped just one indicator. Given the diversity of communities, of organizations, and of their objectives and aims, however, the research committee decided to undertake a Census of the tools and examples of socio-economic indicators and mapping available to CED groups. It is then up to each individual or group to select the tools and examples most appropriate for their project or organization. Before moving on to the information sheets on these tools and examples of indicator and mapping projects, we will first provide an overview of the two tools.

It should be noted that as a research group we do not claim to be experts in the field of indicators and mapping. The literature on the subject is abundant and we therefore encourage those wishing to examine these questions in more depth to do so at their leisure.

Socio-economic Indicators

Some Well-Known Indicators

Indicators are a part of our daily lives. Journalists announce the latest stock market index on the morning news, giving us information about how certain markets are faring. Financial analysts will often refer to the Gross National Product (GNP) in evaluating a country’s economic health. Another important indicator of a city or region’s economic situation is the unemployment rate. Of greater interest to community economic development organizations is the United Nations’ Human Development Index (HDI). This index groups together a
number of measurements taken on health (longevity), education (levels of education and literacy) and income (adjusted to take poverty into account).\(^1\)

**What is an Indicator?**

To start with, what is an indicator? We have compiled some simple definitions:

- An indicator is nothing more than a probe which allows the evolution of a variable to be tracked, which complements / clarifies the perception of our senses.\(^2\)
- An indicator is a variable which has been selected from a larger statistical whole because it has particular meaning and representativeness.\(^3\)
- Indicators are recurring and updated measures which allow individuals or organizations to describe conditions, record trends and identify results. They exist within a framework of evaluation procedures that examines whether or not set objectives have been achieved.\(^4\)
- Indicators are parameters or variables that are chosen to quantify phenomena in a systematic way.\(^5\)
- Indicators are presentations of measurements. An indicator quantifies and simplifies phenomena and helps us understand complex realities. Indicators are aggregates of raw and processed data but they can be further aggregated to form complex indices.\(^6\)
- An indicator is the preferred method of expressing an anticipated and a confirmed result in practical terms; of quantifying or qualifying this result. It is normally linked to a strategic or operational objective and the measurement is taken on a regular basis by comparing the confirmed result with the anticipated result.\(^7\)

We can see from these definitions that an indicator is *a piece of data or a set of data used to measure or compare a variable based on an objective or on an ideological or theoretical design.*

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3. [http://www.cons-dev.org/elearning/devdur/IndicateursDD.pps#258,16](http://www.cons-dev.org/elearning/devdur/IndicateursDD.pps#258,16)
Why Use an Indicator System?

Socio-economic indicator systems have a long history. From the 1960s onwards, however, they dwindled in popularity. This happened for a number of reasons and some researchers claim that economic growth and an abundance of social policies were partly to blame. Social indicators became more popular again in the 1990s, this time in a new context:

Earlier interest in social measurement was born in a climate of plentitude. Social indicators were sought to monitor social conditions in the face of great economic gains. This contrasts with the climate out of which current interest in social indicators has arisen, one where scarcity is leading to greater interest in a social policy role for social indicators.

Some practitioners will say that social indicators are making a return in response to the widespread use of the Gross National Product (GNP), which some find too simplistic:

Following a decline in the social indicators movement in the 1960s, the notion of a social indicator disappeared for a few decades only to make a reappearance recently, primarily to measure well-being and human development [...] Observers like Gadrey and Jany-Chatrice (2003) and Perret (2002) or Sharpe (2004) are not the only ones to remark on this recent proliferation of attempts to, if not replace GNP, then at least to complement it with a global measurement that is more appropriate when talking about well-being.

According to the OECD, 'social indicators are statistical measurements which allow the level and fluctuations of an area of social concern to be observed over time.' Beyond the social context of the current era and the debate over economic indicators versus social indicators, other factors also confirm how important it is to use indicators or a system of indicators; indicators are tools which:

- provide information and encourage community mobilization;
- facilitate the monitoring and decision-making processes in a project or intervention;
- enable practices to be improved;
- encourage a more efficient use of the available resources;
- help in the planning process;
- can be used as a comparative yardstick if standardized or used by several people.

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10 [http://www.socialinfo.ch/cgi-bin/dicoposso/show.cfm?id=417](http://www.socialinfo.ch/cgi-bin/dicoposso/show.cfm?id=417)
Using Indicators in the Evaluation Process

Indicators are enormously helpful in the evaluation process. But let us first examine a definition of evaluation; according to the J.S. McConnell Family Foundation:

Evaluation is part of an ongoing strategic and organizational planning process, and can be an effective tool for strengthening the way in which organizations operate. [...] Evaluation is the responsibility of everyone involved in an organization or an initiative. Rather than simply serving as a process to meet the needs of external parties such as funders, evaluation is a management tool that supports an organization’s quest for excellence in its operations and its programs. We are committed to using evaluation in ways that build the capacity of organizations.

Evaluation should not be static and should be reviewed on a continual basis. In the following diagrams we can clearly see the link between evaluation and planning:

Source: http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/eval/dev/sma-pet/guidelines/guidebook04_e.asp

Source: http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/eval/dev/sma-pet/guidelines/guidebook02_e.asp

11 http://www.mcconnellfoundation.ca/pubs.e/eval.html
In the literature on the subject, evaluation is normally described as having two different formats: formative and summative.

- “Formative” or “process” evaluations are designed to improve the design and implementation of a program, policy or strategy as it unfolds, while
- “Summative” or “outcome” evaluations are designed to judge a program, policy or strategy’s relevance, success and/or cost-effectiveness (including its relative contribution to the intended outcomes)\(^{12}\).

Although an evaluation can take a number of different formats and can evaluate different elements, two notions which often require an explanation come up regularly: effectiveness and efficiency. What is the difference between them?

Effectiveness refers to the degree to which an objective has been achieved or a program has been carried out [...] Efficiency, for its part, designates the relationship between what has been achieved and the means used to achieve it [...] In short, to distinguish between effectiveness and efficiency, you simply need to think about degree and relationship. Whereas effectiveness refers to a higher or lower degree of achievement, efficiency looks at the relationship between the means used and the results obtained\(^{13}\).

Indicators are developed in order to meet the dual objectives of effectiveness and efficiency. The level of effectiveness or efficiency is set based on standards put forward by the sector or on a subjective decision made by the group in question on the measurement that should be reached, that is to say the benchmark target.

**Measuring Indicators**

Measuring is a procedure which consists of ‘attributing some kind of quantity to a phenomenon or to a subject based on a predetermined rule of attribution’ (Planet, 1994, p.18). Measuring is different from evaluating, which consists of making a value judgement by comparing data obtained from a measuring process based on criteria, norms or standards. For the measurement of a subject to be accurate and valid, a clear and precise definition of the subject in question must first be agreed upon\(^{14}\).

Measuring is about being able to evaluate, to make judgements and comparisons, to monitor progress, to verify, to control.\(^{15}\)


By using indicators, we can measure different elements of a given situation. Classic evaluations usually put the emphasis on evaluating performance, impact, success and productivity, etc. Terms such as these are part of the community economic development vocabulary, especially when it comes to rendering accounts. More often than not, however, evaluation in CED tries to measure social capital, sustainable development, social cohesion, poverty, social inclusion, quality of life, well-being and human development, etc., concepts which tend to require qualitative data. In fact, getting this type of indicator recognized or giving it a value that can be compared to indicators based on quantitative or monetary data alone is one of the main challenges in CED evaluations.

The data or information used for measuring an indicator is by nature either quantitative or qualitative. Qualitative data, or ‘soft’ indicators, are usually based on perceptions, opinions, impressions and judgments, etc. Quantitative data, or ‘hard’ indicators, on the other hand are based on ratios, frequencies, etc.:

Figure-based indicators are expressed in number (quantity, cost, time), as a percentage or as a ratio, and give a measurement which is considered to be more objective. Monitoring such results is simpler because the difference between the starting point and the target can be evaluated mathematically. [...] Indicators which are not figure-based are used when targets cannot be quantified or when the subjects or results are ‘intangible’.

Evaluation can happen on different levels; it can be internal to the organization (evaluating the staff, management of the organization, etc) or external (evaluating project development, effectiveness, efficiency or relevance of a project, etc.). Although the two really go hand in hand, we have chosen here to concentrate more specifically on the evaluation of external elements.

**Different Types of Indicator Systems**

Human Resources Development Canada – Evaluation and Data Development (EDD) has distinguished four not necessarily mutually exclusive strands of social-indicator research:

- Compendia of social statistics aggregated into areas of social concern;
- Composite indices based on a number of variables in one or more specific areas of social concern;
- Social modeling efforts, which attempt to explain certain outcomes in specific social areas in terms of program expenditures and sociodemographic and economic variables;
- Matrix/account-based approaches that attempt to account for both social and economic transactions in an economy.

