

Report by the Chairman of the GEBCO
Technical Sub-committee on Ocean Mapping
(TSCOM)

Dr. Walter H.F. Smith



Report given at the 28th GEBCO Guiding Committee meeting
Held at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, California, USA
7th October 2011



TSCOM XXVII report to GC 2011

Chairman's preliminary report

7 October 2011

La Jolla, California USA



Venue

TSCOM XXVII met jointly with the iSCRUM 3 – 5 October at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. We gratefully acknowledge the excellent support and hospitality of Professor Dr. David T. Sandwell.

6th Annual Science Day

- We had 12 oral and 13 poster contributions to science day. (Regrets were received from J. Foulkes, Google. Two new posters came in (JHOD, Fugro) that were not listed in the program.)
- At 2010 meeting, Capt. Gorziglia kindly offered to inform HOs by circular letter that the Science Day will be an annual feature, time and place to be scheduled, so that contributions and travel resources can be built into work plans in a timely way. **Did that happen this year? Is this going to continue to work in the future?**

The Future of Science Day

- **Budget question(s)**: Can Science Day offer to pay travel expenses of invited speakers? Does Science Day have a budget?
- **Outreach opportunities**: Invite science journalists, students, etc. (Could change balance of oral/poster content.)
- **Webcasts/podcasts**: Should we capture presentations on video and put out on GEBCO YouTube channel? (Good quality costs money.)
- **Financial opportunities**: Do we want to invite industry and charge them for setting up a booth? (Fugro, ESRI, CARIS, Google, etc.)
- **If Science Day is going to get bigger and better, it is going to take more time to plan, organize, etc.** We need to find some human time to support this. Could be done by TSCOM Chair with help from Permanent Secretary but the time burden will grow if Sci Day grows.

Breakouts / Working Groups

- Data flow / Metadata / GEBCO Data Store
- Cookbook Working Group
- TSCOM Chairman also attended the IBCSEP/IBCCA break-out.

Scheduling future meetings:

It is valuable to have the iSCRUM and TSCOM meet together, so we can support one another. E.g., the Cookbook group needs to write a book that enables the regional efforts. The TSCOM data flow needs to support the regional efforts. Local and regional experts, with local sources of data, need to contribute their data and expertise to the global GEBCO effort. **We need to build and nurture personal relationships.**

TSCOM-SCUFN interface

Need to ensure that gridded products show existence of features that SCUFN has named.

Need TSCOM-SCUFN discussion of capturing bathymetric survey data when name proposal is submitted.

Action on Schenke, Smith and Taylor to improve communications.

GEBCO 100 m

In Lima in 2010, Guiding Committee endorsed a proposal from TSCOM that GEBCO should work with Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory (LDEO) to develop a pilot demonstration of a 100 m “grid”. This would serve “tiles” with 100 m grid resolution in areas where multibeam data support exists. LDEO has built such a system for U.S. academic multibeam, and GEBCO could extend this.

Due to loss of personnel at LDEO, we are not ready to present this to you this year.

However, we have received the LDEO processed multibeam compilation at 400 m resolution for inclusion in our products. LDEO has given its 100m “tiles” to Google Earth, so you should expect to see that in GE soon, likely with attribution to LDEO and not to GEBCO.

IHO Work Plan

We need to identify a GEBCO expert to liaise with each RHC. This individual needs to travel to meetings, build relationships, work the issues that arise in exchange of data, techniques, etc. (Fox has attended IRCC, Jakobsson has attended two RHCs, but we need more.)

We need to budget for GEBCO Scholars to travel to RHCs, and to bring someone from local / regional efforts to the main GEBCO meeting.

Support for Science Day (travel, logistics, leadership, organization).

GEBCO to write a report for each RHC showing GEBCO's work in their areas. Standardized presentation on GEBCO, plus region specificity.

Do we have enough IHB support to stay on top of Metadata, Data Flow, correspondence with RHCs, etc? (Pharaoh and Shipman have been very supportive. How can we do more?)

How can we build and budget more outreach? (GEBCO YouTube channel, Facebook, video podcasts of Science Day, growth of Science Day, etc.)

Outreach opportunities

GEBCO Scholars have made a video about GEBCO.

Science Day is potentially an outreach instrument.

Prof. Sung has made an educational presentation about GEBCO and Undersea Features utilizing Google Earth. This is in Korean but easily can be made multilingual; it is KMZ files. Many TSCOM members volunteered to help extend this to other languages. Prof. Sung wants blessing of Google for use of G.E. (**Action Smith** to liaise between Sung and J. Austin-Foulkes.)

Publicity surrounding release of Hali Felt's book on Marie Tharp is an opportunity (**Smith will follow-up**).

Foglini, Morishita, Rovere, Saito & Smith recorded (audio and video) a conversation about highlights of Science Day, specifically coastal hazard assessment from seafloor mapping. We want to edit this into something for a GEBCO YouTube outreach. (**Smith to seek expert audio/video editing help from The JASON Project.**) Acknowledge thanks to Abramova, David, Felt & Tani.