

NEWSLETTER

GLOBAL MAPPING

6

GTOPO30

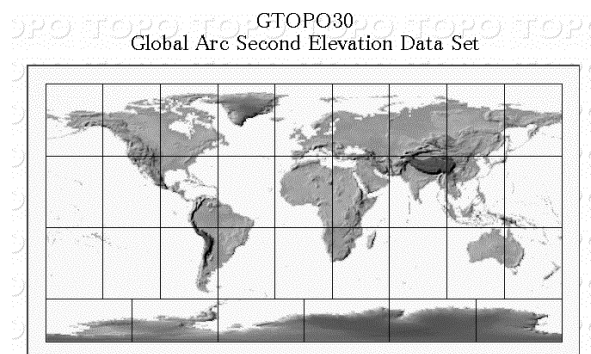
Global 30 Arc Second Elevation Data Set

One kilometer spacing digital elevation model, which can be used as a part of Global Map, has been prepared mainly by efforts of USGS Eros Data Center. The following article on this subject is contributed by Dr. Witmer, USGS, who is also a member of ISCGM.

GTOPO30 is a global digital elevation model (DEM) resulting from a collaborative effort led by the staff at the U.S. Geological Survey's EROS Data Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Elevations in GTOPO30 are regularly spaced at 30-arc seconds (approximately 1 kilometer). GTOPO30 was developed to meet the needs of the geospatial data user community for regional and continental scale topographic data.

Completed in late 1996, GTOPO30 was developed over a 3 year period. The following organizations participated by contributing funding or source data: the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the United Nations Environment Programme/Global Resource Information Database (UNEP/GRID), the National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA), the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Instituto Nacional de Estadística Geográfica e Informática (INEGI) of Mexico, the Geographical Survey Institute (GSI) of Japan, Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research of New Zealand, and the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR).

GTOPO30, based on data derived from 8 sources of elevation information, provides a new level of



World Wide Web Site of GTOPO30

detail in global topographic data. Previously, the best available global DEM was a data set with a horizontal grid spacing of 5-arc minutes (approximately 10 kilometers). GTOPO30 data are suitable for many regional and continental applications, such as climate modeling, continental-scale land cover mapping, extraction of drainage features for hydrologic modeling, and geometric and atmospheric correction of medium and low resolution satellite image data.

GTOPO30 data are available electronically on the World Wide Web at:

<http://edcwww.cr.usgs.gov/landdaac/gtopo30/gtopo30.html>. Data on CD-ROM or 8 mm tape may be ordered from:

EDC DAAC User Services

EROS Data Center

Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57198 USA

Telephone: (605) 594-6116 (7:30 am to 4:00 pm CT)

FAX: (605) 594-6589 (24 hours)

Internet: edc@eos.nasa.gov (24 hours)

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Fax : +81-298-64-1804

E-mail : iscgmsec@graph.gsi-mc.go.jp

Global Mapping Mini Forum

Global Mapping Mini-Forum was held at The Science Museum of Map and Survey in GSI on Monday, 17th March, 1997. The main objectives of this Forum were to understand the importance of Global Mapping and to discuss data harmonization.

More than seventy experts of environmental and survey and mapping fields, and researchers in Tsukuba area assembled at the Orientation Room of the Museum. Five researchers from Japan, the United States and Europe gave presentations on the present status of global or continental land use and land cover projects.

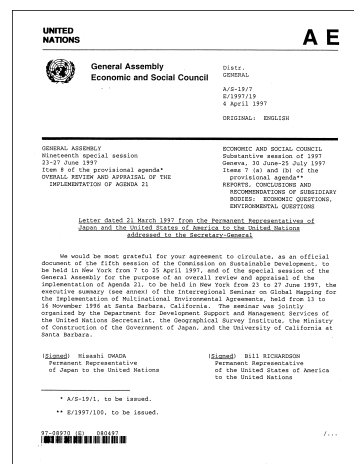
After the presentation on overall Global Mapping Project by Mr. Nagai, Director of Geographical Division of GSI, Dr. Bied-Charreton

from FAO's AFRICOVER project, Mr. Steenmans from CORINE Land Cover Project of EEA, Dr. Tateishi from LCWG which is an effort by the Asian Association on Remote Sensing, Dr. Reed from DISCOVER Project of USGS' EROS Data Center, and Dr. Honda from Global Mapping gave lectures on the details of their projects. Following the lectures, there was an enthusiastic discussion. It seemed that Global Mapping has been attracting increasing attention among the specialists.

One of the remarkable results of this Mini-Forum, which is crucial to Global Mapping, was made at the discussion on the harmonization of classification specifications. It will be featured at some other time.

Executive Summary of Global Mapping Seminar Submitted to the UN

Executive Summary of "Interregional Seminar on Global Mapping for the Implementation of Multinational Environmental Agreements" held in Santa Barbara, USA in November 1996 was submitted jointly by Japan and the USA to the United Nations on March 21 1997. It includes Santa Barbara Statement made in the Seminar, and background and details to conclude the statement. The Executive Summary was distributed at the UN Fifth Session of the CSD held 8-25 April, 1997 and the UN General Assembly, Nineteenth Special Session held 23-27 June, 1997. The full text of the Summary will appear on Global Mapping Home Page shortly.



