



## **National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) Advisory Working Group (NAWG)**

### **PURPOSE:**

The United States Geospatial-Intelligence Foundation (USGIF) establishes its **NGA Advisory Working Group (NAWG)** to bring together professionals from the government and industry, to foster procurement culture through bilateral discussions that advise, recommend and promote actionable ideas for improving the contract procurement process and *consequences*. This includes improving procurement practices (issuance and evaluation of contract), assessing and mitigating impacts on Industry Health (e.g. loss of industry staff), and driving efficient (timely, relevant, accurate, fair) procurement culture and behaviors between NGA and Industry.

### **GOALS and OBJECTIVES:**

The NAWG will lead and focus all USGIF activities to:

#### Overarching Goals

- Promote a viable industrial base to accomplish the GeoINT mission with regards to the U.S. National Security Strategy
- Promote cooperation between industry and government with respect betterment of the acquisition process.
- Ameliorate intended and unintended consequences of procurement and acquisition decisions impacting the industry base.
- Through direct government engagement, promote our national security mission through sound contracting that reduces risk, cost, unnecessary award protest, and improves procurement timeliness.
- Achieve competitive fairness for all business sizes including small, large, as well as newly emerging midsize businesses.

#### Objectives

- Promote objective forum to discuss models for business/acquisition, programmatic, technical, and mission operations.
- Engage openly and jointly provide positive, proactive, actionable feedback to the government and document, evaluate and assimilate government feedback

- Provide the government with clear and well-founded recommendations for procurement process from cradle to grave; ultimately improving the shaping, scoping, and structuring of RFP, RFI, RFQ acquisition regulation and wording.
- Drive inclusiveness of all business sizes in the working group engagement with government:
  - Small business: ~\$38.5M (loosely based on sector 54xxx NAICS codes). Assure access to NGA (e.g. clearances through SADBU office), optimized application of small business set-aside opportunities
  - Midsize business: \$38.5M - \$500M (based on and adapted from Gartner research). Continued access to government contracts and PMO's to help shape and posture midsize businesses for ostensible consideration in the procurement process (e.g. limited, "lottery based" cleared billets...
  - Large business: > ~\$500M assure large businesses are able to

The NAWG will be disbanded upon completion of its Objectives.

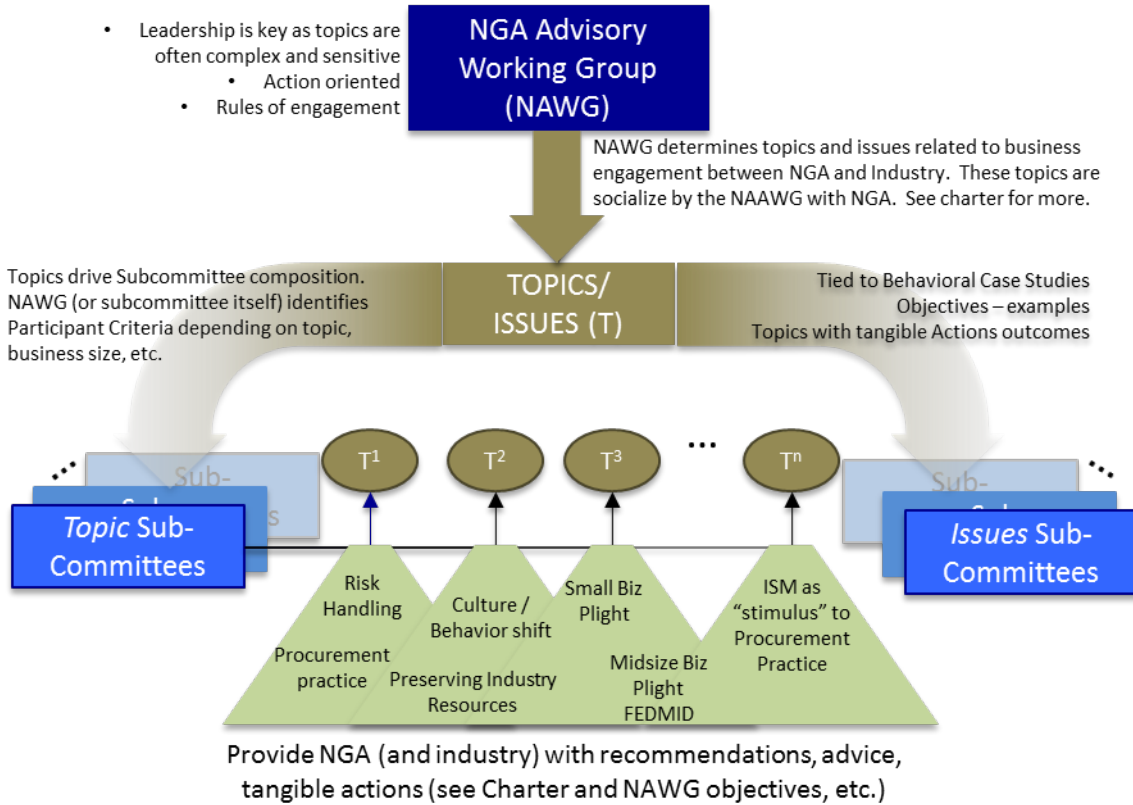
The NAWG leadership team and USGIF will socialize potential areas of interest between industry (NAWG members) and the NGA Industry Innovation Advocacy and ratify NAWG topics and issues.

