

Drought driving rise in urban agriculture in Zimbabwe



Olivia Chitungo has been a farmer most of her adult life. As a communal farmer in Murehwa district, approximately 120 kilometres east of Harare, the 46-year-old over the years grew maize, both as a cash crop and for her own consumption. From her two hectares of land, she managed to produce 16 tonnes of grain each season, which was then ground into sadza, Zimbabwe's staple food. Most of it she sold to Zimbabwe's Grain Marketing Board and mobile milling companies, and from each harvest she earned an average of \$4,240, enough to meet most of her and her family's needs. Over the past seven years, however, Zimbabwe's rainfall pattern has become inconsistent, and Chitungo has lost most of her crops to wilting, though she planted at the usual time. "We have always known that the rains would come on the 15th of October and every farmer plants around that time. But we have been losing our plants because the rains continue to come late and we don't quite know what has been happening," she said. To cope, Chitungo has resorted to spending more and more time living in Harare, Zimbabwe's capital, at her late parents' old house in Kambuzuma, a densely populated small township. There she has found small pieces of land on which to grow maize. Because more and more people are growing crops in the city, to support themselves through Zimbabwe's long period of economic crisis, Olivia could only find available land near an industrial area and on a hill near her parent's house. Her pieces of crop land are just a few of the many carved out in Harare in recent years. Hills stripped of trees have become a common sight as farmers clear any possible land for agricultural purposes.

FERTILE CAPITAL ATTRACTIVE FOR FARMERS

The capital, with its rich soil and location on a watershed plateau between two major rivers, the Zambezi and the Limpopo, continues to entice communal farmers trying to escape losses from persistent droughts and erratic rainfall. The steady migration is pushing up Harare's population, now about 2 million, by about 5 to 7 percent annually, experts believe. Open spaces account for 10 percent of land in the city but are inadequate to meet the rising urban population. Some of the new small farming plots are located near streams, leading to water pollution and leaching through runoff, particularly of the chemical fertilizers farmers use. Although the government has officially recognised urban farming, it has not put in place measures to regulate it and oversee the management of the land. As a result, because of a growing demand for urban agricultural land as one of the few ways of escaping growing poverty in the country, most urban farmers farm anywhere that there are open spaces. That includes places where land is unstable or in industrial areas where manufacturing chemicals in the soil make the resulting crops dangerous to eat.

"I see that my maize has a lighter colour in comparison to other maize and I think it's because I planted close to a factory. But what else can I do? Because if I go back to the rural areas I will not produce even enough to eat," Chitungo said. Many families like hers are therefore between a rock and a hard place, forced to migrate to town in search of more fertile soil that is able to retain a little moisture even if rains fail. Harare often receives more rainfall than rural areas. In Harare, most urban farmers grow maize, potatoes, groundnuts, pumpkins, sweet potatoes and a variety of green leafy vegetables. Some are consumed by the farmers while others are sold to the public and small retailers.

From her two pieces of urban land, Chitungo is able to produce at least 3 tonnes of maize annually, a better yield than the half tonne of maize that her field in the rural areas had produced in recent years after insufficient rain. From the food produced on her urban small plots, she is able to feed her family of five, including her three children and her unemployed husband. She also earns at least \$1,800 annually from selling some of her maize, which augments a small income her husband brings in from doing odd menial jobs. That puts her family well below the poverty line, which stands at \$552 per family of five per month, according to the Consumer Council of Zimbabwe. She says that she is not likely to return to the rural areas to farm. "We can no longer live on the little produce which we have been harvesting in the rural areas. So we will continue to stay here and farm here, because without enough money it is difficult to survive in Zimbabwe these days,"

Source: AlertNet

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A Network for the Co-operative Management
of Environmental Information in Africa

Landfill Gas-to-Electricity Project Launched

A landmark project that converts gas from household waste into electricity has been officially launched in Durban, South Africa. A first for Africa, the project will produce enough electricity for thousands of medium-income homes. It will also inject tens of millions of Rands into the city coffers through the sale of electricity and certified emission reduction credits, also known as carbon credits. But the real winner will be the environment. Millions of cubic metres of greenhouse gases that would otherwise have escaped into the atmosphere each year, contributing to global warming, will now be converted into clean electricity. The project is currently operating at the Marianhill and La Mercy landfills and will be extended to the larger Bisasar Road landfill.

