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ANNUAL REPORT

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APPEAL
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CartONG

www.CartONG.org

cartong

CartONG, Mapping and GIS services for humanitarian organisations

Earthquake in Haiti:
Immediate intervention,
backup of IMS setting up
a collaborative cartography
for community radios



Earthquake in Chili:
dynamic cartography
of the needs
concerning radios.



Establishment of data
management by MapAction
carried on. Consolidation of
the displaced populations
database, cartography of
indicators and needs.

GeoONG 2010: Foremost community-
life occasion. Around 30 organizations
assembled to swap ideas on technological
advances and the possibilities of certain
mobile tools in the humanitarian field.



Beginning of the Nomad
project, consortium around
IMMAP: data gathering mobile
tools, integration of existing
technologies of data transfer
to insure a better data flow.



January

March

August

September

October

November

GIS training sessions at
the head office for URD



Evaluation of damage,
reinforcement of UNOSAT skills,
counting of damaged buildings
through the use of satellite imagery

Beginning of the HTNS (Health
and Nutrition Tracking Service)
project. Setting up of small dynamic
maps to access and maintain the
health and nutrition indicators.



Training for Bioforce logisticians
(in both May and October)



Mission to assist the UNHCR in Kivu
concerning data gathering and the
formalization of mobile phone questionnaires.

Active participation to
the human rights « Visualize
the rights of women in the
Arab world » forum.

Our activities/our actions

CartONG offers services of geographic data management, of mapping and GIS, of expertise in data management related to population displacement, of training sessions and of awareness concerning the uses of geographic data management. In 2010, CartONG started to work on mobile applications to collect information.

Our actions:

- Supplying geographic information, such as data and maps, to on-site collaborators through its NGO network. CartONG is committed to supplying geographic information to the network members in as short a time as possible;
- Manage the organization's information to help decision-making,
- Supply summary maps for the humanitarian organizations' projects,
- Guarantee autonomy of data management,
- Train self-sufficient and independent staff to the use of GIS databases and software,
- Increase awareness as to management of information technologies,
- Bring an expertise to the GIS and mapping field in the humanitarian context (post-catastrophe mapping, population displacement or development)
- Validate field information,
- To federate humanitarian organizations that work with mapping tools.

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To summarize 2010, the activities linked to the Haiti earthquake were essential. We can differentiate those linked entirely to the field during missions linked to expertise or to deployment support and the activities of awareness raising/training to the GIS and cartographic tools in the humanitarian and development field.

1. Mission activities: projects
 - Project concerning mobile technologies for the UNHCR in Kivu (DRC) that can be related in terms of Research and Development to the NOMAD project
 - support for the Shelter Cluster in Haiti
2. Deployment support activities: expertise
 - Organization support for the Haiti earthquake
 - Development of web mapping applications
 - Projects linked to data gathering and structuring
 - Activities of training in mapping and data management for crisis situations
3. Coordination activities: GeONG 2010

● Where CartONG works.

In 2010, CartONG worked most of all in post-earthquake Haiti, but also in Democratic Republic of the Congo.

● WEBSIG of the HNTS

Key figures: 1 web developer and one project manager

Contractor: Health and Nutrition Tracking Service (HNTS) of the WHO

Cost : ~10500€ (2010)

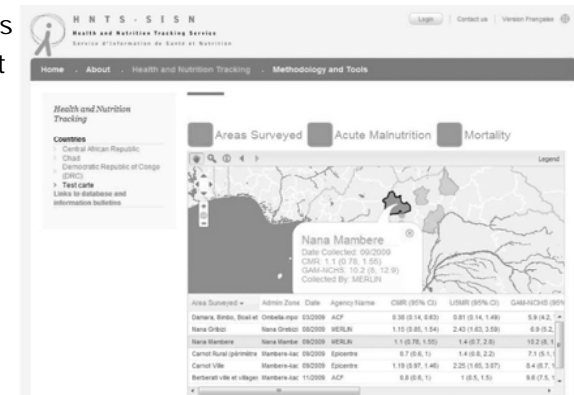
Beneficiaries: HNTS and health cluster

Location: Geneva, Chambéry

Content: The aim was to represent the health surveys concerning the main stakes (malnutrition, infant mortality...) and then render access of all this information possible to all, be it the specialized researcher, the nurse or curious internet user.