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Table 1: Summary of the Different Types of Social Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Compendia of Social Statistics</th>
<th>Composite Indices Based on a Number of Social Indicators</th>
<th>Social Modeling Efforts</th>
<th>Matrix/Account-Based Approaches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advantages</td>
<td>- Easy to understand.</td>
<td>- Makes it possible to analyze and evaluate social trends.</td>
<td>- Based on a conceptual model in which the link between the data input and the results (shown by social indicators) is clearly defined, as are the external control models which influence the results.</td>
<td>- Most comprehensive method.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Easy to process.</td>
<td>- Makes it possible to evaluate segments of the population (based on age, sex, etc.).</td>
<td>- Social modeling is based on a theoretical model in which the data is collected in a uniform and efficient way.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Gives a detailed picture.</td>
<td>- Relatively low cost.</td>
<td>- Since expenses are included as a variable, programs’ contribution to social outcomes can be measured.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Does not give a global view of the situation.</td>
<td>- The choice of variables and the method with which to measure them is subjective.</td>
<td>- Makes it possible to ask the question, ‘What happens if…?’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Can be modeled according to the designer’s intentions.</td>
<td>- Changing a significant indicator can give a misleading interpretation.</td>
<td>- Corresponding time limits pose a problem.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Has a limited value from an evaluation standpoint.</td>
<td>- The index is not based on a conceptual model.</td>
<td>- Restrict to a single area of social concern.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- There is arbitrary weighting of certain indices.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disadvantages</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Very difficult to grasp intuitively since they have been designed from a purely accounting point of view.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Considerable resources are required for this method.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Social Policy Simulation Database and Method (SPSD/M).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary of Method</td>
<td>- Organized by domain: education, health, well-being, environment etc.</td>
<td>- This index consists of several indicators in a number of different domains.</td>
<td>- Based on a social model, predictive variables are used to validate it.</td>
<td>- Based on input-output accounting methods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uses</td>
<td>- To monitor social changes over time.</td>
<td>- To observe significant social trends.</td>
<td>- To model social outcomes using a number of methods which aim to establish causal relationships.</td>
<td>- To enlarge the principally economic nature of national accounting to include social dimensions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Selection Criteria for Indicators

It is important to remember that an indicator is never completely accurate. Rather, indicators exist to give us approximate information about a situation or to act as a reference point. Indicators are built or selected based on precise objectives or on a theoretical / ideological concept and are tools which allow us to verify and measure whether or not goals have been reached.

To build an efficient indicator system, the indicators themselves must satisfy certain criteria. According to the 1990 Final Report to the Healthy City Office, City of Toronto, indicators should be:

- comprehensive in the sense of measuring multiple dimensions of the abstract theoretical / ideological concept;
- readily available for use as a monitoring system;
- accessible or meaningful to policy-makers and the public;
- sensitive to changes over time and to differences among population groups;
- capable of being used at different levels of aggregation;
- valid and reliable.\(^\text{19}\)

According to the federal government, indicators should be:

- **Relevant** - to real decisions and issues;
- **Feasible** - ideally practical and cost effective;
- **Credible** - scientifically sound and supportable;
- **Clear** - easy to understand;
- **Comparable** - show changes over time or between programs, cohorts or jurisdictions.\(^\text{20}\)


\(^\text{20}\)
Some Thoughts on the Constraints When Developing Indicators

Indicators only measure the element under consideration and should provide only general landmarks. They should be used ‘intelligently’, meaning they should be interpreted taking into consideration their original context. If, for example, a CED organization works for years to build its community yet no change appears when indicators are analyzed, does that mean that the services the organization provides are not efficient? Not necessarily. It could be that those who benefited from the organization’s activities have simply left the area. External factors such as the poor state of living space or the mix of dwellings that make up the housing stock can play a significant role in driving people away from an area.

Certain cultural issues also require the use of specific indicators. For example, the lack of paid work in certain native communities does not necessarily signify a lack of self-accomplishment. Because of their history, native peoples’ way of life calls for different values to be used.

We should also be aware that positive or negative external factors such as economic variations can affect a local area. In fact, these external factors can sometimes influence an indicator more than the intervention being measured.

One way to avoid this can be to use more than one indicator:

"An indicator is always biased and limited and can never be a direct or comprehensive measure of the reality (or concept) under consideration."

It is important to pay particular attention to the data used, especially if a third party has carried out the census. For example, if the level of crime within a municipality has drastically changed, you should go directly to the source of the information and start asking questions. You might then find out that the way of counting data has changed (for example, assaults in which no bleeding occurred are now counted as ‘petty crime’).

The fact that certain concepts have such a vague definition, for example equity, means that there can be wildly varying interpretations of the concept:

"Equity is one concept which perfectly illustrates the problem with indicators in the domain of health. A precise definition is needed of what exactly is meant by equity: equity for whom? (the population at large, users, professionals, etc.); equity of what? (resources, results, etc.); equity in what area? (socioeconomic or ethnic statutes, health conditions, regions, etc.). [...] We can talk about equity in terms of effectiveness, efficiency, availability, etc., but if we define equity based on a number of different elements at the same time, we run the risk of having contradictory objectives. We therefore cannot measure equity without first having objectives for equity which can

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21 http://www.adaruq.org/coll96_indica.html
also serve as criteria for measuring whether or not these objectives have been reached.22

Another constraint that a practitioner might face is the frequency with which indicators are updated. The frequency of updating can vary a great deal from one piece of data to another: the crime rate is updated every year, the unemployment rate every month and a population’s average income just once every five years. Using data collected at irregular intervals can affect the indicators’ credibility.

Moreover, not all data is necessarily accessible at all levels; some data is accessible at the local level, other data is accessible at a regional level and a large proportion is accessible only at a provincial or national level. There may sometimes be no option but to put up with less relevant indicators simply because that is all that is available. If this is the case, we need to ask ourselves whether what we are doing is valid from a theoretical point of view: does the indicator in fact measure the concept?

It may be that the capacity of our communities to mobilize and carry out more ‘efficient’ interventions depends on having better access to databases (cost and waiting time), on organizing shared census periods and on the creation of joint census departments for a number of different sources on similar topics (job statistics, social statistics, crime statistics, etc.). The level of efficiency of an intervention is often inextricably linked to how accessible the information is.

It is important, too, to pay careful attention when indicators are requested by external bodies (for example funders, governments, etc.) because it is easy for an organization to modify its modus operandi for these external bodies. Rather than working to reach the social and economic development goals within its mission, an organization might act based on the performance criteria imposed on them. To demonstrate its performance in employability, for example, would a social integration enterprise select candidates who really need their services or might they not be tempted to choose the candidates who are most likely to be success stories? A system of indicators needs to be developed in collaboration with the organization, and it needs to respond in a very real way to the organization’s needs and mission.

Indicators are imperfect tools but for lack of other more efficient instruments, they are still used on a regular basis. It is partly our responsibility to encourage the development of new indicators or the refining of classic indicators (as well as the parameters for their use) so that they take into consideration the benefits of community economic development.

22 http://www.has-sante.fr/anaes/Publications.nsf/nPDFFile/RA_LILF-5B7JYY/$File/indicateurs.pdf?OpenElement
Mapping

Defining Mapping

Mapping is a graphical method for producing maps. Although many fields (psychology, biology, etc.) use maps for their areas of study, mapping is a technique which is used principally within the field of geography. For the purposes of this research, we will consider mapping as a diagrammatical tool for dealing with spatial information.

According to the International Cartographic Association, mapping is:

The set of studies and operations - scientific, artistic or technical - which contribute to elaborating and drafting maps, plans and other forms of expression based on direct observations or other information, and to using such tools. ²³

According to the French encyclopedia Wikipédia, mapping is:

A method used for producing maps. It is one of the preferred methods within the field of geography. Mapping also enables data from related sciences like demography and economics to be presented in a clear and readable way, facilitating the transfer of knowledge.²⁴

²³ http://dossier.univ-st-etienne.fr/crenam/www/donnee/cours/cubi/cubisvt1td.html
²⁴ http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cartographie
According to the Atlas of Canada, mapping is:

The art and science of map production. It applies the fundamental scientific procedures of accurate measurement, classification, and the identification of relationships, to create visual models of our complex world.\(^{25}\)

Based on these definitions, we can see that mapping is: 1) an exercise in graphical conceptualization which involves the gathering and processing of spatial information; 2) a simple and synthesized visual model of our complex world; and 3) an information and communication tool for diffusing knowledge.

**Different Types of Maps**

Mapping is the technique or process which results in the production of a map, plan or other related instrument (geographical information system).

According to the Wikipédia encyclopedia, a geographical map is:

A document which represents a geographical study and highlights the location of the phenomena which it describes. The applications for this type of document are as varied as navigation, urban planning, demographic studies and communication.\(^{26}\)

Maps, as opposed to aerial photos, present selected information in order to convey a message or to summarize a situation. The kind of map used can vary according to the nature of the message to be conveyed. Maps are normally divided into two main categories; topographical and thematic.

Topographical maps are maps which give the location of one or more geographical element.

They show various kinds of superimposed information; physical (the relief, drainage patterns, plant coverage) and human (administrative and political boundaries, settlements, infrastructure, communication networks, etc.)\(^{27}\).

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\(^{27}\) [http://www.inrp.fr/Tecne/Savoirplus/Rech40124/Pdf/annee00/ressources_carto.pdf](http://www.inrp.fr/Tecne/Savoirplus/Rech40124/Pdf/annee00/ressources_carto.pdf)
Thematic maps on the other hand deal with more specific themes and are created by attributing values to polygons (neighbourhoods, cities, etc.), lines or geographic points. Depending on what needs to be communicated, the values can be qualitative (unsafe zone in neighbourhood x) or quantitative (proportion of people on a low-income). Thematic maps are able to process variables such as the unemployment rate, population density, family revenues, etc.

