



HIU Highlights Report No.14 July 1, 2006 – October 31, 2006

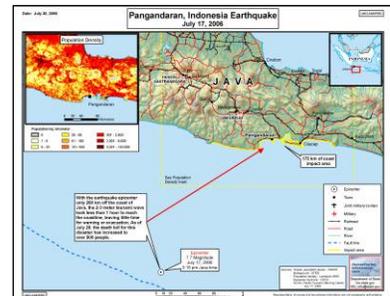
The Humanitarian Information Unit serves as a USG interagency center to identify, collect, analyze, and disseminate unclassified information critical to USG decision makers and partners in preparation for and response to humanitarian emergencies worldwide, and to promote best practices for humanitarian information management

This report describes select initiatives underway, recent collaborations, key meetings, and upcoming items of interest.

Status of Select Initiatives:

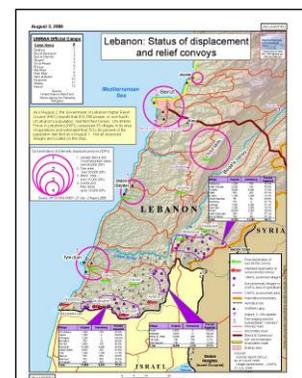
Pangandaran, Indonesia Earthquake

On July 17, an earthquake struck 200 kilometers off of the coast of Java, generating a 2-3 meter tsunami wave and earth tremors hit the coastline near the city of Pangandaran. Over 600 people were killed. The HIU map showing the epicenter and impact area, along with an inset depicting the population density in the affected area, was distributed within the U.S. Government (USG) and to the international humanitarian community, and was posted on the HIU website and the UN's ReliefWeb. A memo to Deputy Secretary Tobias examined the utilization and limitations of early warning systems in place for this tsunami disaster. (POC: Dennis King, KingDJ2@state.gov).



Lebanon Conflict

Using USG released satellite imagery, the HIU produced a map pinpointing damage to infrastructure (bridges, roads, fuel storage areas, communications facilities, public buildings and residential areas) in Lebanon during the month-long conflict. The infrastructure damage data was provided to USAID and several UN agencies working in Lebanon and the HIU distributed the map within the USG and to the humanitarian community. The HIU also convened a teleconference with the UN satellite imagery analysis project, UNOSAT, and representatives from State Dept, USAID and the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency (NGA) to discuss sharing of satellite imagery data and verifying assessment

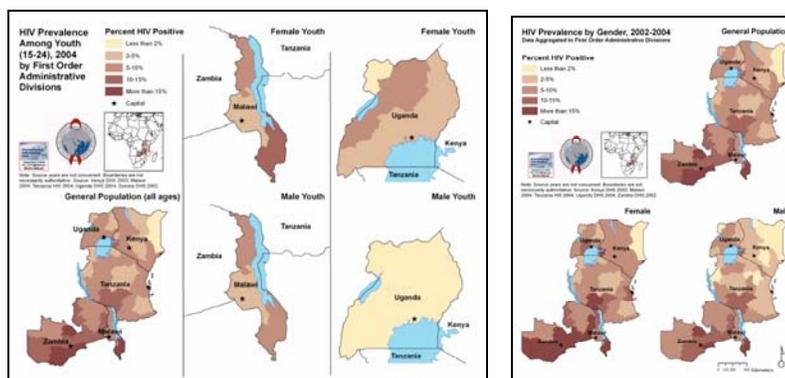


data. The HIU additionally produced a series of maps showing the spread of an oil spill along the Lebanese coastline and the impact of bombing on accessibility in Lebanon. (POC: Dennis King, KingDJ2@state.gov, David Dodson, DodsonDL@state.gov, Paul Bartel, BartelPP@state.gov and Bess Kotsiras, KotsirasB@state.gov).

PEPFAR Related Activities

At the request of the Rwanda Team within the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), Nathan Heard visited Kigali from 31 July to 5 August to provide technical assistance. He assessed the potential role of geographic information systems (GIS) for analyzing the spatial aspects of HIV distribution in Rwanda and improving the efficiency and effectiveness of HIV/AIDS programs. The analysis was based on meetings in Rwanda with the Director General of the National Institute of Statistics, Director of the Center for Geographic Information Systems at the University of Rwanda, and Director of CDC-Rwanda. The resulting report provided a set of recommendations framed by costs. The trip concluded with training in the use of GIS for HIV/AIDS applications. Attendees included staff from the Commission Nationale de Lutte contre le SIDA, USAID Rwanda, CDC Rwanda, UNAIDS, the Futures Group, and the Treatment and Research AIDS Center.

