

A VISION TO MEET THE NEEDS OF 21ST CENTURY GEO-INFORMATION USERS IN TURKEY

General Command of Mapping (GCM) is responsible for the establishment and maintenance of geodetic networks, collecting and structuring topographic data and producing standard topographic map series of Turkey. Its vision is to provide consistent, up-to-date geospatial information which meets the needs of 21st century military and civilian users in a timely and economic manner.



As well as continuing to maintain the Turkish national geodetic infrastructure, GCM also completed the connection of the national leveling network to the United European Leveling Network through the Bulgarian border in 2012. In addition it hosted a national scientific workshop focused on modernising the national height system. The event, attended by representations from public institutions, universities and the private sector, provided an opportunity to suggest definitions and ways to realise the new vertical coordinate reference system. It concluded that improvements were needed to the geoid model that will provide a direct determination of physical heights from GNSS observations and that there should be no more leveling at the user level.



For the cartography department, the main emphasis during 2012 was on the production of topographic maps with 596 sheets produced and printed. Among them are 128 for 1:25 000, 117 for 1:50.000, 37 for 1:100 000 and 12 for 1:250 000 scales. The production of scales smaller than 1:25.000 is dependent on the results of a cartographic generalisation project. The outlook is very good and demonstrates the importance of its research and development activities.

