



GLOBAL MAPPING NEWSLETTER 46

OneGeology Project Launched

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Dr. D. R. Fraser Taylor

From March 12 - 16 eighty-one participants from forty-three nations participated in a workshop in Brighton, UK to discuss the creation of a 1:1 million geological map of the world as a contribution to the International Year of the Planet Earth. Unanimous agreement was reached on the value of doing this and the participants produced the Brighton Accord which reads in part:

"Participants at the workshop asserted that geological map data are essential to advancing science and education in order to better provide solutions to the challenges of mitigating environmental hazards, ensuring the sustainable supply of energy, minerals and

water, and addressing the urgent challenge of our changing climate."

The mission of OneGeology is:

"OneGeology is a Geological Survey initiative launched in the International Year of Planet Earth which will make public and Internet-accessible the best available geological map data worldwide, initially at a scale of about 1:1 million, to better address the needs of society."

The Web site for further information is

<http://www.onegeology.org/>.

ISCGM was an active participant in the workshop through its Chair, Dr. Taylor, who made two presentations to the meeting. One was on "The Global Map Experience: Some Issues for OneGeology" and the other "The Potential Contribution of Global Map to OneGeology and other Geological Mapping Initiatives at Smaller Scales." ISCGM has agreed to cooperate with OneGeology as there are many similarities between the two projects and to participate on an International Steering Committee which will advise the project.

A Brief Report on CODI-V

Eliud MOKI, Survey of Kenya & Jun SATO, JICA Kenya



Eliud MOKI (left) & Jun SATO (right)

1. Introduction

The Fifth Session of the Committee on Development Information (CODI-V) took place in Addis Ababa from 1 to 4 May 2007, and was preceded by workshops and special events on the 29 and the 30 April 2007 during which the main issues of the CODI-V agenda were explained and reviewed. The theme of CODI-V was “**Employment and the Knowledge Economy in Africa.**”

The Survey of Kenya (SOK) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) attended the CODI-V as a member and observer respectively. The major interest was the activities of Geo-information Sub-committee.

2. Attendance

The meeting of Geo-information Sub-committee was attended by delegates from the following member states:

Algeria, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cote-d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Republic of Congo, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania and Uganda.

And also in attendance were observers from a lot of organizations and institutions not only in Africa but also in Europe, U.S. and other regions including Japan.

3. Activities of Geo-information Sub-Committee

The sub-committee tackled international experience in the following fields

- 1) Metadata (International Standards Organization) ISO standard 19115/TC 211
- 2) Metadata capture tool
- 3) Fundamental data sets
- 4) Geo-visualization products and applications
- 5) Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) activities in Geographical Information System (GIS).
- 6) Geographical names as envisaged by United Nations

Group of Experts in Geographical Names (UNGEGN)

7) ESRI’s Arc GIS Explorer

8) Tracks for Africa (T4A) layer on Google Earth.

9) Training opportunities at Regional Centre for the Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD) and Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys (RECTAS).

4. Resolutions of the Sub-Committee on Geoinformation <EXTRACT>

1) On Standardizing Geographic Names

- ◆ The Sub-Committee recommends that member States develop national standards on geographical names taking into consideration national socio-cultural contexts.
- ◆ The Sub-Committee urges ECA in collaboration with ECOSOC and the United Nations Expert Group on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) to organize the next UNGEGN meeting in Africa.

2) On Land Information Management Systems

- ◆ The Sub-Committee recommends that ECA member States should:
 - (a) Consider and adopt the different principles of LIMS developed by ECA and partners.
 - (b) Provide for LIMS in their land policies.
 - (c) Allocate more funds for LIMS for the benefit of the economy, as well as all other social and political activities.

3) On Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDIs) and Fundamental Datasets

- ◆ The Sub-Committee reiterates its support for the African Reference Frame (AFREF) initiative to develop a uniform geodetic reference frame based on GNSS technology.
- ◆ The Sub-Committee urges each member State to establish at least one Continuous Operating permanent Reference Station (CORS) based on Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) in accordance with the AFREF initiative and consultation with all stakeholders.
- ◆ The Sub-Committee requests ECA to
 - (a) Organize training workshop at the subregional level on the implementation of CORS.
 - (b) Negotiate with providers of space imagery to make satellite images affordable to member States.
 - (c) Leverage funding for SDI development activities

for member States with special attention to Mapping Africa for Africa (MAFA).

4) On Metadata Profile for Africa

- ◆ The Sub-Committee endorses the development of African profile of ISO 19115, to support the realization of the objectives of the Mapping Africa for Africa (MAFA) initiative.
- ◆ The Sub-Committee requests ECA, supported by experts from the geographical information community, to identify a suitable metadata tool that can be adapted, and developed further, to support the African profile of ISO 19115.
- ◆ The Sub-Committee encourages ECA and specialized institutions to participate actively in ISO/TC211 meetings and activities, and to create a mechanism to

disseminate the relevant standards to the geographical information community in Africa.



