

# the Global Map

national mapping organizations creating global-scale geographic information through international cooperation



The Global Map is a cooperative effort among national mapping organizations around the world to produce and maintain a standard set of basic cartographic data that supports global investigations of natural and human-built environments. Participating nations prepare data using a common data structure and description to ensure compatibility and to tangibly promote the tenets of the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure. This mapping information is fully documented and is typically provided on-line at no cost to the user. The Global Map offers eight basic map themes at a nominal ground resolution of one kilometer for raster data and at a scale of 1:1,000,000 for vector data. These themes are:

- **Political Boundaries** (including coastlines)
- **Population Centers** (built-up areas and settlements)
- **Transportation** (roads, railways, airports)
- **Drainage** (rivers, streams, lakes)
- **Vegetation** (2008 release)
- **Land Cover** (2008 release)
- **Land Use** (from Global Land Cover characteristics Database)
- **Elevation** (digital elevation model)

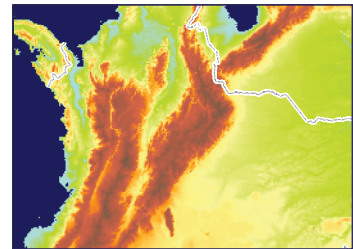
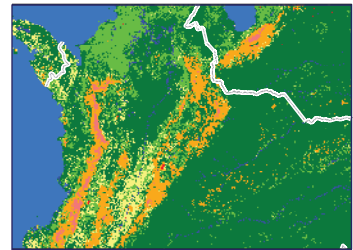
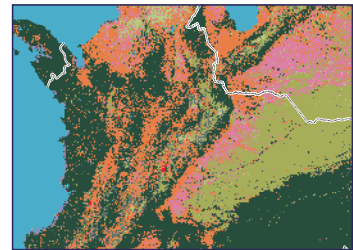
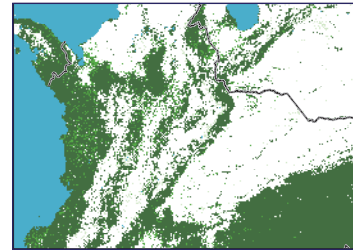
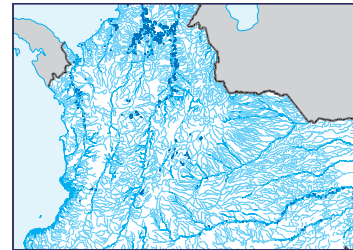
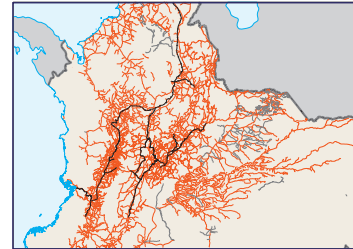
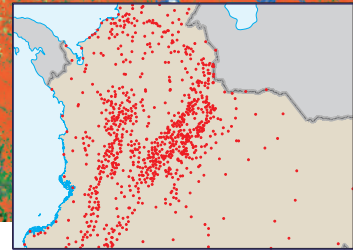
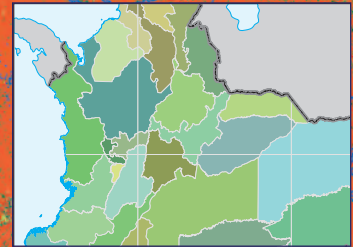
**8 trusted layers**  
**1 kilometer resolution**  
**world-wide**

The Global Map effort is led and staffed by the Geographic Department of the Geographical Survey Institute of Japan under the direction of Yoshikazu Fukushima. Its International Steering Committee is chaired by Dr. Fraser Taylor, distinguished research professor, Carleton University.

The original set of Global Map data was largely contributed by the United States of America. In the last decade, national mapping organizations around the world have been replacing this data with their own up-to-date contributions to the Global Map. In addition, Japan's Geographic Survey Institute, Chiba University, and collaborating organizations have prepared and released new global land cover and vegetation data sets.

For general information on the Global Map, please visit  
<http://www.globalmap.org>

For technical information and to download Global Map data, visit this Web address  
<http://www.iscgm.org>



# the Global Map

## An Introduction to Global Map Data

Most Global Map data may be downloaded at no cost to the end user for noncommercial purposes. You must register before you are allowed to download these data. All raster data are provided at a nominal ground resolution of one kilometer while all vector data are published at a scale of 1:1,000,000. For some nations, three different versions of the Global Map may be available.

### Global Map Version 0

The Global Map Version 0 includes raster data only. These data were prepared by the United States Geological Survey, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission. All land cover, land use, and vegetation data were produced by converting Global Land Characterization datasets derived from 1-kilometer Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer (AVHRR) data acquired no later than March, 1993. All elevation data are from GTOPO30, a global digital elevation model generated from 30-arc second elevation data. Land use, land cover, and vegetation data are available in both band interleaved by line (BIL) and Tagged Image File Format (TIFF) formats. Elevation data are provided in BIL format only.

### Global Map Version 1 (National and Regional Version) and Version X

National mapping organizations that participate in the Global Map generate and maintain their own data. These are known as "Version 1 National and Regional" data. Shape and TIFF file formats are available for these. The compilation dates for Version 1 National and Regional data vary by country. For those nations that have not yet released Global Map data, the program offers raster and vector data from existing sources (Version X). This includes the data described in GLOBAL MAP VERSION 0 plus map data from Vector Map 0 (VMAPO) in Vector Product Format (VPF) for boundaries, drainage, transportation, and population centers.

### Global Map Version 1 (Global Version)

These are global land cover and vegetation (percent tree cover) datasets produced by the Geographical Survey Institute of Japan, Chiba University, and collaborating organizations. These data were collected in 2003 using the Moderate-Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) orbiting sensor.

Version 1 vector data are provided by country while Global Version 1 raster data are provided in user-selected tiles.

*Layers of Pakistan: elevation, transportation, drainage and population centers.*



## Instructions for Downloading Global Map Data

Using your Web browser, go to <http://www.iscgm.org/>

### SELECT:

"Download" from the menu on the left side of the page that loads.

### CLICK:

"Go to Registration Page" a phrase that appears on the left side of the User Login page.

### SELECT:

"Agree" at the bottom of this page after reviewing the user agreement and privacy policy.

### FILL OUT REGISTRATION FORM

You will receive an email from the International Steering Committee for Global Mapping that will contain your User ID and Password.

### RETURN TO THE DOWNLOAD PAGE

Enter your User ID and Password.

The Global Map Data Download Service page appears with a variety of options for Global Map versions, data themes, and file formats.

### Global Map Data Viewers

You may use your favorite geographic information system, desktop mapping software, or image processing program to view Global Map data. Here are several data viewers that are available on the Internet for download at no cost.

Q-GIS: [www.qgis.org](http://www.qgis.org)

GRASS: [grass.osgeo.org](http://grass.osgeo.org)

ArcExplorer: [www.esri.com/software/arcexplorer/download.html](http://www.esri.com/software/arcexplorer/download.html)

