

Welcome to GeOnG 2010

Dear Friends,

It is now two years since we launched the first edition of GeONG in Chambéry. Back then the Forum served several purposes: first and foremost to get all interested humanitarian actors, especially the francophone ones, together around a table and get to know each other, our work, our projects and our missions.

Second, we wanted to get an idea on how widely GIS is used in the humanitarian community, to find out where are the obstacles and form partnerships where this deemed appropriate.

The forum in 2008 was frequented by 60 persons from about 35 organisations. We listened to 11 presentations, conducted two round tables and had five working sessions which were all well received.

And whereas the interest for GIS was high, most organisations stated lack of resources and understanding in the ranks of the decision makers as limiting factors.

Two years later, GIS has become an integral part of our daily lives. With the advancement of Google Earth and its interactivity, Navigation systems and lately the many mobile phone applications for smart phones which allow not only online navigation but usage of mobile phones as data collection tools, we cannot fail to notice how important geographic information and location has become. Location matters. The question we would like to raise in this forum: has this been reflected professionally as well? Does the humanitarian world use GIS applications, especially ones based on mobile phones on a daily basis? Where are the benefits and where are the pitfalls? Do we feel that this technology will make our work in the field easier? Are there more efficient ways to get the information from the field to the floor, from the script to the screen? And if yes, what can we do to promote this?

We hope that GeONG 2010 will prove to be useful and furthermore enjoyable for you and your organisation and we are looking forward to welcoming you.

The team CartONG



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Forum overview

1. Who is CartONG

CartONG is registered as a French NGO and CartONG's headquarters are in Chambéry, France. Our mission: Promoting the use of GIS and providing mapping services and information management for humanitarian organizations with special focus on Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons. Our Objective is to enable organizations as well as local governments to manage existing data; their own as well as integrating data from other available sources, and use it as baseline to plan their interventions and monitor their progress and impact. Thus, capacity building is one of the key elements in a CartONG field based project to ensure sustainability. We also strive to integrate local communities in our field work to make certain that the beneficiaries are involved and understand the process. After all, with our work we want to contribute to improving their situation and livelihoods.

2. Background

The multiplicity of actors, different sectors and different approaches to humanitarian and technical difficulties should not obscure the real utility of geographic information to manage humanitarian situations. Need for coordination, standardization and development of appropriate technologies does exist. The utility of geographic information proves vital to face many problems which need to be addressed in the humanitarian sector. To meet this challenge, CartONG decided to host another GeONG forum to mobilize all humanitarian actors interested in the use of geographic information.

3. Where and when?

Date: 23 and September 24, 2010

Locations: Association Quartier Centre Ville (AQCV) Chambéry

4. Objectives

This forum is intended as a meeting point for humanitarian actors. A place where we can present our projects, share experiences, explore different ways of working, analyze the problems we see every day and identify the challenges ahead. That is to say: working to improve our actions in different contexts, humanitarian as well as development.

For two days the forum will consist of:

Presentations of NGOs on the use of geographic data within their missions

- Two themes will be discussed, the first being the collection and dissemination of data, the second being the question of training and services that may be between partners (E-learning platform)
- Moments of reflection and discussion round tables
- Back on the initiatives presented at the GeONG 2008, where are we, what progress?

The following topics provide an overview of the topics to be discussed:

- Mobile technology and direct links to the WebGIS.
- Data collection and management of contractor information.
- Quality of information.
- The challenges posed by the use of Geography and spatial analysis for NGOs.
- The use of geographical data to optimize decision making.

4. Expected participants

Sixty participants are expected. They are members of NGOs, UN, research bodies and the private sector.

The official language of the conference will be French, but some presentations and discussions will be conducted in English.

All information concerning the Forum and CartONG activities can be found here:

www.cartong.org

CartONG

180, rue de Genevois

73000 Chambéry

Tél : +33 4 79 26 28 83

E-mail : info@cartong.org

Sandra Sudhoff, information manager and organizer of the forum:

s_sudhoff@cartong.org

Ulysses Lefebvre, GIS technician and organizer of the forum:

u_lefebvre@cartong.org

Preface of the Co-Presidents

Hello everyone,

CartONG is pleased to welcome you to the second GeONG "Forum of Geomatics for the humanitarian."

Since 2008, the last GeONG, much energy has been spent and a lot of investment in time and effort were devoted to the development of Geomatics in humanitarian settings. Ideas have emerged and geographic information technologies have changed again, they are now more accessible and easier to understand. This trend favours the promotion of GIS and helps identify a "new profession" which is proving to be increasingly useful.

We are witnessing a genuine democratization of Geographic Information. Yet behind the user friendly, magical, fluid seeming concepts methods, it still remains necessary to know and master the methods. Geographic data is abundant and a lot of it freely available, but their qualities are not always known. The "structure" of Geographic Information is the common thread of these two days. The ideas here in 2008 are the vectors.

This year's edition of GeONG allows us to share your knowledge to improve the quality of your data, the driving force in your system. We will discuss information needs, operating in difficult environments, emergencies, and then talk about technical solutions, data collection, database, data server, e-learning ... etc. ... etc. It has always been important to CartONG to collaborate and share n within a community.

Before giving the floor to "Planet Action" as the first presenters, we wish to thank all our technical and financial partners and for the fantastic work of volunteers who made this day possible.

Have two great and exciting days!

GeOnG Agenda

First day, GeONG 2010, Thursday 23 September 2010

09:00-09:20	Accueil des participants	
09:20-10:00	Ouverture de la conférence, feuille de route et objectifs du forum. CartONG : apports de la géomatique pour les ONG	
Comment intégrer les besoins du terrain dans la formation ?		
10:00-10:20	Planet Action : La communauté de l'information géographique aide les ONG à lutter contre les effets du changement climatique	PP
10:20-11:00	Planet Action : Demande en e-learning et réponses possibles	TR
11:00-11:20	Pause	
11:20-11:50	Université de Savoie : Besoins sur le terrain et adaptation à la formation des étudiants	TR
11:50-12:10	URD : Sigmah : vers l'informatisation structurée des opérations des organisations humanitaires	PP
12:10-13:00	Lightning Talks : Ville de Chambéry, Région Rhône-Alpes, COSI, Bioforce, ESRI, Action Contre la Faim	PP
13:00-14:00	Repas	
Collecte d'informations en situation d'urgence		
14:00-14:20	MSF-Belgique : GIS PUC: Un outil SIG au profit de la reponse aux situations d'urgence	PP
14:20-14:40	CICR : Le SIG en mutation au CICR: Web services for all ?	PP
14:40-15:00	ACTED : SIM et SIG pour aider les acteurs de l'humanitaire dans les contextes d'urgence	PP
15:00-15:20	ESRI : Le SIG en soutien aux operations durant la catastrophe petroliere au Golfe du Mexique	PP
15:20-15:45	Keyobs : Le service d'intervention d'urgence de l'Union Européenne : comment l'adapter et le rendre opérationnel pour les organisations humanitaires	TR
15:45-16:15	Pause	
16:15-16:35	OSM/HOT : Un data provider universel qui comble rapidement les vides? Mécanisme pour activer le groupe vers une charte OSM/HOT ?	PP
16:35-17:30	OSM/HOT : Intervention pratique	TR AT
18:00	Apéritif	
19:00 et +	Outings	

