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GLIMS: Progress in Mapping the World's Glaciers

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The GLIMS Glacier Database, hosted at the National Snow and Ice Data Center in Boulder, Colorado, now contains outlines of over 54,000 glaciers and glacier elements on all continents having glacial ice except Africa. The GLIMS (Global Land Ice Measurement from Space) project is a cooperative effort of over sixty institutions world-wide with the goal of inventorying a majority of the world's glaciers. This presentation will provide an overview of the current inventory, while also examining in some detail selected regions to highlight issues of coverage, data quality, and the capacity to detect temporal change. Supplementary data such as elevation models and satellite imagery are used to perform these assessments. While GLIMS has made substantial progress in building this database, much remains to be done. We will conclude by discussing the tools and procedures available for contributing to this project.