



GLOBAL MAPPING NewsLetter 43

ISCGM Workshop held in Coup in Thailand

SAKABE Shinichi, ISCGM Secretariat



*Mr. David Stevens, UNOOSA
at Keynote Speech*

ISCGM held a workshop to promote use of Geo-information in Bangkok, Thailand on September 21st. We reached conclusions that ISCGM, NMOs and related organizations are urged to take necessary actions in order to make more effective and efficient use of geo-information by decision makers for disaster management and realization of sustainable development.

The workshop under the theme of "Use of Geo-information for mitigating large scale disaster and attaining sustainable development," was organized by ISCGM, with International Cartographic Association (ICA) and Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP) as a part of 17th United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (UNRCC-AP) on September 18th - 22nd. About 50 delegates from about 20 countries and organizations participated in and introduction of use of Geo-information and proposal of future actions were made. Finally, resolutions were adopted and submitted to the plenary of the 17th UNRCC-AP.

The people who presented papers are as follows:

Prof. Fraser Taylor (ISCGM) - Workshop Chair
Mr. David Stevens (UNOOSA)
Mr. John Trinder (ISPRS)
Mr. Naoki Minamiguchi (FAO)
Mr. Wang Liang (China)
Mr. Vladimir Tikunov (ICA)
Col. Saranpong Pramsane (RTSD, Thailand)
Brig. General Muhammad Shafiqul Islam
(SOB, Bangladesh)

Mr. Gholam Reza Fallahi (NCC, Iran)
Mr. Hiromichi Maruyama (GSI, JAPAN)
Mr. Milan Konecney (ICA)
Mr. Bebas Purnawan (PCGIAP)

The resolutions of the Workshop are as follows. Most of them were included in the resolutions of the 17th UNRCC-AP plenary.

Resolutions of the workshop on "Use of Geo-information for mitigating large scale disaster and attaining sustainable development" Thursday, 21st September, 2006 Bangkok, Thailand

In order to make more effective and efficient use of geo-information by decision makers for disaster monitoring, assessment and management, and the realization of improved environmental and sustainable development decision making, PCGIAP, NMOs and organizations involved in the development of geo-information are urged to take the following actions:

- (i) NMOs, in coordination with other national organizations in their countries,
 - (1) To conduct geodetic survey to understand characteristic of crustal movement in the region in collaboration with PCGIAP
 - (2) To aid in disaster monitoring and management by collecting records of past disasters and creating hazard maps, and following a disaster, by collecting and providing geo-information on affected areas.
 - (3) To contribute to improved environmental and sustainable development decision making through best practices in development of appropriate geo-information, development of appropriate databases and its application to all human activity that affecting the environment.
- (ii) PCGIAP in coordination with NMOs
 - (1) To collect and provide geographic and disaster information of affected areas to aid in disaster monitoring and management
 - (2) To collect, provide and use, according to best practice, geo-information, including information on the status of geo-information development

in the region, in order to ensure sustainable development and improved environmental decision making

(3) Through activities of existing Working Groups in international organizations, and coordination of initiatives dealing with geo-information development such as those by ISCGM and UNOOSA initiated SPIDER, to promote the wider use of geo-information for disaster monitoring and management and sustainable development.

(iii) Organizations involved in the development of geo-information such as ISCGM should collaborate with regional and global initiatives, such as various UN programs and GEO (Group on Earth Observations), which are users of geo-information, and promote the use of geo-information.

