Summary of Map Projections

Projection	Characteristics	Recommended use
Mercator	Conformal, preserves compass directions	Seamless zooming, better for lower regional level to minimise distortions. Regions around the equator better represented.
Gall-Peters	Equal area Non conformal Doesn't preserve angles	Recommended for area comparisons
Albers equal area conic	Equal area Non conformal Doesn't preserve angles	Highly recommended for country or subcontinent view. USA Geological Survey and Census.

Lambert Azimuthal	Equal area	Hemisphere or continent level. European Environment Agency
Equal-area	Non conformal	recommends its usage for any European mapping purpose.
Winkel Tripel	Mathematically balanced distortion for area, direction and distance Reasonably accurate shapes and sizes of countries Land masses closer to the poles still enlarged	Best choice for viewing the world. Modern standard adopted by National Geographic
Mollweide	Equal area Non conformal	Emphasis on accuracy of ocean areas, also recommended use for atmospheric mapping.