



GLOBAL MAPPING NEWSLETTER

79

The 22nd Meeting of ISCGM

Toru Nagayama
Secretary General of ISCGM



The Twenty-second meeting of the International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM) was held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, USA on August 4th, 2015. Moderated by Prof. Paul Cheung from National University of Singapore, Chairperson of ISCGM and ex-director of UN Statistics Division (UNSD), approximately 70 representatives from National Geospatial Information Authority (NGIA) of respective countries, international organizations, and the private sector participated in the meeting.

At the opening of the meeting, Mr. Stefan Schweinfest, Director of UNSD, spoke that it has been about 20 years since the start of the Global Mapping with the collaboration of NGIA of each country and that cooperative relationship between the ISCGM and the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UNCE-GGIM) is hoped to be continued in the future.

Following the speech of Mr. Schweinfest, Professor Cheung mentioned that while ISCGM has a long history, ISCGM's new activities have been starting due to the emerging new demand accompanied by the technological development.

After the opening speeches, presentations from NGIAs of Japan, Indonesia, Mexico and Norway,

as well as from the World Bank were made introducing their efforts for disaster risk mitigation on the basis of "the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework)" followed by a panel discussion by the speakers, where they discussed contributions to Sendai Framework, issues to realize them, etc.

Presentations on various global-level data development in relation to Global Mapping were given from ESRI, Digital Globe, and Leibniz University Hannover. They explained about the outline of the Ecological Land Unit Project and schedule of its future works; global observation by satellites, time-series observations and importance of 3D mapping; and the result of the survey on topographic maps inventory by the NGIAs of the world, of which the previous survey was conducted more than a quarter-century ago.

The secretariat of ISCGM reported on the progress of the current Global Mapping Project, the status of constructing the Hazard Maps Web Portal site and Catalogue Service Web site, which are ongoing according to resolutions of the 2014 meeting and affirmed the future activities to fulfill them.

Presentation materials are available from the following URL: <http://www.iscgm.org/iscgm22>.

The Fifth Session of the UNCE-GGIM

Akira Sasagawa
Deputy Director of Environmental Geography Div., Geographic Dept., GSI
Secretariat of ISCGM



The Fifth Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UNCE-GGIM) was held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. Professor Paul Cheung, Chair of ISCGM, Mr. Toru Nagayama, Secretary General of ISCGM and ISCGM Secretariat participated in the meeting from the ISCGM. The meeting was attended by approximately 290 people from more than 80 countries and regions, international organizations and the private sector.

One of the main outcomes of the Session was to establish a Working Group on Geospatial Information for Disaster/Emergency Response, which many Member States expressed their willingness to participate in. Also discussed were creation of the future roadmap for the development of Global Geodetic Reference Framework (GGRF) resolved at the UN General Assembly in February 2015; new international targets for the coming 15 years, “the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” which was unanimously agreed at the intergovernmental negotiations on 2 August; and contributions of geospatial information to “Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030” which encompasses concrete guidelines for activities on disaster risk reduction after the year 2015. Further, a variety of other important topics

were discussed, such as the integration of statistical information with geospatial information, legal and policy frameworks related to geospatial information, and application of geospatial information in land administration and management.

The Session also had substantive discussion on the Committee’s review report to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in 2016. The Committee recognized that it will provide a unique opportunity to strengthen the subsidiary machinery of ECOSOC in the area of geospatial information, and requested the Bureau to reach out to the other ECOSOC subsidiary bodies (Regional Cartographic Conferences and UNGEGN) to engage in a joint reflection over the coming months with a view to presenting a common proposal in 2016.

ISCGM will promote the activities of Global Mapping on the basis of the discussions at the UNCE-GGIM and by strengthening coordination with UN organizations and agencies.

The next 6th Session of UNCE-GGIM is scheduled to be held at the UN Headquarters in New York in August 2016.

Mexico's Collaborative Site for Disaster Response

Rolando Ocampo Alcantar
Vice President of Geographic and Environmental Information, INEGI



Mr. Rolando Ocampo Alcantar

Background

When disaster strikes, geospatial information becomes a critical asset for actions that can mitigate its effects. This information should be timely, accessible and of adequate quality to offer the best response possible.

To ensure the availability of this information in Mexico, a working group was formed within the Specialized Technical Committee on Basic Geographic Information, one of 37 corporate bodies of the National System of Statistical and Geographic Information. As a result, INEGI has put into operation a collaborative site for disaster response, where the different units of the Mexican State can exchange information to perform their respective functions more efficiently.

Operation, structure and contents

The collaborative site is a restricted access web site for users at several government agencies: from those related to the production of disaster-related geospatial and statistical information, to those directly in charge of the emergency response.

Once an authorized user gains access to the main page, the following sections are displayed: **Recent Events, Historic Events, Available Information, News, and Contact Information.**

Recent events

This section contains information related to disaster events where the response is ongoing, or has occurred recently. Each event can be considered as a “substitute” within the main site. Access is given to relevant datasets, either through links to downloadable file, or the URLs to Web Map Services. Examples are

Population (Census) data at the block level for towns or cities in the affected area, hydrographic networks, roads networks, and satellite Imagery—prior to the event and, whenever possible, in the hours or days after the event, so that affected areas and features can be located.

