



Somalia Water and Land Information Management System  
 Funded by the European Commission and implemented by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations.

Feature Article #5

## GeoNetwork @ SWALIM – Your source of maps and geographic data for Somalia

Where can I find data and maps on Somalia? This is a question often asked by agencies, ministries and other organizations, not only for Somalia, but also for most countries in Africa. In fact, there is a lot of information available, but often people do not know where even to begin to find it!

SWALIM comes to the rescue, if you have an internet connection, you have access to geographic data and maps at no cost to you, through GeoNetwork. It is very easy:

Step 1. Go to: <http://geonetwork.faoswalim.org:8080/geonetwork>

Step 2. Type a keyword e.g. 'flood' or 'refugee camps' or 'Hargeisa' and click 'Search'

Step 3. Click 'Download' to download your map or dataset

And that's it!! Access to maps and data in 3 easy steps!!

Why do we advocate for free access to data? First, free access greatly reduces duplication of data collection. For example, if one organization has excellent water sources data, but does not share it, it results in other agencies collecting the same data, and this wastes money, time, and people and causes a lot of frustration. Secondly, it promotes reciprocity that is, if we share our data with you, you're more likely to share your data with us, and everybody benefits. Finally, our ultimate objective is for our information to be used by those interested in it, what better way to do this than to make it free.

FAO, UN-HABITAT and UN-HCR have all contributed data to the SWALIM GeoNetwork node. How about your organization. To share your organization's data or maps for representation on our GeoNetwork node, please contact us at [geonetwork@faoswalim.org](mailto:geonetwork@faoswalim.org)

For more information on GeoNetwork, mapping and geographic data standards we use, and the SWALIM project, please visit the following sites:

- <http://www.faoswalim.org>
- <http://geonetwork-opensource.org>
- <http://sdi-ea.blogspot.com>
- <http://www.isotc211.org>

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 Issued on 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2007