



GLOBAL MAPPING NEWSLETTER 59

The Seventeenth Meeting of ISCGM

Secretariat of ISCGM



The seventeenth meeting of International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM) was held on Sunday, October 17, 2010 in Singapore, which was timed with the sixteenth meeting of Permanent Committee on Spatial Data Infrastructure for Asia & the Pacific (PCGIAP) and the twelfth meeting of Global Spatial Data Infrastructure (GSDI). The total of 23 participants attended in the meeting including representatives of National Mapping Organizations from 9 countries.

With the three-year term of the Chair expired at this meeting, the members reelected Professor Fraser Taylor as the chair. In the meeting, ISCGM Rules are partly amended due to the change in appellation of the Organizations serving as the Secretariat from Geographical Survey Institute to Geospatial Information Authority of Japan.

The Secretariat reported the following activities performed in a year after the last meeting.

- Global Mapping Project participation/ progress status
- Data utilization status
- Preparation of disaster maps
- Metadata editor preparation
- Preparation of French and Spanish versions of Global Map Specifications
- JICA group training course on Global Mapping

-Promotion of Global Map in international conferences

In addition to the above, working groups reported in the meeting their activities including "Manual for development and revision of Global Map based on Global Map Specifications Version 2", the plan for the second version of global land cover and percent tree coverage layers and its preparatory progress among others.

Based on reports and discussion, the members endorsed the resolution as major items shown below.

[Major items of the resolution endorsed in the 17th ISCGM meeting]

- The Secretariat will study the feasibility of web mapping services including test site construction.
- The Secretariat will investigate the necessity and feasibility of developing Global Map at larger scales including 1:250,000. The Secretariat and Working Group2 will discuss the Specifications.
- ISCGM welcomes the new framework on Global Geospatial Information Management advocated by the United Nations. The Committee will actively participate in the framework so that Global Map is further applied to efforts related to global issues.

The next ISCGM meeting will be held in Winchester, UK in June 2011, timed with Cambridge Conference.

Eighth Workshop on Greenhouse Gas Inventories in Asia (WGIA)

Noriko KISHIMOTO
Geographic Department, Geospatial Information Authority of Japan



Participants of the 8th WGIA

The 8th WGIA was held in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic from 13 to 16 July 2010 hosted by the Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MoEJ), Water Resources and Environment Administration (WPEA) of Lao PDR and the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) of Japan.

Total of 95 participants attended in the workshop, including representatives of government and research institutes of thirteen countries: Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao, P.D.R., Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand, and Vietnam, as well as five international organizations including UNFCCC, IPCC.



Venue of the 8th WGIA

This was the second time to attend this workshop following the 7th WGIA in Korea, 2009. The participant from GSI made a presentation on the Global Mapping project at the working group of Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) sector. At the presentation, GSI introduced how to utilize Land Cover and Percent Tree Cover data of Global Map for estimating emissions and removals of Greenhouse Gasses (GHGs) in LULUCF sector.



Some participants delivered presentation of experimental development of GHG inventory for LULUCF using Land Cover data produced by remote sensing. We expect much utilization of GIS and Remote Sensing data in this area including Global Map, and strengthened relationship between GIS or Remote Sensing experts including officials at National Mapping Organizations and people working in the field of climate change, especially GHG inventories

GLOBAL MAPPING FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2010

*Mary Jane R. Montemor
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A good learning experience is not bounded by the four corners in our classroom. It is enhanced with a good overview of the outside world and an actual experience of new things beyond our limits.

Eight participants from different countries namely Bhutan, Bangladesh, Kenya, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Timor-Leste and Uzbekistan have gone beyond their limitations. They completely prepared themselves to take on the challenge in extending their capability, by participating in the training course on “Global Mapping for Sustainable Development held last June 22 until September 3, 2010.

This training course has successfully incorporated all the lectures and hands-on exercises that are needed to fully understand the production and application of global map datasets. We were equipped with the necessary knowledge and invaluable skills during the training to help us with the implementation of the expected output of our individual study. We highly appreciate the assistance extended to us by all respected experts and lecturers in the conceptualization of our individual work. Their hardwork in the preparation of all materials and resources as well as their incessant support have encouraged our utmost cooperation to learn and actively participate in the training.

