Geo-localized Maps and Satellite Imagery Analysis

User Guide

Version 1.0
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Introduction

Visibility of achievement is still a concern for some country offices and their partners. Therefore, UNDP is recognizing the need to enhance the transparency of projects’ results and of their impact. The enhanced transparency will improve projects’ monitoring and reporting to donors and all stakeholders.

Although communication, monitoring and reporting teams have managed to provide timely, accurate and updated facts, security and access are inevitable constraints that still limit their expectations.

The Geo-localized maps and Satellite Imagery Analysis will allow monitoring projects, measuring impacts and communicating results in a more visual manner. It covers wider area with less effort, and can reach areas that involves cumbersome travel.

It’s important to note that the type of satellite imageries used by UNDP cannot track or identify any individuals.

Objectives:

The main objective of this project is the implementation of satellite imagery analysis through digital maps (a GIS platform) for the locations of interest provided by the country offices. This solution should assist in enhancing overall UNDP’s planning and coordination, field monitoring, communication and donor mobilization.

Platform Design:

The design of the platform is two-fold: Global Shell and Story Maps

- Global Shell shows the overall view of all the digital maps created across the planet and provides links to access them

- Story maps are for specific city/village to show the timeline of projects over the available years. They are in turn designed to be two-fold – Cascading section and Explorer section. The user will be required to login with the credentials provided by OIMT to access it.
Global Shell
The overall view of all the digital maps created through this project is showcased within a global shell (accessible at undp.unosat.org).

Pop-up Window:
The pop-up window gives a quick impression of the project and few generic tips for low-bandwidth. If preferred, please check ‘Do not show again’ to block the pop-up window from appearing again.

Screenshot showing the pop-up window in the beginning of the Global Shell

Global Shell – Map Page:
The top banner is designed to provide an easy way to navigate across the platform. There are two primary views – 2D and 3D to give users the options to visualize the map in different dimensions. The default view is 3D.

A screenshot showing various options within the Global Shell
More Options:

Apart from the available options in the main map page, there are additional options available under ‘More Options’ provided through the upper-right corner. This allows the user to access more information regarding the project and to use different base maps available.

"Disclaimer: The boundaries and names depicted here do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. They are derived from various freely available sources and not warranted to be error free."
Accessing individual UNDP Projects:
To access individual story maps, click on a country of interest or zoom in to see different regions. Alternatively, one could also search for specific locations using the search bar.

- When you click the View Storymap option, a pop-up will ask for credentials. Use the account details given to sign in to arc online.

- Use the View PDF to download the Storymap (especially if you are using internet with significantly lower bandwidth).
Navigating Story Map
The digital maps form the core of this project, providing a clear flow of information displayed using satellite imageries from available years. There are two important sections within each Story Map.

Story Maps – Cascading Section
This section is designed to enable the users to view the progress of the individual projects by scrolling through different maps showing very high-resolution satellite imageries that are aligned over one another. It is expected that it might take time for this section to load. The maps are made interactive and linked to photos from the ground taken using geocoded mobile applications.

- Scroll down to access the map or drag the cursor to the right – keep scrolling to see imagery from different years

Overview of a sample story map page

- Click on individual points 🔄 to learn more
- The legend used is standardized to best represent the different features and their status over the years.

Story Maps – Explorer
This section provides the user with variety of interactive options to improve the application of digital maps such as zoom-in, zoom-out, access to legend, Design tools to customize, print option, option to share, time slider to automatically view over the years and a bookmark section to zoom to points of interest.

- Click on the Explore option at the bottom right corner of the page to interact with the map

- The default option is the bookmarks; if not visible, click on the Signets (Bookmarks) to navigate to different points of interest
- Use 🕒 time slide to see the changes in images over time. Once clicked, the animation automatically starts – it is possible to interact with the map at any point in time during the animation.

- Use 🎨 Designer to be able to mark points of interest directly on the interactive map. You can choose from different options available to customize to your needs.

- Use Share 🍃 to get a link to be able to share it. Please note that viewing is not possible without the access rights. All users will be asked to sign in.
- Use Print to save the map as a PDF or print a hard copy. This can be shared with others more readily.

- At any point in time use the ‘Back to Homepage’ button on the top right to return to the global shell.

- Click Stop Exploring once you are done.