



SALB

Second Administrative Level Boundaries

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1. Introduction Note

Dear Colleagues,

This edition of the SALB Newsletter will be the last one for this year.

After Africa and the Americas this new edition is dedicated to the state of progress of the project in Asia. As you will see the situation in this part of the world needs to be improved underlying one more time the importance to collaborate with the largest number of institutions possible in order to achieve the 2006 objective for the project: "reach the present".

As we are only few days away from the End of the Year I would like to thank one more time all the institutions which have contributed to the progresses made during 2005 and wish all of you:

A HAPPY
NEW YEAR

Steve Ebener
Coordinator of the SALB project

2. What's new on the SALB web site

The information reported in this section describes the new information that has been posted on the SALB web site since the last Newsletter (September 2005).

2.1 National Mapping Agencies contact information

The contact information for 67 countries (+18 compare to last September) can now be found on the SALB web site at:

http://www3.who.int/whosis/gis/salb/salb_contact.htm.

Among the latest countries which provided us with their updated contact information we can mention: Botswana, Ecuador, Guinea-Bissau, Namibia, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Timor-Leste and Venezuela.

2.2 New tables

The following tables have been validated and coded since the last Newsletter. They are now available for download from the SALB web site

http://www3.who.int/whosis/gis/salb/salb_coding.htm):

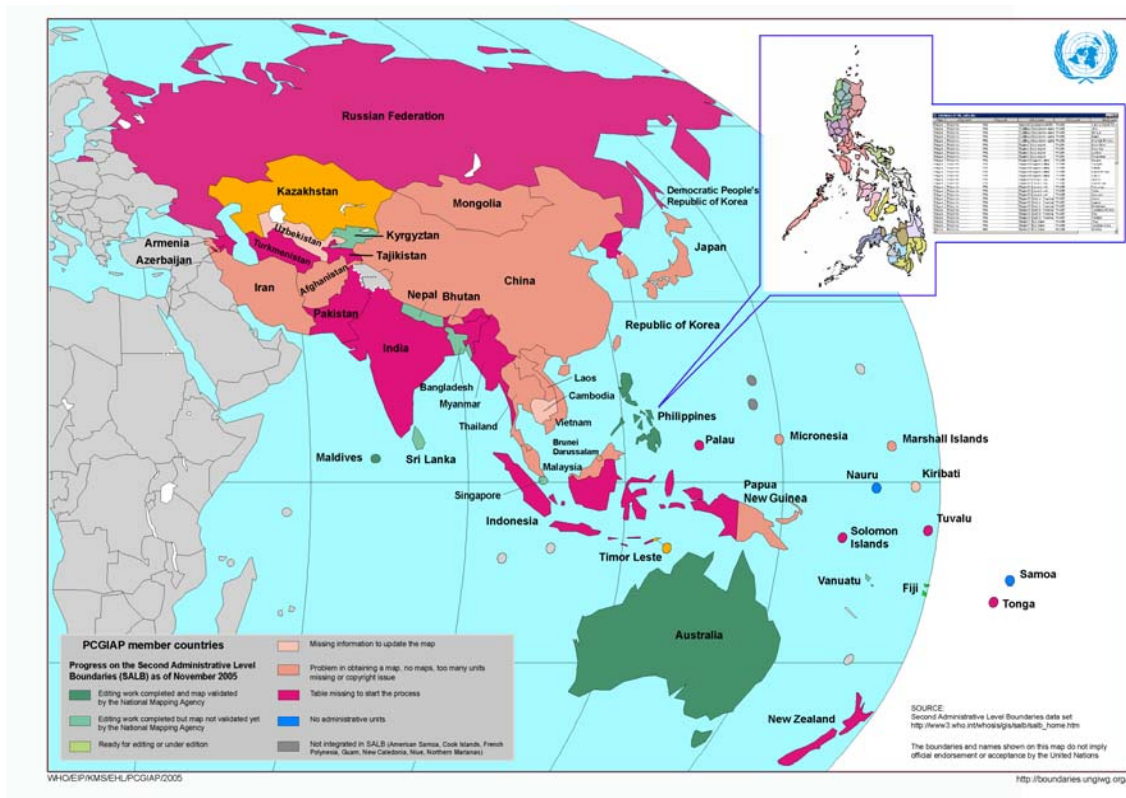
- The list of administrative units as observed in January 2000 for 2 countries: Nigeria and Timor-Leste
- The updated historic changes until 2005 for 8 countries: Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Namibia, Nigeria, Timor-Leste and Uruguay. This brings the number of up-to-date historic changes to 48 countries.

2.3 New maps

Since last September, we have received the validation of the January 2000 map for Ivory Coast and Burkina Faso. The representativity for the map of Botswana has also been updated until 2005. These maps can be directly downloaded from:

http://www3.who.int/whosis/gis/salb/salb_MDATA.htm

3. State of progress in Asia



The map reported above, which present the state of progress of the SALB project in Asia, has been presented during the 8th South East Asia Survey Congress, the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia & the Pacific (PCGIAP) Working Group 2 workshop as well as during a meeting organized in Bangkok (read more about these events in the next section of this Newsletter).

