

02-04 november 2006

th
Santiago
CHILE

Task Group 2

Core Geo-Databases

Progress report

Task Group 2 Core Geo-Database

Objectives

Identify and prepare a global framework core data layers for the UN systems, along the lines of the International Boundaries and the SALB databases.

Task Group Membership

After the retirement of Ergin Ataman, the role of Task manager is temporarily taking over by John Latham. Currently the TG membership, as known to the mailing list, stands as:

John Latham (FAO) -TG Manager
Ian May (UNEP/World Conservation Monitoring Centre)
Katherine O'Neill (WHO)
Jean-Pierre Meert (WHO)
Jason Pickering (WHO)
Steeve Ebener (WHO)
Amor Laaribi (UN Statistics Division)
Kais Zouabi (UN)
Hélène Bray (DPKO/UNCS)
Lorant Czaran (DPKO/UNCS)
Mwangi Theuri (UNEP-GRID)

Membership will need to be revised and defined.

List of Tasks

Evaluation of the status of the Core Geo-Database
Suggestion of new layers in the list of the Core Geo-Database
Future workplan (e.g. coastline issue, coordination and integration of the work)
Coordination and election of the manager for the TG2

Activities completed:

The completed/on-going activities of the Core Geo-Database in the year 2005/2006 are the following according to the datalayer in the list:

Transportation network:

- An on-going update of the African database of the road network from UNECA integrating different sources: the data are in vector format nominally at scale 1:1 000 000.
- WHO is compiling a global database from different sources. It is not clear if there is already some part completed or if it is still a project proposal

Gridded population density

- FAO completed the Poverty Mapping Urban and Rural database, with different grids at two resolution (30arc-second and 5arc-minute) that identify people living in a rural and urban environment. The methodology was published in a FAO working paper "Mapping global urban and rural population distributions". The data will be public on line (GeoNetwork) and in DVD at the end of December. An update version of the rural population distribution is planned for the year 2007 with a more refined definition of "rurality".
- WHO has a population database: Population density = image (GPW, NCGIA, clipped on the official WHO shape of the world) and a population centers database for hamlet, villages, towns (with X, Y coordinates), urban area - census data have been compiled from different sources.

River and lake basins

- More detailed information are pending from WHO

Land cover

- A harmonised database of land cover for the year 2000 from GLC2000 has been completed at 1km resolution. A new land cover at 300 meters (GlobeCover) is in preparation for the year 2007 by ESA/FAO/UNEP/EC-JRC

Airport

- More detailed information are pending from WHO

Health facilities

- More detailed information are pending from WHO

It is presented the Food Insecurity, Poverty and Environment Global GIS Database (FGGD): a database developed by FAO/SDRN, that will be released in December in DVD format and online on GeoNetwork. The FGGD will be also available for the visualization on the Web Mapping System.

Conclusions:

During the evaluation of the status of the Core Geo-Database it was suggested to include new datalayers such as Geographical Names (Amor Laaribi email), Education and Demography census data (from WHO).

In regards to the activities:

- the standard metadata for the African road network data has not been provided: it is suggested to integrate the information with the ISO 19115 metadata;
- the scale/resolution and the more detailed information of the data from WHO has to be provide.