(iv) Organizations related with geo-information

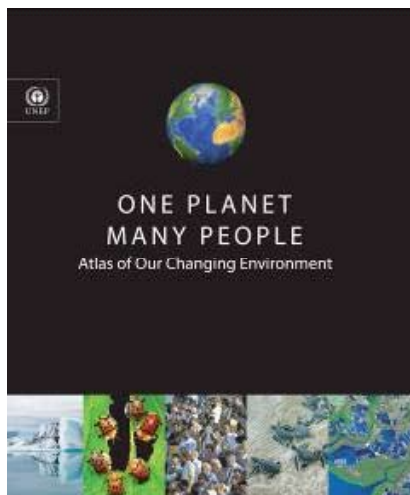
such as ICA, and ISPRS, and other members of JBGIS to promote and raise the awareness of the benefits of geo-information, to decision makers,

ISCGM, from now, not only promotes Global Mapping project further, but also cooperates with other projects hand in hand, with NMOs and related organizations in order to contribute to making environment that each one of the world citizen lives at ease.

Additionally, the workshop was originally scheduled for 20th as a full day workshop, but rescheduled to the following day and duration was shortened due to the coup. ISCGM would like to give big thanks to all of the participants for their cooperation.

Powerpoints of UNEP's Atlas Released for Educational Purposes

*Dr. Ashbindu Singh
Regional Coordinator, UNEP-DEWA*



The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in cooperation with NASA, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the University of Maryland launched *One Planet, Many People: Atlas of Our Changing Environment* in June 2005. In this Atlas, dramatic environmental changes sweeping planet Earth are brought into sharp focus through a comprehensive, visual presentation of scientifically verifiable information shown through state-of-the-art remote sensing technology. This Atlas of environmental hotspots and issues is based primarily on satellite imagery taken over the past 30 years, showing how human actions and geophysical activities have changed various parts of the world.

One Planet, Many People: Atlas of Our Changing Environment provides a comprehensive, visual presentation of scientifically verifiable information

about changes in the global environment, shown through state-of-the-art remote sensing technology.

A collection of 405 MS Powerpoint slides divided into regional and thematic sets covering 11 contemporary and dynamic themes:

- Introduction to the Planet
- People and Planet
- Atmosphere
- Coastal Areas
- Urban Areas
- Water and Lakes
- Forests
- Cropland
- Grassland
- Tundra and Polar Areas
- Extreme Events

And six geographical regions:

- Africa
- Asia and the Pacific
- Europe
- Latin America
- North America
- Polar Regions

These slides can now be downloaded free of charge by following the link provided

<<http://www.na.unep.net/OnePlanetManyPeople/powerpoints.html>>.

This presentation of environmental hotspots and issues is based primarily on satellite imagery taken over 30 years showing how human actions and geophysical activities have changed various parts

of the world. Examples include the shrinking ice in the Arctic, melting glaciers, growth of cities like Las Vegas, forest loss in the Amazon, and the decline of the Aral Sea and Lake Chad. Satellite images found in the 334-page hard-bound Atlas are packaged in this Powerpoint presentation format to facilitate the use of imagery by environmental policy makers, non-governmental organizations,

the private sector, academics, teachers and citizens interested in using this material to visually demonstrate the changes resulting from natural processes and human-induced activities.

Dr. Singh has been supporting Global Mapping project since its infancy.

17th United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (UNRCC-AP)

Bangkok, 18 – 22 September, 2006

***Kohei Miyagawa
Geographical Survey Institute***

Seventeenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (UNRCC-AP) was held from 18 through 22 September at UN conference center (UNCC) in Bangkok, Thailand. The theme of this conference was "Geo-information integration for Disaster Management and Sustainable Development in the Context of the Millennium Development Goals." There were 210 participants from 30 countries. The conference consisted of plenary, two parallel workshops and three parallel committees.

Mr. Peter Holland declared the opening of the conference, and two addresses were delivered by Dr. Paul Cheung, Director of UN Statistic Division and Minister of Science and Technology in Thailand. It was mentioned that the role of GIS for disaster management and decision making was getting more important.

After the opening and the following some regular procedures, invited speakers reported on Global/Regional/National issues and Best Practices and Applications. Prof. D. R. Fraser Taylor, Chairperson of ISCGM, reported the current status of ISCGM, the importance of Global Mapping for disaster management, and so on.

On the third day, the conference was cancelled and postponed the scheduled agenda items due to a coup in Thailand that took place near UNCC.

