

Spatial Data Infrastructure – Africa Newsletter

SDI-Africa Newsletter

April 2004

Vol. 3, No. 4

Spatial Data Infrastructure - Africa (SDI-Africa) is a free electronic newsletter for people interested in GIS, remote sensing, and data management issues in Africa. It aims to raise awareness and provide useful information to strengthen national SDI initiatives and support synchronization of regional activities. The [Executive Working Group of CODI-Geo](#) and [EIS-AFRICA](#) are regional fora that are promoting SDI development.

To subscribe to SDI-Africa, please do so online at: <http://fgdc3.er.usgs.gov/Registration/>
To unsubscribe, or change your email address, contact: lancekt@aya.yale.edu.

Please mention SDI-Africa in any correspondence you may have on items in this issue.

If you have news or information related to GIS, remote sensing, and spatial data infrastructure that you would like to highlight (e.g., workshop announcements, publications, reports, websites of interest, etc.), kindly send them in. I'd be happy to include your news in the newsletter.

I encourage you to forward this newsletter onto colleagues who may find the information useful, and ideally they will subscribe themselves.

Back issues of the newsletter

Input to this Issue

Thank you to Vincent Joseph Mama, CENATEL (Benin); Behnam Tai, IHS-India and AusHS, Australia (India); Tsehaie Woldai, AARSE & ITC (the Netherlands); Reuben Mavima, SADC Regional Remote Sensing Unit (Zimbabwe); Jide Kufoniya, RECTAS (Nigeria); Grant Hopcraft, Frankfurt Zoological Society (Tanzania); Etienne Delattre, Wildlife Conservation Society - Cambodia Programme (Cambodia); and Roger Longhorn, Consultant (U.K.) for their contributions to this issue of the newsletter.

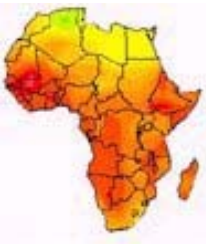
SDI News, Links, Papers, Presentations

[Call for Abstracts](#) – Deadline [May 1, 2004](#).

5th African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment (AARSE) Conference, 18-21 October 2004, Nairobi, Kenya. Theme: Geoinformation sciences in support of Africa's development

The [AARSE](#) conference is a premier forum in Africa which brings together scientists, practitioners, educators, developers and vendors and policy and decision makers to discuss advancements (latest developments), applications, capacity building and promotion of geo-information technologies in sustainable development of Africa. It is a forum in which participants learn and exchange ideas on the latest advancements in the technologies and their applications in different fields. Strategies for promotion and use of the technologies in Africa are also discussed. More information, contact: Dr W.K. Ottichilo, Conference Director, RCMRD, rcmrd@rcmrd.org, ottichilo@rcmrd.org, Fax: 254-020-802767 OR 861673; Tel: 254-020-803320 or 860654.

The [SADC SDI Workshop](#) was conducted from 23-26 February 2004 in Pretoria. The workshop attracted 50 people from 12 countries. The Workshop had two principal objectives and these were (a) To bring SADC SDI Champions together to share experiences on SDI development strategies and (b) To explore and learn about strategies for enhancing communication as a key to successful SDI development. The major topics that were discussed were: SDI Concepts and Strategies, presentation of the South African SDI as an example of a successful case, Country SDI reports, Public Private Partnership as a strategy for SDI development, and development of national SDI communication plans. The following is a summary of recommendations from the SADC SDI Workshop:



