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Subject: Using Kenya GIS data  
Posted by [Khanjila](#) on Wed, 13 Jul 2016 12:31:47 GMT  
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Hello,

I would like to construct a variable capturing the distances in the various clusters to the nearest main road.

Is there a way I can achieve this using the GIS data as it has longitudinal and latitude points at different clusters?

Kindly advise me on how I can go about using the Kenya GIS data to construct the distances to the nearest main roads or shopping centres.

Thank you.

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Subject: Re: Using Kenya GIS data  
Posted by [Matt-DHS](#) on Thu, 06 Oct 2016 14:07:46 GMT  
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Good Afternoon,

It is possible to calculate the distance of each DHS cluster to the nearest road using the 'Near' tool in ArcGIS. This tool calculates the distance from each point in one feature class (for example, DHS clusters) to the nearest point or line feature in another feature class (for example, roads). The tool will add a column to the attribute table of the DHS cluster data which measures this distance.

You can read more about the Near tool here:

[http://resources.esri.com/help/9.3/arcgisengine/java/gp\\_tool\\_ref/analysis\\_tools/near\\_analysis\\_.htm](http://resources.esri.com/help/9.3/arcgisengine/java/gp_tool_ref/analysis_tools/near_analysis_.htm)

You can also read more about general proximity analysis techniques and theory here:

[http://resources.esri.com/help/9.3/arcgisengine/java/gp\\_tool\\_ref/geoprocessing/proximity\\_analysis.htm](http://resources.esri.com/help/9.3/arcgisengine/java/gp_tool_ref/geoprocessing/proximity_analysis.htm)

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