

Help Make Standards Fun and
Useful!

Jo Cook | Data and Metadata Wrangler

Why am I here?

I represent the AGI Standards Working Group - we look after the UK Gemini metadata standard and sit on IST36, the committee for geospatial digital standards at the BSI



What do we do?

AGI GEMINI

We're responsible for making
and looking after British
standards related to GIS, and
we collaborate with other
bodies like OGC and GDS

ansforming our world through standards

I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT STANDARDS



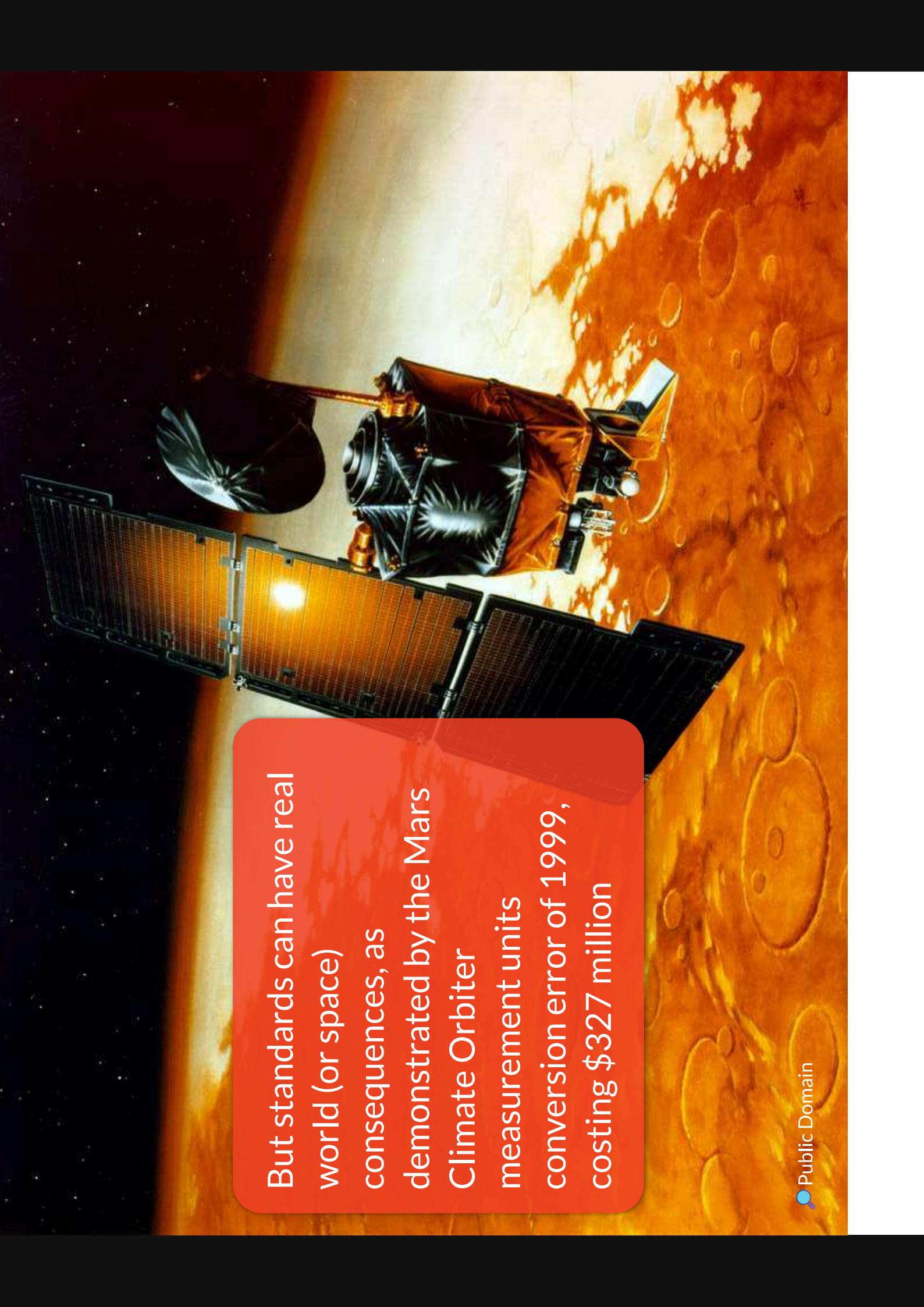
What people think when I try
to talk to them about
standards



Let's talk about "fun"...