Spatial Data Infrastructure – Africa Newsletter

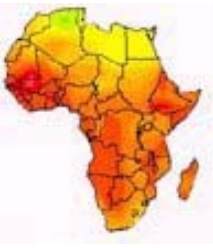
- The SADC SDI workshop should be an annual event. The SADC SDI workshop was the first workshop dealing with SDI issues from a regional perspective in SADC. The workshop allowed SADC countries to benefit from experience and know-how from SDI champions in the region.
- The SADC RRSU should re-visit its mandate to specifically include the promotion and development of SDI in SADC countries.
- SDI efforts should use key national, regional and global initiatives as drivers for the SDI process. These initiatives include Land reform, Food security, HIV/AIDS, NEPAD, Millennium Development Goals, New Horizons, Africa Peer Review Mechanism, SADC and other international protocols and Poverty Reductions Strategies.
- SDI initiatives should piggy-back onto existing projects. This is a key strategy in justifying SDI and getting governments and civil organizations to adopt SDI as a platform for developing information resources and enhancing capacity to use information for knowledge based policy development, planning, monitoring and decision making.
- Countries are urged to seriously follow up and complete their SDI communication strategies and then use these as their SDI development guides.
- A deliberate effort should be put into transparently selling SDI as essential to the success of all national development programs
- SDI should be budgeted for through national development initiatives.
- National, regional and international links must be developed and strengthened for purposes of learning from each other and possibly facilitating the sharing of resources.
- There should be mutual support between SADC RRSU and SADC partner countries in order to enhance SDI efforts at regional and national levels.
- SADC countries are urged to provide RRSU with SDI news and information on any events in their countries.
- Public Private Partnership should be adopted as a strategy for the development of SDI. There are mutual benefits that can accrue through the engagement of the private sector.

For detailed information on presentations made, session reports, list of participants and some workshop photographs, visit the RRSU clearinghouse website. Contact: Reuben Mavima, SADC Clearinghouse, Metadata and Web Mapping Specialist, rmavima@fanr-sadc.co.zw.

The inaugural meeting of the [Tanzania GIS users group \(TZGISUG\)](#) convened on Saturday, February 28, 2004 in Arusha. The Tanzanian GIS Users Group is a grass-roots association of people working on spatial data issues in Tanzania. The group was started in June 2003 by a few individuals who were interested in sharing information and expertise. The original objectives were to host an open forum for the discussion of GIS issues in the country. The group has grown since then and now has about 65 members. At their first annual meeting in Arusha, members discussed issues of projections and datums, the possibilities of sharing information, and the prospects for group's future. As the group expands so do their aspirations. One of the outcomes of the meeting was to start providing informal, open and collaborative workshops on using common software packages. Furthermore, they have started developing simple lists of what information members have and are willing to share, along with their contact details. TZGISUG hopes to start a web site in the near future that would supply more details about members and their activities, lists of available resources, useful links, FAQs and answers, announcements, archiving, some downloadable layers, and a data request service.

[City of Johannesburg's Internet Map Site \(IMS\)](#)

The City of Johannesburg's maps and property-related information can now be accessed from the Internet – Check it out! Johannesburg's Corporate [Geographic Information System's Internet site](#) is fully operational, offering clients two levels of access: a limited free service or a subscription service – so anyone needing data about Johannesburg, ranging from street addresses to ward boundaries, can log on and find what they need. The first service, being a free access facility, provides basic information available to everyone who has access to the Internet. The second, a subscription service, has more detailed information and functionality, which includes full resolution Aerial Photography and customised map-making tools. The subscription service is available at a cost to the user, and various payment methods are available, among them online payments that will allow almost immediate access to the maps. [Note that Corporate GIS publishes a [bi-annual newsletter](#), called JoGIS News. You can complete a form to [subscribe free of charge](#)]. Source: GIMS E-News, March 2004



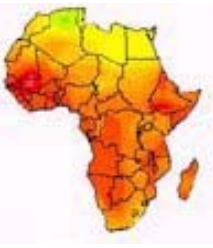
Spatial Data Infrastructure – Africa Newsletter

AEIN Regional Start-up Workshop, 5-6 April 2004, Pretoria, South Africa

The [Africa Environment Information Network \(AEIN\)](#) is aimed at strengthening organizational networking and capacities related to the management of data and information for environmental assessment and reporting in Africa. A Regional Start-up Workshop is being held to acquaint sub-regional level partners with the Africa Environment Information Network (AEIN) Programme Concept and to secure commitments for participation and provision of appropriate inputs in the preparation of national strategies and subsequent implementation of the programme. Under the AEIN the southern Africa sub-region, which is one of six in Africa, is being coordinated by the Southern African Research and Documentation Centre (SARDC) through its environment department the Musokotwane Environment Resource Centre for Southern Africa (IMERCSA). The sub-region is made up of 11 countries, namely Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

-- Update on geospatial activities in Nigeria

- The first issue of the **Nigerian Journal of Surveying and Geoinformatics** is being printed and will be launched during the Opening Ceremony of the Annual Conference. For more information about the journal, contact: Dr. Jide Kufoniyi, kufoniyi@skannet.com.
The



Spatial Data Infrastructure – Africa Newsletter

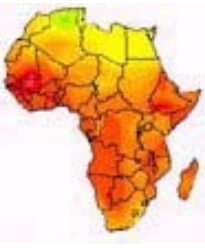
establishing a stakeholder network of organizations and regions and individuals interested in forest monitoring in the region. For more information, contact Didier Devers at ddevers@glue.umd.edu.