Second day, GeONG 2010, Friday 24 September 2010

08:30-08:45	Feuille de route	
Evaluation des besoins et collecte mobile		
08:45-09:05	Rongead : Information Géographique et production de noix de cajou en Cote d'Ivoire	PP
09:05-09:25	ACAPS : Evaluation des besoins et nouvelles technologies	PP
09:25-09:45	IMMAP : NOMAD : Acquisition de données sur le terrain pour les opérations humanitaires	PP
09:45-10:05	UNHCR : Collecte de données sur plate-forme mobile à l'UNHCR	PP
10:05-10:45	MEDES : Epidefender – Une solution pour le développement des systèmes de collecte de données	PP AT
10:45-11:00	Pause	
11:00-11:20	WFP/LogCluster : Géoportail : un nouvel outil fantastique.	PP
11:20-11:40	Keyobs : Les nouvelles avancées en matière d'estimation de la population au travers de la télédétection	PP
11:40-12:40	ACAPS : Exploration de l'usage des nouvelles technologies en terme d'évaluation des besoins immédiatement après une catastrophe humanitaire	TR
12:40-13:00	Lightning Talks : Electriciens Sans Frontières Poster Session	PP
13:00-14:00	Repas	
14:00-15:30	UNOSAT : Extraction d'information de référence et l'événement par analyse d'images satellite et crowd-sourcing. Démonstration de GEO images (photos géolocalisées)	TR AT
15:30-16:00	Pause	
16:00-16:30	Conclusion, recommandations, perspectives d'avenir	

TR : Les Tables Rondes vont s'intéresser aux pratiques et aux expériences géographiques des associations présentes. Comment en termes pratiques pouvons nous, ensemble, mutualiser l'information géographique.

AT: Ateliers de Travail, exercices pratiques, seulement si disponibilité de matériel informatique. Certains ateliers de travail sont aux choix. Une synthèse sera effectuée, par les groupes de travail.

PP: Présentation des Participants. Partager les différentes expériences des organisations et découvrir les bonnes pratiques.

GéOnG 2010 – Summary of the presentations and Round tables

1. Planet Action – The community of geographic information helps NGOs to fight the effects of climate change (translation)

Patricia Dankha and Isabel Ortega, Planet Action

Spot Image, world leader in earth observation, started in 2007 as a non-commercial initiative, **Planet Action**, in order to help NGOs to fight against the effects of climate change. The main aim is to have positive impact on the lives of people. Through this initiative, Planet Action provides free satellite images to NGOs for supporting local projects engaged in concrete actions of prevention, adaptation, mitigation, reducing risks...

In addition, partners such as ESRI, ITT, or Trimble have joined Planet Action and offer to GIS and imaging systems and/or their own technical assistance.

The second aim of Planet action is sensitisation about climate change:

- showing the impact locally and actions supported by NGOs on the ground
- explaining geographic information technologies and why they are so important in this global challenge

At the moment, Planet action supports around 400 projects in the world on subjects including forest management, biodiversity conservation, glacier melting, water resources, coast evolution, and protection of World Heritage of Humanity.

Details information about Planet Action, the projects supported, advising, programme partners, and proposals online can be found on www.planet-action.org

Keywords: climate change, NGO, geographic information, local actions, sensitisation

2. Needs on the ground and responding to student training (translation)

Marc Bulteau, Université de Savoie

There are numerous trainings for humanitarians offered in France. Often, their students are young adults who have just started out to become a specialist. In most cases, they do not know much about the reality of working in the humanitarian field and its own set of challenges, but are really determined to make a difference and work in this field.

To train them on context analysis and therefore make them aware of the necessity to collect information, is essential to for effective actions and decisions in the field.

Whether in emergency, rehabilitation, or development, collecting data is indispensable.

Consequently, students are asked several questions:

- What time frames and technical resources are needed to collect data?
- How to interpret the data, particularly when looking at the specific context?

The technical means which have been developed these last years have changed the conditions and parameters of an intervention: the precision of collected data, the speed of transmission and the possibility of use the data.

This means: offering either access or training on new technologies to humanitarian's workers and at the same time highlighting the necessity and the advantages of sharing information with other actors. These days humanitarian actors are competing on many arenas, but no one should be scared to share. It is important to be able to use the collected data in a meaningful way.

3. Groupe URD – Sigmah: structured computerization for NGO's actions (translation)

Olivier Sarrat, Groupe URD

Sigmah is a new project based on open sources software to manage humanitarian operational information for NGOs. Its aim is to answer operator needs, such as creating a shared solution especially made to assist field operations. 10 NGOs, 2 private company, 2 donors, and several experts are already involved in this project.

Sigmah's objective is **to facilitate the management of humanitarian projects such as improving a few key tools**:

- Defining and following indicators with different levels (project, country, region, institution) also with a geographic view of these data
- Centralizing project documents
- Following projects and contracts advancement
- Improving calendars and advance with a warning system
- Making operational a quality assurance process such as defining criteria for different projects

This project is based on 2 systems: ActivityInfo and Dynamic COMPAS. ActivityInfo is an open sources system for indicator analysis, it has been developed by UNICEF in DRC; Bedatadriven is in charge of this system and also working on the Sigmah project. Dynamic COMPAS is an open source software to manage quality for humanitarian projects; it has been developed with ECHO, and Groupe URD is in charge of the maintenance of

the system. Sigmah uses both concepts and technical tools and is integrating and improving them.

This project started with a funding for one year from ECHO and Catalan cooperation and development agency. Groupe URD is managing the project.

Sigmah's software is a standard web application, but it is also possible to use it offline.

Presentation of this work in progress is showed on : <http://www.sigmah.org/maquette-conceptuelle/>

First public version of Sigmah should be available at the beginning of next year 2011.

