



Acronym: RCMRD
Full Name: Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development
Website: www.rcmrd.org
Established: 1975
Location: Nairobi, Kenya

Areas of expertise: Geo-information and allied ICT products and services in environmental and resource management for sustainable development.

Main Partners and collaborations: Regional Disaster Management Centre of Excellence (RDMCOE), International Institute for Geo-Information Sciences and Earth Observation (ITC), Clarke University (USA), Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, University of Nairobi, Kenyatta University, University of Dar salaam (UCLAS), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations-Habitat, US Geological Survey, NASA, ESA, Global Earth Observation System (GEOS), International Cartographic Association (ICA), Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), Maps Geo-systems Ltd (UAE), Creative Associates (USA).

Short Description:

The Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD), previously known as Regional Centre for Services in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing (RCSSMRS) was established in Nairobi, Kenya in 1975 under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the then Organization of African Unity (OAU). Its founder members are Kenya, Uganda, Somalia, Tanzania and Malawi and the Government of the Republic of Kenya hosts it. It is a non-profit intergovernmental organization and currently has 15 contracting member States, namely: Botswana, Comoros, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Somalia, South Africa Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. Other countries affiliated to the Centre are: Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Rwanda, Burundi, Madagascar, Djibouti, Eritrea, Zaire and South Africa.

Since its establishment, the Center has been very instrumental in capacity building in resource survey, mapping, remote sensing, GIS and natural resources assessment and management in Africa. It was also instrumental in helping different countries establish their National Mapping Agencies. To date the Centre has trained technical officers from its member States and other African countries in the fields of surveying and mapping, remote sensing, GIS and natural resources assessment and management. The Centre has also implemented numerous projects on behalf of its member States and development partners.

Main activities:

The mission of the RCMRD is to promote the development and use of Geo-information and allied ICT products and services in environmental and resource management for sustainable development. In order to accomplish its mission, the RCMRD organizes its activities through three functional divisions, namely: Remote Sensing (Geo-information) and Environmental Management Programme, Human Resources Programme and Surveys, Mapping & Land Information Programme.

The current activities of the RCMRD are the promotion of Geo-information technologies as tools of resource planning and management (training and applications); the promotion of the Development of National Spatial Data Infrastructures (NSDI) and SDI as business investment; the Capacity Building in GIS and remote sensing applications, Database development and management, Modern surveying techniques, Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), Integrated Computer Courses, Customer tailored courses; and the provision of consultancy and advisory services in surveying, mapping, environmental management, resource planning and management and in maintenance and calibration of surveying and mapping equipment.

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Source:

- Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD)
- http://www.itc.nl/news_events/55year/_docs/Ottichilo.pdf