# SPATIAL DATA

DATA FOR ACHIEVING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

# What is spatial data?

- Spatial data are data that have a spatial component which simply means that is tied to a specific geographic.
- Spatial data helps us to see, understand and interpret data to establish relationships, trends and patterns. (Forest cover, protected areas)
- •Spatial data presentation mainly in the form of maps help to undertake critical analysis for decision making and planning purposes. In recent times, the usage of Geographic Information Systems eases with the production of spatial data.
- It is assumed that up to 80% of all human actions are related to space. All statistics produced have territorial connections and hence could be mapped.

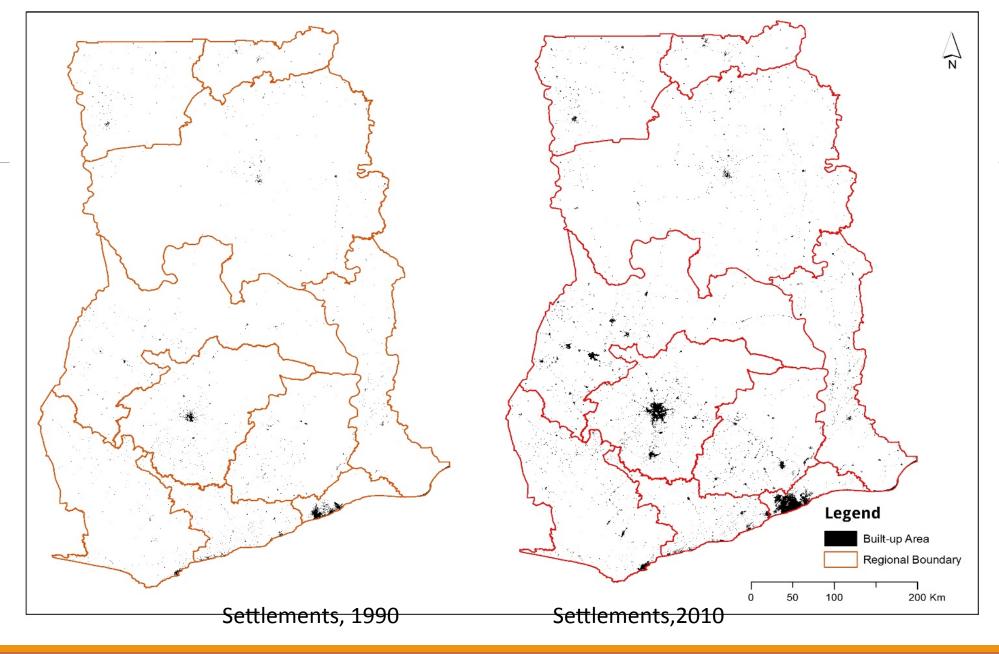
# Why spatial data?

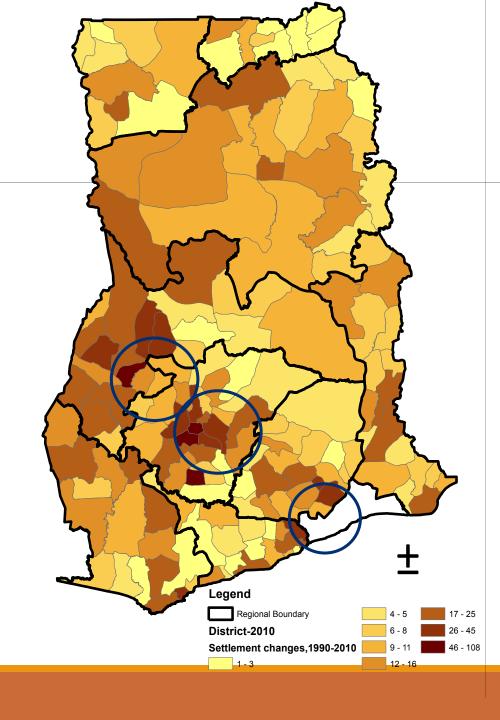
- Data communication
  - Maps displayed data in a format easily understood by decision makers —
- Data analysis
  - Spatial analysis calculating population with access to a school or health facility
- Decision support
  - Ability to display development indicators and results of data analysis
- Linked to other sectors
  - Platform for displaying information from all sectors: education, economic development, infrastructure, finance, agriculture, environmental monitoring data etc.

