The aim of the International Cartographic Association is to promote the discipline of cartography internationally. It offers its expertise and knowledge of technological developments to other organizations via events, meetings, workshops and publications. Its activities happen through the work of its Commissions and Working Groups which deal with a wide range of topics that cover nearly the whole discipline. Since being founded in 1959, ICA has worked with national and international governmental and commercial bodies, and with other international sister societies to achieve its aims.

**Cartography is the art, science and technology of making and using maps.**

A map is a visual representation of an environment.