Explanation of SISO list

	1	SISO stands for Shea ISO list. This list is derived from the International Standards Organization's 3166 list of countries. ISO's list consists of 3166-1, a list of national territories (240 in all) and 3166-2 , a list of subnational territories (hereinafter referred to as provinces, 3131 in all). The 3166-2 list has two overlapping provinces, UM and TW, which must be removed to create a list of 3929 unique provinces. (The two overlapping provinces are UM and TW. UM, which stands for United States Minor Outlying Islands, is listed both as a country with its own provinces and as a province of the USA. Taiwan is listed both as a country with its own provinces and as a province of China. Therefore, I have deleted their mention as provinces of USA and China, respectively.) The resulting list is referred to as the Combined ISO list.
	2	SISO consists of the Combined ISO 3166-2 list (compiled from 3166-1 and 3166-2) and the "Official Unlisted Places" list. SISO is thus comprised of a list based on ISO, and an additional list based on territories recognized by other official organizations but not covered under the Combined ISO 3166-2 list.
	3	The Official Unlisted Places list is currently comprised of those places on the Guinness list and the Travelers Century Club list that are not mentioned in the Combined ISO list. This list is intended to be only for officially listed places that are not represented by the Combined ISO 3166-2 list. In the future, the Official Unlisted Places list may expand to include other officially listed places that are currently not included. An example of other official lists include the DX (Ham Radio Operator's) list.
	4	Shea's Register of the World (SRW): SISO is the officially-oriented arm of Shea's Register of the World. SRW is intended to be a list of the places in the world that are significantly notable and worth a visit. The list is not intended to be exhaustive. It is a selective list of the world's most interesting places. Since SISO covers most of the world's land mass, SRW will overlap in most cases. Examples of places on SRW that are not listed in SISO are Angel Falls (Waterfalls), Babylon (Ancient Kingdoms) and Yosemite (Parks).
	5	The SISO list in Excel is organized into four tabs: Explanation of SISO (this tab), 3166-1 (the ISO official country list), Combined ISO 3166-2 list, and Official Unlisted Places. Some of these tabs refer to each other. For the purposes of web posting, the tabs have been presented in 244 separate clickable buttons as follows: [Explanation of SISO], [3166-1], [Combined ISO 3166-2 list: this tab has been broken up into 240 separate clickable buttons under "ISO by Country". This is because the Combined ISO 3166-2 list is simply too large to fit on the web into one navigable document], and [Official Unlisted Places].
	6	There are many color codes. Color codes for different columns may have different meanings. Reference the legend at the top of the column to be sure. Generally color codes are as follows:
Province counts in Combined ISO 3166-2 list		Tan: I have been to a province
		Green Counted: I believe I have been to a province but there is still some question or data is incomplete. I am reasonably sure enough to count it.

Explanation of SISO list

		All Materials in this spreadsheet Copyright 2006, Jeff Shea
		Green Not counted: I may have been to a province but I will not count it because I am not confident in my information.
		Gray: I have not yet actually looked at the province to verify one way or the other whether I have visited it.
		Amber: I have verified that I have not yet visited it.
Measure of my overall research for a country		100% SURE
		95% OR MORE
		75% sure
		Still not sure, or need to research info
Other color codes in Combined ISO 3166-2		Indicates a nation as opposed to a TCC country
		Indicates a Travelers Century Club location
		Indicates a Guinness country
	7	There are 242 lines in the original 3166-1 country list. Keep in mind that 2 lines refer the user to another line (Vatican City State, see Holy See and Zaire, see Congo, Democratic Republic of). These must be ignored. Hence there are 240 unique ISO 3166-1 countries.
	8	Combined ISO 3166-2. For ease of reference, I have occasionally inserted a line in alphabetical order for Travelers Century Club countries, even when they are actually listed as provinces of other countries. For example, I have inserted a line for Hong Kong (after Guyana). This line is for reference only, and it refers the user to the Chinese province CN-91, "Xianggang". The find command (ctrl-F in Windows and command-F in Mac) can help users locate things quickly, but in cases such as this, the listing "Xianggang" for Hong Kong is not obvious.
	9	The original ISO list was purchased from the International Standards Organization. It came in the form of a database download, with one line per province. There were no headings and little or no instructions. Sorting out the list into its present form has been a work that has taken me two years to complete. While ISO retains ownership of its list, I reserve the right to retain ownership of this modified list.
	10	Reference sources: I have relied heavily on a few reference sources to determine where I have traveled in the ISO provinces:
	a	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page
		An example of the widipekia province information is at this link:
		http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Subdivisions_of_Wales#Administrative_counties
		Simply type the name of the country you are researching in the search bar.
	b	The Hammond Atlas of the World, copyright 1997, in CD form. No longer available. Made for PC. I run it on Mac using Virtual PC.

	Explanation of SISO list
	All Materials in this spreadsheet Copyright 2006, Jeff Shea
c	The National Geographic Atlas of the World.
	Jeff Shea, Richmond, California, USA, July 10, 2006