

10 – SPECIAL INITIATIVES



AfriGEOSS initiative aims to provide the necessary framework for African countries and organizations as well as international partners to access and leverage on-going local and international bilateral and multilateral EO-based initiatives across Africa, thereby creating synergies and minimizing duplication for the benefit of the continent. Ref <http://www.earthobservations.org/afrigeoss.php> RCMRD hosts the AfriGEOSS secretariat.



AFREF - The African Geodetic Reference Frame (AFREF) was conceived as a unified geodetic reference frame for Africa to be the fundamental basis for the national and regional three-dimensional reference networks fully consistent and homogeneous with the International Terrestrial Reference Frame (ITRF). To achieve this, Continuously Operating Reference Operating Stations (CORS) or Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) base stations need to be established. Ref. <https://www.rcmr.org/apps-data/afref-and-geodesy>

BIOPAMA

BIOPAMA - RCMRD is the Eastern & Southern Africa Regional Resource Hub towards supporting effective decision making for biodiversity and protected area data and information for research and innovation. Ref: www.biopama-rrh.rcmr.org



Land Data Repository - The objective of implementing NELGA (Network of Excellence on Land Governance in Africa) Web Portal and Data Repository is towards making information available to researchers to enable applied research to inform policy dialogue and reforms, as well as providing them with the necessary data to monitor government policy and program implementation. <https://www.rcmr.org/projects/nelga-land-web-portal-data-repository>



SERVIR Eastern & Southern Africa – Is a joint initiative of RCMRD, USAID & NASA to increase abilities of African Institutions in application of Geospatial Technologies to Climate Action. See www.servir.rcmr.org/



Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development

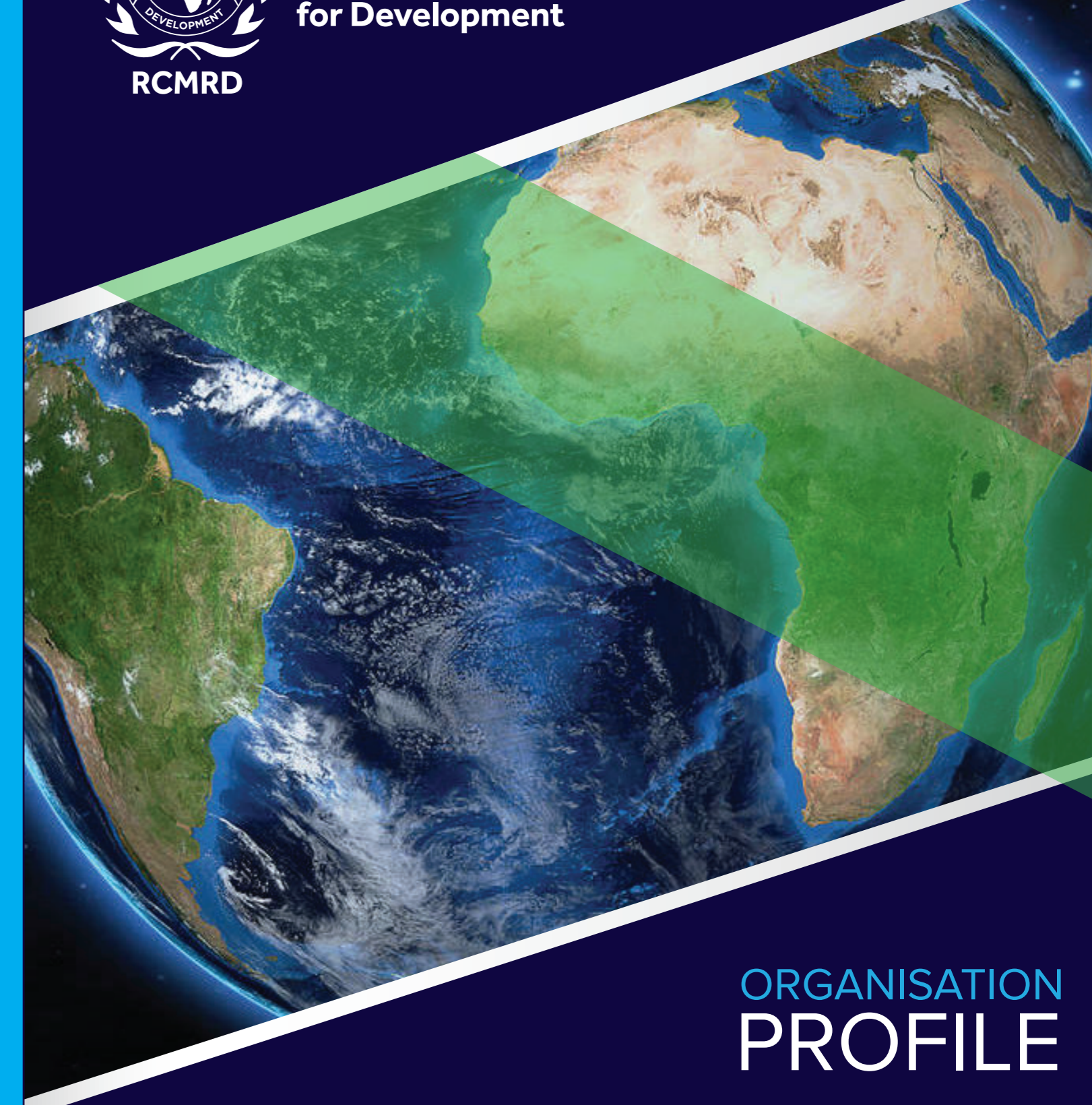
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Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development