Plenary Session at the Opening

Global Map School

Junichi Kisanuki
Secretariat of the ISCGM



Exchange Lesson in Japan side

Following the first "Global Map School" on September 30th, 2006 between Japan and the Philippines, the Second "Global Map School" was held on March 20th, 2007 linking schools in Japan and Thailand. The theme of this exchange lesson via the internet link was "Welcome to our country."

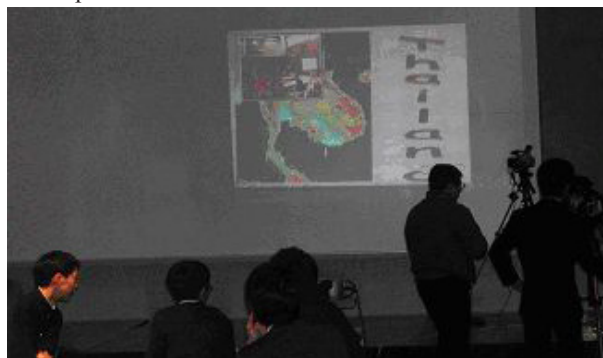
Students from Keio Futsubu School along with Keio Chutobu Junior High School from Japan and Princess Chulaborn's College Nakhon Si Thammarat from Thailand took part in.

Environment around schools, Tokyo and Japan were introduced from Japan side using materials and photos studied and collected by each student. From Thailand side, views of recent days of Nakhon Si Thammarat, transition of mangrove forests to shrimp farms, and coastal erosion were explained by using photos. Then the topics were expanded to plays and movies. Although the conditions of the images and voices sent from Thailand were not stable due to the

difference of the Internet environment, all the participants enthusiastically enjoyed the program extending the scheduled time for about one hour. A student from Thailand studying at Keio University supported the program as an interpreter.

Dr. Hiroshi Ota who plays a central role in promoting this project commented, "Dialogue between the students began and they could exchange ideas on their respective matters of concern under the severe circuit condition." A student stated his impression, "Although the line was not good, it was nice to know about Thailand and what they are interested in." This program was taken up largely in Japan through the coverage of television and newspaper.

After the exchange lesson, a meeting of the steering committee for promoting "Global Map School" project also took place, where views on how digital map can be disseminated in addition to Global Map in the educational field were exchanged among school teachers and map developers.



An Image from Thailand (Indochina Peninsula)

13th PCGIAP Meeting and Workshop on SEG

Ms. Jiang Xiaohong
PCGIAP Secretariat



13th PCGIAP Meeting and Workshop on SEG Participants

The 13th meeting of the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP) was held on 12–15 June 2007 at COEX Convention Center in Seoul, Korea. The National Geographic Information Institute (NGII) of Korea hosted the meeting.

The meeting program included an International Workshop on Spatial Enablement of Government and NSDI – Policy Implications, plenary and parallel Working Group sessions, two Executive Board meetings and a technical tour to GIS Korea 2007.

The International Workshop on Spatial Enablement of Government (SEG) and NSDI – Policy Implications was jointly organized by PCGIAP WG3 and GSDI Association on 12 June 2007. 125 delegates from 14 countries participated in the workshop. The Workshop reviewed national use of spatial enablement by governments and society and focused on legal and economic issues in relation to the development of SDIs, including data sharing and collaboration developments; drivers for SDI investment; SDI benefit/cost studies; and data access policies. Invited papers from five countries, Australia, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore and Japan, were presented, and a panel discussion was held for exchange of information

and views on future direction and way forward.

The Committee meeting was attended by about 60 participants from 11 member countries and 4 international organizations. Activities and progress of work plans since the 17th UNRCC-AP/12th PCGIAP Meeting on 18-22 September 2006 in Bangkok, Thailand, were reported respectively at the Executive and Working Group level. Also presented were reports from liaison organizations including SALB, ISCGM, GSDI, PCIDEA, and ISO/TC211. In parallel Working Group sessions, work plans in each field for the next two years were discussed and redefined.

The technical tour to GIS Korea 2007 proved to be interesting and impressive for all the participants. The yearly expo of GIS development, organized by Ministry of Construction & Transportation, showcases latest products and services of the GIS industry of Korea and exhibits the GIS industry's contribution to Korea's social, economic and environment progress.

The meeting was successfully concluded adopting seven resolutions. The next PCGIAP Executive Board meeting will take place in early 2008 in Canberra, Australia.

UNGPM Frascati*Chris Higgins**EDINA**Edinburgh University Data Library***Mr. Higgins**

A Global Map presentation was given at the United Nations Spatial Data Infrastructure (UNSDI) Global Partners meeting on the 1st and 2nd of March 2007 at the European Space Agency facility in Frascati, Italy. At this meeting, Global Map was presented as a core global dataset and the ISCGM were recognised as key strategic partners.