The HIU also generated seven maps for an interactive set of web pages entitled "Stories of Hope" under PEPFAR. Visitors can navigate a map of the world to access regional maps and learn about PEPFAR activities in specific countries. Pop-up menus provide links to individual country profiles and personal stories of how PEPFAR is affecting the lives of many people. The web pages are at <http://www.state.gov/s/gac/rl/or/68653.htm>.

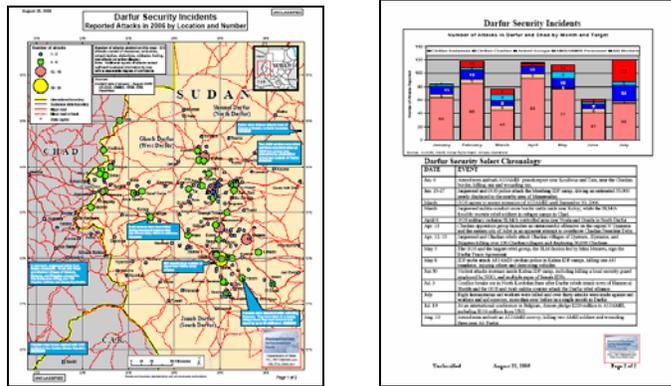


Nathan Heard also attended the 2006 Global Spatial Data Infrastructure-9 Conference in Santiago, Chile, where he gave a presentation entitled, "Bridging data sets: a GIS response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Zambia."

The Office of the US Global AIDS Coordinator requested two maps depicting sub-national HIV-prevalence in several countries in sub-Saharan Africa. In addition to portraying prevalence within the general population, these products disaggregated prevalence by age and sex ((POC: Nathan Heard, HeardNJ@state.gov).

Darfur, Sudan

At the request of USAID's and the State Department's Africa Bureaus, the HIU is continuing to collect incident data in the Darfur region of Sudan. The HIU produced a "VISTA^a" graphic portraying significant security incidents in Darfur from January through August 2006. It included a map displaying the location and prevalence of attacks, a temporal bar graph indicating the number and type of attacks by month, and a chronology summarizing key events related to Darfur. The product was used in preparation for a mission to Sudan by the Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, and was also made available to other USG officials, NGOs, and for posting on ReliefWeb. (POC: Dennis King, KingDJ2@state.gov and Christopher Ard, ArdCM@state.gov).



SMART Change Management Working Group

Dennis King attended meetings of the Department of State's SMART Management Change Working Group. SMART (State Messaging and Archive Retrieval Toolset) is the State Department's pilot initiative to provide an electronic integrated system that will include State Department's cable communication, instant messaging, and collaboration networks for all State Department employees. The SMART Change Management Working Group is a focus group of representatives from each bureau that is pilot testing various applications and providing input. (POC: Dennis King, KingDJ2@state.gov).

Collaboration Efforts:

Political Instability Task Force

On August 1, Dennis King and Chris Ard attended a meeting of the Political Instability Task Force, which provides a forum for representatives of the academic and US intelligence communities on analysis of historical and current political instability and conflict around the world. (POC: Dennis King, KingDJ2@state.gov and Christopher Ard, ArdCM@state.gov).

^a VISTA stands for Visualized Information/Synthesized Temporal Analysis, and is an HIU innovation designed to present geographic, tabular, textual and chronological information in a coherent, easy-to-read format for improving situational awareness during humanitarian crises. These "static" (paper) VISTAs are the forerunners of a web-based product being developed by the HIU. For more information contact Dennis King, KingDJ2@state.gov.

Joint Special Operations University (JSOU) Civil Affairs Orientation Course

On 1-5 August, the HIU's DOD Military Advisor, LTC Granfield, participated in the Joint Special Operations Civil Affairs Orientation Course at Kaneohe Marine Corps Base, Hawaii. Thirty Marine Corps Officers and Non-commissioned Officers (NCO) assuming a secondary mission as Civil Affairs specialists were provided orientation including a background briefing on the HIU and information management issues. (POC: LTC Lynda Granfield, GranfieldLM@state.gov).