The project started in mid-2010. Its aim is to be both a showcase of health indicators in the pilot countries and a platform where indicators can be easily accessible so that they can be properly used by epidemiologists of the HTNS team. As the indicators can change rapidly, the visualization application needs to be updatable easily and rapidly therefore this was a key aspect of the mission. This project was rather complicated to conduct due to numerous technical and management difficulties. The dynamic mapping was developed with open-source tools. The incorporation into the CMS of the HTNS website was a pre-requisite. User training sessions were also included.

This project corresponds fully to the CartONG aspiration of sharing geographic information for which on-line mapping is one of the main tools.



● mapping backing: the Haiti earthquake

Key figures: 5 people involved to a certain degree in the different projects

Contractor: IMS, Shelter Cluster, UNOSAT, Caritas

Cost : ~42000€

Beneficiaries: all the different humanitarian actors involved in Haiti

Location: Port au Prince, Geneva, Chambéry

Content: The CartONG assistance was spread out during the six first months after the earthquake, with both field support (data management) and remote access support (data consolidation and circulation, as well as satellite imagery)

The mapping support helped compensate the exponential needs in data management and geolocalisation skills. CartONG supported UNOSAT in the primary analysis of damages from satellite imagery. With increased volunteer help, the team managed to set up for the first time information on the community radio stations. The data management took place from the field (with the journalists) and from the head office. Moreover the presence of the shelters in Port au Prince helped continue the work engaged in with the displaced persons' camps. Reports, maps, and summaries produced by CartONG for the cluster were widely used. In the middle of the year, CartONG accomplished a Google Earth file to raise awareness to the Haiti needs.



● To take the organizations' skills to the next level

Contractor: Bioforce, Groupe URD

Cost : ~5000€

Beneficiaries: technicians, project manager and future water and sewerage logisticians

Location: Lyon, Chambéry CartONG head office

Training is a fundamental aspect for CartONG first of all as it answers the basic aim of the association (such as the development of GIS in humanitarian organizations) but also as the training sessions help the team keep up-to-date in new technologies. It also helps them remain aware of field user needs.

From this perspective, CartONG has set up training sessions for Bioforce, a training institute well known in the humanitarian world. Two sessions took place concerning a total of 36 students, with two different profiles, both logistic and hydraulics specialists. The students learned both the concepts and how to use GIS tools to be able to fulfill their missions. They tested geographic data representation and GPS data integration into QGIS.

The URD group (Urgency Rehabilitation Development) is also undoubtedly interested in geographic information. In fact, this structure develops data processing tools so as to help meet different needs such as statistical analysis or the constitution of indicators and dashboards in a global evaluation procedure. Spatial information, when well handled, contributes to the execution of relevant documents.

This type of training session can interest all organizations who wish to achieve a GIS-related project. The basic concepts are brought up, the most commonly-used software are presented with their strengths and weaknesses. This type of service can lead to the establishment of project-ownership assistance.

In the field of training, perspectives are favorable. We are regularly called upon by ESRI France to develop educational programs jointly. Moreover, CartONG possesses an expertise level in open source software, particularly QGIS, which are tools that are used more and more frequently. The field of training sessions could develop further as things come. The project mode functioning of the association does not allow the financing of a canvassing and continuous monitoring of the organizations after the training sessions.

● The mobile technologies and data gathering

Contractor: UNHCR and NOMAD consortium

Cost : ~47500€ coming from UNHCR and CNES

Beneficiaries: IDPs management center in Goma: GIS statistical cell of internally displaced in Kivu managed by UNOPS. The WFP for the NOMAD project and also future organizations that might use these tools

Location: Goma, Chambéry

Content: Construction of forms for mobile phones with different tools, communication and partial coordination of NOMAD project.