The training course is not only a great opportunity for us to gain knowledge but also a chance for us participants to actively promote our country’s involvement in addressing environmental concerns and issues that have stirred the international community. This has been a good experience for us to understand the current situation that we are facing and what each of us can do to contribute in the unified effort that the Global Mapping Project has initiated.



Snapshot at a lecture

The possibility of meeting new people and living in a new place with a different culture has brought about mixed feelings of excitement and uncertainty at the start. But during the training, a lot of things were learned, new friends were found, stories and laughter were shared. We are not strangers to each other anymore. And we are all happy to have been given the opportunity to join this training. Each one of us has fully understood our responsibility in order to accomplish the project output. And the learning we acquired is not limited inside the training room, it has gone beyond that.

On behalf of my fellow participants, we would like to thank the Government of Japan and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for providing full support to the success of the training course; the GSI, IDI and JICE for their unwavering hardwork and successful facilitation of all lectures, workshops and study tours; and Tsukuba International Center (TBIC) for their warm accommodation and kind assistance in all our concerns.

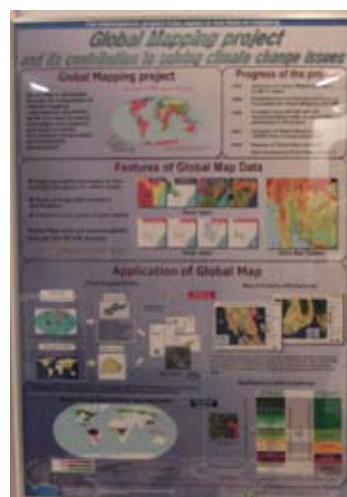
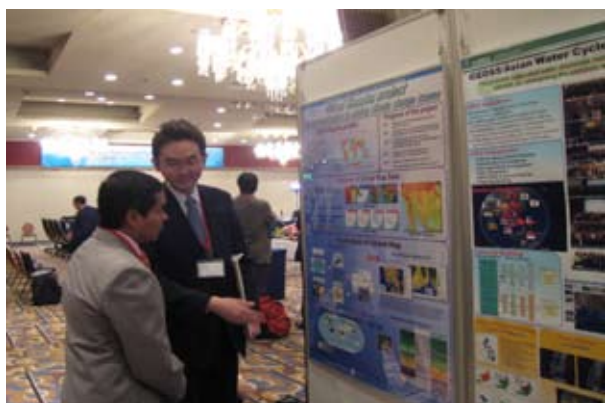
To Shibata-san, our JICE Coordinator, Sakabe-san, our IDI Coordinator, and Tanaka-san, our JICA officer in charge, thank you for your patience and continuous assistance.

Our sincerest gratitude to all of you.

From the Secretariat

8th Minister's Forum on Infrastructure Development in the AP Region

The 8th Minister's Forum on Infrastructure Development in the Asia-Pacific Region was held on October 9th, 2010 in Tokyo, Japan with participation of delegates from 15 countries and regions including Brunei Darussalam and Chile. The participants delivered presentations on their challenges and efforts concerning the theme of this forum, "Adaptation of Infrastructure to Increasing Water-related Risks under the Influence of Climate Change". This will help member countries share knowledge and experiences. Geospatial Information Authority of Japan exhibited a poster in the forum, introducing the overview of Global Mapping Project and applications for addressing climate change.



Global Map Data Release and Participation in the Global Mapping Project

As of October 25, 2010, 164 countries/16 regions participate in the Global Mapping Project. Among them, data of 71 countries/4 regions have been released.

Global Map and Related Meetings

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

2010

- **3-5 November, China**
GEO-VII
- **29-3 November-December, Tunisia**
GEO-Tunis
- **29-10 November-December, Mexico**
UNFCCC-COP16

- **9-10 December, Canberra, Australia**

ISO/TC211 31th Plenary

2011

- **2-13 May, New York**
19th Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD)
- **3-8 July, Paris, France**
XXV International Cartography Conference (ICC2011)



The Newsletter is distributed as information paper on Global Mapping to more than 1,200 people of NMOs, Global Map data users and other interested people of the world. Your contribution of articles, requests of subscription and provision of relevant information will be very much appreciated.

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