# OUESTIONS GIS CAN ANSWER

## What is GIS?



## What is GIS?

 A Geographic Information System (GIS) is a computer system of software, hardware, people, and geographic information

#### A GIS can:

 create, edit, query, analyze, display and edit map information on the computer

#### What can a GIS do?



It enables you to visualize information in new ways that reveal new and important relationships, patterns, and trends.

 It integrates various types of spatial data (databases, imagery, GPS coordinates, etc.).

#### What can you do with a GIS?

As expected, the possibilities are unlimited!
Agricultural crop land estimatation
Transportation corridor planning
Demographic analysis
Mapping of economic development zones
and more ...

What Can a GIS Do for You? Perform Geographic Queries and Analysis Map, Model, and Analysis Data Make Better Decisions and Create **Better Solutions** 

## **Context and Content**



#### Maps of GIS Come in many flavors!



#### Aspatial questions....

 Asking "What's the average number of people working in BHUs each location?" is an aspatial question - the answer doesn't require the stored value of latitude and longitude; nor does it describe where the places are in relation to each other.

#### Spatial questions....

"Which BHUs lie within 15kilometers of each other?", or "What's the shortest route passing through all of these BHUs?" These are spatial questions that can only be answered using location data and other information such road network of Peshawar valley. GIS can answer such questions. It provides a truly analytical tool. The major advantage of GIS technology is that it facilitates identification of spatial relationships between map features.

#### **Questions GIS can Answer**

- So far, GIS have been described through formal definitions and through its ability to carry out different functions on spatial data.
- One can also, however, distinguish GIS by listing the types of questions the technology can (or should be able to) answer. If one considers a particular application carefully, there are five types of question that sophisticated GIS can answer.

 The first of these questions seeks to find what exists at a particular location. A location can be described in many ways, using, for example, place name, postcode, or geographic reference such as longitude/latitude or x and y.

## Location- What is at...?





Area	215712	
Zoned landuse	Residential	

Figure 1. Questions a GIS can Answer

- The second question is the converse of the first and requires spatial data to answer. Instead of identifying what exists at a given location, one may wish to find location where certain conditions are satisfied e.g.
- 1. Houses having 4 bedrooms& made up of local bricks.
- 2. A non-forest area within 100 meters of a road, and with soils suitable for supporting buildings.

#### Condition- Where is it...?

#### Condition- Where is it ...?



Where are houses located that you might consider buying?  Residential Land Use 4 Bed rooms
 Made of local bricks

Figure 2. Questions a GIS can Answer

**Trends-** What has changed since...? The third question might involve both of the first two and seek to find the differences. e.g., in land use or elevation within an area over time.

## TRENDS

#### Trends- What has changed since...?



How much land has changed to residential since 1970?

# Patterns- What spatial pattern exists...?



What kind of pattern exists for vihicle accidents?

 This question is more sophisticated. One might ask this question to find out at which traffic
 points accidents are occuring most frequently

#### Modelling- What if...?

Models - What if...?



Where would be best locations for new services?

Hotel? Post office?  "What if..." questions are posed to determine what happens, for example, what are the effects on urban areas, if the road is expanded by one hundred meters, or delineate 5m buffer zone around the national park to prevent from grazing. Answering this type of question requires both geographic and other information.