

Role of Global Map for Global Environmental Issues

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Global Map is digital geographic data at a 1km spatial resolution (at approx. 1: 1 million scale) covering the whole land of the globe with consistent specifications composed of eight layers, such as transportation, coastline, vegetation and land cover. The data development has been carried out in cooperation with National Mapping Organizations (NMOs) of respective countries/regions of the world and the developed data have been provided since the year 2000 according to their completion. In 2008, the dataset development, which almost covers the whole land of the globe, will be completed as Global Map Version 1.

The Global Map data can be used as objective and accurate information on the present status of global environment such as distribution of trees needed to estimate absorption amount of carbon dioxide and maintain biodiversity, thus contribute as basic materials to solving global environmental problems and policy-making.