

Map Quality Control

CDEMA – MapAction Training

Barbados, 2023

Things to look for

General	Does the map successfully convey useful information? Does it make sense?
Title	Does the map content and the title match in what is displayed?
Summary	Is this a correct summary of the map, what it contains and shows?
Map	Is the correct geographical extent shown, suitable use of geographical / grid ticks, north arrow, scale bar?
Legend	Is it easy to read, are all items on the map shown in the legend, and is Legend text removed?
Data sources	Are all the data that is displayed on the map listed?
Marginalia	Is it aligned and completed correctly? Has the default text been changed, correct date / time / version / coordinate system?
Cartography	Final presentation of the map - line styles, font styles, label positions, thematic colouring, feathering etc?

Priorities to correct

QC LEVEL	EXAMPLE
Advisable	If the map is not urgently required to be published and it is relatively easy to do or it is obviously a map that will be updated in future. For example - typos, labelling hiding mapping, better labelling of items (situational maps)
Must do	These are only points that will stop the map being published. For example - disputed boundaries / territories / waters, misleading title, something that is reputationally damaging
Next time	Anything that is advisable or nice to have that there is no time to do for the current publication
Nice to have	If the map is not urgently required to be published and it is more difficult to do - For example - clearer definition of borders, clearer thematic colouring, larger fonts

Map workflow