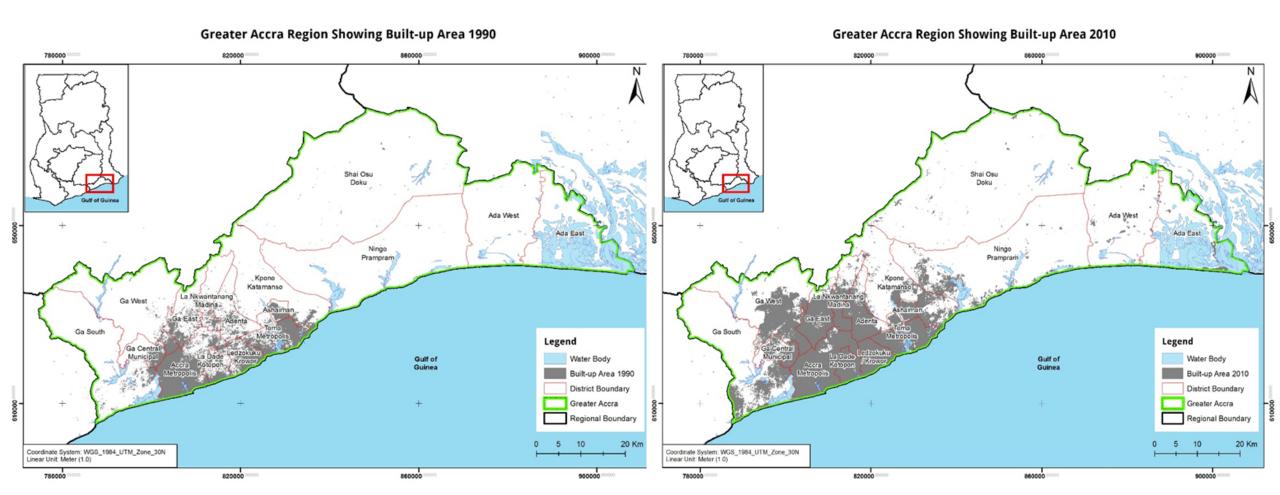
## Settlement Growth in regional and national contexts