### Economic Environment Index

![Economic Environment Index](http://atlas.gc.ca/site/francais/maps/peopleandsociety/QOL/eco_qoluc.p)


**Different Mapping Techniques**

Producing maps requires knowledge and can generate costs which vary depending on the methods used and goals pursued. We will present various mapping techniques starting with the simplest and going to the most complex.
On a very basic level, maps can be created manually and require nothing more than a pen, piece of paper and – preferably – some artistic talent. In the example below, we can see mapping in its most simple form. This is an exercise that a CED practitioner can use to understand, through the drawing, the key elements of a neighbourhood or group. At this stage, the map looks more like a plan and is not to scale. It does, however, highlight the main elements of the area (from the designer’s point of view, at least).

Source: http://www.iapad.org/social_mapping.htm

At a more developed, technical level that we shall call ‘classic mapping’, we find more accurate and better-structured graphical information which includes the use of a scale, geographic positioning and legend. Maps nowadays are produced using aerial photographs or information from maps which already exist. The information can still be plotted manually, but more often than not maps are created digitally. This can be done using a matrix or a vector. The matrix method involves a matrix divided into squares with each little square being associated with a number, and each number being associated with a colour. In the vector method, there are three kinds of objects: points, lines and polygons. In this case, colours are attributed depending on the kind of object that is being plotted.

Once the map has been created digitally, the designer can then decide to add one or more levels (overland roads, relief, drainage patterns, municipal boundaries, etc.), remembering to keep in mind what needs to be communicated. Clearly, designing a digital map will generate significantly higher costs than manually producing a map.

Source: http://atlas.gc.ca/site/english/maps/reference/national/can_political_e/referencemap_image_view
The third and last level in the complexity of maps is the geographic information system (GIS). A GIS is created digitally using the vector method. The development goals for a GIS are more ambitious than those in classic mapping and in fact, a GIS is basically a database which contains various pieces of information that are attributed to spatial objects. The user is therefore able to interrogate the system about the different objects within the GIS (building, traffic-flow system, neighbourhood, etc.). When interrogating the GIS about neighbourhood X, for example, the user can find out that there is Y unemployment rate and that the participants have an average age of Z. The information for a GIS must, however, be gathered systematically and integrated into a database format such as an Excel file. It is an extremely interesting tool, but one which requires significant investment and an above-average knowledge of geomatics. The best way to develop a successful GIS project is probably to do it in partnership with a local municipality, university or other interested public body.


Community Mapping as a Development Approach

Community mapping is a very popular development approach in the United States. Building a successful community mapping system is based on its promoters’ ability to gather diverse pieces of information not only about the local population but also about the services, physical context (state of dwellings) and other qualitative information on specific areas (feeling of security, inaccessible work zones, etc.). This information can be georeferenced (incorporated into a GIS) and thus promote the development of community-based strategies which take a multitude of factors into consideration. The success of community mapping depends on being able to mobilize the community not only to respond to the census but also to highlight key issues. The local population should therefore be a key player in the process. Community mapping is an approach which is used particularly in rural areas where the development variables are more easily identifiable and processable.
The Uses of Mapping

Mapping can have several different uses. Among other things, it can:

- illustrate the social conditions of a particular group;
- show how resources are distributed throughout an area;
- increase accessibility to certain places or services;
- promote a neighbourhood’s development;
- draw up an inventory of resources, assets and key places;
- define homogenous groups or regions where action is required;
- identify dwellings in poor condition or vacant plots;
- mark out heritage routes or the location of nearby services.

From an urban planning perspective, the Poitou-Charentes Region Institut Atlantique d’Aménagement des Territoires in France defines mapping in the following way:

A tool for processing data for spatial analysis
A map is not a drawing but rather a tool which enables one or more qualitative or quantitative, statistical or geographical pieces of data to be transformed into spatial information using a set of processes and scientific operations.

A tool to facilitate decision-making in urban planning
A map is never neutral and is the result of a series of choices made based on goals to be reached. Its mission as a decision-making tool isn’t so much to provide answers as to ask the relevant questions in preparation for a debate and to put forward the important issues.

A communication tool
A map becomes an effective communication tool when it is able to convey the desired message. It is therefore able to provide an immediate perception of easily memorable information.28

Mapping has varying uses and in the context of this exercise, our hope is for mapping to be a communication and information distribution process for urban planning and social issues, project planning and organizational development, and for it to maybe be integrated into a socio-economic indicator system.

Some Thoughts on Using and Interpreting Maps

A map is a communication and information tool which is by its very nature biased. The designer must be aware that by selecting the scale, elements to be presented and areas of analysis, s/he will influence the message whether s/he means to or not. The larger the scale, the more accurate and detailed the information contained in the map is. On a scale

28 http://www.iaat.org/Offre/cartographie.ph
of 1:150 000, for example, the reader can find general information on the roads and waterways and will be able to identify settlements at a municipal level. On a scale of 1:20 000, the reader can see more detailed information (if available) such as buildings, city blocks, etc. and also see actual neighbourhoods or other sub-divisions such as the different sectors of the census. The larger the scale, the more heterogeneous the zones become. And in fact, having small census sectors usually makes it easier to identify elements like pockets of poverty.

In a sociodemographic analysis, the designer will often use data from a Statistics Canada census. When this happens, there is no choice but to use Statistics Canada’s predetermined census boundaries. Although Statistics Canada does try hard to adapt its census boundaries to the reality of the area by using homogenous zones which respect local boundaries (district, neighbourhood, etc.), they are sometimes not adapted to the needs of the project. In an extreme case where the main pocket of poverty in a municipality runs along a large boulevard, for example, if that boulevard crosses three different sectors of census and if the population on the north side of the boulevard happens to be very wealthy, then the average income of these sectors will not show a true picture of the poverty. An analyst can even deliberately choose an all-encompassing census area (choosing entire municipalities rather than sectors of census) to show an inaccurate picture of that area. The only way to avoid such traps is to know the area well and to remain vigilant when presented with the different analyses available.

If a practitioner wants to intergrate a multi-dimensional system of socio-economic indicators (including employment, crime, socioeconomic conditions, etc.) into a geographic information system, s/he will find, particularly in the urban environment, that areas that are on different scales and have different boundaries cannot be integrated. The census area for working conditions, for example, may differ from the census area for crime or the census area for socio-economic conditions. It will only be possible to put a multi-dimensional system like this in place by considering a more global area (a municipality or region).

The Links Between Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

In the first part of this research document we looked at indicators and in the second, we addressed mapping. We will now briefly try to explain the links between these two instruments.

Socio-economic indicators and mapping can be integrated in some circumstances and can at other times be complementary. An organization, person, process, strategy, plan, method or territory can be the subject of an indicator. Mapping on the other hand is limited to a geographical space. Whenever practitioners want to analyse the social situation in one or more area, they can put a system of socio-economic indicators in place (gathering social and economic statistics, putting together a composite index based on several socio-economic indicators, etc.) and can use mapping as a means with which to communicate
this information. The location of an area can thus partly explain the social conditions of the population which lives there.

Socio-economic indicators and mapping are also complementary when it comes to planning. While a socio-economic indicator system can tell us about the quality of life of a population, a map can highlight specific elements in order to provide a clearer understanding (distance from the labour market area, poor quality housing, isolated areas, etc.). Socio-economic indicators and mapping in this instance become communication tools to help practitioners to take decisions, and promotional instruments to encourage other financial partners to join the project.

Both socio-economic indicators and mapping require there to be a census and for information to be gathered and processed. This entails investing considerable resources, but also enables organizations to get to know their area, sectors of activity and needs of their group better. Having good access to the information and organizing it properly, as well as being able to process the data, are therefore two key issues for community economic development groups.
Part II: Information Sheets on Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

How the Information Sheets are Organized

In this section you will find information sheets on both socio-economic indicators and mapping. The Internet links to the resources have been divided into three categories:

- Indicators and Mapping
- Indicators
- Mapping

The information sheets themselves have been grouped into five mains sections:

- Research documents
- Guides
- Tools
- Examples
- Resources

In the research documents section you will find studies on both socio-economic indicators and mapping. The research is diverse; some documents are about socio-economic indicator systems or mapping in general, while others provide a more critical approach. The research comes from a range of sources: public institutions, grass-roots organizations and universities.

In the guides category we have grouped together all the documents we found on Internet sites which explain how to develop socio-economic indicators or mapping systems.

In the tools category we have listed the Internet sites which help you to actually build socio-economic indicator systems or to embark on mapping projects. It is generally possible to access statistical or cartographic data on these sites.

In the examples section, we present a number of examples of socio-economic indicators and mapping projects. We hope that these sites will inspire you to develop similar projects. You will also find thematic maps (on age, average income, unemployment rate, etc.) for Canada and its provinces.

Finally, in the resources section we list organizations or projects whose main mandate is closely related to socio-economic indicators or mapping. You will also be able to find networks of key players in the field, assistance programs and one-off events like congresses. It should be noted that certain links will direct you to American and European organizations.
1. Research on Indicators and Mapping
1. Research on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

*The Use of Social Indicators as a Tool for Evaluation*

Name of organization:

Human Resources Development Canada, Strategic Evaluation and Ongoing Monitoring

Category:

Indicators

Languages:

English and French

Description:

This report contains five chapters the first of which is the Introduction. Chapter 2 presents a rationale for increasing efforts to make programs, particularly social programs, more accountable to the public. The third chapter provides a brief review of past and recent social indicator work, with a focus on defining and typologizing social indicators and identifying their potential evaluative properties. Chapter 4 summarizes interviews that Ekos Research Associates has conducted, as part of this project, with past and current key informants in the area of social indicators. Chapter 5 of this report presents a number of options, drawn from past and current experiences, on how social indicators, in different forms, may be used to fulfill HRDC’s new accountability responsibilities. The final chapter provides a summary and recommendations.