Speaking at the official launch ceremony, Minister of Energy Dipuo Peters said the project will accelerate the use of renewable energy and deal with energy challenges.

The project, she said, was an important part of government's strategic vision to be more sustainable and to tackle climate change.

She said government recognised that renewable energy will significantly contribute to energy supply security by increasing diversification of energy sources, expanding access to energy services and contributing to sustainable development through the optimum use of cleaner energy resources.

"A number of renewable energy sources and technologies are available in South Africa, but most still need to be developed to their full potential," said Peters.

Peters said the project will not only address the waste management and energy demand. It will reduce poverty by creation of employment opportunities, improvement of health status and air quality by reducing the release of harmful greenhouse gases and contribute towards the country's skills development plan.

The landfill gas project received R17.3 million through the Department of Trade and Industry's Critical Infrastructure Programme.

Total project income revenue is estimated around R4.5 million per month (\$600K) realised from the sale of carbon credits and the sale of electricity. [Source: Buanews](#)

Dear Readers,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! (Its February already!!!!)

This month's newsletter has a variety of articles about issues facing Africa and Geospatial Science & Technology.

However with the great tragedy that has taken place in Haiti we have brought you information on sources of data and maps that have covered the natural disaster and the subsequent human catastrophe. Please visit these sites for more details.

EIS-AFRICA wants to apologize to our members that have not received their website passwords. Our website is currently being worked on to solve the problem and passwords should be issued soon. We thank you for your patience in this regard.

Finally, EIS-AFRICA wants to thank all of you for your continued support.

Sives Govender

KENYA: Tackling the crisis of urban poverty

Fridah Awour Agolla has sold vegetables in Nairobi's Mathare slum for 20 years. In better times, her stock sold out every day. But lately market forces have begun to bite even harder for the millions in Kenya who live in such squalid, neglected settlements. "My customers are buying less and less; now I find that goods like vegetables do not sell out, they go into the next day. People's ability to buy these goods has really dropped," Agolla, a mother of five, told IRIN news. Agolla managed to put her children through primary school but never earned enough to pay for secondary education. "If I could afford to join a savings club [where members' regular contributions are distributed on a rotational basis], I'd buy a variety of food to improve my stock and I would probably be selling more, and perhaps some of my children could go back to school," she said. Pamela An-yango Odhiambo, 25, and a mother of five, says making ends meet gets harder and harder in Mathare.

"I think food prices have more than doubled within a short time; for example, with 300 shillings [US\$4] I could feed my family for days. Now it is not even enough for one day," said Odhiambo, nursing two-month-old twins.

"Humanitarian crisis"

Slum-dwellers are among the Kenyans worst hit by high food prices, yet they receive far less humanitarian attention than other demographic groups. The poorest urbanites spend up to two-thirds of their income on staple



foods alone. "There is a humanitarian crisis in deprived informal settlements around the world, and one of the regions where this dynamic is playing out is in Kenya," said Choice Okoro, advocacy and outreach officer for the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs-Kenya. "Urban poverty is set to be Kenya's defining crisis over the next decade if it is not urgently addressed," she added. Okoro said lack of recognition of slums and settlements as residential areas for city planning and budgeting purposes has meant that residents have been denied essential services provided to other residents. "These include water, sanitation, electricity, garbage collection, health, education, access roads and transport," she said. "In turn, the services that property owners provide to tenants are often insufficient. "The number of urban population living in slums is expected to double in the next 15 years, as migration is exacerbated by environmental adversity," she said. In a September 2009 [report](#), Oxfam-GB noted that the proportion of urban Kenyans unable to meet their nutritional and other basic requirements (the "absolute poor") had declined over the past decade. "But this conceals the fact that the percentage share of the very poorest urban groups – defined as the 'food

poor' [those unable to meet all nutritional needs due to expenditure on other basic non-food essentials] and 'hardcore poor' [unable to meet their basic food needs even by forgoing other essentials] has actually been increasing." The report uses government thresholds, which define "nutritional needs" as 2,250 kilocalories per adult per day.