ORGANISATION PROFILE



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ABOUT US

The Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD) 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), today African Union (AU). RCMRD is an inter-governmental organization and currently has 20 Contracting Member States in the Eastern and Southern Africa Regions; Botswana, Burundi, Comoros, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somali, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.



OUR VISION

To be a Premier Centre Of Excellence in the Provision of Geo-Information and Allied Technologies for Sustainable Development in the Member State and Other Stakeholders.

OUR MISSION

To Strengthen the Member States and our Stakeholders' Capacity through Generation, Application and Dissemination of Geo-Information and Allied Technologies for Sustainable Development.



RCMRD THEMATIC AREAS

RCMRD executes its mandate as part of global agenda through thematic areas listed below which also includes components of capacity building at policy and technical levels.



01 - Biodiversity & Ecosystems Sustainability
RCMRD integrates a wide variety of ecosystem data to document and classify ecosystems more accurately so that policy makers act on better environmental information. We generate information important for Natural Capital and Ecosystems Accounting, monitoring of mangroves, Harmful Algal Blooms, soils maps for Africa etc.



03 - Earth Observation & Geo-Information Technology (EO & GIT)
Earth observations, geospatial data/technology and derived information play insightful roles in monitoring targets, planning, tracking progress and helping RCMRD Member States and stakeholders make informed decisions, plans, and on-going adjustments that contribute toward achieving Sustainable Development Goals (Agenda 2030).



04 - Food Security & Sustainable Agriculture
RCMRD prioritizes development of robust agriculture information systems, up-to-date products to inform food security outlooks, and agricultural decision support systems. Earth observation data has the potential to be effectively applied in agricultural assessments and monitoring, and in development of tools and products at different spatial extents as an input to agricultural decision-making processes. Earth Observations combined with other data contribute to crop monitoring to counter food insecurity.



02 - Climate Action & Disaster Resilience
Climate Change and its impacts cut across all societal benefit areas. We are continuously developing, testing and applying vulnerability mapping tools to support assessments of climate change. RCMRD supports national, regional and global initiatives to enhance observation systems, thereby strengthening resilience and adaptive capacities to climate-related hazards and disasters. RCMRD develops decision support tools addressing all our thematic areas on topical issues such as climate smart agriculture, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Floods and its effects such as landslides, Droughts, Climate Modelling, Epidemics, Hotspots Assessments etc.