The [Congo Basin Forest Partnership](#), a free association of public and private partners, works to reduce poverty and improve the lives of the Congo Basin's people through new and existing regional institutions and programs by protecting the region's biodiversity and promoting good governance and the sustainable use and management of its forests and wildlife.

-- a look at what France is doing . . . Source: Geo:connexion, March 2004 issue.

[Le contrat d'objectifs et de moyens défini pour la période 2003-2006 vient d'être signé le 10 septembre 2003 entre l'Etat et l'Institut Géographique National](#)

Dans ce [contrat](#),



Spatial Data Infrastructure – Africa Newsletter

[AGRHYMET](#), Dr. Issoufou Alfari, i.alfari@agrhyment.ne; Ilija Amadou, ilija@sahel.agrhyment.ne

Note as well that the [Global Land Cover Facility](#) provides this imagery for download too. GLCF has the [Africa imagery](#) listed by country. Also, the [Tropical Rain Forest Information Center \(TRFIC\)](#) pledged to disseminate the Landsat 2000 ETM+, 1990 TM, and 1970 MSS ortho-rectified datasets to African researchers and research programs at the Sixth AfricaGIS Conference held in Dakar, Senegal (November 4 - 7, 2003). Access to these data are via an [ftp portal](#) through a web browser. In addition to hosting the ortho-rectified dataset, TRFIC has developed a DVD series for Africa that includes bands 3, 4, and 5 of ortho-rectified data as well as an Interactive Atlas for the region. These are available by country and can be ordered by African researchers on DVD by sending an email to TRFIC-Africa_Ortho@globalchange.msu.edu with the following information: a) Country requested, b) Name, c) Organization, d) Complete mailing address, e) E-mail address, f) Brief description of intended use for the data

NASA and NIMA have released the Shuttle Radar Topography Mission Digital Elevation Model (DEM) for Africa and the Middle East. These preliminary elevation data are posted at 3 arc-sec and are in the same format as previous releases for North and South America and Eurasia. [They may be accessed by ftp](#), and will soon be on the [USGS Seamless Server](#) site. Documentation is also available at the ftp site. The Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM) is a project intended to create the most accurate and complete global digital topographic data in the world. The mission is a joint venture between the National Geospatial Agency (NGA), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA). The data is intended to be used by the military and by scientific, civil and commercial user communities. Two types of data products derived from the C-band radar will be distributed by the USGS: 1-arc second (30 meter) resolution data of the United States only and 3-arc second (90 meter) resolution data of the mission's entire coverage area.

Global 1 km Climate Surfaces

The CIAT Land Use Project has collected climate data in stations located in the tropics for over 20 years. The climate database is one of the largest collections of climate information in the world, and contains registrations of more than 20,000 stations of Latin America, Asia, and Africa. In collaboration with Robert Hijmans in the University of Berkeley, these data along with other climate data collections have been used to produce high resolution climate surfaces of maximum temperature, minimum temperature and rainfall. The climate grids cover the entire globe, with a cell resolution of 1 km. This is a unique dataset for the globe, and is available for download from the [WORLDCLIM](#) web page in a beta version release.

Geospatial Research, Applications, Reference Material

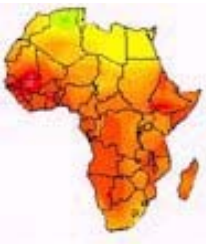
[Linking Archival and Remote Sensed Data for Long Term Environmental Monitoring](#)

Based on an ongoing project on environmental monitoring in the Okavango Delta, which has created a database covering 80 years between 1921 and 2001, the specific objectives of this paper are to: a) outline how modern remote sensed data (Corona and Landsat) can be complemented by historical in-situ observations (Travellers' records and maps) to extend temporal coverage into the historical past; b) illustrate that different forms of postconflict intelligence data (Corona) can be constructively exploited for the furtherance of scientific understanding; c) provide some useful pointers on the type/s of data potentially recoverable from archival records; and d) provide a framework for a networking arrangement to facilitate the sharing of data at regional and international levels by converting data into electronically transmittable formats.