Upgrading

According to the UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), "Nairobi has some of the most dense, unsanitary and insecure slums in the world. Almost half of the population lives in over 100 slums and squatter settlements within the city, with little or inadequate access to safe water and sanitation." In an effort to address these problems, UN-HABITAT, the government and Nairobi City Council are working together on a Kenya Slum Upgrading Project (KENSUP), which focuses on improving infrastructure, initially in Kibera, one of Nairobi's largest slums. "Working together with the people of Kibera, we have identified the areas where the needs are greater, this is why we started working on water and sanitation," said Joshua Kaiganaine, KENSUP's programme manager, noting that \$500,000 had so far been spent on water sanitation blocks, rubbish collection points and a 4km access road. "We tackle waterborne diseases; later, we will move on to different areas like shelter and education but, for that we need to understand what people really can afford considering the majority of them have only casual jobs." In the first phase of a KENSUP slum [decanting initiative](#), in September 2009 some 1,300 residents of Kibera were moved to new apartment blocks with monthly rents of \$20.

Food by SMS

Once it receives Cabinet approval, 20,000 slum residents will receive the equivalent of \$20 a month. Depending on the outcome of the pilot scheme, the programme could be extended to other cities, such as Mombasa and Kisumu. The money will be paid through a microfinance institution, Jami Bora, and via M-Pesa, an electronic cash transfer system operated by a mobile phone service provider.

"Targeting can be a sensitive issue," World Food Programme (WFP) spokesman Peter Smerdon told IRIN, "as there will always be a bigger need that we can realistically target. Not everyone who feels they are eligible can be targeted, at least not in the pilot phase. So explaining how the project will be rolled out is a key part of the process. "WFP, Oxfam and Concern will implement the project on behalf of the Government of Kenya," Smerdon said. "At the same time, however, we will be transferring the project to the Government, which will gradually take it over as part of its overall social protection strategy." [Source: IRIN](#)



Egypt's fertile Nile Delta falls prey to climate change

The Nile Delta, Egypt's breadbasket since antiquity, is being turned into a salty wasteland by rising seawaters, forcing some farmers off their lands and others to import sand in a desperate bid to turn back the tide.

Experts warn that global warming will have a major impact in the delta on agriculture resources, tourism and human migration besides shaking the region's fragile ecosystems.

Over the last century, the Mediterranean Sea, which fronts the coast of the Nile Delta, has risen by 20cm, and saltwater intrusion has created a major challenge, experts say.

A recent government study on the coast of Alexandria, Egypt's second largest city, expects the sea to continue to rise and flood large swathes of land.

"A 30cm rise in sea level is expected to occur by 2025, flooding approximately 200 square kilometres," the study said. "As a result, over half-a-million inhabitants may be displaced and approximately 70 000 jobs could be lost."

Environmental damage to the Nile Delta is not yet one of Egypt's priorities, but experts say if the situation continues to deteriorate, it will trigger massive food shortages which could turn seven million people into "climate refugees" by the end of the century.

The fertile Nile Delta provides about a third of the crops for Egypt's population of 80-million, and a large part of these crops are exported, providing the country with an important source of revenue.

Climatic changes have forced some Delta farmers to abandon their land, while others are trying to adapt by covering their land with beds of sand to isolate it against seawater infiltrations, and grow crops.

"We buy these sacks of sand which cost a lot of money and use them to make a bed on which to grow crops so we can get by," said farmer ElSayed Saad.

"Life is difficult," said Saad, who, like other farmers, must repeat the procedure every 10 years in order to stay productive -- even if that in itself is not a guarantee.

Long-term solutions

Meanwhile, engineering firms specialising in underwater projects have been looking for more long-term solutions.

Mamduh Hamza, of Hamza Associates, has floated a plan to build a waterproof wall or barrier that would effectively separate the sea from the land and raise the shore by 2m.

"The wall will prevent flooding as well as underground infiltration," Hamza said.

The project was submitted to the authorities in 2007 but has not yet been given the go-ahead, amid fears that such a wall would undermine Egypt's Mediterranean beach resorts, which are popular tourist destinations.

Some say that Egypt, like many other developing countries, is suffering from the mistakes of the industrialised West.

"Egypt is only responsible for 0,6% of global greenhouse gas emissions," said Mohammed al-Raey of the Regional Disaster Response Centre.

Raey and other experts believe that rising sea levels will not only risk inundating the fertile Nile Delta region, but will also change the quality of water, as saltwater seeps into the groundwater.

"There is no doubt that [climate change] poses a threat to food security and a threat to social systems," Raey said.

People in affected areas will leave to find work elsewhere, this in turn will cause unemployment in other areas to rise, which leads to crime and threatens general security.

"So we consider this a matter of national security," said Raey, who believes farming in the Delta needs to be restructured to confront the effects of climate change.

