

Principes

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Perspectives

# UNECA

## Current Plans & Programs for Space-related activities

- **Background**
- **Current Activities**
- **Plans & Programs**



- 1. The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) is the regional body of the UN Secretariat in Africa with mandate to undertake activities to develop the social and economic sectors in Africa**



The activities of ECA are divided into programmatic areas. One of these sub programmes is “**Harnessing Information for Development**,” which covers, among others, all activities designed to strengthen geoinformation for sustainable development in Africa. There is a legislative technical committee that oversees and advises on each of the sub programmes of ECA. The committee for the sub programme on Harnessing Information for Development is the **Committee on Development Information (CODI)**.



The terms of reference of CODI included provisions to:

- Identify and suggest techniques for the application of **geographic information** for natural resource exploitation and management;
- Advise on the establishment of arrangements for the improvement of all aspects of methodology and practice in the areas of statistics, information science and **geographic information system** (remote sensing and cartography);
- Coordinate the training for African personnel in the areas of statistics, information science and **geographic information systems**.



## ■ In 2007/08 ECA will publish :

- (a) **Role of Development Information in the Economy;**
- (b) **A study on Employment and the Knowledge Economy with attention to Geo-information perspective (2007);**
- (c) **Land Management Information Systems in the Knowledge Economy (2007);**
- (d) **A Geospatial Metadata Profile for Africa (2007);**
- (e) **Background document on spatially-enabled government (2008)**



■ In the years 2007/08 ECA will organize the following group training (Workshops/seminars, symposia):

- (a) A workshop on spatial data standards, clearinghouse and metadata;
- (b) Sub-regional seminar on information management and services with special attention to Geo-spatial products (in 2007)

■ ECA in collaboration with other organizations will continue to support a web-based distance learning programme to enable RECTAS' alumni and the Geo-information Community in Africa to keep abreast with new developments in ICT and Space Technology.

■ ECA in collaboration with RCMRD will, for the benefit of its Member countries, will undertake training programmes in geo-information technologies and their applications in resource assessment, planning, management and monitoring for resource technicians, managers and scientists .



- **ECA in co-operation with the Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys (RECTAS) and the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources and Development (RCMRD) will continue to provide advisory and consultancy services to member states, regional co-operation bodies and non-governmental organizations on issues related to Remote Sensing and Geographic Information technologies and their applications to emergencies and development issues**
- **ECA will provide advisory services to member states and regional economic communities on establishing interoperable SDI nodes**
- **ECA as Secretariat of the UN- Water/Africa will continue to support the further Development of TIGER Initiative led by ESA**



- 1. ECA will continue effort for developing the African Reference Framework (AFREF): promoting rehabilitation, extension and harmonization of the geodetic networks in Africa; establishing coordinating arrangements for the West and Central African components; assisting in the development of specifications for two countries (2008, 2009).**
- 2. ECA is collaborating with the African Union to prepare a transport infrastructure master plan for Africa. The main objective of this program of activities is to produce an integrated optimum all-mode Transport Infrastructure Master Plan for Africa. An other major objective of the project is therefore to create a database (using Remote sensing techniques) in a geographic information system to support the proper planning, design, operations and maintenance of infrastructure facilities**







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