4. MSF - GIS for Medical Emergency Response (OV)

Amaury Gregoire, Renzo Fricke, MSF-Belgique

The "GIS PUC" project is the one of the adoption of a GIS tool for the benefit of the response to medical humanitarian emergencies in DRC, through the "Pool d'Urgence Congo" (PUC, MSF), which developed over the years expertise in that field, thanks mainly to the exploitation of the "detection phase".

The aim of the tool is to allow:

- A sustainable memory of the gathered information
- Its more efficient exploitation (in order to improve the decision making process)
- Its more efficient (bidirectional) exchange/coordination
- A better communication of the project's results

Besides, the project anchors in several existing **opportunities** in DRC, among which the main ones are:

- The existing "Common Geographic Referential¹" platform
- The recent decision of the Health Ministry to adopt a GIS tool²
- The large availability of information (both alpha-numeric and geographic/vectored)
- The availability of qualified national HR³

The **adoption strategy** is structured around the following principal elements:

¹ www.rqc.cd; Fruit of some 40 organizations collaboration in order to constitute a common geographic multi-thematic database in DRC

² With the support of the European Development Funds (EDF)

³ Thanks mainly to OSFAC - Satellite Observatory for Central African Forests ; DRC national NGO funded by numerous organizations (WWF, USAID, NASA, EU Commission, ...) and universities

- Challenge : to ensure the compatibility with the multiple sources (i.e. geo-referencing options)
- Setup : choices in regards to HR and tools for a maximum efficiency and sustainability
- Chronology : adoption of a realistic chronogram

The presentation summarize this specific example of a GIS tool's adoption (i.e. for medical humanitarian field) insisting on its potential, its challenges and the technical choices taken... but also on the increasing interest of governments in GIS.

5. GIS transformation at the IRCC (OV)

Yann Rebois, CICR

Going from a cartography based on a desktop GIS to a web portal should mean getting information more easily from the field to headquarters and thus being able to answer speedily concerning the necessity of reports and decision-making.

The work strategy comprising more that twenty cartographers on the field means that it is possible to answer specific needs within the time allotted and to monitor ongoing projects. These cartographers use the predefined file structure outlined during GeOnG 2008. Concerning basic information (such as delegation locations, IRCC answers...), the web portal should fully meet the needs as it is designed both for people on the field and at headquarters. The functionalities must remain simple: display, printing, queries, but also the ability to access field information during assessments. One of the research areas today concerns the possibility of accessing photos, texts and sound from the location reports embedded in a Kml file, which can be generated from a Smartphone or a web application. A Web GIS represents golden opportunities concerning the management of geographic information but could never replace traditional paper maps (concerning circulation, reading facilities...). Simultaneously, to work with more structured data, the IRCC is thinking of working with Smartphones and modelled forms (thanks to the EPI defender application), as the information is stored in a normalised database. This facilitates an exchange of geolocated data and thus the synthesis and coordination of crisis management, (task which cartography alone could not accomplish).

6. ACTED - MIS and GIS support to humanitarian actors in context of emergency (OV)

Sandra Lamarque, ACTED

REACH is a joint initiative between the French NGO ACTED and its partner Think Tank IMPACT. REACH's main objective is to provide Management Information Systems (MIS) and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) support to humanitarian actors in contexts of emergency. Through REACH, ACTED and IMPACT mobilized significant technical resources related to

assessment and mapping of the crisis in South Kyrgyzstan: an agreement has been signed between ACTED and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in order for the actors intervening in the Ferghana Valley to better benefit from ACTED's information management and mapping capacities. REACH has played a key role in assisting with the overall humanitarian response in South Kyrgyzstan, and could be instrumental at a later stage to help bolster local governance and economic stabilization in the area.

Sandra Lamarque, ACTED's AME Manager (Appraisal, Monitoring and Evaluation) will present REACH, its practical set up, its impact and outreach. She will also discuss the related issues and perspectives of such an approach for the humanitarian field, as regards to the emergency in Kyrgyzstan and to other fields and crisis.

7. GIS in support of operations in the oil disaster in the Gulf of Mexico

Emanuele Gennai, ESRI Europe

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are essential in support of operations during a disaster, be it of natural or anthropogenic nature. They are also a useful tool for prevention and rehabilitation. On 20 April, an explosion and fire destroyed the oil rig Deepwater Horizon, causing casualties and a massive oil leak, which lasted until 15 July. In this presentation, we will detail the various fields of GIS applications and their benefits within a cycle of a disaster.

8. KeyObs - Roundtable : EU Emergency Response Service, how to tailor the operational service for humanitarian organisations ? (OV)

Herbert Hansen, KeyObs

The European Union is funding the SAFER project in the frame of the GMES initiative (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security). SAFER project aims at implementing preoperational versions of the Emergency Response Service that should start operating in 2012. The service is totally free for the users. For more information see www.emergencyresponse.eu

SAFER is reinforcing the European capacity to respond to emergency situations: fires, floods, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides, humanitarian crisis. The main goal is the upgrade of the core service and the validation of its performance with 2 priorities:

- Short term improvement of response when crisis occurs, with the rapid mapping capacity after disastrous events, including the relevant preparatory services (reference maps).

- The extension to core service components before and after the crisis. It targets the longer term service evolution, through the provision of thematic products.

So far the humanitarian organizations have not used the full capacity of the Emergency Response Service.

EU is now anticipating the shift to the operational phase of ERCS. The objective of this roundtable is to discuss how to tailor the future operational service in order to optimize its use by the humanitarian organizations (NGOs, intl. org, etc).

Keyobs is one of the service provider in ERCS, focused on the humanitarian users.

9. Open Street Map (OV)

Nicolas Chavent, Frederic Bonifas, Francois Van der Biest, Rodolphe Quedeville, Open Street Map

Open Street Map (OSM) is a community mapping web project of more than 300,000 members create a free and open map of the entire world, built entirely from volunteers collecting and liberating existing public sources of geographic data, digitizing free raster data (satellite imagery, aerial photography and maps), and surveying with GPS, smartphones or walking-papers.

The Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team (HOT) is an initiative rooted in the OSM project and constituted as a US non profit to apply the techniques of this community, the principles and activities of open source and open data sharing towards work realized in the context of humanitarian response and development projects in DCs and LDCs.

This presentation will draw from recent examples (Kenya, Haiti, Kyrgyzstan and Pakistan) to make clear how the OSM project operates, list the span of activities likely to be carried out at the event of a humanitarian sequence (emergency - reconstruction - development) and the resulting cartographic resources. This will provide to the GeOnG participants the means to benefit and contribute to the work of the project with the view to foster the creating of this global public common good mobilizable by the humanitarian community.

