

1 Introduction

The introduction, use and management of GIS entail a number of specific management issues. The various stages of system development require careful planning and management. Good project design and management are essential to produce a useful and effective GIS application (Heywood et al, 2001).

In this paper the theory of GIS project management will be investigated. Several project management theories will be described.

An extensive description of a project carried out in South Africa will serve to examine the theory. The case study will be used to show how a project can be managed, by practical experience. Before starting the project not much was known about the project, so no particular framework was followed. After the project the theoretical framework was written and it was investigated how it fitted in into the theory, The case study is derived from a project that was carried out for the Eastern Cape Manufacturing Advisory Centre (ECMAC), an organization that asked for the introduction of a GIS. Later in this paper the organisation structure of ECMAC is going to be explained.

This paper will answer the question:

How does the ECMAC project fit into the theoretical framework of project management?