Internet link:


Website:

1. Research on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Social Profitability Indicators or Economic Impact Indicators? How to Define and Develop Such Indicators.

Name of organization:

Sectorial Workforce Committee – Social Economy, Community Action (CSMO-ESAC)

Category:

Indicator

Language:

French

Description:

Rather than provide a list of universal indicators which can respond to all exercises of this type, the aim of this document is to present certain principles with regards to indicators that have been developed by the Sectorial Workforce Committee on Social Economy and Community Action (CSMO-ESAC). If you need indicators be they social, economic or sub-sectorial, this document will provide an approach that you can rely on, and both the principles and approach can be applied easily.

Internet link:

http://www.csmoesac.qc.ca/outils/indicateurs.html

Website:

http://www.csmoesac.qc.ca/
1. Research on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

*Performance Indicators*

Name of organization:

Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences

Category:

Indicators

Language:

English

Description:

This project is designed to research the context in which performance indicators are evolving. The project explores the known and unforeseen consequences of their implementation as they affect the social sciences and the humanities with a view of providing general principles and guidelines to Deans, Vice- Presidents Research and Vice-Presidents Academic, Associations' Presidents and University representatives.

Internet link:

http://www.fedcan.ca/english/projects/performance/

Website:

http://www.fedcan.ca
1. Research on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Quality of Life; Reporting System Evaluation

Name of organization:

Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)

Category:

Indicators

Language:

English

Description:

In May 2002, The Flett Consulting Group Inc. and FoTenn Consultants Inc. submitted to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) this draft report of the Quality of Life Reporting System (QOLRS) Evaluation. The purpose of the evaluation was to determine the effectiveness of the FCM’s QOLRS in reporting on, and promoting awareness of, quality of life issues affecting Canadian communities. Results of the evaluation will be used to establish a five-year plan for the QOLRS as well as to define the framework for the next QOLRS report scheduled for 2003. The evaluation took into account the products and processes associated with the QOLRS, including a review of:

• project objectives;
• the indicators and measures;
• communications and media, as well as the process for developing the system.

Internet link:


Website:

http://www.fcm.ca/
1. Research on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Developing Performance Indicators for Reporting Collective Results

Name of organization:

Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat

Category:

Indicators

Languages:

English and French

Description:

The purpose of this tool is to share Consulting and Audit Canada’s experience with indicator development and data collection issues, as they relate to planning and reporting in a horizontal management environment. It outlines the process used and lessons learned for three separate but related long-term policy issue areas:

- Sustainable development (local, national, global);
- Tourism destinations (WTO);
- Quality of life (i.e., federal rural initiatives);

All three areas are referred to in order to understand the impact of activities or contribution to priority risk issues and to show the extent to which the government is making a difference collectively - actual outcomes which make a difference to Canadians.

Internet link:


Website:

http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca
1. Research on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:
Report on Indicators in the Field of Poverty and Social Exclusion

Name of organization:
Social Protection Committee

Category:
Indicators

Languages:
English and French

Description:
At the Stockholm European Council, in March 2001, Heads of State and Government gave the mandate to the Council to adopt a set of commonly agreed social inclusion indicators. Such indicators should allow the Member States and the Commission to monitor progress towards the goal set by the European Council of Lisbon of making a decisive impact on the eradication of poverty by 2010, to improve the understanding of poverty and social exclusion in the European context and to identify and exchange good practice. Based on the principles set out in the report, ten primary and eight secondary indicators were adopted.

Internet link:

Website:
http://www.europa.eu.int
1. Research on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

*Developing a Social and Economic Inclusion Toolkit for Ontario Communities*

Name of organization:

Ontario Prevention Clearinghouse

Category:

Indicators

Languages:

English and French

Description:

*Developing a Social and Economic Inclusion Toolkit for Ontario Communities* is a project of the Ontario Prevention Clearinghouse in partnership with the Laidlaw Foundation and funded by Health Canada.

Internet link:


Website:

[http://www.opc.on.ca/](http://www.opc.on.ca/)
1. Research on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Pathways to a Healthy Community – An Indicators and Evaluation Tool Kit

Name of organization:

Ontario Healthy Communities Coalition

Category:

Indicators

Language:

English

Description:

An Indicators & Evaluation Tool Kit is a resource guide to support facilitators, members and community organizations within the Ontario Healthy Communities Coalition (OHCC). OHCC deems that it has brought together the 19 most useful tools for developing an evaluation or indicator system. The guide includes detailed information on how to obtain these various tools.

Internet link:

http://www.healthycommunities.on.ca/publications/pathways/index.html

Website:

http://www.healthycommunities.on.ca/
1. Research on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Alternative Training/Businesses – New Practice, New Directions

Name of organization:
The Montreal Development Observatory (Observatoire montréalais du développement)

Category:
Indicators

Language:
English

Description:
The project has three primary objectives: 1. to describe the practices of training/alternative businesses that have developed in recent years; 2. to develop a guide to evaluate projects such as this; and 3. to carry out the evaluation of several training/alternative businesses. Part I of "New Practice, New Directions" is already complete and the product is a document featuring 50 short case descriptions of training/alternative businesses, 42 of which are from Canada (20 from Québec) and 8 from the United States.

Internet link:
http://www.omd.uqam.ca/publications/telechargements/evalu.PDF

Website:
http://www.omd.uqam.ca/
Name of project or tool:

*Social Performance Indicators Initiative*

Name of organization:

Comité d’échange, de réflexion et d’information sur les systèmes d’épargne-crédit (CERISE).

Category:

Indicators

Languages:

English (publication) and French (website)

Description:

The study is intended to develop a conceptual framework and a matrix of social performance indicators that micro-finance institutions (MFIs) can use to evaluate and monitor social performance, which will provide greater transparency. Measuring social performance complements the financial performance indicators used up until now. The indicators chosen must be simple, reliable, applicable to different contexts and kinds of MFIs and easy to use.

Internet link:

http://www.cerise-microfinance.org/publication/impact.htm

Website:

http://www.cerise-microfinance.org/
1. Research on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Evaluating Social Utility

Name of organization:

Agency for the Development of Socio-Economic Initiatives

Category:

Indicators

Language:

French

Description:

This project aims to provide answers to the following questions:

1. Does the social economy have the same goals as the private or public economy?
2. Does it work in the same way?
3. What place should the social economy be given with regards to the other kinds of economy?
4. What is the social economy’s social usefulness? Is it just a matter for social economy organizations? How do we measure this economy? What are the consequences of measuring it?

In response to these questions, the document gives a brief overview of the social economy sector before going on to present the notion of social usefulness in the sector – why measure it, and what the consequences are of doing so. The point of view of traditional enterprises is then analyzed to show how they take into account the notion of social usefulness with that of social responsibility. Finally, the document tries to answer the question ‘how to measure social usefulness?’ and finishes with a summary of the consequences of measuring social usefulness.

Internet link:


Website:

http://www.avise.org
1. Research on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

*From Growth to Development: Seeking Alternative Indicators*

Name of organization:

Lille University of Science and Technology – Lille Centre for Sociological and Economic Study and Research

Category:

Indicators

Language:

French

Description:

This article sketches a portrait of new growth and development indicators (as alternatives to the GNP, for example). It deals on the one hand with the eight most important innovations in terms of indicators (around 30 new indicators have been registered since 1995) and on the other hand with those indicator innovations which affect developed countries – and which allow comparisons to be made between countries – even if some of the indicators can be applied universally. This assessment is basically about the so-called ‘global’ national indicators which, like the GNP, and often using the GNP as a component, summarize multiple indices into a final end indicator, even if that sometimes means leaving the public debate on the delicate question of weighting – and therefore the underlying values - open.

Internet link:


Website:

http://www.univ-lille1.fr/clerse/
1. Research on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

*Social Indicators - an Inventory and Prospects*

Name of organization:

Council for Employment, Income and Social Cohesion (France)

Category:

Indicators

Language:

French

Description:

This report draws up an inventory of social indicator systems and their use on the national and international level. It also assesses the recent theoretical developments in economics and sociology as they relate to social indicators (inequalities, well-being, social capital, quality of life) and puts forward proposals of a technical (a presentation framework) and institutional nature with a view to setting up a new national mechanism for social indicators.

Internet link:

http://perso.wanadoo.fr/bernard.perret/indicsoc.htm

Website:

http://perso.wanadoo.fr/bernard.perret/
1. Research on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

*Going From Indicators to Governance to the Dominant Shift among the General Public: Tools for Cultural Policy and Citizenship*

Name of organization:

Nottingham Trent University (United Kingdom) – Cultural Policy and Planning Research Unit

Category:

Indicators

Language:

French

Description:

This document explores the question of cultural policy (the relationship between culture, policy and citizens) and specifies the conceptual field which serves or should serve to set up a knowledge base for developing relevant and useful indicators. This knowledge base should allow for policies of cultural citizenship to be developed, or more precisely, for cultural indicators of citizenship to be defined.

Internet link:


Website:

1. Research on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:
Sustainable Development Indicators: a Scientific Challenge, a Democratic Issue

Name of organization:
Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations / Chair of Sustainable Development, École polytechnique

Category:
Indicators

Language:
French

Description:
The document provides answers to the following questions:

1. Who uses outdated indicators?
2. Which kinds of indicators are considered to be the most usable for decision-making purposes (and therefore which indicators should information be converted into)?
3. How should this information be converted to use in decision-making processes?
4. How are the sectors linked to sustainable development?

