

Report on the GIS and Remote Sensing Training
Held in Addis Ababa
From 6th July, 2007 to 18th July, 2007
Venue: Addis Ababa University, Department of Earth Science, GIS and
Remote Sensing Centre

1. Introduction

The GIS and Remote Sensing Training was one of the short training courses identified as nationally demanded course during the needs assessment workshop in 2005. A proposal that included objectives of the course, the expected output and financial requirement was sent to the PMU by the NPC for approval in around March, 2007. After receiving the approval and a go ahead, the Department of Earth Science, GIS and Remote Sensing centre was contacted for delivering the course. The Centre was found to be organized logistically as well as human resources as far as this course is concerned. It was learnt from their past record that they have conducted plenty of national as well as regional wide training courses. Some of the regional training issued include refresher course for regional students with ITC, Netherlands, and Waterwatch, regional training for AU and IAEA under PATTEC project. Therefore it is one of dependable centre and have been contracted to deliver the course from 6th to 18th of July, 2007 at their centre.

2. Participants

The total invited participants were 20 that include participants hailing from Federal Government Offices, Regional State Governments that are within the Nile River Basin and NGO. However, almost half of the participants from the Regional State Governments couldn't participate. Some haven't shown up after confirmation the other haven't shown any sign of participation. As a result, the additional participants were included from Federal Government Offices from Addis Ababa. A total of 17 participants attended the course. The composition of the participants were three from Tigray Region, one from Amhara Region, one from Oromiya Region, One from Gambella region, One from SSNRP Region, One from NGO and the rest from federal Government offices located in Addis Ababa. The List of participants is shown in the Annex.

3. Mode of Training

Mode of delivery was small proportion of theory and larger proportion of practical demonstration and exercise. Each student has been assigned individual computers equipped with 1) ARC GIS 9.1 software for the GIS component of the training and 2) ERDAS 8.7 software 8.2 for the Remote Sensing components. Both the software has been installed for almost all participants who have come with laptop computer.3) Huge Volume of spatial data of satellite images and topographic data of Ethiopia was provided to the students. A hard Copy of the training Manual as well as soft copy in CD including large data sets has been also provided to the students for their further reference and continuation of the exercises.

Apart from the professionally competent trainers, a standby computer technical was also available for any eventualities of computer failure and error.

4. Evaluation of the Course

The training has been accomplished the intended target shown in the proposal (see Annex for the proposal).

- Students are able to understand and grasp the principles of GIS and Remote Sensing Operation, Analysis and manipulation.
- They are also able to manipulate the GIS and Remote Sensing Software properly particularly the latest software - ARcGIS 9.1 and ERDAS 8.7
- They have also obtained large set of data base for future manipulation and exercises, which indicates their acquaintance with different data sources and manipulation of respective data sets.

Overall, the performance of the training was rated by the participants as a **very good** training course in terms of delivery, exercise and logistics. The participants however, didn't hide the shortage of time to grasp all techniques and procedures within 13 days of duration particularly the advanced options. However, they indicated the importance of the 2nd round advanced training. Another issue indicated as a general comment was to get these software is difficult after returning to their Office. Student evaluation result is shown in the annex with sample evaluation form.

5. Certificate Issuance

Certificate of attendance showing satisfactory performance of the participants was finally issued by the NPC. The NPC closed the training session by reminding the participants the objective of the training. He stated that training is a TOT training and should have a multiplicative effect when you go back to your offices. He stated the importance of the GIS and RS training in a country like Ethiopia where there is limited data and accessibility. He finally wished the participants safe journey home and closed the session. Sample certificate is attached as annex

6. Overall Remark on the Training by the NPC

From the participants' evaluation and my general knowledge on the subject, the overall delivery of the course and logistics of the department is up to the standard. The training was a success story in my view and has the potential of being a regional training centre. I also recommend this institution for any upcoming regional or national training.