A specific message board is created for each event, so that multiple users can exchange comments, questions and experiences. There is also a section for data visualization.

Historic events

Access to data sets related to events that happened in previous years, or where the emergency phase has ended, is preserved through this section. The general structure of this section is the same as that for recent events.

Available Information

As a disaster may occur anytime and anywhere in the country, this section gives permanent access to some basic—or framework—data sets. Access to this information is through downloadable links or URLs to Web Services: Web Map Services, Web Feature Services, and Web Coverage Services. These give direct and interoperable access to population/census data, economic data (DENUE), the National Road Network, satellite imagery and elevation data.

Outlook

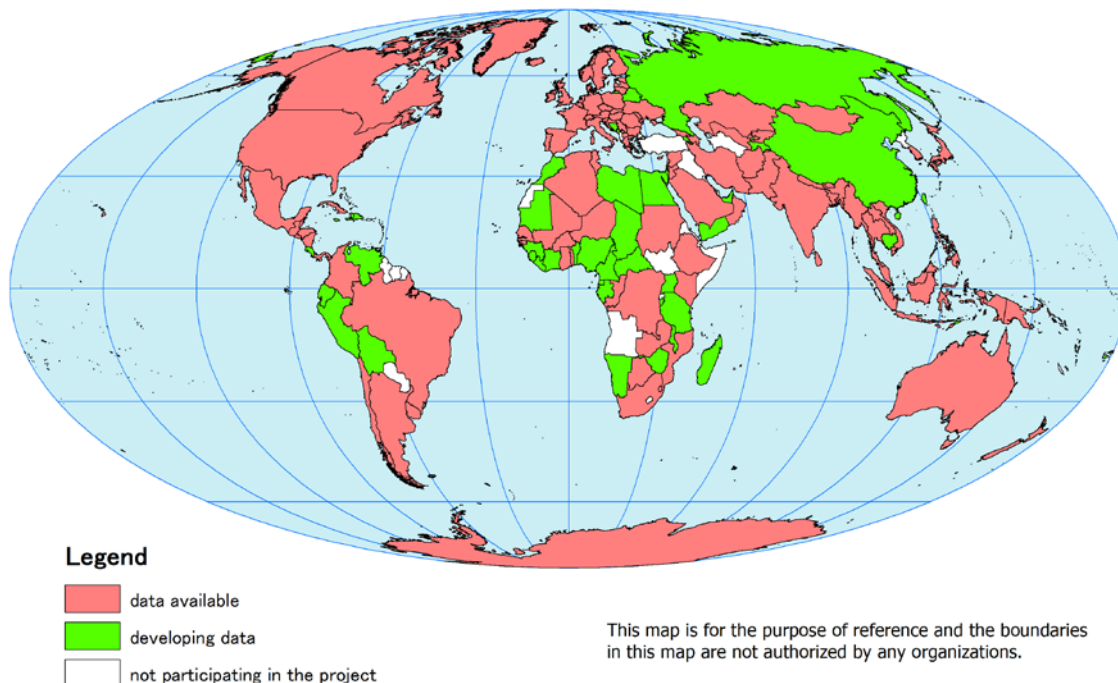
Whereas the collaborative site for disaster response provides access to coordinated, relevant information needed for timely emergency responses at many levels, efforts are underway to increase the number of layers available, in different formats, both from INEGI as from other government agencies. The site can be accessed at:

<http://geoweb.inegi.org.mx/SitioIntercambioDesastres/abrirAreaIntercambio.do>

From the Secretariat

Global Map Data Release and Participation in the Global Mapping Project

Currently 167 countries/16 regions participate in the Project. Among them, data of 111 countries/8 regions have been released (Version 2 data are for 75 countries/4 regions).



Newsletter Distribution by E-mail and Other Arrangement

If you would like to receive or stop receiving Global Mapping Newsletter by e-mail, please inform the secretariat (sec@iscgm.org) of your name, address and e-mail address.

Global Map and Related Meetings

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

2015

- October 5-9, Jeju Island, Republic of Korea
20th UN Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (UNRCC-AP)
- October 9, Jeju Island, Republic of Korea
Fourth UN-GGIM-AP Plenary Meeting
- November 11-12, Mexico City, Mexico
GEO-XII Plenary

2016

- May 2-6, Christchurch, New Zealand
FIG Working Week 2016
- August, New York, USA
23rd Meeting of ISCGM
- August, New York, USA
Sixth Session of UN-GGIM



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

Articles published on this newsletter are not edited and reflect the view of the authors.

Published by : The Secretariat of the International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM)

*c/o Geospatial Information Authority of Japan (GSI)
1 Kitasato, Tsukuba-shi, Ibaraki-ken, 305-0811 Japan
Phone : +81-29-864-6910 Fax : +81-29-864-8087
Homepage : <http://www.iscgm.org/>
E-mail : sec@iscgm.org*