Various avenues for building appropriate information systems for sustainable development are proposed - that is, systems that are suitable, relevant and agreed on by all development stakeholders.

Internet link:

Website:
http://www.iddri.org/
Name of project or tool:

*Community Asset Mapping*

Name of organization:

Adult, Career and Vocational Education

Category:

Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

This article talks about mapping as a community development tool. According to the author, the mapping of a community implies documenting the tangible and intangible assets of that community. Using this tool, it is possible to improve elements such as recognizing social capital and a participatory approach, models of economic development whose priority is making the best use of a community’s resource base, and strengthening civil society by engaging people as citizens and not as clients. The goal is to draw up an inventory of the resources and assets of a territory (persons, physical structures, natural resources, enterprises, etc.).

The Internet link includes a number of resources in order to gain a proper understanding of community asset mapping (Internet links, newspaper articles, books, etc.).

Internet link:


Website:

[http://www.cete.org](http://www.cete.org)
1. Research on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

*Capacity Inventory*

Name of organization:

Institute for Policy Research, Northwestern University – The Asset-Based Community Development Institute

Category:

Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

An approach for identifying citizens who can contribute to improving and building a community. The inventory of these capacities becomes a powerful and efficient development tool.

Internet link:

http://www.northwestern.edu/ipr/abcd/abcdtools.html

Website:

http://www.northwestern.edu
2. Guides on Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping
Name of project or tool:

*Measuring Community Capacity Resource Kit*

Name of organization:

Horizons Community Development Associates Inc.

Category:

Indicators

Language:

English and French

Description:

This Resource Kit was developed for community groups which cater to the needs of children and youth in the area of health. The Measuring Community Capacity Resource Kit is a tool that communities can use to reflect on, identify and build on their existing strengths in order to mobilize the priorities in the health of children and youth and to influence policy related to the health of children. Measuring Community Capacity is not a test or an evaluation of the work community groups are doing. It is a tool to help community groups to reflect on the way they work and to think about whether and how to build on existing strengths.

Internet link:

http://www.horizonscda.ca/projects/ccmkit.html

Website:

http://www.horizonscda.ca/
2. Guides on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

A Guide to Indicators – the Modernization of the Civil Service

Name of organization:

Quebec Treasury Council Secretariat / Under-Secretary’s Office for the Modernization of Public Affairs

Category:

Indicators

Language:

French

Description:

This guide presents the main stages and tools that are useful for the development, use and revision of indicators. It does not claim to be an exhaustive list. The content has been developed taking other guides on introducing modernization measures into account, and the text refers to these guides as necessary. This guide aims to encourage the emergence of a culture in the field of measuring results, an extremely diverse and dynamic field that is in constant evolution. The content, just like the subject it deals with, will evolve and be updated from time to time.

Internet link:


Website:

http://www.tresor.gouv.qc.ca/
Name of project or tool:

An Evaluation Framework for Community Health Programs

Name of organization:

The Center for the Advancement of Community-Based Public Health

Category:

Indicators

Language:

English

Description:

An Evaluation Framework for Community Health Programs can be used by community-based organizations and community health workers to enhance their understanding of evaluation and to build their capacity to participate more actively and aggressively in evaluation efforts of their programs.

Internet link:

http://www.cdc.gov/eval/evalcbph.pdf

Website:

http://www.cdc.gov/
Name of project or tool: Evaluation Handbook

Name of organization: W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Category: Indicators

Language: English

Description:
This handbook is guided by the belief that evaluation is the responsibility of every project developer and should be supportive and responsive to projects, rather than become an end in itself. It provides a framework for thinking about evaluation as a relevant and useful program tool. It is written primarily for project managers who have direct responsibility for the ongoing evaluation of W.K. Kellogg Foundation-funded projects.

Internet link:
http://www.wkkf.org/Pubs/Tools/Evaluation/Pub770.pdf

Website:
http://www.wkkf.org/
2. Guides on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Measuring Community Capacity Building

Name of organization:

The Aspen Institute

Category:

Indicators

Language:

English

Description:

This workbook can be used by groups of citizens, working either alone or with assistance, to help identify:

- What is community capacity building?
- Why should we care about community capacity building?
- How do we know community capacity building when we see it?
- How can we measure—and celebrate—our community’s growing capacity as we build it?

Internet link:

http://www.aspeninstitute.org/atf/cf/(DEB6F227-659B-4EC8-8F84-8DF23CA704F5)/MEASURING_COMMUNITY_CAPACITY_BUILDING.PDF

Website:

http://www.aspeninstitute.org/
2. Guides on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:  

*Project Self-Evaluation Tool*

Name of organization:  

Regional Agency for the Environment and New Energy (Île-de-France)

Category:  

Indicators

Language:  

French

Description:  

This Project Self-Evaluation Tool aims to provide the means for organizations to be part of an evaluation process which promotes better management. It also aims to enable organizations to reveal their projects and the projects’ real meaning by recording them in time and space.

Internet link:  


Website:  

http://www.areneidf.org/
2. Guides on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool: 

Asset Mapping: a Handbook

Name of organization:
Government of Canada

Category:
Mapping

Languages:
English and French

Description:
The handbook is about asset mapping. It outlines three practical approaches that community leaders can use to engage people in shaping the future of their community. Asset mapping can be used as a starting place for community-based initiatives such as community development, strategic planning and organizational development.

Internet link:

French: http://www.rural.gc.ca/conference/documents/mapping_f.phtml
English: http://www.rural.gc.ca/conference/documents/mapping_e.phtml

Website:
http://www.rural.gc.ca/
2. Guides on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Community Learning Asset Mapping

Name of organization:

Government of Canada

Category:

Mapping

Languages:

English and French

Description:

This guidebook for Community Learning Networks is for organizations whose proposals have been approved by the Office for Learning Technologies (OLT) for funding in 2003. It explains Step 2 of the developmental phase activities. The guidebook complements the information presented in the Guidelines for Proposals 2002, Annex A - Community Mapping by providing more details about the process community organizations should follow in mapping their learning resources.

Internet link:

French:

English:

Website:

http://www.rhdcc.gc.ca/
Name of project or tool:

*Mapping the Assets of Your Community: A Key Component for Building Local Capacity*

Name of organization:

Southern Rural Development Center

Category:

Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

A procedure for mapping the assets of a community is described in this material. The approach is one that has been developed by John P. Kretzmann and John L. McKnight in their book, *Building Communities From the Inside Out: A Path Toward Finding and Mobilizing a Community’s Assets*. It is a process that can be used in any community, and offers an effective strategy for involving a variety of people and organizations in helping bring about improvements in a community.

Internet link:

http://srdc.msstate.edu/publications/227/227.htm

Website:

http://srdc.msstate.edu/
2. Guides on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Guidance on Mapping Social Enterprise

Name of organization:

Small Business Service

Category:

Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

This guidance has been developed in response to the lack of a comprehensive and consistent evidence base to support the on-going growth of the social enterprise sector at a UK national level, as acknowledged in the Government’s ‘Social Enterprise: A Strategy for Success’ in July 2002. This guidance is designed to be of practical help in undertaking social enterprise mapping across a range of geographical scales and for any purpose. Good practice pointers and recommendations are based on the experience of 33 mapping studies which have all attempted to map social enterprise to some extent, as well as extensive consultation with the social enterprise sector.

Internet link:

http://www.sbs.gov.uk/sbsgov/action/layer?r.l2=7000000706&r.l1=7000000412&r.s=tl&topicId=7000012980

Website:

http://www.sbs.gov.uk/sbsgov/action/home?&domain=www.sbs.gov.uk
2. Guides on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

*Community Mapping*

Name of organization:

Policy Link

Category:

Indicators and Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

*Community Mapping* provides equitable development practitioners with accurate and unique information, effective visual tools, and the ability to understand and share their own experience in the context of their changing environment. Community mapping is powerful because of its capacity to democratize information—both what is recorded and who has access to it. When presented well, maps have the power to convey complicated information and relationships in a straightforward, accessible manner, enabling non-experts to participate meaningfully in community planning and advocacy.

Internet link:

- Html version: [http://www.policylink.org/EDTK/Mapping/Why.html#1](http://www.policylink.org/EDTK/Mapping/Why.html#1)
- PDF version: [http://www.policylink.org/pdfs/Mapping.pdf](http://www.policylink.org/pdfs/Mapping.pdf)

Website:

Name of project or tool:

*Building and Operating Neighborhood Indicator Systems: A Guidebook*

Name of organization:

Urban Institute

Category:

Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

The aim of this guide is to explain the strategies and techniques used by the local partners of NNIP (National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership) in building and developing social indicators systems in order to help groups in other cities develop such systems. The document is based on experiences which took place around 1996.

Internet link:


Website:

http://www.urban.org/
2. Guides on Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

The Development and Management of Geomatics by Municipal Organizations

Name of organization:

Quebec Ministry for Municipal and Regional Affairs

Category:

Mapping

Language:

French

Description:

This guide presents municipal authorities with concrete ways of supporting their reflection on and process for establishing and using geomatics as a tool for collecting the data on regional areas which is currently available, and which they need in order to carry out their mandates effectively. This guide was inspired by the need for the planned introduction and high-performance use of geomatics in the municipal world – in a cost-effective way.