DIA Course on Interagency support to Complex Humanitarian Emergencies

On 17 Aug, LTC Granfield gave a presentation on the HIU and Interagency Information Sharing to 30 students attending the Intelligence Support to Multinational Operations Course at the DIA Intelligence School located at Bolling Air Force Base. (POC: LTC Lynda Granfield, GranfieldLM@state.gov).

Training Design

In September, Kathleen Miner worked with the OFDA training unit on developing and testing a Land Navigation/Geographical Tool training module. The module is designed to provide OFDA staff with hands on training of geographic tools currently available in the field for humanitarian work. OFDA plans to offer the two-day module beginning in late 2006.

OSD - Rand Interagency Ungoverned Areas Strategic Workshop Series

On 15 Sept, LTC Granfield attended this event, which was designed ultimately to produce guidance on this subject for federal agencies. This initial planning session's purpose was to select a case study region to focus the development of a guidance document; set objectives and agenda for three one-day workshops and one half-day table-top exercise; recommend appropriate agencies, offices, and guest speakers to participate in the workshops; and to identify sources for "lessons learned" to be applied to the development guidance. The workshop highlights the need to look closely at humanitarian and natural disasters that often occur in countries that have ungoverned areas. (POC: LTC Lynda Granfield, GranfieldLM@state.gov).

Defense Policy Board Advisory Committee (DPBAC) Meeting

On September 21, Assistant Secretary for the State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research (INR) Fort presented "Meeting the Challenge of Information Sharing" to the DPBAC. The Assistant Secretary emphasized the need for enhanced USG response to complex humanitarian emergencies through more effective information sharing. The various challenges and responses to overcome barriers were discussed including HIU capabilities and contributions to information sharing. The DPBAC serves the public interest by providing the Office of the Secretary of Defense with independent, informed advice and opinion concerning major matters of defense policy. (POC: Alan Davis, DavisA@state.gov).

Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies: Afghanistan/Pakistan Confidence Building Seminar II

On 18-22 September, LTC Granfield participated in the FY06 Regional Defense Counterterrorism Fellowship Program (RDCFP) in the second of a series of seminars planned over a five-year period. The seminars bring Afghanistan and Pakistan participants to a third country venue to deepen interaction and cooperation in support of longer-term bilateral stability. The primary objective is to build confidence and trust between the two countries. LTC Granfield presented information on Provincial Reconstruction Teams in Afghanistan and how both countries could benefit from improved information sharing, especially in humanitarian disasters such as last fall's Pakistan Earthquake. Participants also discussed terrorism, international law, USAID programs in both countries, and NATO's expanding role in Afghanistan. (POC: LTC Lynda Granfield, GranfieldLM@state.gov).

HIU Horn of Africa (HOA) TDY

During the month of October 2006, HIU Humanitarian Affairs analysts Dennis King and Paul Bartel traveled to Kenya and Ethiopia to conduct an information needs assessment related to the pastoralist crisis affecting the Greater Manderia Triangle (the tri-border region of Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia). The HIU team carried out this assessment in support of USAID/EA's Regional Enhanced Livelihoods for Pastoral Areas (RELPA) Project to be implemented in FY 2007 and 2008 and in support of USAID/Ethiopia and USAID/Kenya. The HIU team conducted a survey of the existing information projects, systems, and activities in the HOA; identified gaps in information and analysis required by USG personnel; proposed and developed prototype products to address identified gaps in analysis; and made recommendations concerning improved data collection and information management for the RELPA project and organizations in the field. A copy of the HIU report, which includes several recommendations, will be available soon. (POC: Dennis King, KingDJ2@state.gov; Paul Bartel, bartelp@state.gov; and Alan Davis, davisa@state.gov)

International Charter – Space and Major Disasters Meeting

On 9-11 October, HIU AAAS Fellow Muller attended this USGS-sponsored meeting at their EROS Data Center in South Dakota. Dr. Muller is helping to establish HIU access to satellite imagery donated by international space agencies to assist natural disaster emergency relief operations through this charter mechanism. Various types of imagery (e.g. optical, multispectral, radar) for any type of natural disaster can be delivered as quickly as two to three days. Since the HIU is not a response or relief organization, it will not likely be a requestor to the charter. Rather, the most effective role for the HIU would be to monitor requests made by others and request copies of the products. Additionally, for crises of great interest, the HIU can volunteer to provide value-added GIS mapping for products delivered for certain charter activations. Collaboration with this charter allows the HIU to expand its remote sensing analysis capabilities and to enhance its distribution network. (POC: Dr. Jordan Muller, mullerjr@state.gov).