*Cover letter of Executive
Summary circulated at UN
General Assembly*

The 6th UN Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas

The Sixth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas was held at the United Nations Headquarters, New York from 2-6 June, 1997. Approximately 90 delegates from 30 countries, 2 United Nations Specialized Agencies

and 4 international scientific organizations participated in this conference.

In her opening statement of Ms. Beatrice Labonne, Director, Division for Economic and Social Development and Natural Resources



East River View of Manhattan and United Nations complex

Management, DDSMS, a reference was made to the Letter from the Permanent Representatives of Japan and the USA to the UN.

A delegate from Japan made a presentation on "Toward the Development of the Global Map".

At the end of the Conference, resolutions consist of ten articles were adopted which included "Development of the Global Map". Its full text follows.

Resolution No. 6: Development of the Global Map

The Conference.

Noting the development of the Global Map will assist in realizing the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure (GSDI),

Noting also that the development of the Global Map further enhances the significant contribution of surveying and mapping for the implementation of Agenda 21,

Noting with appreciation the commitment of international groups of experts, such as the International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM), is essential in developing the Global Map,

Recognizing that the Global Map, an integrated group of global geographic datasets of known and verified quality with consistent specifications, publicly available, and distributed at nominal cost, is vital for understanding global environmental problems, mitigating natural disasters, and realizing social improvement and sustained economic growth for sustainable development,

Commending the "Letter dated 21 March 1997* from the Permanent Representatives of Japan and the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General", which circulates the Executive Summary and Recommendations of the Interregional Seminar on Global Mapping for the Implementation of Multinational Environmental Agreements, held from 13 - 16 November 1996, Santa Barbara, California,

Encourages member states of the Americas to consider participating in the development of the Global Map with the assistance of ISCGM and the close cooperation of the United Nations,

Recommends to all participating members of the Global Map project to create the Global Mapping Forum of data providers and users to facilitate the development of the Global Map Network which would be connected to the Internet or other means to facilitate communication and interaction,

Recommends also establishing and maintaining point of contacts within National Mapping Organizations (NMO) as the initial step in facilitating the creation of such a forum,

Further recommends the strengthening of existing efforts and the establishment of new initiatives between Global Mapping and those of various national and regional spatial data infrastructures.

Schedule of Global Mapping Forum has Fixed

Creation of Forum which brings Global Map data producers and users together was recommended as one of the recommendations of Santa Barbara Statement made at "Interregional Seminar on Global Mapping for the Implementation of Multinational Environmental Agreements" (organized by the United Nations Department for Development Support and Management Services, University of California, Santa Barbara, and Geographical Survey Institute) held in Santa Barbara, USA in November 1996. Similar recommendations were made at the Fourteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific in February 1997 and the Sixth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas in June 1997. Based on these recommendations, Global Mapping Forum has come to be held in this autumn in Japan.

The objectives of this Forum are to bring Global Map producers and users together, to exchange information and opinions on Global Map and to promote the development of Global Map which is a means to understand the present status of global environment. The main topics of this Forum will be presentations on the applications of Global Map and requirements for Global Map from users' side, and specifications and standard procedures for Global Map development from producers' side.

● Date and Venue

November 12 to 15, 1997 Gifu Prefectural Library

- Schedule

12, 13 Global Mapping Forum (free admission)

Gifu Prefectural Library

14 Excursion Visit Neodani Fault

15 Third Meeting of the ISCGM

Gifu Prefectural Library

● Organizers

Geographical Survey Institute,

Ministry of Construction

United Nations Center for Regional Development

Gifu Prefectural Library is located in Gifu city which is nearly in the center of Japan. The Nagara River, one of the clearest stream in Japan, runs through this beautiful city. The Forum is scheduled for the best scenic season for the autumn colors which will attract the eyes of participants.

During the Forum, we plan to visit a big fault which has a maximum vertical displacement of about 6m caused by the earthquake 100years ago.

The Forum invites papers, and its announcement will be distributed soon.

We look forward to seeing you in Gifu in November.

For more information, please contact ISCGM Secretariat. Phone, Fax numbers and E-mail address are shown on the first page.

CD-ROM in English version introducing Global Mapping Concept completed

Geographical Survey Institute has prepared CD-ROM for the explaining an outline of Global Map. It contains about 10 minutes long "movie" introducing the status of earth environment, "data gallery" which explains Global Map by image and text, and "laboratory" in which users can try simple operation such as "display", "overlay" and "or" to various small scale global datasets included in CD-ROM.

This CD-ROM needs CPU 486 or faster, over 16 MB of usable memory, 640 x 480 pixels resolution in 256 colors, and Window 95 compatible sound board for smooth and comfortable operation.

Any person who would like to get this CD-ROM feel free to contact ISCGM secretariat.