

Exploring the Potentials of Geospatial Technologies in Food Security Challenges of Eastern-Nigeria Through Education

Njike Chigbu, Ebele Josephine Emengini, Clinton Chingozirim Chigbu and Samuel Ukanwa Ogwo (Nigeria)

Key words: Access to land; Education; Geoinformation/GI; Land management; Spatial planning; Global food security, capacity building, Geospatial Technologies and Education

SUMMARY

Food is sine-qua-non for societal health and stability . Food security, as defined by the United Nations committee on world food security means that all people , at all times have physical, social, and economic access to sufficient , safe, and nutritious food that meets their food preferences and dietary needs for an active and healthy life. South Eastern-Nigeria has land mass that would support increased food production if properly harnessed. The vast expanse of land is left to subsistence and unscientific agricultural practices which encourages food insecurity, hunger and starvation. A Geographic or Geospatial Information System and technologies is an intelligent system or platform designed to capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage ,and represent spatial or geographic data in space for a specific problem-solving strategy. GIS application platforms are tools that allow users to create interactive queries, analyze spatial information, edit data in maps, and present the results of all these operations in usable solution available modes. Studies on available literature have shown, especially, from Surveyor Registration Council of Nigeria(SURCON) that there is a great under-representation of geospatial experts in Nigeria as a geo-polity and especially, South Eastern-Nigeria, hence, there is a great decline in the number of Surveyors or in Geo-informaticians (GI) to handle the arduous task of mapping and provision of geo-data for improved agriculture and food security in the sub-region. Therefore, there is increased demand for tertiary institutions alike (Polytechnics and Universities) offering Geomatics Sciences (Surveying and Geo-informatics) to be encouraged to increase their admission intakes in the next twenty years by at least 30% to forestall this challenge. Therefore, this work is an innovative attempt at exploring the inherent potentials of Geospatial technologies in guaranteeing food security in South Eastern-Nigeria through Geospatial education and training.

Exploring the Potentials of Geospatial Technologies in Food Security Challenges of Eastern-Nigeria Through Education (12030)

Njike Chigbu, Ebele Josephine Emengini, Clinton Chingozirim Chigbu and Samuel Ukanwa Ogwo (Nigeria)

FIG Working Week 2023

Protecting Our World, Conquering New Frontiers

Orlando, Florida, USA, 28 May–1 June 2023