

Global Activities



● Contributing to SDGs and solutions to global issues with geospatial info

GSI as a member of the United Nations Committee of Experts for Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) established in 2011 under the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is taking part in the promotion of international utilization of the global geospatial information. In the UN-GGIM, GSI has participated in talks with other countries' agencies competent for geospatial information as co-chair of the working group on geospatial information and services for disasters (WG-Disasters) and as member of the subcommittee on geodesy and led the activities in the Asia-Pacific Region.

● Technical cooperation in developing countries

GSI provides technical assistance to developing countries through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for mapping processes and improvement of survey skills in developing countries. In fact, GSI has constantly received more than 900 trainees from 100 developing countries since 1959. On the other hand, GSI has sent more than 250 experts to foreign countries for training in survey techniques since 1964. In October 2019, JICA granted "the JICA President Award" to GSI for these efforts.



Technical training for foreign trainees in Japan

Recently, requests of technical cooperation especially relating to GNSS CORS are increasing, with the rise of high-precision positioning society. We are responding to these requests and working with them.

● Antarctic research expedition

GSI has constructed control points on the Antarctic and contributed to the compilation of fundamental and scientific data. GSI has assigned its personnel to the Antarctic observation expeditions to conduct geodetic surveys and map creations since the first mission in 1956. In 2019, GSI personnel joined the 61st mission. Furthermore, as part of the International GNSS Service (IGS) activities, GSI is carrying out continuous GNSS observations on East Ongul Island where the Syowa Station is located.



Monitoring the movement of ice sheet (shot by the 61st mission)



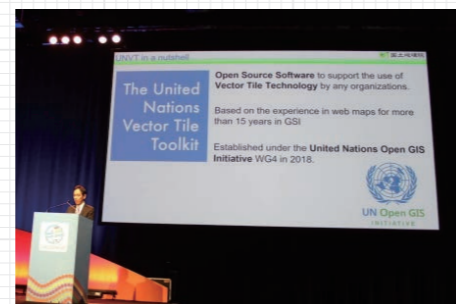
Gravity surveying on the exposed rock without ice (shot by the 61st mission)

Geospatial infrastructure to the globe

The United Nations General Assembly in 2015 adopted the first resolution in the survey field, recognizing the importance of the accurate positioning (latitude/longitude) in the people's daily lives and economic activities.

While working with many countries around the world for realizing accurate reference frame for positioning, GSI is promoting active utilization of geospatial information in many fields including disaster prevention in an international partnership. These activities are referred to in the national government's programs for achieving SDGs (sustainable development goals).

And GSI is extending technical cooperation with developing countries in the field of surveying and geospatial information including GNSS CORS utilizing Japanese experience and technique.



The 8th Plenary Meeting of the Regional Committee of UN-GGIM for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP)

Contribution to the United Nations operations in the field of geospatial information (Expert dispatched to the United Nations Geospatial Information Section; Mr. UBUKAWA Taro)

The United Nations Geospatial Information Section is responsible to provide full spectrum of geospatial information and services to the full range of the United Nations operations, including the Security Council, the Secretariat and the United Nations peacekeeping Operations.

Taking advantage of my experience in GSI, I am providing professional expertise to deliver enhanced geospatial information and services with various new technologies including open source geospatial technology and web mapping. More specifically, I am working on deploying a web mapping tool named "United Nations Vector Tile Toolkit (UNVT)" at the United Nations, which has jointly been developed by the United Nations and GSI. I am also participating in the Joint Secretariat activities of UN-GGIM and providing a support to WG-Disasters.



UNVT implementation with Micro-PC



Working at UN Secretariat