

**QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE IHO - NIPPON FOUNDATION  
GEOSPATIAL MARINE ANALYSIS AND CARTOGRAPHY (GEOMAC) PROJECT**

References:

- A. IHO Publication P-1 The International Hydrographic Review Volume 30(2), pp. 160-168 - Overview of the IHO–Nippon Foundation GEOMAC project and its evolution over 15 years. <https://doi.org/10.58440/ihr-30-2-n11>
- B. IHO CL 10/2014 dated 24 January - Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the International Hydrographic Organization and The Nippon Foundation.
- C. IHO CL 04/2025 dated 23 January - Call for applications for training under the IHO - Nippon foundation Geospatial Marine Analysis and Cartography (GEOMAC) Project, UKHO, TAUNTON, UK.

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The IHO-Nippon Foundation projects, through the IHO Capacity Building Programme, have been providing opportunities for training in a FIG-IHO-ICA IBSC recognized with the Category “B” programme for Nautical Cartographers at the UKHO for over 15 years (Reference A). From the start of the “Japan Capacity Building Project” (JCBP) in 2008, to the “Cartography, Hydrography and Related Training” (CHART), and “Geospatial Marine Analysis and Cartography” (GEOMAC), the total number of alumni who have graduated from this course has now reached 106 from 51 countries.

2. The second course of the current three-year cycle of the GEOMAC project funded by The Nippon Foundation, based on the MoU between the IHO and The Nippon Foundation (Reference B), was successfully completed in December 2024. All Member States which consider that their nautical cartographic production could benefit from the provision of recognized training in nautical cartography are now invited to consider nominating suitable candidates for seven positions on the third course of this cycle which will take place at the UK Hydrographic Office (UKHO), Taunton, UK, from 14 July to 12 December 2025 (Reference C).

3. To identify the concrete needs of Member States for the subsequent three-year cycle of the GEOMAC project from 2026 – 2028 and to further raise awareness of the GEOMAC project among Member States, a **Questionnaire in Annex** has been prepared.

4. To help to continue, improve and strengthen the GEOMAC project, all Member States are invited to complete the Annex via the IHO Online Form System, **no later than 15 May 2025**. If Member States experience technical difficulties with the IHO Online Form System, please contact the IHO Secretariat. The IHO Online Form System can be accessed at the following address:  
[https://IHO.formstack.com/forms/web\\_form\\_cl\\_10\\_2025](https://IHO.formstack.com/forms/web_form_cl_10_2025).

5. The IHO Secretariat would also like to renew its sincere thanks to The Nippon Foundation for its substantial support to the IHO Capacity Building and other programmes.

On behalf of the Secretary-General  
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Luigi Sinapi', written in a cursive style.

Luigi SINAPI  
Director

Annex: Questionnaire Form for the IHO-Nippon Foundation GEOMAC Project  
(*in English only*)

**Questionnaire Form for the IHO-Nippon Foundation GEOMAC Project**

*To reach the IHO Secretariat **no later than 15 May 2025***



via the IHO Online Form System:  
[https://IHO.formstack.com/forms/web\\_form\\_cl\\_10\\_2025](https://IHO.formstack.com/forms/web_form_cl_10_2025)



Member State: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Basic Country Information in Nautical Cartography**

Q-01. Does your country publish its own nautical charts or have specific plans to do so?

- YES
- NO

Q-02. If you responded “NO” to Q-01. Would your country like to publish its own nautical charts in the future (or ideally)?

- YES
- NO

Q-03. How many nautical cartographers are currently working in your country, approximately?

(            ) Persons

**The Nippon Foundation and the JCBP/CHART/GEOMAC Projects**

Q-04. Is your country aware that the JCBP/CHART/GEOMAC projects are supported by The Nippon Foundation?

- YES
- NO

Q-05. Are there any requests that your country would like to make to The Nippon Foundation?

**Application Status for the JCBP/CHART/GEOMAC Projects**

Q-06. Has your country ever nominated candidates for the IHO-Nippon Foundation JCBP/CHART/GEOMAC training course?

- YES
- NO

Q-07. If you responded “NO” to Q-06. Was your country aware of the existence of the IHO-Nippon Foundation JCBP/CHART/GEOMAC training course?

- YES
- NO

Q-08. If you responded “YES” to Q-07 (and “NO” to Q-06). Why has your country not nominated candidates before?

Q-09. If you responded “YES” to Q-06. For which training courses has your country nominated candidates? (multiple choice)

- JCBP (Japan Capacity Building Project)
- CHART (Cartography, Hydrography and Related Training)
- GEOMAC (Geospatial Marine Analysis and Cartography)

Q-10. If you responded “YES” to Q-06. How many candidates has your country nominated in total?

(            ) Persons

Q-11. If you responded “YES” to Q-06. Why has your country nominated candidates?

Q-12. If you responded “YES” to Q-06. Have candidates from your country been selected as trainees?

- YES
- NO

Q-13. If you responded “YES” to Q-12 (and Q-06). How many candidates from your country have been selected as trainees in total?

(            ) Persons

Q-14. If you responded “YES” to Q-12 (and Q-06). What specific contributions have they made related to nautical chart production?

**Future Needs for the GEOMAC Project**

Q-15. What do you feel about the current number of trainees (7 trainees) per training course?

- Not enough
- Adequate
- Too many

Q-16. Roughly how many potential candidates do you estimate that your country will have in the next 10 years? (You do not need to consider the actual number of possible nominees.)

- 2 persons or less
- 2-4 persons
- 4-8 persons
- 8-16 persons
- 16 persons or more

Q-17. Are there any new or enhanced contents that you think should be incorporated into the GEOMAC training course in the future? The current course contents can also be found in Annex A to IHO CL04/2025. (You can describe any content beyond the current Category “B” accredited programme for nautical cartographers.)

Q-18. What other improvements, if any, do you think should be made to the GEOMAC training course in the future? (application, selection criteria, language, course contents, alumni activities, etc.)