



Global Land Cover Network

GLCN



Dear Colleagues,

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) have recently launched the Global Land Cover Network (GLCN) with the objective to improve the availability of global information on land cover and its dynamics, harmonizing land cover mapping and monitoring at national, regional and global levels. GLCN will generate essential data needed for sustainable development, environmental protection, food security and humanitarian programmes of the United Nations, and of other international and national institutions.

The GLCN initiative will bring together national technical staff in the field of Remote Sensing/GIS, Agriculture, Forestry, Pasture/Rangeland, Environment, and Food Security to develop a network at the regional and global scale to adopt the standardization of land cover measurement methods and develop regional and global land cover products. The collaboration will involve not only data providers but also data users and policy-makers.

As part of the initiative, GLCN is organizing a training workshop on land cover mapping in Pretoria, South Africa from 13-17 December 2004. Training will be provided in the use of the Land Cover Classification System (LCCS) and other geo-information technologies, which can be used on national and regional projects. The workshop will also be used to initiate regional collaboration and GLCN projects.

The workshop is intended for officials from national institutes involved in land cover mapping from the following countries: Angola, Botswana, Comoros Islands, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

If you are interested in participating in the workshop and/or would like to collaborate in the GLCN initiative, please complete the attached form and return it with your CV to the GLCN Secretariat as soon as possible; selection of participants will initiate on the 10 November 2004.

Please note that the workshop will be conducted in English.

Please forward this information to colleagues who may be interested in the GLCN initiative.

Best regards,

John Latham

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This workshop is hosted by:

**Department of Land Affairs
Chief Directorate of Surveys and Mapping
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