"For example, if there are areas that will be flooded, we should use them for fish farms. If there are areas that must be protected, we should protect them with walls," he said.

Egypt's Environmental Affairs Agency also believes that rising sea levels will have an impact on agricultural productivity and fisheries "thus influencing the country's food supply".

The complex ecosystem of the Nile, which has nurtured civilisations for millennia, has already been deeply affected in the last 60 years by the construction of the High Dam in the southern city of Aswan.

The giant project managed to regulate the often devastating effect of the Nile's yearly floods, but it also deprived lands of crucial nutrients and minerals. [Source: AFP](#)

BURKINA FASO: Farmers act on climate change

Disappointed by the “failure” of the Copenhagen talks to adequately help poor countries adapt to climate change, the Burkina Faso government and farmers are working to adjust farming techniques to changing weather patterns.

“Despite the failure of Copenhagen we must follow adaptation at our own cost because we have been experiencing the impacts of climate change in Burkina for several years, and they are getting worse,” Bassiaka Dao, confederation of farmers in Burkina Faso (CPF) president.

Dao said the US\$10 billion that rich nations agreed to provide annually to developing countries to help mitigate climate change effects was insufficient. The UN said at the Copenhagen meetings that \$25 billion to \$50 billion per year would be required.

Impact

Over recent years the rains have begun and ended later than usual in Burkina Faso, continuing into October though September is traditionally harvest time, according to Dao. The rains are also increasingly heavy, leading to soil erosion and flash floods, according to World Bank natural resource management specialist Emmanuel Nikiéma. Some 22,200 hectares of land were flooded in 2009 according to the Ministry of Agriculture. “The rain comes in torrents, with the capacity to flood a field in 15 minutes,” told Dao.

Meanwhile desertification, long a problem in the north, has now spread in pockets to the south, Nikiéma said. Longer rains mean crops risk rotting. Forty percent of the cowpea crop and much of the sorghum harvest rotted in 2009, Dao said.



Farmers need more outside help to help adapt to these new conditions, he said. Through its National Action Adaptation to Climate Change programme, the government has channelled \$3 million to help people adapt in the farming, livestock, forestry and water resource sectors. A key agriculture activity is to extend traditional soil protection techniques, said Dao. Methods include digging “Zai” pits – compost-filled planting pits which hold water, helping deep-rooted vegetables grow; building up grass and rock barriers around crops to protect them from soil erosion; and cultivating manure in septic tanks to use as fertilizer.

But to enable crops to survive erratic rains, many more farmers need access to high-yield, quick-growing seeds, said the World Bank’s Nikiéma. This is one of the priorities of the World Bank’s agricultural production and food security support to Burkina Faso, amounting to \$54.5 million from 2010-2015. Last year the Bank spent \$5 million on distributing quick-harvest sorghum, maize and cowpea seeds.

New varieties of cowpeas can be harvested in 45 days, down from 80, according to agricultural experts; sorghum and maize down to three months from four or five.

Francois Traoré, grain farmer in Burkina’s second largest city Bobo-Dioulasso and president of the National Union of Cotton Producers of Burkina, told IRIN more donors should follow suit.

“Aid to help farmers adapt to changes could open up new areas of agricultural production and transform how we produce crops here.” **Source: IRIN**

First satellite map of Haiti earthquake



The major 7.0-magnitude earthquake that struck the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince on 12 January, caused major casualties and damage. The quake was followed by several aftershocks with magnitudes over 5.0.

Image to the left: Satellite map over the Port-au-Prince area of Haiti acquired on 13 January 2010, following a 7.0 magnitude earthquake and several aftershocks that hit the Caribbean nation on 12 January. Processed by SERTIT. Credits: SERTIT - CNES - International Charter

Such a powerful earthquake can make current maps suddenly out of date, causing additional challenges to rescue workers on the ground. Earth observation satellite images can help rescue efforts by providing updated views of how the landscape and the infrastructure have been affected.

Following the event, the French Civil Protection authorities, the Public Safety of Canada, the American Earthquake Hazards Programme of USGS and the UN

Stabilisation Mission in Haiti requested satellite data of the area from the International Charter on 'Space and Major Disasters'. The initiative, referred to as 'The Charter', is aimed at providing satellite data free of charge to those affected by disasters anywhere in the world.