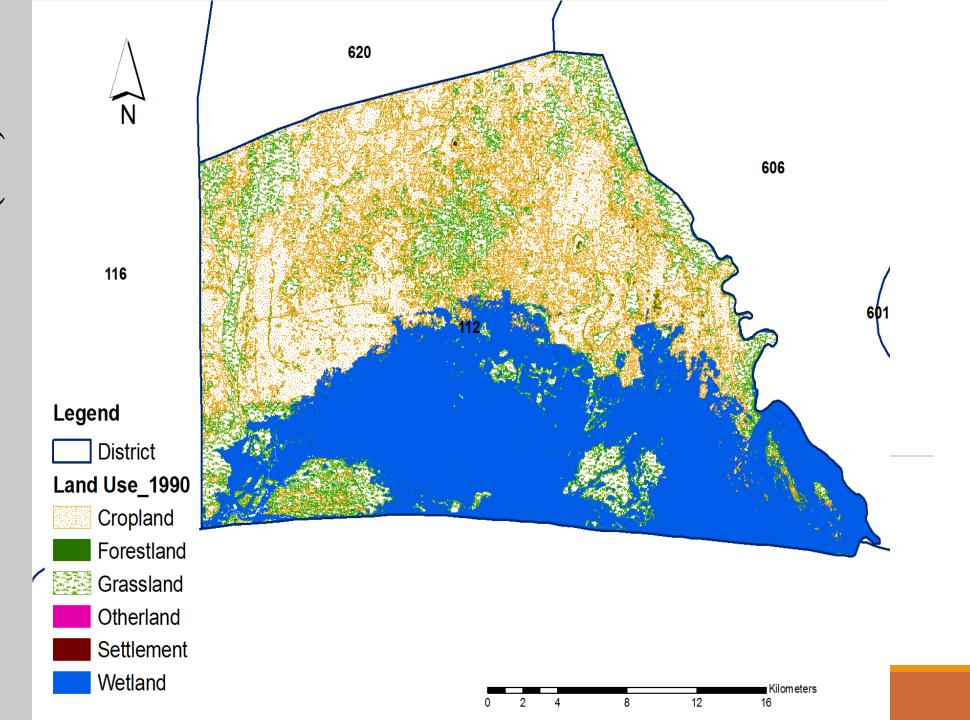
| Region         | Settlement 1990 | Settlement 2010 | Absolute | % Change | Annual      |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|----------|-------------|
|                | Km2             | Km2             | change   |          | Growth rate |
| Ashanti        | 153.74          | 725.64          | 571.9    | 78.81    | 3.94        |
| Greater Accra  | 246.06          | 689.17          | 443.11   | 64.3     | 3.21        |
| Brong Ahafo    | 79.61           | 441.86          | 362.25   | 81.98    | 4.1         |
| Eastern        | 82.26           | 303.21          | 220.95   | 72.87    | 3.64        |
| Western        | 99.63           | 304.91          | 205.28   | 67.32    | 3.37        |
| Northern       | 84.8            | 275.59          | 190.79   | 69.23    | 3.46        |
| Volta          | 83.6            | 250.97          | 167.37   | 66.69    | 3.33        |
| Central        | 119.73          | 275.39          | 155.66   | 56.52    | 2.83        |
| Upper West     | 52.16           | 115.75          | 63.59    | 54.94    | 2.75        |
| Upper East     | 21.41           | 61.55           | 40.14    | 65.22    | 3.26        |
| Total Built up | 1023            | 3444.04         | 2421.04  | 70.3     | 3.51        |
| area           |                 |                 |          |          |             |