The capture of data is always a major worry in the process of drawing up the assistance policies of the organizations involved in the field. It is evident that the capture of data through mobile applications helps gain time and money. CartONG therefore looked into the uses of Smartphones. Within the framework of the project financed by the UNHCR, the team worked on the forms to gather information concerning internally displaced populations in the east of RDC, to train collectors and then to ensure the correct synchronization of the HCR databases. Support was also offered from the head office to gather health indicators in the refugee camps in Kenya. The use of these technologies was seen to be easy for information technology specialists but also for non specialists. Along the same line CartONG joined the NOMAD consortium that brings together NGOs and private sector companies. It is financed by the CNES (french national center of space studies), lead by iMMAP. The idea is to insert into existing technologies the tools that can transfer data from the field to the web, thanks to Smartphones concerning the uncovered GSM areas, which uses satellite connection. The role of CartONG was to set up the CMS <http://humanitarian-nomad.org> platform so that each of the participants can communicate on the advancement of the project. We can add that the main theme of the GeONG 2010 (in September 2010) was « from field to web» to help take bearings on the mobile solutions of reporting.



- **Coordination activities: GeONG2010, second forum of geomatics dedicated to humanitarian action: from field to web**

Organization: undergone by the association volunteers

Cost: <1000€

Beneficiaries: the humanitarian organizations that participated and contributed to the forum

Location: Chambéry

The association organized the second GeONG forum at the AQCV in Chambéry the 23-24th September 2010. This forum is dedicated to humanitarian organizations that use information management and mapping to facilitate the implementation of their projects. There were 40 participants, therefore around 30 actors: NGOs, international organizations, private sector companies and training institutes that are more or less advanced in these fields and that were able to share their expertise on data gathering in crisis situations. The emphasis was put on mobile phones (Smartphones), paper forms that can be scanned and incorporated in a database through a system of tags, the participative approach of contributors as well as the sharing of this database with others through cartographic portals. The later are at diverse stages of advancement but all offer the same facility of incorporation and exchange of data for a better coordination between organizations. These two days of discussions, reflection, and networking are important to facilitate field work in case of catastrophes or chronic crisis such as DRC... the organization of the forum is a community high point as it was organized primarily by the volunteers of the association. More information concerning this event:

<http://geong.cartong.org>



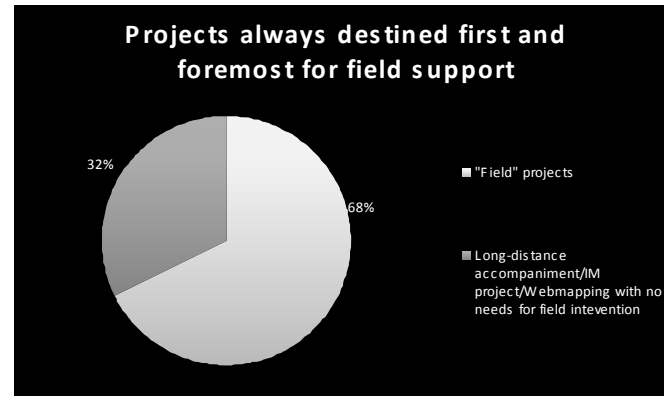
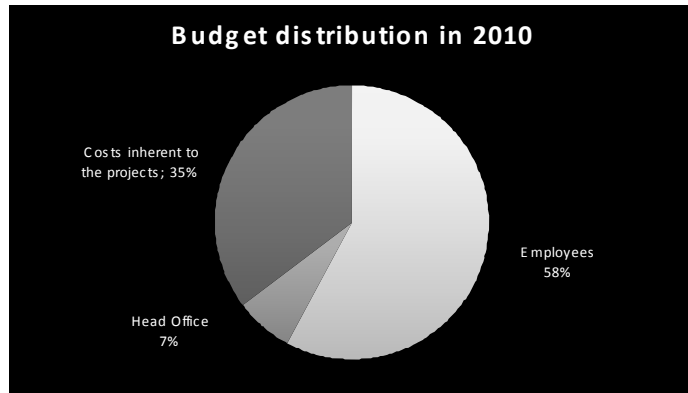
- **Various expertise missions and a functioning mode different compared to the preceding years**
- **In 2010 CartONG also worked with :**
 - IMS (International Media Support) for cartographic backing during the chili earthquake in February
 - Tactical Tech during the Arab world women's human rights forum
 - The town of Chambéry during local events
 - Cite solidaire at Annemasse during the humanitarian forum
 - Caritas to generate an interactive file to communicate on Caritas activities in Haïti.
 - Numerous organisations and universities in a more or less formal manner (Humanitarian Open Street Map, Shelter Centre, Crisis mapper Group...)