The following legend applies for this map: the territories in:

- red are the ones for which we are still missing the January 2000 table in order to start the process.
- dark pink corresponds to those for which we are having problems in obtaining a map that corresponds to the table received from the NMA or where we have a copyright issue to solve.
- light pink correspond to countries where the delimitation of some units is missing in order to update the map.
- flashy green are ready for editing or under edition
- light green have been sent for validation to the NMA but are still not validated
- dark green have been validated and are downloadable from the SALB web site

Please look at the project overview page on the SALB web site for more information about the process followed in the SALB project. See also the help us section in this Newsletter for more details about the information we are still missing in order to complete

the coverage of the SALB data set in Asia. You might have the information or data we are looking for !

In conclusion, this continent is unfortunately behind the other ones and additional efforts will have to be put during 2006 in order to change this situation.

4. Meetings and collaboration

4.1 8th SEAS Congress, PCGIAP WG2 workshop and Executive Board

Thanks to funding received from USAID, it has been possible to attend the 8th South East Asia Survey Congress, the PCGIAP Working Group 2 workshop and Executive Board (Bendar Seri Begawan, 22-26 November 2005). The paper and slides presented during the first two events can be downloaded from the Project Overview page on the SALB web site.

During this conference, it has been possible to enter in direct contact with the NMAs of 10 Asian countries.

The Workshop adopted a resolution aiming at strengthening the linkage between Global Map, SALB and PCGIAP as follow:

"The Workshop

Recalling the resolution 3 Fundamental Data adopted by the 16th UNRCC-AP ,

Recalling the resolution adopted by the 8th PCGIAP encouraging cooperation on development of SALB dataset,

Noting the important progress of fundamental data development at regional level,

Noting the importance of Global Map and the SALB dataset for Asia and the Pacific region,
Recommends that

- (a) PCGIAP WG2 seek to strengthen the linkage with Global Map, SALB and other similar initiatives
- (b) PCGIAP Member States, particularly through their National Mapping Organizations and notably with the help of PCGIAP, support and participate actively in Global Map and the SALB project by providing the necessary data and information they require."

4.2 Meeting in Bangkok

The 28 of November 2005 a meeting has been organized in Bangkok by the UN OCHA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in collaboration with the SALB coordination team (WHO) and with the support of the World Food Programme, Bureau for Asia.

This meeting grouped 11 representative coming from 7 UN agencies (FAO, OCHA, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCAP, UNICEF, WFP) and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) having their Regional Office in Bangkok in order to discuss possible areas of collaboration in Asia. Even if it has not been possible to establish the needed editing node for the continent the SALB project will benefit from the contact networks in place in the region. The minutes of this meeting will soon be posted on the SALB web site.

This stay in Bangkok has also been the occasion to directly meet with the Royal Thai Survey in order to discuss how we could move forward with the update of the data set for Thailand.

4.3 Others

The 16th of December, an informal meeting with the Secretary General of the International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM), Mr Hiromichi Maruyama, took place in Geneva to discuss the continuity and extension of the actual collaboration between the SALB project and the Global Mapping initiative.

5. What's coming next ?

Regarding Asia, the efforts for establishing an editing node in the Region.

Two important regional events will take place in Bangkok next year (dates to be confirmed):

- Map Asia 2006
- the 12th PCGIAP meeting and the 17th UN Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and Pacific (UNRCC- AP)

We hope to be present during these two events in order to report the progresses made and be in direct contact with potential data provider and country officials.

In the meantime, the resource mobilization exercise will continue and we are welcoming any ideas you could have regarding potential donors that could be interested in supporting our work.

6. Help us

UNGIWG encourages the institutions that need to answer a particular request to look first at the SALB web site to see if this information is available and provide feedback if they found information or data that could complete the SALB data set.

All the information and maps we are looking for in order to complete the SALB data set are posted on the help us page of the SALB web site:

http://www3.who.int/whosis/gis/salb/salb_help_us.htm

As this edition of the newsletter is reporting the state of progress for Asia, here are some examples of the countries for which we are still missing a full map to be used in the context of the SALB project (number of units between brackets):

- Afghanistan (382 units)
- Armenia (1012)
- Bhutan (33)
- Cambodia (184)
- Georgia (74)
- Iran, Islamic Republic of (282)
- Kiribati (23)
- Lao People's Democratic Republic (141)
- Marshall islands (24)
- Micronesia, Federated States of (76)
- Papua New Guinea (87)
- Republic of Korea (232)
- Viet Nam (615)

Please have a look at the help us page for further information regarding the authorization we need to have in order to integrate them in the SALB data set.

We are also looking for institutions based in the following countries to help us obtaining the information we are missing from the National Mapping agency: Azerbaijan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Myanmar, Tajikistan and Palau.

SALB Contact Information

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