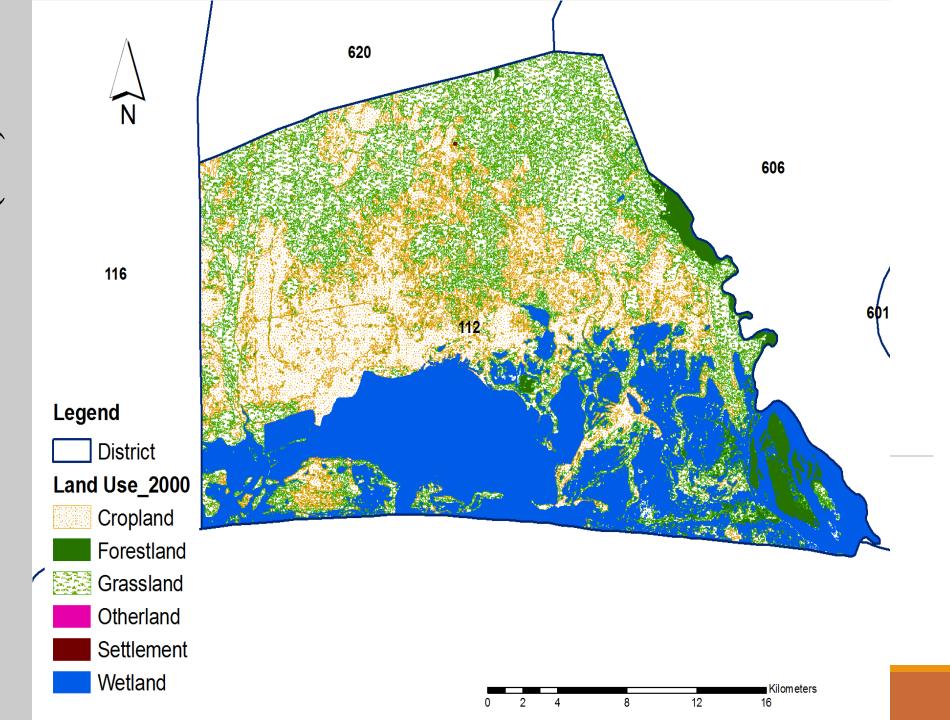
Settlement Growth 1990 - 2010

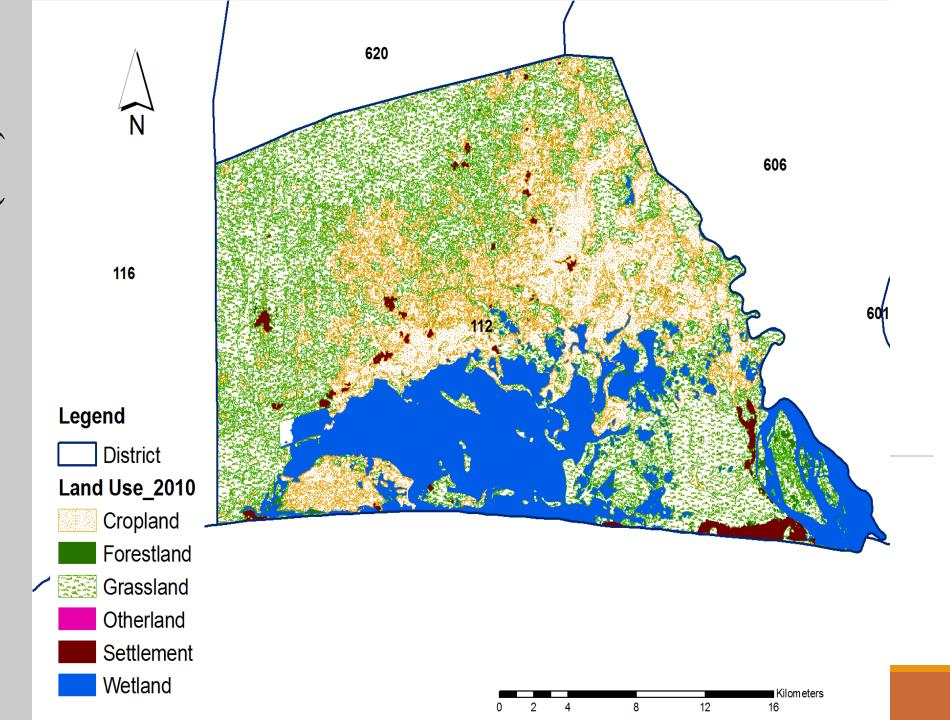


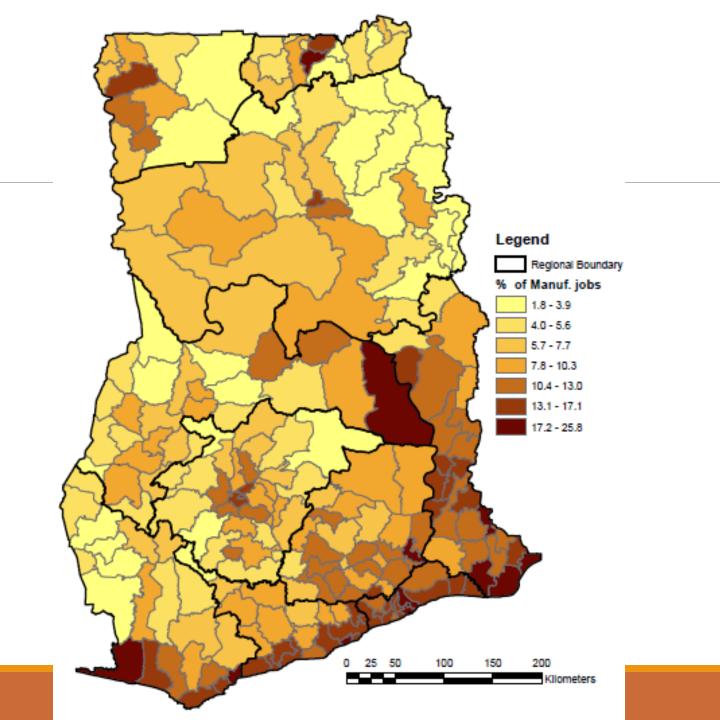


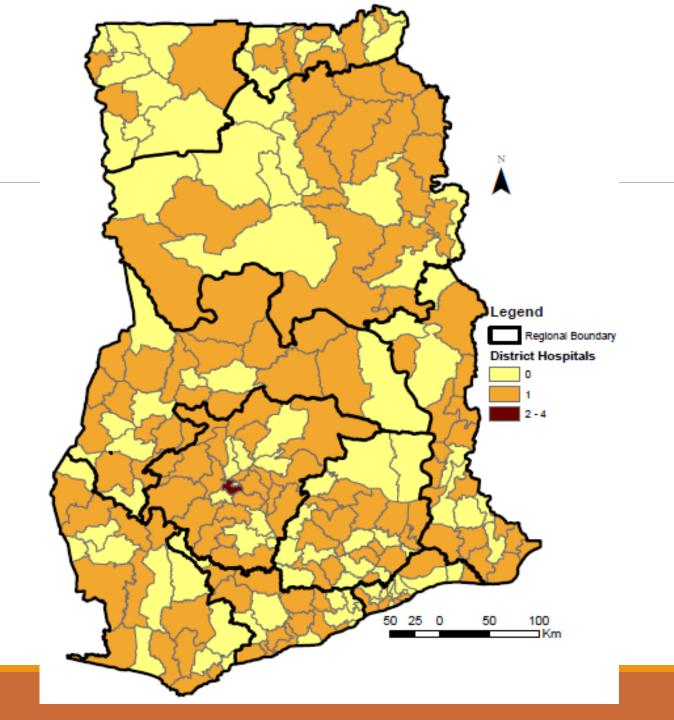












#### Spatial Environmental Data Problems

- Data are usually not readily available within MDAs (content and format, Record keeping challenges)
- •MMDAs/ GSS do not usually capture spatial related data(Geo-coded).eg. GPS codes for the IBES.
- They are usually not regularly updated
- Challenges with technical quality (GPS coordinates from Ghana Health Service, inhouse LUSPA)
- Usage of data collected (Weak analytical capacity of most officials)
- Weak information management system for planning purposes (Eg. EPA on particulate matter example, MMDAs databases)
- Non-standardized nature of information collection formats or styles ( classification of sub-categories are confusing, Permitting forms, classification of hospital levels etc)

## Spatial Environmental Data challenges

- •Availability and quality of spatial (environmental) data is a major challenge (GPS of all schools and health facilities, road networks etc.)
- Lack of time series GIS (spatial) data to undertake trend analysis to influence decision making. Where they are available, they are usually old.
- Different efforts by different institutions Eg. National Development Planning Commission's National Spatial Data Infrastructure Project.
- Creation of data houses with similar functions as GSS/ Duplication of efforts (National Household Registry at Women and Gender Ministry)

### Ways forward

- Clearly define specific indicators for the various sectors identified.
- Training of officials on the indicators and how to routinely collect data.
- Introduction of spatial data in all data collected by Ghana Statistical Service Eg. IBES surveys.
- Determine district, city and town codes to be used by all MDAs and MMDAs
- Develop stronger bottom-up information/data collation and management system.
  ( routine data daily, weekly, monthly based on the nature of the sector)
- Adequate funding for the data collection and management.
- Identify Innovative routine ways of data collection (utilizing the long vacation window for district wide data collection via engaging post-secondary and tertiary students).

| Target  | Indicator  |          | Responsible<br>Agencies |                              | Indicator already in existence                                      |
|---|--|----------|-------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes | 6.6.1 Change in the extent of water related ecosystems over time | Tier III | UNEP                    | UN Water,<br>IUCN,<br>Ramsar | Change in area coverage of wetlands (representing all water bodies) |
|   |  |          |                         |                              |   |