

TITLE

Report on TSCOM activities

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This document provides reports on activities from TSCOM since GGC37 and is asking GGC to help refining elements of governance

Action to be taken: See paragraph 3

Related documents: None

1. Overview of activities since GGC37

- **TSCOM membership** was updated with the addition of one new members: Evgenia Bazhenova (RUS, formerly NIWA), Cisco Navidad (AUS, CSIRO), Boele Kuipers (NO, NHS), George Spoelstra (NL, RNLN)
- TSCOM nominated Karen Marks as Chief Editor of the **Cookbook Editorial Board** (no opposition from TSCOM members following a period of 2 weeks). See report from Cook Book Editorial board on its recent activities.
- **Metadata working group**: A metadata template has been discussed, proposed by the MWG and is published on the GEBCO website. (See detailed information in the report on the Metadata working group)
- **Use of SRTM**: following earlier discussions to use SRTM15+ and collaborate with David Sandwell to mutually improve the GEBCO grid and the SRTM15+, the latest SRTM15+ grid has been integrated into the GEBCO grid.
- **GEBCO 2021 grid review**: TSCOM members have contributed identifying residual artefacts in the grid using facilities provided by CCOM/UNH. Data selection (e.g. sparse single beam surveys) and precision of GEBCO grid in coastal areas are issues frequently found.
- **Opportunity Mapping App**: The main objective is to propose an easy to use analytical tool identifying gaps in the bathymetric coverage and associated facilities to help optimizing routes to cover them. Constitution of a working group is currently undergoing with expected contribution from Erin Heffon (OET), Paul Johnson (CCOM/UNH), Vicki Ferrini (Lamont Doherty), Wetherbee Dorshow (Earthanalytic), Lindsay Gee (OET). Terms of Reference for this sub-group and proposed methodology are still to be discussed.
- **Undersea features detection using pattern recognition**: an informative meeting has taken place with SCUFN member Anna Hendi (CHS) to share views on methods to automatically detect seamounts.

Pending actions from GGC37 to work on:

- **GEBCO Website:** Proposal to withdraw B-9 (1 minute gridded bathymetry). Actions to be undertaken to finalise by the GEBCO Website working group.
- **Web Services working group:** A group composed of TSCOM/SCRUM/DCDB and Seabed 2030 Technical team to investigate how to optimize web services applications has to be built.

2. TSCOM function and governance

Now that Seabed 2030 has structured its development and GEBCO grid production activities with the creation of the Seabed Technical Team (STT) and the full constitutions of RDACCs and GDACC, the role of TSCOM has become ambiguous. TSCOM recognizes the key role of each of the previously mentioned actors, and notably the STT in managing daily technical activities with RDACCs and GDACCs, however the TSCOM Chair wonders how best the Sub-Committee can refine its mandate and improve its advising role in this new context. Open questions are:

- Who or what triggers the request for an opinion or advice from TSCOM?
- To what extent TSCOM's advice is taken in consideration?
- What is the position of TSCOM inside the Seabed2030 technical working group?
- In light of some of the answers, how best improving communications inside the committee to help mobilising human resources inside TSCOM?

3. Action

The GGC is requested to:

- a. **Note** the contents of this report;
- b. **Provide** TSCOM feedback on a redefined/updated governance
- c. **Take** any other action deemed appropriate.