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Color Design of the land condition maps of Japan

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Geospatial Information Authority of Japan (GSI) prepares the land condition maps since 1963, for the purpose of providing basic information on the natural condition of land, which is required to disaster prevention measures such as compiling hazard maps and to making plans for land use, land preservation and regional development. Also GSI started to revise the maps in the urban areas from 2010. Meanwhile, revised versions of the landform classification maps for flood control, whose purpose is grasping the information about the land condition of the lowland areas controlled by the government, are prepared by GSI since 2009.

Although these maps have different aims, object areas and acquisition standards, their classification methods are based on form, origin and characteristics of landform in common. But, there are some problems for users, because each map has each color design. When the landform classification maps for flood control are revised, GSI intended to standardize color design of both maps.

We will describe on this report about the outline of the result that we examined about the standardization of the color design and the visibility of the maps for users.

Keywords: Color design, landform classification, land condition maps