

APPLICATION OF REMOTE SENSING TO CARTOGRAPHY IN
DAMASCUS AREA - SYRIA.

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ABSTRACT:

United Nations statistics regarding the state of topographic cartography in the world show that only 44% of the land masses are covered by maps belonging to the 1:50,000 and 1:100,000 scale groups, which are the most important for economic development. In addition a large part of these maps is obsolete and does not meet the countries' needs for development purposes. Since SPOT in 1986, one can state that spacemaps will represent the base of cartography at small and medium scales in the near future.

The uses of space imagery in cartography include revision of existing maps, compilation of new maps and re-making of maps at larger scales than those currently in use. Satellite imagery is suited for compiling general topographic maps as well as thematic maps: vegetation, agriculture, urban and rural land use, geology, pedology, water resources, environment, etc.

This article includes application of remotely sensed data to cartography in Damascus Area for making a topographic map including contour lines, roads, drainage, railroads and villages.