

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)
For GLIMS
(Global Land Ice Measurements from Space)
GLIMS REGIONAL CENTER FOR SOUTHWEST ASIA
(AFGHANISTAN & PAKISTAN)

University of Nebraska at Omaha
Omaha, NE 68182 USA

And

(GLIMS Steward -Personnel)

(Institutional Steward)

The GLIMS Regional Center for Southwest Asia (Afghanistan & Pakistan) (GRCSWA) was established at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNOmaha) in 1998 by agreement with the GLIMS (Global Land Ice Measurements from Space) project, which then was led by the U. S. Geological Survey (USGS; now led from the University of Arizona) and has been funded in the U.S. by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). GRCSWA was established for the express purpose of assessing the glacier and snow resources of Southwest Asia using ASTER and other satellite imagery. UNOmaha has had an historical interest in education and scientific research in Southwest Asia for over three decades and has developed close working relationships with a number of Government agencies and universities throughout the region in order to facilitate these efforts.

This MOU is established to facilitate further working assessments of snow and ice resources between the GRCSWA and other individuals or agencies who may wish to access ASTER satellite imagery at no cost to themselves. Such imagery is available on a cost-free basis as long as the information on snow and ice resources obtained from it is made available to GRCSWA and is not classified or made secret. ASTER imagery may not be distributed to other individuals or agencies not working in direct support of the GLIMS goals. Comparative assessments of snow, ice, glacier lake hazards, climate, and hydrologic data will be shared between the interested parties in order to facilitate the mutual research efforts. Stewards will digitize selected and mutually agreed-upon glaciers and glacier boundaries following GLIMS and UNOmaha protocols for glacier information extraction that will be subsequently submitted by UNOmaha to the National Snow and Ice Data Center (NSIDC) in the world-wide GLIMS Data Base at Boulder, CO, USA.

Occasional joint publications will be expected between the parties. Research budgets will be kept separate, although joint research proposals to different agencies may be formulated.