RCMRD supports Disaster Resilience by increasing coordination of decision support tools that apply use of Earth Observations (EO)



05 - Health Surveillance
RCMRD advocates the value of Earth Observations to engage communities and deliver data and information in support of Health Surveillance by yielding insight into the threat of vector-borne and environmentally-linked diseases, taking into account impacts of climate change; in order to promote a substantial reduction in the number of fatalities and illnesses from infectious diseases, environmental pollution and health risks.



06 - Knowledge Management & Capacity Building
RCMRD carries out capacity building and capacity transfer as part of its core mandate to increase expertise on issues relating to application of Earth Observation (EO) and Geo-Information Technology (GIT) as part of Knowledge management (KM). RCMRD promotes innovation and sharing of lessons learned through integration of GIT in system processes as an enabler of capacity building/transfer through;

- Professional Training in basic and applied EO, GIT and Geomatics
- Academic Programmes in EO, Land Surveying, Photogrammetry and Cartography at the Regional Centre Training Institute (RCTI)
- Knowledge Dissemination through use of Geo-Portals and specialized trainings to create, share, use and manage information extracted from GIT & EO for improved and timely decision making

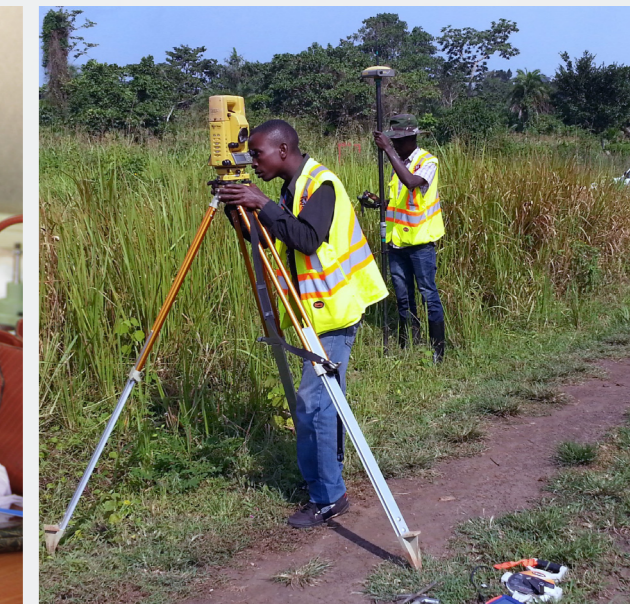


07 - Land Management, Surveying & Mapping
RCMRD carries out Sustainable Land Management (SLM) programmes application of EO, GIT, Surveying and Mapping, Global Navigation Satellite Systems/Global Positioning Systems (GNSS/GPS) including Geodesy, Cadastre and Valuation. RCMRD supports Fit-For-Purpose (FFP) Land Administration/Management in areas such as Land Reforms, Land Registration, Land Process Automation, Gender Mainstreaming.



08 - Natural Resources Management
RCMRD has dedicated efforts in building the capacity of Member State governments and private sector institutions to work with Earth observation data and geospatial technologies to derive tools and information necessary for;

- Natural Resources Management (NRM) Integrated Water Resource Monitoring (IWRM)
- Forestry, Range Land Management, Management, Land Use & Land Cover Change Management, Management of Blue/Green Economies
- Environmental Planning & Policy, Degradation Assessments



09 – Sustainable Urban Development, Infrastructure and Transportation
Use of Earth observations promotes equity, welfare and shared prosperity for all levels of human settlement, fostering national urban planning and showing land change over time to rethink the Urban Agenda. RCMRD advocates the value of EO & GIT to engage communities and deliver data and information in support of Sustainable Urban Development, Urban Planning/Policy, Physical Planning, Urban Management, Urban Land Use & Land Cover Change Management and Transport Modelling.

QUALITY STATEMENT

Achieving Customers & Member States Satisfaction by Continually Improving Processes, Products & Services.