This intervention will be followed by a workshop to expose in a more detailed manner some of the OSM techniques and applications used on the main segments of the geodata management chain: field collection, tracing raster data, data imports, data quality, data processing and data uses and visualization.

10. RONGEAD - Cashew nut market in Ivory Coast (translation)

Julien Gonnet, RONGEAD

PROJECT: Providing information on the local, national, and international cashew nut market in Ivory Coast to improve business capacity and incomes.

TOOLS: Using workers' mobile phones to collect and send information (software: Frontline SMS, Intelli SMS), but also using classical tools such as the local radio, collecting information from the field, international market analysis, collecting information by PDA with 5 trainers in the field.

INFORMATION IS NOTHING WITHOUT MANAGEMENT: Helping producers through trainings and workshops and by providing educational documents (simulations, pictures...).

PARTNERSHIP WITH MANOBI: An efficient and precise solution which offers to check the cashew nut business and people working with it, as the aim is to find markets requiring traceability (labels, certifications...). This technology is based on expensive proprietary software which is an added inconvenience; it is moreover unsuited to the cashew nut market. They are now moving towards a simpler solution, this time using only necessary information.

NEW COURSES: Geographic referencing of all cashew nut tree areas in Korogho Department (Savanna land in Ivory Coast). Field work (GPS or ODK) and use of satellite imagery (spectral analysis by a student from Lausanne University).

11. ACAPS - Draft Concept Note - Needs assessment and new technologies (OV)

Patrice Chataigner, ACAPS

1. CHALLENGES RELATED TO NEEDS ASSESSMENT

2010 has witnessed major natural disasters such as earthquakes in Haiti, Chili and China, floods in Eastern Europe and Pakistan, etc. Following these recent events there was an unprecedented stream of geo-spatial data released in support of crisis management.

Evidence from past experience shows that a limited amount of information coming from open-source internet data is used for decision making. Furthermore, this data is rarely reflected within humanitarian appeals at the early stage of an emergency (i.e. the first two weeks). While the rich content of information whether available on the internet or in the data derived from satellite sensors poses opportunities for applications in crisis

management it also poses challenges deriving from the analysis of the quantity, quality and reliability of the data.

A further challenge is the lack of user-centred (in this case the crisis management community) designs for the effective and timely use of the information and that enable the development of a comprehensive picture of the needs based on analysis of information from a variety of open sources. In order to meet these challenges and ensure the opportunities for future development are realised, further collaboration is required between the disaster assessment community and geo-information based system providers.

12. iMMAP - Humanitarian Operations Mobile Acquisition of Data : NOMAD (OV)

Olivier Cottray, IMMAP

BACKGROUND

Growing familiarity with geographic data visualisation tools (GoogleEarth, VirtualEarth, Open Street Map, Tracks4Africa) offers new opportunities for mainstreaming spatial technologies into overall Humanitarian Information Management (H.I.M.) processes. It is also reduces barriers to the adoption of integrated data acquisition technologies previously seen as too complex or cumbersome and bringing too little return on investment. Greater appreciation and use of geographic information for operational planning and decision-making is generating new demand for more efficient means of acquiring up-to-date, spatially-aware, field data. In addition, progress among the H.I.M. community in developing standardised data infrastructures is providing a recognised framework within which to collect, process and store geographic data.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of this project is to demonstrate the technological, operational and economic feasibility of implementing integrated digital data collection and communication systems for rapid (real-time or near real-time) humanitarian assessment and monitoring.

The project would build on EpiDefender, ABCS@t and OASIS technologies to develop and pilot efficient data flows in two sample operations:

1. WFP monitoring of food delivery in remote locations of Ethiopia
2. Periodic Reviews of relief effectiveness following cyclone Nargis in Myanmar

Technical specifications of the system would include:

- GPS-enabled PDAs equipped with Epidefender interface tailored to specific information themes
- Seamless data integration and synchronisation with iMAP's OASIS system
- Ruggedised data processing and communication hardware (ABCS@t)

13. Mobile Data collection at UNHCR (OV)

*Luc St-Pierre. Snr. GIS Officer and
Kimberly Roberson, Chief, Field Information and Coordination
Support Section*

UNHCR collects, organizes, analyzes, shares and communicates field information on the status of displaced populations in a wide range of environmental and operational contexts. Rapid deployment of standardized and automated – or sometimes semi-automated – collection methods is critical to respond to the large number of operations and to ensure a high quality in data management. A range of complementary approaches is now in development/piloting with key partners for forms' design and generation; configuration of light open source client platforms; and for targeted reports generation from well structured databases. UNHCR promotes the use of open source solutions such as Open Data Kit, MEDES/Epidefender, LimeSurvey, Android OS for smart phones, postgresSQL and others. Viewing of locational information for or from the surveys/forms will be made possible on the Android client platform from UNCHR GeoPortal layers, facilitating the integration between population data, geographic information, georeferenced photography and other operational information. This integrated approach is already functional for site assessment and for the profiling of population in Eastern DRC and is being planned for implementation in North Yemen and Serbia.

14. Epidefender – A solution to develop Data Collection Information Systems (OV)

Julien Dupouy/Medes, ICT Engineer (julien.dupouy@medes.fr)

Information systems for epidemiology, health early warning, disaster medicine or telemedicine show common requirements for data collection and reporting. Based on these requirements, MEDES has developed the generic Epidefender solution. Epidefender is an application development platform based on the MDA (Model driven architecture) concept. It enables to quickly and easily generate and deploy integrated Data Collection Information Systems. Thanks to a graphical modelling tool, an operator, without necessarily a specific background in computer sciences, can model the forms and the fields to collect data. From this defined data model, the platform automatically generates a set of data collection applications: an application for mobile terminals that run the Android platform from Google, a web application and a desktop application. This set of applications build

up the Epidefender Data Collection Information System. Thanks to the modelling generation principle and to eUpdate, this resulting information system is highly flexible. Besides, the modelling process enables to define data collection forms that are sophisticated and ergonomic. The collected data are stored in a common dedicated centralized database. The mobile terminal and the desktop applications run in connected or disconnected mode. Data are stored locally and, as soon as a connexion is made available, an automated transparent bidirectional synchronization process synchronises the locally stored data with the data stored in the central database. This platform has been successfully used in various projects, in particular for a demonstration of health early warning following a disaster, for routine surveillance of tuberculosis and for telemedicine projects.