Two parallel workshops were held on the morning of fourth day, one of which was held by the cooperation of PCGIAP, ICA and ISCGM. The workshop focused on "Use of Geo-information for mitigating large scale disaster and attaining sustainable development," and the other: "Integration of Built and Natural Environment Datasets within National SDI Initiatives." Each

presenter shows national GIS activities, geographic data or remote sensing data application for facing global issues such as food, population, etc.

After the workshops, three parallel committees were held under the themes: "GIS, Remote Sensing and Geodesy for Disaster Management," "Spatial data infrastructure capacity building and their development in Asia and the Pacific," and "Geospatial Fundamental Data, including their collection, management and dissemination." Future activities conducted until the next UNRCC-AP and various topics were discussed eagerly and the outcomes of discussion were reported.

On the final day, the plenary conference was held again and following resolutions were adopted.

1. Geo-information for mitigating large scale disasters
2. Regional Geodesy
3. Marine Administration - The Spatial Dimension
4. SDI to support spatially enabled government
5. Fundamental Data
6. Timor Leste SDI
7. Eighteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific



Meeting

Twelfth Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific

Kohei Miyagawa, ex-Secretariat of PCGIAP

Twelfth Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP) was held concurrently with the 17th United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific. At the PCGIAP Executive Board meeting on 18 September, the detailed agenda items of UNRCC-AP were confirmed and the nomination of PCGIAP Executive Board members was

announced by the PCGIAP secretariat. PCGIAP was held on 22 where nine countries were elected as new Executive Board members from ten candidates by vote of PCGIAP members. The new board members are as follows. Next PCGIAP was determined to be held around June 2007 in Korea by new board members at the Executive Board meeting.

President	Australia	Mr. Peter Holland
Vice President	Japan	Mr. Yaguchi Akira
Secretary	China	Mr. Li Weisen
Board Members	Brunei Darussalam	Mr. Mohd Jamil Mohd Ali
	Fiji	Mr. Barma Nand
	India	Maj. Gen.M Gopal Rao
	Indonesia	Mr. Bebas Purnawan
	Korea	Mr. Sohn Bong Gyun
	Malaysia	Dato' Hamid Ali
	Philippines	Mr. Diony A Ventura
	Russian Federation	Mr. Alexander Prusakov
	Singapore	Mr. Soh Kheng Peng



Meeting

From the Secretariat

- The 13th ISCGM Meeting is scheduled for November 11, 2006, at IGM building, Santiago, Chile. Preceding this meeting, a Global Mapping Session organized by the secretariat of ISCGM will be held from 11:00 – 12:30 on November 8 as a part of GSDI 9 Conference. Paper presentations from the secretariat of ISCGM and countries in Americas are scheduled.

- Global Mapping project currently has 165 participating countries/regions. The newly participated organizations and the date of their participations are: Centre for Geographic Information Systems - Geo-Information Division, Ministry of Land Use and Habitat of Seychelles on July 3; Survey of Pakistan on August 18; and Survey Land Information, MOW of Cook Islands on August 22.

• IMPORTANT NOTICE

A Survey on Geographic Datasets is underway as part of contributions to GEO activities from the ISCGM. The secretariat of ISCGM requested the Global Mapping project participating and related organizations to respond to this survey. Organizations which have not yet turned in, please send your answers at an earliest possible convenience. We would appreciate it very much for your cooperation.

Global Map and Related Meetings

Followings are Global Map and related meetings. Information on related meetings will be highly appreciated.

2006

- **6 - 10 November, Santiago, Chile**
GSDI 9th Conference
- **11 November, Santiago, Chile**
13th Meeting of ISCGM
- **11- 15 November, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia**
ISO/TC 211 23rd Plenary

2007

- **31 May - 1 June, Rome, Italy**
ISO/TC 211 24th Plenary
- **15 - 20 July, Cambridge, England**
Cambridge Conference

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