

Status of Global Geospatial Information

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The ISPRS WG IV-2 activity is based on an agreement between ISPRS and UNGGIM signed in December 2011 to cooperate on a survey of the global status of geospatial information, signed between the 2011 ISPRS President Orhan Altan and the 2011 Director of UNGGIM Paul Cheung. The ISPRS WG IV-2 was established on the initiative of the 2012 ISPRS President Chen Jun with the applicants of Leibniz University Hannover and the UNGGIM Secretariat in New York to be responsible for designing, issuing and evaluating a questionnaire to the UN member countries on the status of geospatial information and its infrastructure.

Reports on the preliminary results were given at the UNGGIM 2 Conference in New York in August 2012, at the ISPRS Congress in Melbourne in August 2012, at the UNGGIM Forum in Qatar in February 2013, at the UNGGIM3 Conference in Cambridge in July 2013, at the UNRCC-Americas in New York in August 2013 to solicit a wide interest of the UN member states in the effort. The WG IV-2 also held meetings at Interexpo Geosibir in Novosibirsk in April 2013, at the Geospatial Forum in Rotterdam in May 2013 and at the Scanex Conference in Moscow in October 2013 to address the issues of non-governmental data providers, such as Google, Microsoft and others. With the exception of Cambridge in July 2013, ISPRS has so far not been involved in financial support of these efforts.

Based on this activity the 2014 Project applied for, needs to concentrate on a further in depth analysis of the collected data and to augment the information from other sources. Supplementary information has been received by UN Country reports and from other sources.