

Course Completion Report ArcGIS Database (Geodatabase)	Course 4.2	NORPLAN 
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1 CONTENT

- Course data
- Course objectives
- Training focus group
- Practical and theoretical work
- Course evaluation: comments from participants
- Recommendations for next or other courses

2 COURSE DATA:

Name of course:	ArcGIS Database
Number of participants:	16 trainees from: RuWatSIP, MRRD, MEW, DACAAR, USAID
Location for training:	RuWatSIP Conference Room, MRRD
Date of implementation	3 & 4 August 2013
Course organiser	Abdullah Barat
Supporting presenters	Prof. Zarinkhail

3 COURSE OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this course was to show using of databases in the field of GIS specifically in ArcGIS the ESRI product. The course was to let GIS and MIS users understand the importance and workability of databases in ArcGIS. Databases are used in most of computerized reporting, managing and decision making activities. GIS field as the one for decision making and reporting can use databases to enrich its products. This course should serve GIS and MIS users in better usage of databases in their routine activities related to GIS. A brief view on database concepts and the growing of usage of databases in the field of GIS may make users understand and take a broad image of databases in GIS.

This training course was hoped to familiarize trainees with database concepts and geodatabases and to let them understand importance of databases in technical fields like GIS. Besides, it was planned to instruct some methods of database management and usage in GIS.

4 TRAINING FOCUS GROUP

This training was planned to train GIS and MIS related people who use GIS and manage data in GIS during their daily activities. As it was claimed already in other training reports, GIS is using in most organizations and government of Afghanistan. Out of this, technical groups are in MRRD, MEW, DACAAR, USAID and some other ministries and organizations. For the time being, the focus group for this training consisted from GIS and MIS related people in mentioned organizations.

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The focus group of the course was consisted from: 2 from GIS-MIS Unit of RuWatSIP/MRRD, 3 from Engineering Unit of RuWatSIP/MRRD, 5 from ESD/MRRD, 1 From MEW, 2 from DACAAR, 3 from MSI/USAID

5 PRACTICAL AND THEORETICAL WORK

The course included practical sessions as well as presentation on theoretical terms of concepts. Practical activities were planned to be implemented by trainees direct in computers. Most of the trainees had their own laptop computers to be used for practical activities. Only two laptops were needed and the NORPLAN had provided the machines. A student version software and sample training data were provided to the computers of trainees who did not have from other trainings.

Four practical sessions conducted during 2 days of training. Participants were very eager to earn more knowledge and experience during practical sessions. Practical 1 related to preliminary activities in building geodatabases from scratch. In practical 2, data production and editing techniques were explained and implemented. Focus in practical 3 was on types of geodatabase and their editing methods and the topics in the last practical was geodatabase archiving and replication.

Theoretically, database concepts and geodatabase structures (features), relationships and methods were presented. Database examples from other existing systems were also presented. In general, the theoretical part was also successful and it provided ideas and different approaches to use databases in GIS and make geodatabase features.

6 COURSE EVALUATION: COMMENTS FROM PARTICIPANTS

The course evaluation is available on the web in full with comments. In summary the questions for evaluation and the participants response in percentage were as follows:

Question 1: Did the training course meet your expectations? 1=Completely, 2=Partially, 3= Not at all,

Response: Completely : 29%, Partially 71%, Not at all 0%.

Question 2: What do you think about the overall relevance of training course? Considering the limits on your time and the topics discussed? 1= Too Long, 2= Just right, 3 = Too short

Response: Too Long : 0%, Just right 76%, Too short 24%.

Question 3: How the relevant was the training workshop to your organization or project's need? 1= Very relevant, 2 = Somewhat relevant, 3 = Not relevant

Response: Very relevant: 57%, Somewhat relevant 36%, Not relevant 7%.

7 RECOMENDATIONS IF THE COURSE WAS TO BE REPEATED

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1. The course duration of 2 days seems fine. Most of the planned topics were covered and the result was reasonable.
2. The course was relevant for more than 50% of participants; therefore, it could be repeated for a separate group in the future.

Report prepared by: Professor Zarinkhail, GIS-MIS Adviser, Norplan, August 2013