15. Geoportal : A NEW FANTASTIC TOOL! (OV)

Christophe Bois, WFP/LogCluster

A fantastic tool released in April 2010, the SDI-T (Spatial Data Infrastructure for Transport) Geoportal is a web platform that allows users all over the world to visualize and obtain transport data such as roads, airports, and ports. The Geoportal was designed to be user-friendly for all, including people without any background in GIS or mapping.

Site web <http://www.logcluster.org/tools/mapcentre/geoportal>

16. KeyObs - New improvement in population estimate using Remote Sensing (OV)

Herbert Hansen, KeyObs

Satellite imagery constitutes an interesting support or alternative to ground surveys in many fields. Concerning population estimates, it can be of great help to provide a rapid updated assessment of a population. Low cost, comprehensive vision of a region which may be otherwise inaccessible, time sparing and updated situation are incentives to resort to this kind of technique.

In the case of Kibera (Nairobi, Kenya), one of the biggest informal settlements in the world where people live in an extremely dense urban context, the challenge was to provide an updated estimate of the population where many varying figures have been suggested. On basis of a satellite image acquired in February 2009, buildings were extracted and helped supporting field surveys and estimates. Field surveys were organised throughout the slum and collected figures were then extrapolated for the whole Kibera on basis of the information extracted from the image.

A similar technique was applied in Somalia for UNHCR and UNOCHA. The purpose of this assessment was to estimate the number of IDPs in the Afgooye corridor. The most recent assessment estimates there to be 524,000 IDPs living in the Afgooye corridor (Aug 2009), a figure based upon previous assessments and population movement data. It is now estimated that there are 366,000 IDPs in the Afgooye corridor. This figure represents a decrease from 524,000, as estimated in August 2009 – it should be noted that this does not reflect a decrease in the number of IDPs arriving in Afgooye – it represents an increase in accuracy.

Keyobs experts are now developing operational techniques in order to propose new services for population estimates and follow-up in rural and urban areas. Some tests will be illustrated.

17. Exploring the use of new technologies in terms of needs assessment immediately after a humanitarian disaster

Patrice Chataigner, ACAPS

OBJECTIVE OF THE ROUNDTABLE: To explore the use of new technologies that can support post disaster needs assessment at the early stage of a sudden onset disaster

CONTENTS:

- Presentation of main findings of the survey on “Information needs and decision making in emergencies”
- Presentation of developments made by the IASC Needs Assessment Task Force
- Discussion and debate on challenges faced by the assessment community, information management systems and new technologies providers
- How best can new technologies support the assessment of needs. Best practices, standards, etc...

18. Electricians Without Borders (translation)

Jean-Paul Flachet, ESF

Access to energy and water are necessary conditions to fight poverty and promote economic development. Today, as many as 2 billion people do not have electricity and more than 1 billion do not have drinking water. This is a crucial issue for developing countries and also a very important issue for international solidarity.

Electricians Without Borders aims to facilitate access to energy and water and promote domestic initiatives that help to improve living conditions for people living in poor countries.

Electricians without Borders was created in 1986 by EDF's salaried workers and occupies a specific place in the NGO landscape: both acting as a

reference in the field of energy, and also through the diversity of the interventions conducted.

Electricians without Borders brings together 15 regional associations in France with up to one thousand volunteers involved to improve:

HEALTH

Bringing electricity to a clinic, a health post, a maternity ward or a bush (field) hospital; to keep vaccines and essential medicines, to provide lighting for provision of care and deliveries at night, or sufficient electrical power to conduct surgical interventions. Obviously, enabling access to water improves sanitation.

EDUCATION

Lighting schools to give students the opportunity to work during the evening, facilitating adult literacy, especially for women, introducing computer and new technology skills (access to NTIC).

ECONOMIC AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Realising boreholes and irrigation to provide women with the necessary water for market gardening, creating a micro-economy. Also, providing electricity is a good way to curb the rural exodus, through the creation of small businesses craft workshops. It enables families living in villages to have an electricity supply.

19. UNOSAT (OV)

Einar Bjorgo, UNOSAT

UNOSAT would like to focus on the use of satellite imagery by professional analysts and the wider "crowd" and **how imagery as an information source can be used in data preparedness and during emergencies for baseline data harvesting**. With the success of Google Map Maker, Open Street Map and the like, satellite imagery is sailing up as one of the key sources to extract baseline information, such as roads, shelter, bridges, schools etc. UNOSAT is working closely with both partners in the UN system as well as NGOs on how to link make sure needed data are available with the ultimate goal to create improved development and/or relief for vulnerable as well as disaster affected populations. The imagery-extracted baseline data are then combined with imagery-extracted event-specific information, for example flood extent, destroyed buildings in an earthquake or situation in conflict area to create further synergy in map production as well as data sharing.

In addition, a short description and demonstration of geo-tagged photos as under development in the European Commission funded GEO-PICTURES will be given.

We would be please to see a round-table discussion and will of course bring examples (maps, hardware) to the meeting.

All of this in addition to continual mobilisation for emergency missions (as tsunami, Haïti...).