To meet the requirements of the rescue teams in Haiti, Very High Resolution imagery is needed from both optical and radar sensors. Through the Charter, the international space community is acquiring satellite imagery as quickly as possible. Currently, data are being collected by various satellites including Japan's ALOS, CNES's Spot-5, the U.S.'s WorldView and QuickBird, Canada's RADARSAT-2 and ESA's ERS-2 and Envisat.

Satellite imagery acquired immediately after the event are used to generate emergency maps to provide rescue services with an overview of the current state of the area. These can be compared with situation maps generated from archived satellite data to identify major changes on the ground caused by the disaster.

Comparison of the maps from before and after the event allows areas that have been hit hardest to be distinguished and identify passable routes for relief and rescue workers. Additionally, they can help to identify areas which are suitable for setting up aid camps where medical support and shelter can be provided to people.

Radar satellites are able to peer through clouds, which is an asset when weather conditions prevent the use of optical satellite instruments. Radar imagery can be used to identify hazards such as landslides that may be triggered by earthquakes. In the long term, radar data can also be processed to map surface deformations caused by earthquakes to help scientists understand better seismic events.

The Global Monitoring for Environment and Security's SAFER project is collaborating with the Charter to provide a specialised capacity to produce damage maps over the area. SAFER's value-adding providers SERTIT from Strasbourg and the German Aerospace Centre's (DLR) centre for satellite-based crisis information (ZKI) from Munich are currently working on this. In the framework of SAFER, other user organisations, including the German Federal Office of Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance and the UN World Food Programme, have requested damage-mapping services. Based on the collaboration between the Charter and SAFER, the first space-maps derived from crisis data acquired on 13 January were produced by SERTIT within 24 hours as rapid situation maps to help locate damaged areas with up-to-date cartographic material.

Together with ESA and CNES, the Charter, founded in 2000, currently has 10 members: the Canadian Space Agency (CSA), the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Argentine Space Agency (CONAE), the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), the British National Space Centre/Disaster Monitoring Constellation (BNSC/DMC), the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the China National Space Administration (CNSA).

Via the Charter mechanism, all of these agencies have committed to provide free and unrestricted access to their space assets to support relief efforts in the immediate aftermath of a major disaster.

The Charter also collaborates with other satellite damage-mapping initiatives within the UN such as the UNITAR/UNOSAT team who is receiving support from the U.S. government to analyse satellite imagery to be provided to the Haitian government, UN sister agencies and NGOs. [Source: GeoConnection](#)

The Proven Benefits of OGC Standards

The population of end users who benefit from the use of OGC standards today is global - much to the credit of the growing complement of geospatial technology practitioners in organizations who have been advancing OGC standards as members. The uptake of OGC standards is now sufficient to make further deployment inevitable. In one user domain after another, "it just makes sense" to extend standards-based Internet and Web resources with geospatial data and processing services. It's not hard. It just requires using software equipped with interfaces that implement OGC's open standards.

The following illustrations represent just a few examples of the capabilities and benefits being reaped as a result of implementing OGC standards.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada is not an OGC member, but its website features a growing number of interactive mapping applications that implement OGC standards. SLEWS, a prototype Landslide Monitoring and Early Warning System, is being developed in Germany by a team that includes just one OGC member. Dan Mandl, EO-1 Mission Manager at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, sees cost savings and flexibility that enable his team to do more despite a shrinking budget. Kylie Armstrong, Manager, Business Programs, Landgate, Western Australia, sees no other way to effectively access and fuse data from multiple agencies for decision making in Western Australia. Andrew Terhorst at CSIRO's Tasmanian ICT Centre is implementing a hydrological sensor web on OGC's open platform, and this is enabling much faster and more comprehensive observation, understanding and prediction of water quality and floods and droughts. Stewart Robinson, energy resources consultant, Energy Development Unit, Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform, United Kingdom, oversees a transition to XML-based forms for geospatial data, and OGC provides the required international standards. In these countries and in many other countries, agencies at lower levels of government are following the lead of federal agencies, resulting in the coherent National Spatial Data Infrastructures that were first envisioned twenty years ago.

In virtually all such situations, one motivating factor is that governments and businesses are trying to manage on reduced budgets. OGC standards are helping organizations extend the lives of legacy systems, quickly deploy new capabilities, and acquire service components that previously were available only as part of expensive multi-feature packages.