ChatGPT said I should tell you that standards stop pikachu from spawning in the ocean, or that standards allow you to while away your time competing in GeoGuessr





But standards can have real world (or space) consequences, as demonstrated by the Mars Climate Orbiter measurement units conversion error of 1999, costing \$327 million

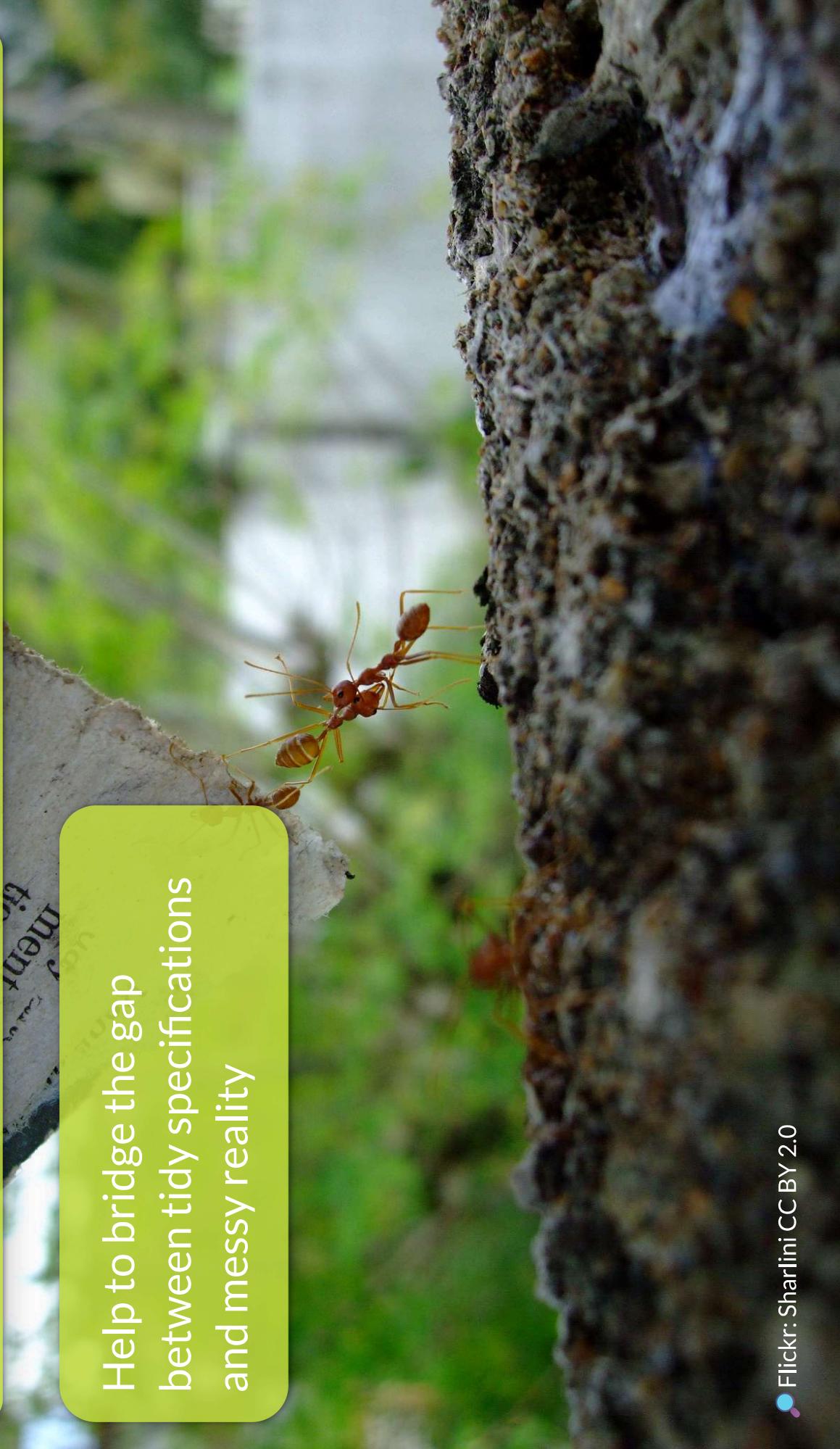
But what do we actually do? 🤔

We ensure that the written standards are high quality and unambiguous, implementable, and relevant



And this is where we need your help!