List of participants

NO	NOM	PRENOM	ORGANISMES	FONCTION	EMAIL	TELEPHONE	ADRESSE
1	ALBINET	Franck	UNHCR	Consultant	albinetf@yahoo.fr	04.27.89.13.64	3, rue Joséphin Souлары, 69004 Lyon
2	ANDRIAMIHAJA	Herisson	UNOCHA	Stagiaire - Ingénieur technologie Mobile	andriamihaja@un.org	0041 789054125	46 Av. de Miremont 1206 Genève
3	BELLAN	Jean-Louis	SPOT Image / Infoterra	Equipe de coordination / projet Safer	jean-louis.bellan@infoterra.fr	678498213	SPOT Image, 5 rue des satellites, BP 14359 Toulouse Cedex 4
4	BJORGO	Einar	UNOSAT	Head, Rapid, Mapping, Applications and User Relations	einar.bjorgo@unitar.org	0041 (22) 767 4020	
5	BLIN	Pierre-François	CartONG	CartONG Benevole	pierrefrancois.blin@gmail.com		
6	BOIS	Christophe	WFP/LogCluster	Coordinateur GIS	Christophe.Bois@wfp.org		
7	BONIFAS	Frédéric	OSM	Contributeur OSM	fredericbonifas@gmail.com	672652807	5 Rue Etienne Marcel, 38000 Grenoble
8	BOYER	Ludovic	CartONG	CartONG Benevole	ludovicboyer@gmail.com	06 65 49 76 71	
9	BULTEAU	MARC	Université Savoie	Responsable du Programme Analyse des Crises et action humanitaire	marc.bulteau@sfr.fr		
10	BUTON	Jean-Matthieu	Infoterra	Ingenieur Produit	imbuton@yahoo.fr	497232384	2600 Route des Cretes 06905 Sophia Antipolis
11	CHATAIGNER	Patrice	Acaps	Operation Manager	operations@acaps.org	+ 41 792 358 174	26 rue de St Jean, 1203 Geneve
12	CHAVENT	Nicolas	OSM	OSM-Hot coordinateur	nicolas.chavent@gmail.com	0033 297262308	28 Rue Hoche
13	CLERIN	John	Consultant	Consultant	johnclerin@geo-d.fr	634025728	26 rue lanterne 84000 Avignon
14	CONTINI	Mylène	Hydraulique Sans Frontières	Ingénieur hydraulicien	hydraulique@hsf-h2o.org	0033 (0)4.79.69.35.08	
15	COSTE	Laurent	COSI	Directeur	contact@cosiong.org	+33(4) 75 350 808	BP 121 07203 aubenas cedex
16	COTTRAY	Olivier	IMMAP	Gérant d'Operations	ocottray@immap.org	0033(0) 6 37 78 1982	Olivier Cottray (chez Arnaud), 3 Place aux Huiles, 13001 Marseille, France
17	DANKHA	Patricia	Planet Action	Chef de projet	Patricia.Dankha@spotimage.fr	562194385	5 rue des Satellites - BP 14359 - 31030 Toulouse Cedex 4
18	DE FRANCE	Maeve	CartONG	Specialiste SIG, CartONG benevole	maeve@de-france.net		

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19	DE RADIGUES	Xavier	OMS/HNTS	Médecine épidémi	derodiquesx@who.int		
20	DENT	Nicky	Valid International	Nutrition Advisor	dentnicky@hotmail.com	637216599	7 Avenue de Novel, Annecy 74000
21	DU FOURCQ	William	ACF	Country operation manager	wdufourcq@actioncontrelafaim.org	+33(0)1.43 35 86 18	51 rue Léon, 75018 Paris
22	DUPOUY	Julien	MEDES	ICT engineer	julien.dupouy@medes.fr	+ 33(0)5 34 31 96 12 +33 (6) 74 40 29 64	3 Chemin de la Pélude, 31500 Toulouse
23	FLACHAT	Jean-Paul	Electriciens sans frontières Rhône-Alpes	Président	jean-paul.flachat@edf.fr	+33(0)4 79 60 61 88 +33(0)6 59 12 54 36	
24	FRICKE	Renzo	MSF (Belgique)	Coordinateur d'Urgence - Unité d'Urgence	renzo.fricke@brussels.msf.org	32473959098	Rue Dupré, 94, 1090 Brussels
25	GEISER	Christophe	E-smile	Directeur	christophe.geiser@e-smile.org	426636378	28, rue du Mail 69004 Lyon
26	GENNAI	Emanuele	ESRI	Global Affairs Account Executive	egennai@esri.com	+41 (22)365 69 00	7 rte du Cordon 1260 Nyon, Suisse
27	GONCKEL BERGER	Sandra	CartONG	CartONG Benevole	s.gonckelberger@gmail.com		
28	GONNET	Julien	RONGEAD	Chargé de projet	jgonnet@rongead.org	472003603	
29	GRAMMENS	Tine	MSF (Belgique)	Responsable medical projets RDC, Burundi, Thailand, Mali	tine.grammens@brussels.msf.org	0032 479 306280	Vandenschriekstraat 123, B- 1500 HALLE, Belgique
30	GREGOIRE	Amaury	MSF (Belgique)	Coordinateur Technique et Logistique	amaury.gregoire@gmail.com	+32 (02) 474 7474 (0032) 477 57 59 61	Av. des longues waides, 17 4802 Heusy Belgique
31	HANSEN	Herbert	Keyobs		hhansen@keyobs.com		Rue d'Abhooz, 31
32	HETRICH	Karine	URD	Stagiaire urbanisme/cartographie	karine_hettrich@yahoo.fr	610075043	4 rue Clairaut 75017 Paris
33	HUBERTI	Christian	BIOFORCE				
34	ISSAKA	Kaltouma	CartONG	CartONG Benevole	k_issaka@cartong.org		
35	KEVIN	Amaz	Université Lyon 3	Etudiant	kevin.amaz@gmail.com	648150618	31, rte des Moulins 74370 Naves-Parmelan
36	LAMARQUE	Sandra	ACTED		communication@acted.org	+33(0) 1 42 65 33 33	
37	LAVESSIERE	Francois	Aide et Action	Responsable thématique	francois.lavessiere@aide-et-action.org	663498987	Aide et Action 53 Bd de Charonne 75011 PARIS
38	LEFEBVRE	Ulysse	CartONG	Technicien SIG	u_lefevre@cartong.org	0033 6 62 89 46	43 avenue du comte vert,