Internet link:


Website:

http://www.mamr.gouv.qc.ca/
3. Tools for Indicators and Mapping
Name of project or tool:

*Census Geography*

Name of organization:

Statistics Canada

Category:

Indicators and Mapping

Languages:

English and French

Description:

Census geography covers a wide range of geographic areas - from provinces and territories down to city blocks. These geographic areas have boundaries, names, and other information that make it possible to locate them on the ground and to relate census data to them. The online resource includes reference and thematic maps, data and supporting reference material.

Internet link:

French: [http://geodepot.statcan.ca/diss/index_f.cfm](http://geodepot.statcan.ca/diss/index_f.cfm)

English: [http://geodepot.statcan.ca/diss/Index_e.cfm](http://geodepot.statcan.ca/diss/Index_e.cfm)

Website:

[http://www.statcan.ca/](http://www.statcan.ca/)
Name of project or tool:

*Health Indicators*

Name of organization:

Statistics Canada / Canadian Institute for Health Information

Category:

Indicators

Languages:

English and French

Description:

Over 80 indicators are presented at the health region, province/territory and Canada level:

- Health of Canadians – e.g., mortality, health problems;
- Determinants of health – e.g., smoking, exercise, income;
- Health system performance – e.g., hospital re-admissions;
- Community/health system characteristics – e.g., urban population, doctors.

Highlights, data table profiles, maps and documentation are also available in this free bi-annual Internet publication.

Internet link:

French: [http://www.statcan.ca/francais/freepub/82-221-XIF/00_503/toc_f.htm](http://www.statcan.ca/francais/freepub/82-221-XIF/00_503/toc_f.htm)

English: [http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/82-221-XIE/00503/toc.htm](http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/82-221-XIE/00503/toc.htm)

Website:

[http://www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)
3. Tools for Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

*CANSIM*

Name of organization:

Statistics Canada

Category:

Indicators and Mapping

Languages:

English and French

Description:

CANSIM is a great online resource for Canadian socio-economic statistics on labour, health, income, trade, education, manufacturing, investment and more. Track trends, analyze market potential or study economic activity with reliable data from the ultimate authority in Canadian statistics—Statistics Canada. CANSIM includes over 18 million series to help you track trends in virtually every aspect in the lives of Canadians. This tool allows you to search by subject, keyword, table number or series number.

Internet link:

French:
http://cansim2.statcan.ca/cgi-win/cnsmcgi.exe?CANSIMFile=CII/CII_1_F.HTM&RootDir=CII/&LANG=F

English:
http://cansim2.statcan.ca/cgi-win/cnsmcgi.exe?CANSIMFile=CII/CII_1_E.HTM&RootDir=CII/&LANG=E

Website:

http://www.statcan.ca/
3. Tools for Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:  
2001 Community Profiles

Name of organization:  
Statistics Canada

Category:  
Indicators and Mapping

Languages:  
English and French

Description:  
These statistical profiles contain free information for all Canadian communities (cities, towns, villages, Indian reserves and Indian settlements, etc.), for counties or their equivalents and for metropolitan areas, as well as data for 2003 health regions.

Internet link:  
French: http://www12.statcan.ca/francais/profil01/PlaceSearchForm1_F.cfm
English: http://www12.statcan.ca/english/profil01/PlaceSearchForm1.cfm

Website:  
http://www.statcan.ca/
3. Tools for Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Free Statistics

Name of organization:

Canadian Council on Social Development

Category:

Indicators and Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

The Canadian Council on Social Development (CCSD) is a non-governmental, not-for-profit research institute, whose mission is to develop and promote progressive social policies inspired by social justice, equality and the empowerment of individuals and communities throughout Canada. You will find a series of statistics on poverty in Canada from 1980 to 2004 on their website free of charge.

Internet link:

http://www.ccsd.ca/facts.html

Website:

http://www.ccsd.ca/
3. Tools for Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Éco-santé Québec (Eco-Health Quebec)

Name of organization:

Quebec Ministry for Health and Social Services

Category:

Indicators and Mapping

Language:

French

Description:

Éco-Santé Québec 2004 is the third version of a software program which provides detailed statistics on the health of the Quebec population and the health system at the health region level. The user-friendly software allows practitioners to extract data, build tables and graphs and obtain a cartographical representation of indicators. It also includes a user guide and interactive documentation on the indicators presented.

Internet link:


Website:

http://www.inspq.qc.ca
3. Tools for Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

*Carrefour montréalais d'information sociosanitaire*
*(Montreal Forum for Health Information)*

Name of organization:

Quebec Agency for the Development of Local Networks, Health Services & Social Services

Category:

Indicators and Mapping

Language:

French

Description:

The Forum’s mission is to classify, analyze and diffuse information on the health and well-being of the Quebec population and on the use of its services. The four main tools are:

- *Atlas Santé Montréal* (Montreal Health Atlas) which presents sociodemographic data and the use of health services by the population of each of the areas governed by the CLSCs (Quebec local health centres). It also allows users to make comparisons between areas, to group certain areas together and to display specific information for a particular area;
- *Interactive statistics* which allow users to consult interactive tables which give information on the sociodemographic characteristics and use of services by the Montreal population;
- *An inventory of the source of the data* groups together all of the sources of the data available at the Agency. Each source is documented (description of content, dictionary of variables, etc.);
- *Med-Echo Web Explorer* which allows user to interrogate the database on all hospitalizations in hospitals in Quebec.

Internet link:

http://www.cmis.mtl.rtss.qc.ca/

Website:

http://www.cmis.mtl.rtss.qc.ca/
Name of project or tool: 

Social Maps

Name of organization: 
The Social Planning Council of Ottawa

Category: 
Indicators and Mapping

Languages: 
English and French

Description: 
Maps illustrating statistics for the Ottawa region on housing, population, language, family, education, the active population, income and mobility.

Internet link: 
French: http://www.spcottawa.on.ca/mapping_SocialMaps_French.htm
English: http://www.spcottawa.on.ca/mapping_SocialMaps.htm

Website: 
http://www.spcottawa.on.ca/
3. Tools for Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Statistics, Regional and RCM Profiles, Population Census

Name of organization:

Quebec Statistics Institute

Category:

Indicators and Mapping

Languages:

English and French

Description:

The Institute’s mission is to provide reliable and objective statistical information on all aspects of Quebec society for which such information is relevant. On this site you will find statistics, data, indicators and maps of Quebec.

Internet link:

French: http://www.stat.gouv.qc.ca/

English: http://www.stat.gouv.qc.ca/default_an.htm

Website:

http://www.stat.gouv.qc.ca
3. Tools for Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool: 

GeoConnections – Discovery Portal

Name of organization: 

Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure

Category: 

Mapping

Languages: 

English and French

Description:

The GeoConnections Discovery Portal is your gateway to millions of geospatial data products. Browse metadata records or search by subject, coverage or product type to find, evaluate, visualize and access the geospatial data you need. A number of databases are available, such as satellite imagery, topographic data and aerial photography.

Internet link: 


Website: 

http://geodiscover.cgdi.ca
3. Tools for Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

*Mapping Applications and Data*

Name of organization:

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Category:

Mapping

Languages:

English and French

Description:

This is a collection of data including the gross watershed boundaries of the hydrographical basins in the Canadian Prairies. High definition, printable maps and maps with interactive applications allow users to display, query and produce maps of the Canadian Prairies.

Internet link:


English: [http://www.agr.gc.ca/pfra/gis/index_e.htm](http://www.agr.gc.ca/pfra/gis/index_e.htm)

Website:

[http://www.agr.gc.ca](http://www.agr.gc.ca)
Name of project or tool:
GeoGratis

Name of organization:
Natural Resources Canada

Category:
Mapping

Languages:
English and French

Description:
GeoGratis is a web and file transfer protocol (ftp) site that distributes geospatial data on Canada. Data is available for download without charge. Vector mapping data is available in scales ranging from 1:50 000 to 1:30 000 000 in a variety of file formats. Not all vector layers are available in all scales. Similarly, several types of full resolution satellite imagery can be found on-line.

Internet link:

Website:
http://geogratis.cgdi.gc.ca
3. Tools for Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

**GéoClip – The Universal Viewer for Your Locational Data**

Name of organization:

eMc3

Category:

Mapping

Language:

English and French

Description:

GéoClip is an interactive mapping tool for the Internet which allows users to manage data on a particular area or to publish information about this area on a personal or professional website. In order to function, this tool needs to be connected to a geomatic software program like Map Info.

Internet link:


Website:

4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping
4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Oregon Benchmarks

Name of organization:

The Oregon Progress Board

Category:

Indicators

Language:

English

Description:

Oregon Benchmarks measure progress towards Oregon’s strategic vision, Oregon Shines. Its goals are three-fold: 1) quality jobs for all Oregonians, 2) safe, caring and engaged communities, and 3) healthy, sustainable surroundings. Benchmarks are organized into seven categories: economy, education, civic engagement, social support, public safety, community development and environment.

These measures help to provide the long view perspective in solving economic, social and environmental problems. In addition, Oregon Benchmarks are used for a broad array of policymaking and budget-related activities.

Internet link:

http://egov.oregon.gov/DAS/OPB/about_us.shtml

Website:

http://egov.oregon.gov/
Name of project or tool:

Socio-Economic Indices
(Province of British Columbia)

Name of organization:
BC Stats

Category:
Indicators and Mapping

Language:
English

Description:

BC Stats has developed a tool to assist in decision-making for politicians and practitioners in British Columbia. It is made up of six composite indices, four major indices:

- Index on human economic hardship;
- Index on crime;
- Index on health problems;
- Index on education concerns.

and two other complementary indices which respond to specific concerns regarding the target populations:

- Index on children at risk;
- Index on youth at risk.