Help to bridge the gap
between tidy specifications
and messy reality

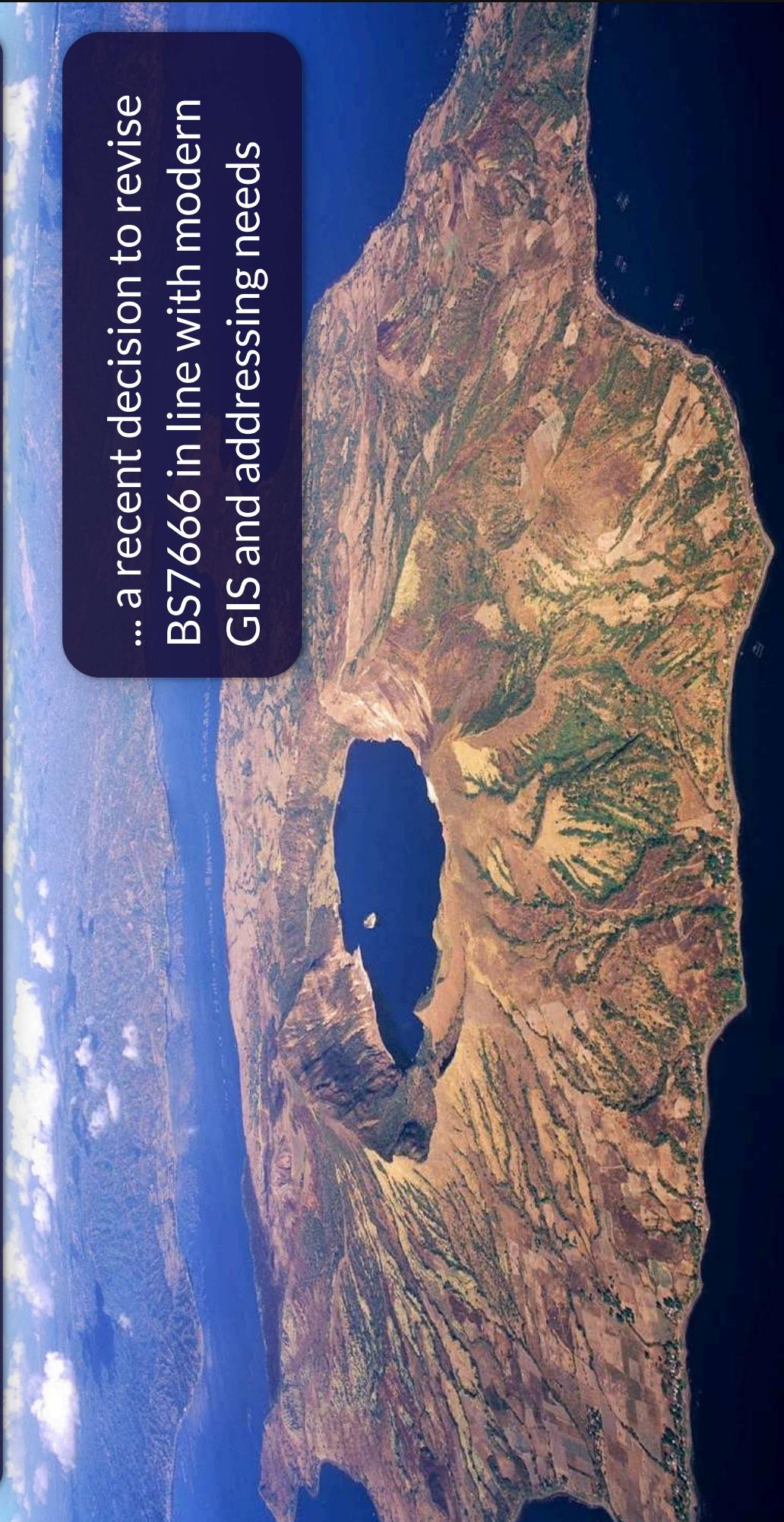


For example...

Removing outdated elements
such as the Fax Number in
UK Gemini

And...

... a recent decision to revise
BS7666 in line with modern
GIS and addressing needs



Help us!



We need people with
experience, or interest in
how the standards are
implemented in software, or
used in real life

WE NEED
YOU!

Could you prevent us from reinventing the wheel?

HOW STANDARDS PROLIFERATE:
(SEE A/C CHARGERS, CHARACTER ENCODINGS, INSTANT MESSAGING, ETC.)

SITUATION:

THERE ARE
14 COMPETING
STANDARDS.

SOON:

14?! RIDICULOUS!
WE NEED TO DEVELOP
ONE UNIVERSAL STANDARD
THAT COVERS EVERYONE'S
USE CASES. YEAH!

SITUATION:
THERE ARE
15 COMPETING
STANDARDS.

Interested? Even just a little bit?

A close-up photograph of a cat's face, focusing on its eyes and nose. The cat has green eyes and white fur around its mouth and nose. Several thin, glowing white lines radiate outwards from behind the cat's head, creating a futuristic or energetic effect.

If you'd like to get involved,
then email the AGI at
info@agi.org.uk and ask
about the standards group,
or come and find me 😊