Perspectives

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- **For 2011, the orientations are the following :**
 - Overhaul of the website (already planned in 2010) but insufficient funding. (~ 3000 €)
 - Development of the work of the volunteers
 - Finalisation of the HNTS project
 - E-learning project and supply of tools to map deforestation, on the basis of the project set up on the model of Vietnam in 2009
 - Creation of maps for the IRCC
 - Project with the UNHCR to transform the pilots into project with mobile phones
 - Back-up in GIS/mapping for the Logistics Cluster/WFP at Rome

● Use of the financing received in 2010.

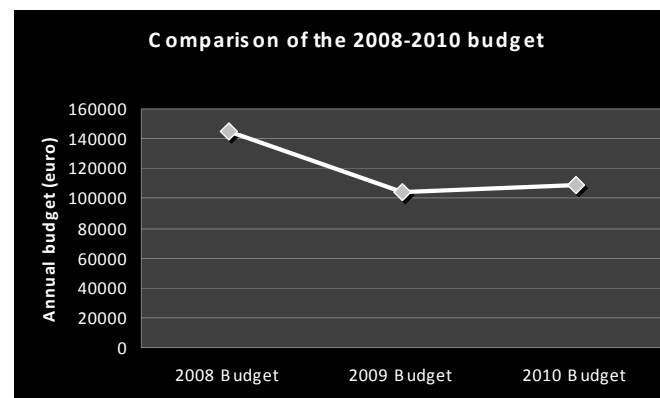


Most of CartONG's work being based on services, its source of financing is nearly 100% provision of a service. For 2010, the budget is 108000€, which is 4,5% more than in 2009. However, we are still a long way away from the 2007 budget when the association employed national on-site staff. We can mention that CartONG worked with an increased number of actors and generally for smaller mandates. Two projects are a little more substantial (both for the budget and the structure of the association): the Shelter Cluster and the mobile phone data gathering UNHCR project.

The main costs are the workforce (58%) that supply the services described. The other projects are of added value, with limited costs as all the work is done from the CartONG office. We can mention that the funding issued by the Shelter Cluster, which were emergency related, were more flexible and could therefore be used to develop new activities on the side. In 2010, CartONG organized its well known and recognized event, the GeONG, however, with little funding from the private and institutional sector (<1%). For this we would like to thank the Chambéry town council, the AQCV (the town center district association), Info2S solutions, and ESRI France. The budget for the administrative costs and servers correspond to 7%, but these will most likely need to be revised upwards. The work of the volunteers is not paid/remunerated but is substantial. The head office remains under developed: to ensure a service of good quality a continuous presence at the head office is necessary.

The best solution would be a working capital to have a more serene and stable vision, and it would certainly be worth it. In fact, the project mode is not a lasting solution for the work team.

The association has received from the Tides foundation 35000€ for the Vietnam project (of measure and mapping of the carbon stock), which is a sure sign of trust for 2011. A collaboration with the International Red Cross Committee was also initiated at the end of 2010 for the design of maps, as well as a collaboration with the World Food Program/logcluster and one with the Rongead NGO.



• **more information :**

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