[Conference Proceedings - Bridging Scales and Epistemologies: Linking Local Knowledge and Global Science in Multi-Scale Assessments](#), Alexandria, Egypt, March 17-20, 2004

[Linking farmer, forest and watershed: Understanding agroforestry practices and soil resource management along the upper Njoro river, Kenya](#)

This paper presents research-in-progress aimed at the development of an understanding of small farmers' soil and forestry management techniques in the Upper Catchment of the Njoro River (UCNR) in Kenya. This paper answers the following questions: How do upland farmers in the UCNR view and manage soil and forestry resources? What does this imply for development planners seeking to augment watershed and environmental services? The study blends social science approaches and biophysical assessment. Interviews were conducted between July-September



Spatial Data Infrastructure – Africa Newsletter

of 2003 with a sample of hillside 15 farmers located within 200 m of first order streams or springs. Questions focused on agronomic practices, economic issues, the use of local tree resources, soil management perceptions and practices, and farmer awareness of landscape ecology and hydrology. Biophysical data included inventory and frequency and use of on-farm tree species, soil samples, and GPS points each of the farms. Laboratory tests revealed soil quality indicators. This paper will present an analysis of qualitative interview data. Farmer perception soil fertility and its influence on cropping systems and yields will be compared to an agronomic analysis of yield limitations. Management and farmer perception of forestry resources is described in relation to large scale agroecological processes, for example altered hydrologic cycling and soil erosion under new land use and cropping patterns. This information is compared with bio-physical data to identify 'gaps' between local and scientific knowledge. Consideration of bio-physical characteristics of these upland agroecosystems in tandem with farmer perception and management provides insight for environmental planners concerned with the promotion of improved farm and Land Use Systems (LUS) in the highlands of East Africa.

[Cameroon forest expansion success](#)

The Royal Botanic Gardens (RBG) at Kew monitored vegetation cover changes at Kilum-Ijim, using satellite imaging and aerial photographs to create a series of images of the forest from 1958 to 2001. The researchers found that more than 50% of the montane forest had been lost in the 30 years between 1958 and 1988. But regeneration started almost immediately after the [BirdLife project](#) was established. By 2001, an area of forest equivalent to nearly eight percent of the 1988 extent had recovered, mainly on the east side of Mount Oku.

[Outbreak Alerts from Space - NASA Science News release](#)

With the help of Earth-watching satellites, scientists can identify high-risk "hot spots" for deadly diseases before outbreaks strike.

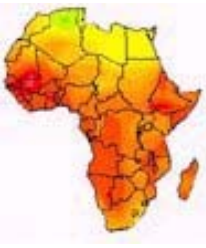
Funding Opportunities, Awards, Support

[Call for Ramsar Small Grants Fund project proposals for the 2004 cycle](#)

The Ramsar Small Grants Fund is a mechanism to assist developing countries and those with economies in transition in implementing the Convention and to enable the conservation and wise use of wetland resources - it provides funding and co-funding, up to 40,000 Swiss francs (about US\$ 32,000) per project. Suitable project proposals are those which contribute to the implementation of the Convention's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 for the conservation and wise use of wetlands; provide emergency assistance for Ramsar sites; or provide 'preparatory assistance' to allow non-Contracting Parties to progress toward accession. Eligibility is restricted to countries on the List of Aid Recipients established by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), effectively meaning developing countries and countries with economies in transition. Projects may be proposed and implemented by any agency, NGO, or individual, but proposals MUST be endorsed and monitored by the Administrative Authority (the Ramsar implementing agency) in the Party's government, and seldom is more than one proposal approved from the same Party in any year. The call for proposals is now being made for the 2004 cycle, with a deadline of 30 June 2004 for application and with a decision by the Standing Committee around the end of the year. The current edition of the "[SGF Operational Guidelines](#)", which include complete information and the required forms, are now available on the Ramsar Web site in Word and PDF formats, as well as directly from the Secretariat. The Secretariat's regional teams also offer an advisory service to help with the preparation of suitable proposals, for which drafts should be submitted to the Senior Regional Advisors by 15 April 2004. For further information about the Ramsar Convention and the Small Grants Fund, contact: the Ramsar Convention Bureau, ramsar@ramsar.org; ramsar@hq.iucn.org.