Benefits have been carefully documented in at least two studies. The 2005 "Geospatial Interoperability Return on Investment Study" by Booz Allen Hamilton for the NASA Geospatial Interoperability Office showed that there is a significant improvement when using open standards over proprietary standards. The project in the study that implemented geospatial interoperability standards had a risk-adjusted ROI, or "Savings to Investment," ratio of 119.0% over the 5 year project life cycle. This project saved 26.2% compared to the project that relied upon a proprietary standard. And a 2007 study by the Centre of Land Policy and Valuations of the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya showed that the initial investment to set up the IDEC SDI was recovered in just 4 months, or 6 months if the operating costs for 2004-05 are also included. The mix of OGC standards and web services helped them to meet their goals and accelerate pay-back of costs.

Technologies officers are benefiting as well - now able to compete in markets that they were previously "locked out of" because customers' choices were limited by proprietary interfaces and encodings.

OGC has continued to grow throughout the current recession. This trend shows that our standards as well as our proven, repeatable processes have value during hard times. Agencies and businesses seeking improved interoperability in technology domains and application domains see OGC as the fastest, cheapest, best and often the only way to solve their geospatial interoperability problems. As more domains become spatially enabled, the remaining areas of non-interoperability become the focus of attention. And as awareness grows, people see the connection between geospatial interoperability and cost savings in other domains like urban planning, mortgage and real estate, climate change and smart grid.

The OGC encourages readers to visit their website to look at their new "Endorsements" page, which includes comments from just a few of the user organizations that have embraced OGC standards. African readers are encouraged to consider expanding this page by providing an image and brief paragraph to help build public awareness of the value that standards and processes are providing to the broader Geo-information community. Please visit <http://www.opengeospatial.org/> for more information. **Source: OGC Website**

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

This website contains Haiti population data in two formats:

- Raster map of population estimated for 100-meter (1 hectare) grid squares. This can be downloaded for use in GIS software or queried via an online viewer (no GIS required, but only works with Internet Explorer). This is a recently-developed U.S. Census Bureau product, based on satellite imagery analysis and the 2003 Haitian census.

- Population data linked to shapefiles at the first, second, and third administrative levels (similar to states, counties, townships in the U.S.). The population numbers are from the 2003 Haitian census. Projections to 2009 will be posted soon.

<https://www.geoint-online.net/community/haitiearthquake/default.aspx>

Haiti Earthquake - U.S. Census Bureau Population Data
A GEOINT ONLINE Community

Home Haiti News

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 - Geospatial Data Files
 - Mobile Data
 - Shared Documents
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 - Tasks
 - Calendar
 - Geospatial Data Links
 - Geospatial Data Points
- Discussions
 - Team Discussion
- Sites
 - Haiti News
 - Links
- People and Groups

This is a PUBLIC Site for the dissemination of U.S. Census Bureau Population Data on Haiti and a Population Calculator.

[Visit the NGA Haiti Earthquake Crisis Response website](#)
Click here to view the [NGA Haiti Earthquake Crisis Response](#) website.

Demobase Haiti
Populations at Risk: Demobase is an interagency pilot initiative led by the US Department of State and US Census Bureau in conjunction with colleagues from NGA, DNI, DIA and CIA. Demobase is an interagency pilot initiative led by the US Department of State and US Census Bureau in conjunction with colleagues from NGA, DNI, DIA and CIA. The pilot is an experimental project that will estimate, characterize, and allocate geospatial distribution of foreign populations before a crisis occurs and make those data publicly available. The methodology developed in this pilot would be available to contribute to a surge effort during unanticipated future disasters where population estimates have not yet been made.

[Click to explore demographic data](#)

[Click to download population estimates and administrative boundaries \(Source: U.S. Census Bureau\)](#)
Census POC for data/maps: Dr. Joshua Comenetz - joshua.comenetz@census.gov

We welcome comments on the demographic data being provided. Click on "Team Discussion" on the left.

Public Links

- [Wiki on Haiti](#)
- [Aggregated RSS Feed on Haiti](#)
- [GeoEye Imagery AFTER Earthquake \(KML\)](#)

Demobase Haiti Preview (Click "Explore Demographic Data" link above for actual site)

To get started, watch these training videos: [Site Overview](#), [Explore Haiti](#), [Drawing Polygons](#), [Hurricane Tool](#)

Pop. Est. Tools

- Draw Polygon
- Draw Hurricane
- Deactivate

Map Satellite Hybrid

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Upcoming Events Announcements

- AARSE 2010, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, End October 2010.



2010 AAG ANNUAL MEETING April 14-18, 2010 – Washington, DC

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Comments welcome

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