

TSCOM report to GC 2012

Preliminary report

5 October 2012

International Hydrographic Bureau, Monaco

Venue

TSCOM met jointly with SCRUM from October 1-4, 2012 at the IHB. We gratefully acknowledge the IHB for:

- excellent logistical support
- fine venue
- superb hospitality provided by our hosts

Science Day

- The 7th Annual GEBCO Bathymetric Science Day was held at Salle du Ponant, Monaco
- We had 14 oral and 13 poster contributions to science day
- ABLOS participants also attended
- Highlights of Science Day were....

Reports of activities

- Updating GEBCO grid, Cook Book, and Gridding Error estimations topics tabled
- Much excellent work done- please see reports for the details
- Reports of regional mapping activities were taken under SCRUM

Break-out session on Updating the GEBCO Grid

- Goal: update with SRTM30_Plus V7 now, or not?
- Pauline Weatherall led this break-out
- Poster presented, preliminary work suggests value of updating to V7 is equivocal at this time
- Determined that more areas would be examined

Cook Book working group

- Goal is to enable individuals and regional efforts to contribute grids to our products
- Test data sets and example scripts allow others to join the experiments or follow the examples in the Cook Book
- Karen Marks is leading this WG
- Completed draft version is posted on web
- Approved by GC and IHO for publication; awaiting IOC approval
- EOS “News Brief” drafted to announce Cook Book availability

GEBCO Data Store

- Goal: to provide access to trackline and gridded data used to produce the GEBCO grid
- NGDC has obtained bathymetric trackline data from Scripps
- BODC successfully pulled data from the GEBCO Data Store
- NGDC and BODC are working on secure and easy-to-use ways to push and pull data
- Activity is on-going

Working group on metadata

- Goal: enable web services, discovery, attribution
- Tony Pharaoh is leading this WG
- BODC and IHO DCDB have tools & templates for metadata verification
- Break-out group met
- Activity is on-going
- SRTM SID grid obtained from Scripps- SID data QC'd, metadata fields extended to include more information

Gridding

- Hell and Jakobsson (MGR, 2011) published a “Stacked splines in tension” gridding technique
- Various gridding techniques are illustrated in the Cook Book
- Gridding errors discussed
- Activity is on-going
- Break-out group met

TSCOM leadership issues

- Walter Smith has been Chairman since 2004
- Bruce Goleby appointed Vice-Chairman of TSCOM at 2011 GEBCO Meeting
- TSCOM needs a new Chairman and an assisting person(s)

Meeting structure

- This year, TSCOM and SCRUM met together and shared agenda time blocks
- GEBCO and ABLOS met concurrently; this enabled participants to attend Science Day and attend in other meeting
- An entire day was devoted to focused break-out sessions

GEBCO 100 m break-out participants

Dave Monahan, Chris Fox,
Juan Brown, Pauline
Weatherall, Vicki Ferrini, Colin
Jacobs, Lisa Taylor, Jim Braud,
Jenifer Austin Foulkes, and
Walter Smith.

Gridding cookbook break-out participants

Karen Marks, Chris Amante,
Nastiya Abramova, Megan
Jones, Paul Elmore, Colin
Jacobs, Jim Braud, Juan
Brown, Izabel Jeck, Dave
Monahan, Jin Jiye, Walter
Smith.

WG on meta-data

- Chaired by Tony Pharaoh, with Pauline Weatherall and others...

Requested GC actions

- TSCOM asks GC for discussion and decision to endorse, or not, the idea of a pilot demonstration of a 100 m grid
- The TSCOM Chairman suggests that TSCOM leadership needs additional manpower and perhaps a succession plan.

“GEBCO 100 m” pilot demo

- Lamont offers to GEBCO that GEBCO could take the Lamont 100m grid as a starting model and make it a GEBCO product
- We had a break-out discussion to understand the proposal and begin to think about implications
- We ask the Guiding Committee to endorse, or not, the idea that we embark on a pilot demonstration project to see what a GEBCO 100 m would look like, how it would work, etc. The details will be worked in due course but the concept is to take the Lamont 100 m world and make steps to see how we build on it toward a GEBCO 100 m world. [ACTION: Guiding Committee].

Google Earth

- We were delighted to be joined again by Jenifer Austin Foulkes, head of Google Ocean
- She presented a talk at GEBCO Science Day, on what's new in Google Earth and Maps
- She invites us all to use Google Earth to do public education and outreach, and to tell stories and exhibit features of interest to the general public.