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				CartONG		19	73000 CHAMBERY
39	MOULIN	Patrice	CartONG	Vice-President CartONG	P_moulin@cartong.org	0033 6 21 42 04 27	
40	ORTEGA	Isabel	Planet Action	Chef de projet	Isabelle.Ortega@ext.spotim.ige.fr	562191213	5 rue des Satellites, BP14539 31030 Toulouse Cedex 4
41	PALLETA	Lauren	UNOCHA	Associate Cartographer	palette@un.org	0041 9171553	Palais des Nations, S-24, 1201 Genève
42	PRUDHON	Claudine	WHO/HNTS	Nutritional epidemiologist	prudhonc@who.int	0041 22 791 34 81	c/o WHO, Geneva, Switzerland
43	QUIEDEVILLE	Rodolphe	OSM	Contributeur OSM	rodolphe@quiedeville.org	0033 613796341	16 Grande Métairie 56400 Mériadec FRANCE
44	REBOIS	Yann	CICR	GIS specialist	yrebois@icrc.org	0041 22 730 23 46	ICRC, Avenue de la Paix 19, 1202 Genève, Switzerland
45	ROBERSON	Kimberly	UNHCR	Chief FICSS/DOS	ROBERSON@unhcr.org	0041 22 739 7408	UNHCR, 94 rue de Montbrillant, GE1202, Genève, Suisse
46	SARRAT	Olivier	URD	Chargé de Recherche Systèmes d'Information	osarrat@urd.org	0033(0)1 42 28 14 12	4 rue Clairaut, 75017 PARIS
47	SCHARFF	Patrice	Electriciens sans Frontières Rhône- Alpes	Bénévole			
48	SIBERT	Marc	UNHCR	Contributeur OSM	marc@sibert.fr	632205550	31 rue du Général de Gaulle - 91610 Ballancourt sur Essonne
49	ST PIERRE	Luc	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	Senior GIS Officer	STPIERRE@unhcr.org	0041 22 739 8835	UNHCR, 94 rue de Montbrillant, GE1202, Genève, Suisse
50	SUDHOFF	Sandra	CartONG	GIS/Information Manager	s_sudhoff@cartong.org	0049 175 5056413	Burgackerweg 10, 79104 Freiburg, Germany
51	TISSOT	Wilfried	CartONG	President CartONG	w_tissot@cartong.org	0043 (0) 55 22 21 020, 0033 (0)6 37 07 63 00	Austrasse 84, 6800 Feldkirch, Austria
52	VAN DER BIEST	Francois	OSM / Camptocamp	Contributeur OSM/Développeur- analyste en SIG	francois.vanderbiest@camptocamp.com		Savoie Technolac, BP 352, 48 avenue du Lac du Bourget, Cedex, France
53	WRIGHT	Bernard	CartONG	CartONG Benevole	bwright123@yahoo.com	0035 3868499843	Doonamona, Ballycorus Road, Kiltarnan, Dublin 18, Ireland



List of organisations



The Assessment Capacities Project (**Acaps**) is a two-year project to strengthen global, regional and in-country needs assessment capacities. ACAPS is an initiative of a consortium of three NGOs (HelpAge International, Merlin and Norwegian Refugee Council), which was created in support of the IASC Needs Assessment Task Force (NATF). ACAPS is about providing accessible expertise, timely data and rigorous analysis to inform decision making by national governments and IASC humanitarian country teams in times of crisis. Its strategy is to support in-country capacities both to prepare for and to respond to crises through better coordinated multi-sectoral needs assessments. The NAFT (Needs Assessment Task Force) is an Inter Agency Standing Committee, based in Geneva, made up of UN agencies and international ONGs. The task group has focused on improving needs evaluation practises through the forwarding of coordinated action between humanitarian actors. The work force will soon edit a guide book on the achievement of coordinated action as well as a list of key indicators to measure, collect and observe throughout a crisis. A framework of needs evaluation is also made available per information collection phase and ... The type of framework has implications on the methods used to collect information and the analyses methods to be used.



In 2006, 854 million people* in the world still suffer from hunger. There are multiple causes of hunger: natural catastrophes, conflicts, epidemics or poverty.

Action Contre la Faim's vocation: to act positively in the field and bear witness to people's suffering. Our objective is to combat this scourge on every front: With emergency operations, meeting the vital needs of the most vulnerable With post-emergency programmes to promote people's autonomy.



ACTED
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development

ACTED (Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development) is a non-governmental organization with headquarters in Paris, founded in 1993. Independent, private and not-for-profit, ACTED respects a strict political and religious impartiality and operates according to principles of non-discrimination and transparency.

The programs implemented by ACTED (around 170 per year), in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean, aim at addressing the needs of populations affected by wars, natural disasters and/or economic and social crises.



Aide et Action International. Education at the core of development. Education is the means of acquiring knowledge and personal capabilities. It allows individuals to choose their future and exercise their rights as citizens. However, 75 million school-aged children do not attend, or do not have access to primary school; 775 million adults do not have basic literacy skills. Aide et Action confronts this urgent issue by intervening in 21 countries to lift barriers that obstruct full access to quality

education. Aide et Action: an approach of accompanying and reinforcing capacities of local actors. Aide et Action accompanies local actors in planning, developing and evaluating their own development projects



Bioforce Training and Careers advice in Aid Programmes and Health Logistics. The Institut Bioforce Développement is a totally unique training and career advisory centre. A Non-Profit Organisation founded in 1983 by Dr Charles Mérieux, Bioforce has 2 major objectives:

- Maximising the impact of aid programmes by training, careers advice and local development.

- Increasing the effectiveness of missions in the Public Health Sector by re-enforcing health programmes and structures. At all times, all over the world, professionals trained, or backed by Bioforce, are actively caring for and helping people in need..



CICR **ICRC** The International Red Cross Comity is a neutral and independent organisation that endeavours to bring protection and assistance to war and armed violence victims. The IRCC uses GIS tools to plan long term projects and uses cartography to bring solutions to emergencies and follow their progress. The paper, electronic and dynamic map remains a strong link between field teams and the Geneva headquarters.



Since 1986, the International Rescue Committee **Comité de Secours Internationaux (COSI)** has provided humanitarian assistance in 38 countries, across 88 missions. That's over 3108 tonnes of essential aid were transported by 527 volunteers for the benefit of 547,480 recipients around the world.



Electriciens Sans Frontières is an association based on the 1901 law, bringing together fifteen regional associations, combining the advantages of both proximity and being part of a network. Development is the main field of action; ESF also carries out missions of expertise support for other NGOs and steps in on emergency/post emergency situations.



ESRI was, in 1969, the first software editor to understand the importance of the geographic dimension to visualise, analyse, understand and make decisions in all domains. Since then, ESRI and its numerous world representatives promote, develop and optimise the use of GISs to make more efficient our day to day choices.

ESRI France was created in 1988 to help companies and organisations who wanted to use the spatial dimension while securing a return on investment.



Hydraulique Sans Frontières Founded in 1990, H.S.F. is an association that supports the projects of development engaged by partners from Developing Countries which can't develop their water resources and as a consequence can't provide their inhabitants with basic services.



The Information Management & Mine Action Programs (iMMAP), is a pioneering humanitarian organization that has led the way in the effective use of information management practices and principles in service to the world's most vulnerable populations for more than a decade. iMMAP's mission is to be the first port of call for Information and Knowledge Management expertise within the humanitarian community. iMMAP aims to alleviate the suffering of victims of natural disasters and armed conflict by providing decision-support services to humanitarian agencies through the management of reliable, timely and appropriate strategic and geographic information. iMMAP plans on developing a "Nomad" data collection service with CartONG



Keyobs is a spin-off company created from the University and the Spatial Centre of Liège. The company was launched in 2001 with the support of WSL, an incubator for young companies dealing with spatial activities. Keyobs offers services and is specialized in cartographic applications for missions dealing with humanitarian, environmental, geological, engineering and sustainable development matters. Most of our activities concern the developing countries. We mean to provide field actors with mapping products tailored to their needs, both an updated and personalized cartographic information and a tool to support communication and decision-making. To achieve this, Keyobs resorts to an innovative combination of expertises in geographic information, geo-sciences and remote- sensing (satellite and aerial imagery). In addition, the company develops personalized Web-Mapping solutions to manage and exchange geographical data through the Internet.