## **OPERATING RATIONALE**

The USGIF NAWG establishes a robust industry input to NGA leadership. The goal is to emphasize tradecraft, procurement culture, options and alternatives, as opposed to delivering impartial or definitive answers. The operating principles enable feedback and socializing of concepts in a trusted-partner venue. The NAWG will use roundtable discussion to frame problem sets and provide credible recommendations. Objectivity and supplier neutrality is essential: discussions must be vendor, supplier, and integrator agnostic, not just by product/company but also by architecture. Working Group membership is responsible for "self-policing" itself on this front.

Operating Principle. Recommendations must be realistic and applicable in procurement policy space, as opposed to a utopian "perfect acquisition" world. The sweet spot is a bridge between policy and execution. Above all the NAWG must be responsive and objective, open and collaborative, and willing to defer to other groups or venues when appropriate. NGA members shall not have direct roles on the NAWG, but rather engage in the vetting of actionable ideas port forth by the group. NGA is also expected to provide information it deems relevant to the activities surrounding the NAWG's goals and objectives.

A notional operative paradigm for the NAWG is provided in the figure below:



**MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION:**

Membership in the NGA Advisory Action Working Group (NAWG) will be open to any individual member of the USGIF, who is also a member or consultant of a USGIF member company (at any level of sponsorship.) Membership is predicated on demonstrated commitment of individuals to contribute their time to discussing and resolving relevant issues, without expectation of compensation or direct business opportunity. NAWG members recognize that participation improves the overarching procurement environment, leading to improved business return on investment in a full, fair, and open competitive environment. NAWG members who are also USGIF members in good standing (individual, company, organization, or institution) shall be empowered to vote on matters affecting the NAWG. Under the NAWG, there will be subcommittee action teams, whose members may be restricted based on topic/issue and business sizes described above.

Leadership and engagement philosophy. The NAWG co-chairs shall lead in the development and socialization of topics/issues. Subcommittees will self-govern to propose recommendations and cross-communicate laterally or with other USGIF committees.

How to be a member: Those seeking Working Group or subcommittee membership shall submit a request to join the working group Chair / Co-Chairs (or subcommittee leads). Members must be affiliated with a corporate sponsor company that has provided its company size information to the USGIF membership team. The NAWG Chair / Co-Chairs will confirm USGIF membership standing with USGIF staff and either confirm or deny membership. Members are expected to actively participate in working group activities, including program planning and sub-committee participation and leadership as appropriate.

Assigned Members. With USGIF approval, membership may be granted to any individual or organization uniquely able to provide resources, services, information, or access to existing or potential member communities that can help the Working Group achieve its objectives and that would not otherwise be available to the Working Group through its membership.

Participation. Working group members in good standing shall be entitled to participate in working group meetings and other activities, and to exercise voting rights on any matters deemed appropriate which are before the working group. Composition of subcommittee is based on many factors such as: topic/issue, business size, OCI, etc. The working group may conduct both internal meetings and open meetings to carry out its purpose and objectives. Internal meetings will be for members of the working group only. Open meetings will be announced through USGIF and may be open to the broader USGIF membership. Other events and program offerings may be offered and will be executed upon by the USGIF staff with options for broader community participation (non-members).

## **OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES:**

Oversight. The working group and its output is subject to oversight by the USGIF CEO and designated staff. The working group exists through the authority of USGIF to initiate and promote programs that serve and advance the purposes and objectives of the Foundation. The NAWG may disband by giving notice through the NAWG Chair / Co-chairs to the USGIF CEO. The USGIF CEO retains the right to disband and terminate the NAWG at any time it is determined that it is no longer fulfilling its stated purpose or objectives, or for any other reason determined to be in the best interests of USGIF.

Chairs. At its onset, the NAWG will be Chaired and Co-Chaired by a person / persons designated by the USGIF CEO to serve a 2 year term. At the end of the 2 year term, new Chairs will be nominated by members of the working group and voted in accordance with the NAWG voting process. Nominees must be active working group members in good standing.

Authorities. Each Chair / Co-Chair has the authority to call and lead NAWG meetings, moderate discussions regarding proposed NAWG projects, oversee WORKING GROUP votes for budget allocation, and manage the NAWG membership and participation requirements in partnership with the USGIF Leadership.

The co-chair will lead the NAWG to establish topics and issues, subcommittee composition, and engage with NGA counterparts and others within USGIF. They will also lead in establishing rules of engagement and set authorities for subcommittees.

NAWG and Subcommittee Meetings. The NAWG meetings will be held on an as-needed basis at a mutually agreed to time and location to conduct WG votes and business in order to meet the objectives of the WG and to plan its activities. Subcommittee composition may be formed around topic specificity.

Conducting Business. A majority (51%) of the NAWG members shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the voting purposes.

#### **FUNDING OF WORKING GROUP ACTIVITIES:**

The USGIF will provide staff support and other logistical assistance to the NAWG and its routine meetings. Additional costs for operations of the NAWG will be borne by the membership via direct payment, sponsorships, and/or grants. Costs for NAWG seminars, luncheons and similar events shall be covered by a combination of USGIF funding, NAWG membership funding, and sponsorship.

USGIF maintains budgetary authority over the NAWG, to include final approval of all NAWG projects. Decision authority is delegated to the NAWG membership, but the USGIF leadership holds the right to override any vote that is contrary to either USGIF Policy or financial plans. The NAWG does not have the authority to make financial commitments on behalf of USGIF.

#### **APPROVAL:**

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Chief Operating Officer  
United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation

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Date