[Bernard Conyers Award 2004](#)

The Award offers individuals in the Third World (or lesser privileged areas of Europe) the opportunity to disseminate original material in the field of rural development and/or education. This may take the form of a book, newsletter, workshop, video or via the internet etc. This is not a research award. £8000 in total is available for the 2004 award(s). Application deadline: 15 May 2004. Apply to: The Arkleton Trust, Enstone, Oxon, OX7 4HH. Email: arkleton@enstoneuk.demon.co.uk



Spatial Data Infrastructure – Africa Newsletter

[Call for Applications: Ecosystem Approaches to Human Health Training Awards 2004-05](#)

The Ecohealth Training Awards encourage graduate-level students to examine the relationships between the environment, human health, and development from a holistic perspective through field research that contributes to understanding these relationships as inter-related. The focus of this year's competition is health in an urban context. Applicants are asked to submit proposals that use ecosystem approaches to human health to analyse the links between human health and urban ecosystem conditions, as well as identify potential intervention strategies based on better natural resource management that improves human health and ecosystem sustainability. Deadline for receiving applications: May 15, 2004.

[ISO Helmut Reihlen 2004 Award - ISO Contest for Young Standardizers in developing countries and economies in transition](#) The purpose of this contest, held every second year within the framework of the ISO Programme for Developing Countries, is to encourage young professionals to embark on a successful career in standardization and to raise awareness of the importance of standards in promoting safe and sustainable economic development. Submissions due: May 3, 2004.

The [Five College African Scholars program](#) is dedicated to strengthening partnerships among scholars in Africa and the United States, supporting research, and enriching the study of Africa. Six to seven fellowships will be awarded annually between 2003 and 2007 to those individuals who best meet the eligibility and selection criteria. Women and men throughout Africa, particularly those who have not had recent access to such opportunities, are encouraged to apply. During four-month residencies, fellows will have the opportunity and resources to complete their research and writing projects in an academic community without the obligations of normal professional duties. Each fellow will be hosted by a faculty member at one of the Five College institutions who shares that fellow's scholarly interests. Fellows will participate in an interdisciplinary seminar, conducted in English, with fellow residents and African studies faculty from the five colleges. Although teaching is not required, scholars may be invited as guest speakers in various classes. The program intends to sustain connections among scholars following their return to Africa. The next deadline for the Five College African Scholars Program is May 1, 2004 for Projects on any topic in Humanities & Social Sciences for the term Mid-August to December 2005. Contact: asp@fivecolleges.edu.

[START-PACOM African Doctoral Fellowships](#)

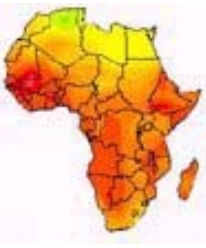
The International START Secretariat and the Pan African START Committee (PACOM) announces its third round of doctoral fellowship opportunities for outstanding young African global change scientists. The fellowships, supported through a grant from Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), are awarded for up to two years for completion of a Ph.D. degree or a combination of the final year of post-graduate study and one year of post-doctoral research. Deadline for applying is 14 May 2004.

[Les Bourses du Cisco Networking Academy pour les femmes en Algérie, Maroc et Tunisie](#)

The Women in Technology, Cisco Networking Academy Scholarship program. Le programme de bourse du Cisco Networking Academy : Women In Technology est sponsorisé par le United States Agency for International Development (USAID), et est administré par le Institute of International Education (IIE). Grâce à une subvention du programme Dot-GOV de Internews Network, le programme octroie des bourses aux candidates originaires des pays listés, leur permettant de s'inscrire au programme Cisco Networking Academy (CNA) et d'obtenir un certificat Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA). Date limite de la demande de bourse : le 31 mai 2004

[Research Grants, Foundation for the Future](#)