Medair's mission is to seek out and serve the most vulnerable people affected by crises, particularly the forgotten men, women, and children who live in difficult-to-access regions in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. Medair is a non-governmental organisation (NGO), with internationally recruited staff who are motivated by their Christian faith to care for people in need.



MEDES

Established in 1989 by engineers and doctors from CNES initially with a view to preparing for Europe's self-sufficiency in manned Space flight, **MEDES's** aims rapidly became clear: to develop Space medicine and capitalise on Space research in order to improve healthcare. MEDES actively undertakes research programmes and produces medical and technological reports, for operational activities as well as for developing bioengineering and Space medical engineering. To do this, the institute calls upon the combined scientific and medical expertise of its members.



MSF is a not-for-profit NGO with its headquarters in Brussels. MSF Belgique is a full-fledged operation center. Its main aim is to contribute to life protection and the alleviation of suffering with respect for human dignity, all the while bringing care to those in need and endeavouring to help them become independent of others again.



The free collaborative **OSM** maps are particularly useful in the context of humanitarian action, particularly for areas where basic cartographic data is rarely updated. It is a web project to create an open and free map of the world, entirely built thanks to volunteer contributions with GPSs, air imagery, and the gathering of existing sources of public geographic data. The humanitarian OpenStreetMap [HOT] team is a new initiative aiming at implementing the open source principles and activities in the humanitarian and economic development contexts.



Planet Action gives support to local projects linked to climatic change by providing geographic information (satellite imagery) and technology to NGOs, universities and research centers. They also help the organisations in their research and analysis. Planet Action helps increase public awareness and keeps watch on field evolutions thanks to Spot Image earth observation.

Rhône-Alpes ^{Région}

La direction regionale de l'Europe, des Relations internationales et de la Coopération de la region Rhone Alpes mission implementation programs European regional and European cooperation, Policy Development International (Asia, Americas & Sub-Saharan Africa and Mediterranean), management of a regional delegation in Brussels.



Rongead's aim is to support to local projects linked to climatic change by providing geographic information (satellite imagery) and technology to NGOs, universities and research centers. They also help the organisations in their research and analysis. Planet Action helps increase public awareness and keeps watch on field evolutions thanks to Spot Image earth observation.



Humanitarian Master of the the Savoie University: NGOs often recruit professional capable of analysing emergency situations and setting up aid programs attuned to the populations living the crisis. There are two key aspects to this. Firstly, the understanding of the context (geopolitical, anthropological, linguistic...) and its stakes; Secondly, the setting up of humanitarian projects, with its financing research, mission administration and NGO management. The proper training of the future workers in the domain of technologies of information management is essential. The Savoie University will share their experience on Learning Management Systems and how to go from training to learning.



UNHCR The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was established on December 14, 1950 by the United Nations General Assembly. The agency is mandated to lead and co-ordinate international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide.



UNOSAT is the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Operational Satellite Applications Programme, implemented in co-operation with the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and the European Organisation of High Energy Physics (CERN).



UNOCHA is the arm of the UN Secretariat that is responsible for bringing together humanitarian actors to ensure coherent response to emergencies. OCHA also ensures there is a framework within which each actor can contribute to the overall response effort. OCHA's mission is to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors in order to alleviate human suffering in disasters and emergencies; advocate for the rights of people in need; promote preparedness and prevention; and facilitate sustainable solutions.



Groupe URD is a research, evaluation and training institute. Their area of expertise is humanitarian action and post-crisis

reconstruction. They are specialised in project quality with for example the setting up of the "Compass" tool and use cartography and spatial analysis for these evaluations. Their aim is to help improve practices and consequently improve the situation of crisis-affected people. From 1993 to 1997, Groupe URD was an NGO discussion group which focused on linking emergency and development aid. After 1997, it broadened its horizons in response to the numerous theoretical and operational challenges faced by the aid sector in crisis and post-crisis contexts. Today, Groupe URD works on themes which are specific to each operational sector (Nutrition, Water and sanitation, Protection, Urbanism, etc.) as well as on cross-cutting issues such as aid quality, the environment, disaster risk reduction and prevention and LRRD. Their work is aimed at humanitarian operators, donors, international and national institutions, United Nations agencies and NGOs.



WFP/Logcluster is part of the United Nations system and is voluntarily funded. Born in 1962, WFP pursues a vision of the world in which every man, woman and child has access at all times to the food needed for an active and healthy life. We work towards that vision with our sister UN agencies in Rome -- the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) -- as well as other government, UN and NGO partners. In 2010 we aim to reach more than 90 million people with food assistance in more than 70 countries. Around 10,000 people work for the organization, most of them in remote areas, directly serving the hungry poor.

The Logistics Cluster GIS (geographic information systems) team provides logistical decision-making support tools to the humanitarian community during emergency operations through the acquisition, compilation and dissemination of timely and accurate geographic information on the status of logistical assets and infrastructure.

The activities of the GIS team focus on 4 areas:

- Logistics emergency preparedness and tools development
- Field operational support
- Trainings and partnerships
- Dissemination of geospatial information to the humanitarian community

Our Partners

GeONG would not have been possible without our partners.



AQC is an association with social and cultural focus. It offers activities (crafts, cultural activities, games ...) in the city center.

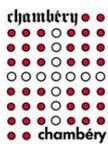


InfoSolution2S : sale, maintenance of personal computers, Dell reseller Chambéry.



ESRI ESRI Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are increasingly present in our everyday lives, environment, land use planning, natural resources, geomarketing, location, education, civil security, transport, energy, telecommunications... ESRI has been the first software publisher in 1969 to take into account the importance of geography to view, analyze, understand and decide in all areas.

ESRI France was created in 1988 to meet the expectations of agencies and companies who wish to make the most of the spatial dimension in their organizations while getting their investment.



Chambéry has no shortage of attractions. Its location - a crossroad, its historic center and its ancient as well as contemporary heritage. Its environment: the lakes, mountains, its humanity and its social mix ... It holds several keys for the future: a university, a science with leading sectors. The city recorded its future in a sustainable development policy that takes into account the nearby areas: Lake Bourget, regional parks.

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