



ISPRS Pre- CODIST Workshop
Exploiting Global Geospatial Data Resources for Planning in Africa
ECA Conference Building Addiss Ababa, Ethiopia
Monday 2ND May 2011,

Objective

The main objective of the workshop is to show how global data sets can be used in Africa and to explore the requirements for using geospatial data for planning purposes, and the resources available to generate the required products and services.

Attendance

The workshop was attended by over 70 CODIST delegates of African member states and observers drawn from different African countries and the rest of the world.

Summary

Opening remarks was made by Dr. Hussien Farah, Director of RCMRD, and the ISPRS Reginal Representative for Africa, on behalf of the President of ISPRS, the organizer of the workshop. Mr. Makane Faye, OIC of e-Applications, ISTD, ECA delivered an opening speech, on behalf of the Director of ISTD, Ms. Aida Opoku-Mensah. The Director's report emphasized the need for efficient production of fundamental datasets for sustainable development and other GIS activities in the continent. He finally wished the workshop will provide insight on how global data sets can be used in Africa and explore the requirements for using geospatial data by planners.

A series of presentations were made focusing on the theme of the workshop "Global geospatial datasets for Planning in Africa". The presentations were as follows:

The first presentation was by The National Geospatial Information (NGI), South Africa entitled "Current status of mapping in Africa and issues to be addressed". The presentation detailed the current status of fundamental datasets in Africa. As he noted, the results confirmed that Africa is poorly mapped and most of the data are unreliable. The reasons for these include the lack of programmatic approaches to the collection and maintenance of these datasets at national level.

The second presentation was from ISRIC, The Netherlands, on the topic “Global datasets: Characteristics, availability and access”. He noted in his presentation that global datasets are being used for planning purpose in different applications such as: Land use, climate, soil, human activities, etc. He revealed that there are publicly available datasets; some examples sited from environmental datasets and human influence datasets are: worldgrids.org for; global accessibility map, CIESIN, Global Land Cover 2000 (GLC), GridUNEP, ISRIC. He also demonstrated the ASTER GDEM, and SRTM global datasets.

The third presentation was delivered by IGN France International, on Reference3D Database created by IGN France, in collaboration with ASTRIUM. The database covered most parts of the world, including North Africa, West Africa and Horn of Africa. The presentation focused more on technical issues on how Digital Elevation Models (DEM) are generated from Satellite images. The applications of Reference3D include Defense, mapping, orthorectification, etc. It can be considered as foundation data for mapping purposes. It can be used for online rectification of satellite images, with out the need for ground control points, which makes it to be cost and time effective. The Online service for orthorectificaton can be accessed at: (<http://spotortho.spotimage.com>).

The last presenters were from ESRI. The main focus of the first part of the presentation was on a new paradigm in GIS through ArcGIS.com (<http://www.arcGIS.com>) – a GIS platform in the cloud.

Though this platform, users can access GIS resources, including software and data, with out the need to have their own proprietary software, and the result of their web based online processing can be put on their desktop for further applications.

The second part of the presentation was on Image processing in ArcGIS. The presentation demonstrated the image processing and information extraction functionalities of ArcGIS. It emphasized the new concept of dynamic mosaicking and online image processing, while maintaining the original image data and its metadata.

Major outcome

The major outcome from the workshop was: the insight on the availability of global datasets, global geospatial portals, as well as new geospatial technologies, for harnessing the global datasets for sustainable development.

ANNEX 1 – GROUP PHOTO



ANNEX II : ATTENDANCE LIST

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