The UNSDI initiative is relatively new and has emerged over the last few years from the work of the United Nations Geospatial Information Working Group (UNGIWG). Put simply, the vision is to maximise interoperability and avoid duplication across the range of UN activities where geospatial data and skills are employed, recognising that many of the most significant SDI issues are institutional and not just technical.

The idea for the Global Partners meeting emerged from discussions at the GSIDI9 meeting in Chile and the recognition by the UNGIWG that a means would have to be found to leverage the huge amount of work going into developing SDI concepts and implementing SDI at various scales across the globe. To this end, 82 people gathered in Frascati, representing a broad range of UN Member States, standards defining organisations,

UN Agencies, various SDI initiatives, scientific establishments, and the private sector.

Over the two days, a large number of presentations were given, there were breakout groups, panel sessions and ample opportunity for informal networking. A few themes emerged quite clearly, including; the need for sustained collaboration with key partners, sustainable funding, mechanisms for UNSDI to evolve in response to changing technology, the need for a mandate at the global level, and lessons learned from the European INSPIRE initiative.

The Global Map presentation touched upon the existing, well developed relationship and collaboration between the ISCGM and various UN agencies, including the UNGIWG. It was put to the audience that GlobalMap is a core global dataset and that the UNGIWG should consider operationalising co-operation on the UNSDI. This could include institutional matters such as building on the network of contacts at National Mapping Organisations that the ISCGM has developed over the last 10 years, as well as technical issues such as harmonising GlobalMap with other core datasets. Capacity building was also identified as a major area of potential collaboration.

Subsequent discussion indicates that these ideas were well received and further dialogue will be taking place between the ISCGM and UNGIWG. Next steps in the development of the UNSDI are likely to see the "UNSDI Strategy Implementation Plan" document being finalised by the UNGIWG. Copies of relevant documents and further information on the UNSDI can be found at: <http://www.ungiwg.org/unsdi.htm>.

(20th April, 2007)

From the Secretariat

Message from the new Secretary General of ISCGM



Yoshikazu Fukushima

I am Yoshikazu Fukushima, new Secretary General of ISCGM. In accordance with the rules of ISCGM at Article 22 item 2, I was appointed as secretary general of ISCGM in April 2007 by Prof. D. R. Fraser Taylor, Chairperson of ISCGM. In fact, this is my second term to work for the secretariat of ISCGM as I engaged in the secretariat

work from 1999 to 2000. I feel with astonishment that Global Mapping project and environment surrounding the project have made great progress compared to the time I engaged in organizing the International Workshop on Global Mapping at Izumo in 1994, when establishment of an international steering committee was recommended.

At the WSSD held in Johannesburg, 2002, promotion of Global Mapping was included in "the Plan of

Implementation of WSSD," where ISCGM declared completion of data development of the whole globe by 2007. In addition, an international framework for global earth observation was established in 2005 and Global Map which provides basic geographic information with globally consistent specifications has become more important. In line with this movement, the number of project participating countries/regions augmented from 81 in the year 2000 to 172 countries/regions as of May 2007 and the number of countries/regions whose data are released largely increased from 6 countries to 37 countries/regions. As such, we largely owe smooth development of the project to my predecessor Mr. Hiromichi Maruyama for his four-year-long achievement.

Although it is a big challenge for me to be appointed secretary general in the target year of 2007, I am determined to make every effort to accomplish the goal under the leadership of Prof. Taylor, Chair of ISCGM with the support of the Members and Advisors of ISCGM, people in NMOs involved in the project and many people who support this important project. I would be very grateful for the continuation of your support and understanding.

Data release

Global Map data of ten countries have been released since the last report on December 25, 2006. The name of the countries and the date of release are: Ghana on March 14, Vietnam and Malaysia on March 23 simultaneously, South Africa on April 13, Bahrain on May 7, Canada on May 16, Singapore on June 5, New Zealand on June 14, Cuba on June 18 and Saudi Arabia on June 21, 2007.

Global Map and Related Meetings

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

2007

- **27-29 June, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.**
International Workshop on Good Land Administration
-Its Role in Economic Development
- **14 July, Cambridge, U. K.**
14th Meeting of ISCGM
- **15-20 July, Cambridge, U. K.**
Cambridge Conference
- **4-10 August, Moscow, Russia**
XXIII International Cartographic Conference (ICC2007)

- **17-21 September, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso**
AFRICA GIS 2007

- **28 October- 2 November, Xi'an, China**
ISO/TC 211 25th Plenary & WG meetings

2008

- **25-29 February, St. Augustine, Trinidad**
GSDI-10
<http://gsdi.org/gsdi10>
- **7-11 July, Beijing, China**
The XXI Congress of the ISPRS

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