Stability, Security, Transition and Reconstruction (SSTR) Operations Workshop

On 12 October, LTC Granfield attended a USAID, DOD/OSD, and DOS-hosted workshop addressing SSTR objectives: (a) baselining and improving the participants' collective knowledge of training needs and capabilities across the three agencies; (b) identifying training opportunities in the areas of deployment preparation and integrated planning that could improve integrated operations performance; and (c) identifying easy wins that will achieve immediate

results, that include creating an eRoom type of collaboration by each agency to highlight training and planning opportunities. (POC: LTC Lynda Granfield, GranfieldLM@state.gov)

The Human Terrain System (COR-HTS) Weekly Video Conferences

HIU's DOD Military Advisor LTC Granfield is participating in weekly video conferences to further develop the Army G2 Program of Record for the Map-Human Terrain (HT) Toolkit. This Pentagon-hosted working group addresses the tasking under DOD Directive 300.05 and the Irregular Warfare Roadmap that mandates DOD to develop a capability of mapping the human terrain (cultural, economic, social, political, physical and ethnic issues et. al.). Ultimately, the exercise will provide the military with a better understanding of the "complex environments" under which they will operate overseas. The weekly meeting provides members of the "Knowledge Community" (including USSOCOM, OSD-NII, USASOC, 95th CA BDE, INSCOM, DIA, and others) updates on the COR-HTS program. "AXIS PRO", an integrated analysis software system and visualization tool was presented as a potential solution to track and manage complex emergencies. (POC: LTC Lynda Granfield, GranfieldLM@state.gov)

Quarterly Civil Affairs Roundtable Forum

LTC Granfield attended the October 20 session, at which was discussed a) the transfer of COCOM responsibility of RC CA and PSYOP forces from SOCOM to JFCOM. (The Deputy Secretary of Defense signed the transfer memorandum on 14 November); b) the Irregular Warfare Execution Roadmap; and c) the Irregular Warfare Road Map task 2.5.6 to improve DOD social science analysis at all levels of operations. The Civil Affairs community is potentially one of the largest DOD contributors to and clients of HIU products during complex humanitarian operations. This partnership needs to be strengthened. (POC: LTC Lynda Granfield, GranfieldLM@state.gov)

Other Items of Interest: We are pleased to announce the latest additions to the HIU team.

New DOD Liaison -- Civil Affairs Military Advisor

LTC Lynda Granfield, comes to the HIU from a tour as a Provincial Reconstruction Team Commander in Jalalabad, Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom. She replaced COL (R) Doug Nash as Civil Military Affairs Officer in the HIU.

New NGA Liaisons

Ms. Bess Kotsiras joined the HIU in September 2006, after completing a Master's degree program in GIS at the University of Redlands in CA. As a geospatial analyst from the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) detailed to the HIU, Bess produces a variety of GIS products and disseminates geospatial information of value to all levels of consumers, from national level policy makers to operational field managers. She replaces NGA's David Springer, who served on the HIU team with distinction for more than two years. The HIU wishes David the best of luck and appreciates the many contributions he made while serving at the HIU.

Mr. Michael Bowser is another NGA contribution to the HIU and will serve in the HIU for several months. As a Staff Officer, he provides support to the HIU by coordinating requests for

tailored, mission-specific geospatial products and policy guidance. He is a Geo-Chemist and is a graduate of National Defense University/The Joint Forces Staff College.

New AAAS Fellow

Dr. Jordan Muller is a AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow who recently joined the HIU. Prior to joining the HIU team, he served as a National Research Council Postdoctoral Associate at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. As a geologist, Dr. Muller has experience researching and monitoring many types of natural disasters, in particular earthquakes. He holds a PhD from Stanford University, an M.S. from the University of Hawaii, and a B.A. from Franklin and Marshall College.

Departing USAID Colleague

Kathleen Miner recently accepted a position in the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (new office telephone: 703-526-2153). During her three and a half year tenure at the HIU, she made many noteworthy contributions. The HIU wishes Kathleen well.

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HIU Website:

We have been working with the State Department business center to redesign our website (<http://hiu.state.gov>). Stay tuned for a new look and feel in the coming months. In the interim, please pardon any inconveniences associated with this website facelift project. If you have trouble locating one of our products, please contact us.

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Noam Unger (DOS)	202-203-7773	Paul Bartel (STG contract)	202-203-7787
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