All six indices have been mapped on the local and regional scale to facilitate reading.

Internet link:
http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/sep/choose_i.asp

Website:
http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca
4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

*Community Accounts*

Name of organization:

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

Category:

Indicators and Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

Community Accounts provides users with a single comprehensive source of community, regional, and provincial level data. This system allows users to custom generate a limitless number of tables and illustrative graphics on key social and economic indicators organized by geography and data topic. The themes covered are: household spending, income, social, health, labour market, production, demographics, education, resource/wealth and environment. Community Accounts allows users to access data that would normally not be readily available, be too costly to obtain, or too time consuming to manually or otherwise retrieve and compile.

Internet link:

http://www.communityaccounts.ca/communityaccounts/onlinedata/default.asp

Website:

http://www.communityaccounts.ca/
4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:  
Thematic Maps

Name of organization:  
Statistics Canada

Category:  
Indicators and Mapping

Languages:  
English and French

Description:  
A thematic map shows the spatial distribution of one or more specific data themes for standard geographic areas. The map may be qualitative in nature (e.g., predominant farm types) or quantitative (e.g., percentage population change).

Internet link:  
French: http://geodepot.statcan.ca/Diss/Maps/ThematicMaps/index_f.cfm
English: http://geodepot.statcan.ca/Diss/Maps/ThematicMaps/Index_e.cfm

Website:  
http://www.statcan.ca/
4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

*The Atlas of Canada*

Name of organization:

Natural Resources Canada

Category:

Mapping

Languages:

English and French

Description:

This online atlas offers a collection of maps, data and information on Canada. The information is organized under seven main themes: environment, people and society, the economy, history, climate change, freshwater and health.

Internet link:


Website:

4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

*MIG – Interactive Geographic Models*

Name of organization:

The SADC Network (Sociétés d'aide au développement des collectivités) and Groupe Korem inc.

Category:

Indicators and Mapping

Languages:

English and French

Description:

This website provides access to different geographic modules which enable users to portray, analyze and interpret an area and its socio-economic characteristics more accurately. It has been designed to store and process a large amount of data on Quebec, Canadian and other areas.

Internet link:

French: [http://www.mig.ca/ui/custom/mig/home/index.jsp](http://www.mig.ca/ui/custom/mig/home/index.jsp)


Website:

[http://www.mig.ca](http://www.mig.ca)

[http://www.mig.ca/](http://www.mig.ca/)
4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Poverty by Postal Code

Name of organization:

United Way of Greater Toronto and The Canadian Council on Social Development

Category:

Indicators and Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

*Poverty by Postal Code* is a research project carried out by United Way of Greater Toronto and the Canadian Council on Social Development. This project called for a series of maps to be produced which illustrate poverty by postal code in Toronto and the surrounding area over a 20-year period (1981-2001).

Internet link:

http://www.uwgt.org/Poverty-by-Postal-Code/main.htm

Website:

http://www.uwgt.org/
4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Research Highlights, Poverty Changes in Winnipeg Neighbourhoods 1981-2001

Name of organization:

Canadian Research Chair in Urban Change and Adaptation

Category:

Indicators and Mapping

Language:

English

Description:


Internet link:

http://ius.uwinnipeg.ca/CRC/crc_publications_RH5.pdf

Website:

http://ius.uwinnipeg.ca
4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Vital Signs

Name of organization:

The Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance

Category:

Indicators and Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

The Vital Signs are Baltimore's 40 key outcome indicators that "take the pulse" of Baltimore neighborhoods by measuring progress, a shared vision and desired results for strong neighborhoods, good quality of life and a thriving city over time. There are 40 Vital Signs organized into seven Topic Areas:

1. Housing and community development;
2. Family health, safety and well-being;
3. Workforce and economic development;
4. Sanitation;
5. Urban environment and transit;
6. Education and youth;
7. Neighbourhood action and sense of community.

Internet link:

http://www.bnia.org/about/index.html

Website:

http://www.bnia.org/
Name of project or tool:

Atlas of Health and Social Services in Quebec

Name of organization:

Quebec Ministry of Health and Social Services

Category:

Indicators and Mapping

Language:

French

Description:

The aim of the Atlas of Health and Social Service in Quebec is to sketch a geographic portrait of this organization; to draw up an inventory of resources, to describe the population and its socio-economic characteristics based on the resources and how these resources are distributed throughout the province. It also gives the population access to relevant information and provides decision-makers with the basic data needed to take informed decisions.

Internet link:

http://www.msss.gouv.qc.ca/statistiques/atlas/index.php

Website:

http://www.msss.gouv.qc.ca/
4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Atlas of Quebec and its Regions

Name of organization:

Groupe Atlas

Category:

Indicators and Mapping

Language:

French

Description:

The Atlas deals with a range of topics grouped under larger themes and tackles regional realities by portraying information cartographically, describing and comparing each region of Quebec. The Atlas has one goal: to highlight the main trends governing the evolution of the province of Quebec and to make these trends available to all stakeholders involved in the development planning process.

Internet link:

http://www.atlasduquebec.qc.ca/

Website:

http://www.atlasduquebec.qc.ca
4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Community Economic Development Preparedness Index

Name of organization:

Center for Community Economic Development

Category:

Indicators

Language:

English

Description:

The purpose of this preparedness index is to help with the analysis of a community's strengths and weaknesses prior to developing a plan to improve economic development opportunities within that community. The index is based on respondents' perceptions of activities and conditions in the community and the compiled responses will enable development agents to find out more about the community and its desire to participate in an economic development project.

Internet link:

http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cced/cedpi.htm

Website:

http://www.uwex.edu
4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool: Community Indicators Project

Name of organization: Redefining Progress

Category: Indicators

Language: English

Description: The Community Indicators Project facilitates the development of indicators for communities on a national scale. On this site you will find tools, resources and technical support including email addresses for discussion groups, a database with information on more than 200 sets of indicators developed in communities throughout the United States, and an information pamphlet on society indicators.

Internet link: http://www.redefiningprogress.org/projects/indicators/

Website: http://www.redefiningprogress.org
4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

*Indicators on the State of the Saguenay – Lac-Saint-Jean Region (Tableau de Bord sur l’état de la région du Saguenay – Lac-Saint-Jean)*

Name of organization:
Quebec Center for Sustainable Development

Category:
Indicators

Language:
French

Description:
The *Tableau de bord* groups together 40 indicators which highlight the current state of the Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean area. These indicators (statistics, for example) measure groups’ well-being objectives and are divided into seven areas: human development, culture, the environment, society, the economy, resource management and the land.

Internet link:

Website:
[http://www.tableaudebord.org](http://www.tableaudebord.org)
4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Eco-Montreal: Tiotiake

Name of organization:

Sustainable Development Association, McGill University School of Urban Planning

Category:

Mapping

Languages:

English and French

Description:

Eco-Montreal presents a fresh perspective on Montreal's relationship with its natural environment (mapping natural or ecological elements that can be found in Montreal such as community gardens or green spaces). This perspective gives visibility to the natural world and to how it is integrated by the city. This vision transcends politics and traditional planning. Ultimately this kind of mapping can be of great value and can be a tool for planning and environmental resource management.

Internet link:


Website:

http://www.eco-montreal.mcgill.ca/
4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Community Mapping Study
for the Children in Winnipeg (School Division No. 1)

Name of organization:

Human Resources Development Canada, Applied Research Branch

Category:

Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

This is a project developed in order to gather information on:

- the physical, social and economic characteristics of the neighbourhoods where young children live;
- the programs and services available to children aged six and under and their parents.

Internet link:

http://www.wsd1.org/ueywinnipeg/CMSreport.htm

Website:

http://www.wsd1.org
4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Green Map

Name of organization:

Green Map System

Category:

Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

Green Maps are locally created maps that chart the natural and cultural environment of a specific area. Maps are classified by continent, country and city. Green Maps cultivate citizen participation and community sustainability.

Internet link:

http://www.greenmap.org/

Website:

http://www.greenmap.org/
4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Social Mapping

Name of organization:

Integrated Approaches to Participatory Development

Category:

Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

Social mapping uses maps or hand-drawn sketches to present information on, among other things, village layout, infrastructure, demography, ethno-linguistic groups, health patterns, wealth and well-being. Six examples of maps from the Philippines can be found on the website.

Internet link:

http://www.iapad.org/social_mapping.htm

Website:

http://www.iapad.org
4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

Map New York

Name of organization:

Lewis Mumford Center at University at Albany

Category:

Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

This is a cartographic database for communities in the State of New York. Map New York provides helpful information using data from the census as well as state and federal agency reports.

Internet link:

http://mumford.albany.edu/nysi_new/index.asp

Website:

http://mumford.albany.edu/nysi_new/index.asp
4. Examples of Socio-economic Indicators and Mapping

Name of project or tool:

*Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance Mapping System*

Name of organization:

The Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance

Category:

Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

The Baltimore Neighbourhood Indicators Alliance consists of an interactive mapping system with database. The user can chose an indicator and see it appear on the map. The user can also include census statistics in the search, which then appear in table format.

