

The Youthmappers' Impact on Building a Resilient Environment

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Key words: Education; Spatial planning; Young surveyor; Young Surveyor; Spatial Planning; Education

SUMMARY

THE YOUTHMAPPER'S IMPACT ON BUILDING A RESILIENT ENVIRONMENT.

“Equipping young people with the necessary skills to contribute to the development of a resilient built environment”

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Abstract

The eleventh United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) specifically emphasizes the need to build safe and resilient cities and human settlements. Achieving the UN goal will not only increase the life expectancy of people but also reduce the waste of government, investors, and individual resources. In an attempt to build a resilient sustainable city, community, and environment, it is necessary to map your environment and update the existing map of our environment as physical changes occur. Since the country is big, we cannot constantly be moving around to notice changes and apply them to the existing maps, there is a need to train people in every community across the country on the importance of mapping our environment and give them the understanding on the need to update the existing database. YouthMappers is a global community of students and enthusiastic individuals in the Geospatial field who have come together to train, educate, and undertake mapping tasks that will help save lives. In Ghana, YouthMappers has over 5 chapters in 5 different tertiary institutions. Students' engagement in YouthMappers activities has sharpened their mapping skills and exposed students to different mapping techniques and software as well as giving them the exposure to solve real-life situations. With rising natural disasters in recent times, there is a need for more mappers to aid in preventing further catastrophes

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and also aid in providing support for victims of catastrophes. When a lot of individual mappers are trained, to the individual, he/she gains employable life-saving skills that will make him/her very relevant to society. Also, to decision-makers, mapping our environment will aid in making informed decisions on the needs of every community and where to strategically locate the resources for easy accessibility to all in the community. In summary, the ratio of the mapwork to be done in order to achieve the eleventh United Nations' Goal is way too high compared to the number of individuals with the technical know-how to undertake this work. Hence, the significance of this paper is to discuss a way we can develop, train, and produce quality mappers for national development with fewer resources used.

Keywords: United Nations Sustainable Development Goal, YouthMappers, Resilient Community, Human Settlement.

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