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Digital Japan Web. NEXT

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1. Introduction

The Geospatial Information Authority of Japan (GSI) proposed the concept of "Digital Japan" which aims the society where geospatial information is shared and highly utilized on a computer network. To realize this "Digital Japan", the GSI developed Digital Japan Web System in 2003 (Ono et al., 2004), improving it to be used especially in the national and local government office. In recent years, web map service of private corporations is becoming popular, such as Google Maps, and the society where everyone gets used to web maps is being established. However, although many people get used to web maps in daily life, it is not yet in the situation that the national and local government officers utilize geospatial information to increase the efficiency of their work.

On the other hand, the GSI defines "The Fresh Map 2011" (GSI, 2011) and "The Fresh Map 2012" (GSI, 2012) as an action plan for maintenance and practical use of the Digital Japan Basic Map. That action plan says that "The GSI proposes a solution and implements follow-up to government officers for satisfying their business needs when they use the Digital Japan Basic Map". The GSI defines "Digital Japan Web" as the general term of the Digital Japan Web system, maps, aerial photos, and the website where maps and aerial photos are displayed. It aims at playing the central role of proposing a solution and implementing follow-up to government officers when they used the Digital Japan Basic Map in their work.

This paper reports measures currently taken in developing Digital Japan Web (hereinafter referred to as Digital Japan Web. NEXT), in order to realize the contents written in The Fresh Map.

2. Main Features and Functions

The following improvement was performed for the promotion of utilization of Digital Japan Web. NEXT.

2.1. Map Data

In addition to the standard map, "The Monotone Map" and "The Blank Map" were added.

These maps are added for the purpose of being inserted in documents which are frequently created in usual business.

2.2. Function

In addition to the function which Digital Japan equipped until now such as map displaying, drawing vectors, etc., added reading and preserving of an KML function. Although the GSI supports an original XML format as a standard format for Digital Japan Web System, the cooperation with other GIS software was difficult when the data of this format is used. By supporting KML on Digital Japan Web. NEXT, it becomes possible to display the data created by other GIS software or to display the data created by Digital Japan Web. NEXT on other GIS software. It is expected that utilization of geospatial information will be promoted.

2.3. Website Interface

The website interface of the former Digital Japan Web differed from ones of private corporations. Therefore, the user who visited Digital Japan Web System website could not use the functions intuitively, and this has become a prevention factor when they use this website. In order to solve this problem, the website interface of Digital Japan Web. NEXT, is designed referred to the web map service of private corporations which users utilize in their daily life.

This enabled them to use Digital Japan Web. NEXT in business intuitively.

3. Future Schedule

Digital Japan Web. NEXT, will be developed based on user's needs. As an example, various geospatial information that the GSI holds will be displayed on one website. Moreover, the function which users can display their geospatial information easily will be added. By this, the information which users hold can be connected to maps and other geospatial information easily, and it is expected that the increase in efficiency of daily work.

References

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