Internet link:

http://www.bnia.org/AxioMap/c_data/main2.htm

Website:

http://www.bnia.org
Name of project or tool:

National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership

Name of organization:

Urban Institute

Category:

Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

With the aim of developing neighborhood-level information systems, this project’s objective is to favour the development of local communities. The project’s systems integrate information on neighbourhoods and the cities they are located in. Indicators within the systems cover topics including the birth rate, death rate, crime, health, education, welfare and housing.

Internet link:

http://www.urban.org/nnip/index.htm

Website:

http://www.urban.org
5. Indicator and Mapping Resources
Name of project or tool:

*Sustainable Community Indicators*

Name of organization:

Sustainable Measures

Category:

Indicators

Language:

English

Description:

Sustainable Measures has developed a system of indicators that measure progress toward a sustainable economy, society and environment. This organization works with communities, companies, regional organizations and government agencies in the United States at all levels.

Internet link:

http://www.sustainablemeasures.com

Website:

http://www.sustainablemeasures.com
Name of project or tool:
Social Indicators

Name of organization:
Canadian Council on Social Development

Category:
Indicators

Language:
English

Description:
This site was developed by the Canadian Council on Social Development to provide a central repository for Social Indicator material on the Internet. On this site you will find links to a consortium of research on measures of well-being and social indicators, a catalogue and a number of research reports.

Internet link:
http://www.ccsd.ca/soc_ind.html

Website:
http://www.ccsd.ca
5. Indicator and Mapping Resources

Name of project or tool:  

*Community Social Data Strategy*

Name of organization:  

Canadian Council on Social Development

Category:  

Indicators and Mapping

Languages:  

English and French

Description:  

The Community Social Data Strategy (CSDS) is a new and ingenious project which allows municipalities and community-based organizations to access and analyze in a cost-effective manner detailed research findings from Statistics Canada.

Internet link:  


English: [http://www.ccsd.ca/subsites/socialdata/home.html](http://www.ccsd.ca/subsites/socialdata/home.html)

Website:  

[http://www.ccsd.ca/](http://www.ccsd.ca/)
Name of project or tool:

*Improving our Communities: Indicators and Community Practice Working Together*

Name of organization:

Community Indicators Consortium

Category:

Indicators and Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

Below you will find an overview of what can be gained from attending the conferences organized by the Community Indicators Consortium:

- How to put indicator systems in place;
- An overview of the trends and issues which affect community planning;
- Sessions demonstrating how to use toolkits for various aspects of community planning;
- Information on community best-practices in indicator systems;
- An overview of national indicator initiatives;
- Information on new developments in indicators;
- The connections between the research and practice;
- How to benefit from new technology.

Internet link:

http://www.communityindicators.net/events.html

Website:

http://www.communityindicators.net/
5. Indicator and Mapping Resources

Name of project or tool:

*CSIN: The Canadian Sustainability Indicators Network*

Name of organization:

CSIN: The Canadian Sustainability Indicators Network

Category:

Indicators

Languages:

English and French

Description:

The CSIN is a place for Canadian sustainability indicator and reporting practitioners to exchange ideas, data, and methods and to circulate announcements. The Community of Practice approach assists and enables practitioners to share lessons learned, discuss relevant issues of theoretical, strategic, technical, and practical importance, and start developing mechanisms for collaboration among the multitude of indicator and reporting initiatives.

Internet link:

French: [http://www.csin-rcid.ca/main_f.htm](http://www.csin-rcid.ca/main_f.htm)

English: [http://www.csin-rcid.ca/main_e.htm](http://www.csin-rcid.ca/main_e.htm)

Website:

[http://www.csin-rcid.ca/](http://www.csin-rcid.ca/)
Name of project or tool:

Tools and Services

Name of organization:

Centre for Innovative & Entrepreneurial Leadership

Category:

Indicators

Language:

English

Description:

The Centre for Innovative and Entrepreneurial Leadership (CIEL) offers a range of tools and services tailored to the unique needs of communities. Current users include rural communities, First Nations communities, satellite communities and remote communities throughout Canada.

The organization’s two main tools are the Business Vitality Initiative and the Communities Matrix. They are delivered by a skilled CIEL Team who regularly work with communities, organizations and governments at the municipal, regional, provincial and national levels. Powered by the commitment to linking research to action, CIEL is continually reworking existing tools, customizing tools as needed for new context(s), while also developing new innovations.

Internet link:

http://theciel.com/tools.php

Website:

http://theciel.com/
5. Indicator and Mapping Resources

Name of project or tool: 

*Publications – Ontario Healthy Communities Coalition*

Name of organization: 

Ontario Healthy Communities Coalition

Category: 

Indicators

Language: 

English

Description: 

The OHCC produces a number of educational publications to assist community groups and coalitions in their efforts to improve the well-being of their communities. Many of the resources listed on this site have been updated recently.

Internet link: 

http://www.healthycommunities.on.ca/publications/index.html

Website: 

http://www.healthycommunities.on.ca/
Name of project or tool:
Genuine Progress Index for Atlantic Canada

Name of organization:
Genuine Progress Indicator (GPI) Atlantic

Category:
Indicators

Language:
English

Description:
GPI Atlantic is a non-profit research organization which is committed to the development of the Genuine Progress Index (GPI), a new measure of sustainability, well-being and quality of life consisting of 22 social, economic and environmental components. GPI Atlantic is a pioneer and leader in quality-of-life research.

Internet link:
http://www.gpiatlantic.org/

Website:
http://www.gpiatlantic.org/
5. Indicator and Mapping Resources

Name of project or tool:

   Outcome Measurement Resource Network

Name of organization:

   United Way

Category:

   Indicators

Language:

   English

Description:

   The United Way of America's Outcome Measurement Resource Network is a leader in results-oriented philanthropy; United Way of America and United Way organizations across the country have championed the adoption of outcome measurement by health and human service programs. The Resource Network offers information, downloadable documents, and links to resources related to the identification and measurement of program- and community-level outcomes.

Internet link:

   http://national.unitedway.org/outcomes/

Website:

   http://national.unitedway.org/
Name of project or tool: 

*National Community YouthMapping Site*

Name of organization: 

National Community YouthMapping (CYM)

Category: 

Mapping

Language: 

English

Description: 

Community YouthMapping (CYM) is a catalyst to mobilize youth and adults as they identify resources and opportunities that exist in their community. Through the CYM process, young people and adults canvass their neighborhoods in search of places to go and things to do. CYM represents a wide range of resources for these youth.

Internet link: 

http://www.communityyouthmapping.org/Youth/

Website: 

http://www.communityyouthmapping.org/Youth/
5. Indicator and Mapping Resources

Name of project or tool:

*Introduction to Bioregional Mapping*

Name of organization:

The Aboriginal Mapping Network

Category:

Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

Many First Nations and other governments have compiled vast amounts of written and cartographic data as part of the treaty negotiation process. Unfortunately, much of this information remains in a variety of different formats and is not easily accessible for community use. Valuable information lies in computer files and map cabinets, useful to experts, but not available for planning, educational, community development or cultural interpretation purposes.

Bioregional mapping is a technique that allows the collective biophysical and cultural knowledge of a First Nation, or any government, to be placed in a single multi-layered atlas. When existing sources of information are plotted on these maps, it usually becomes apparent that there are gaps in the quality or quantity of information that a community can use for efficient decision-making. Research programs can then be designed to efficiently collect any new information that is needed to holistically represent community identity.

Internet link:

[http://www.nativemaps.org/methods/bioregion2.html](http://www.nativemaps.org/methods/bioregion2.html)

Website:

**Name of project or tool:**

*Community Mapping Network*

**Name of organization:**

Community Mapping Network (CMN)

**Category:**

Mapping

**Language:**

English

**Description:**

The Community Mapping Network (CMN) shares a wealth of natural resource information and maps with communities in British Columbia, Canada. The CMN integrates data from many sources and makes it accessible through a user-friendly mapping system.

**Internet link:**

[http://www.shim.bc.ca/](http://www.shim.bc.ca/)

**Website:**

[http://www.shim.bc.ca/](http://www.shim.bc.ca/)
5. Indicator and Mapping Resources

Name of project or tool:

Mapping for Change: International Conference on Participatory Spatial Information Management and Communication

Name of organization:

Mapping for Change

Category:

Mapping

Language:

English

Description:

The focus of this event will be on sharing experiences and defining good practices for making geographic information technologies and systems available to less-favoured groups in society in order to enhance their capacity in generating, managing and communicating spatial information. The event will lay the foundations for establishing regional networks and resource centres.

Internet link:


Website:

http://pgis2005.cta.int/
Name of project or tool:

Resource Centre for the Territories

Name of organization:

L’Institut Atlantique d’Aménagement des Territoires, IAAT

Category:

Mapping

Language:

French

Description:

The IAAT is an information and decision-making system for public and semi-public stakeholders in urban planning and development for the Poitou-Charentes region and the Atlantic regions of France. This intelligence system, designed for organizations, universities and regional and state services, has a dual mission; producing studies, maps, analysis and indicators, and reflecting on problems, forecasts and evaluation issues.

Internet link:

http://www.iaat.org/

Website:

http://www.iaat.org/
5. Indicator and Mapping Resources

Name of project or tool:

*Le Québec géographique (Geographic Quebec)*

Name of organization:

Quebec Government

Category:

Mapping

Language:

French

Description:

*Le Québec géographique* (Geographic Quebec) is a portal providing access to all of the maps, atlas and geographical information products available within the Quebec ministries and governmental organizations.

Internet link:

http://www.quebecgeographique.gouv.qc.ca/index.asp

Website:

http://www.quebecgeographique.gouv.qc.ca/