The Foundation for the Future has developed a research grant program to provide financial support to scholars undertaking research that is directly related to a better understanding of the factors affecting the quality of life for the long-term future of humanity. The foundation invites applications for the category **International Collaboration on the Future of Humanity**. This category includes all of those fields that may have a significant impact on the quality of human life during the new millenia. Areas of interest within the physical and social sciences include, but are not limited to, research into the social, genetic, biological, medical, psychological, physiological, cultural, and environmental factors that may affect the quality of the human condition. Deadlines for submittals are April 30 and October 31. Amount: \$1,000 to \$25,000. Proposals are accepted from unaffiliated individuals or on behalf of individuals or research teams from the following organizations and institutions around the world: Universities and



Spatial Data Infrastructure – Africa Newsletter

management and climate scenarios; c) Achieve a "Sahel-wide synthesis" of historical changes in carbon fluxes and stocks and management potentials for climate mitigation, enhanced agricultural fertility, and land use sustainability; and d) Achieve national and regional capacities for project implementation, mitigation, and adaptation. Participants have already lined up, but if you are interested in the use of remote sensing to evaluate carbon stocks and fluxes, and would like more information, contact: Larry Tieszen, tieszen@usgs.gov.

[International Executive Short Course on Good Urban Governance and Poverty Alleviation](#) in Bangkok, Thailand from 01 to 15 July, 2004. A Two-week Intensive Training Programme for Mayors, Elected Representatives, Executives of Local Authorities, Government Officials, Housing and Infrastructure Executives, Civil Society and Senior Professionals. The organizers will not be able to arrange any funding. The participants should find their own sources of funding from their own departments, governments and international funding agencies. For the previous workshop held in Bangkok, Thailand, in February/March 2004, participants were funded by Local/Provincial governments from different countries (Thailand, Maldives, The Philippines and India) and the following international funding agencies: SIDA (Tanzania); ADB (India, Nepal and Vanuatu); DFID (India & Angola); World Bank (Sri Lanka) & GTZ (Sri Lanka). Registration will be on a first come first serve basis till all slots are filled.

Environmental Economics Course

The World Bank Institute will offer its annual course on Environmental Economics for Development Policy from July 19-30, 2004, in Washington, DC. The course provides an introduction to Environmental Economics for those with some Economics background, building on the Bank's experience in using Environmental Economics to address issues at the macro, sector and project levels. Since first being offered in 1998, it has increased in scope and reach, thanks to interactions between internationally renowned faculty and highly qualified participants. The course material is designed for policymakers, economic and environmental advisors, public and private sector professionals, NGO staff, and academics. Applications due: April 8, 2004. The course fee is US\$ 700 for applicants from World Bank borrowing countries.

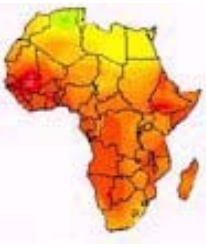
Employment Opportunities

Short term consultancy in GIS, Uganda

Landell Mills / EC is seeking consultants for a major fisheries programme in East Africa. One of the consultancies calls for someone with experience in GIS to assist with: i. Development of GIS tools that are integrated to the Lake Victoria Fisheries Database Management System; ii. Production of a Lake Victoria Fisheries resource map; iii. Setting up GIS labs at implementing institutions in each Partner State and at LVFO Secretariat; and iv. Conduct training for all stakeholders on GIS applications. The minimum qualification required for GIS development consultancy is a degree in computer science, information technology with postgraduate training in GIS tools. Graduates of Geography with a postgraduate or professional qualification in GIS will be considered. Only EU and ACP country nationalities are eligible. Send your cv to amea@landell-mills.com. Closing Date: 18 April 2004

Senior GIS Officer, Geneva, Switzerland

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees seeks a Senior Geographic Information Systems Officer (L-4). Duties: provide advice so as to ensure conformity of UNHCR practice with international and UN standards and norms in the field of geographic information and in the application of related tools such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Global Positioning System (GPS) and remote sensing to refugee operations; provide guidance and make recommendations to operations managers on the use of geographic information and related tools in combination with registration data, survey results and indicator tracking to strengthen operational assessment, monitoring and improved coordination between UNHCR teams and partners; coordinate with other UN agencies, both at HQ and operational levels, on the use of geographic information systems and related tools to ensure that agreed standards are applied, resources pooled and information shared in the interests of cohesive and timely UN-system response; and initiate and develop technical guidelines for the Office on the application of geographic information, remote sensing and GPS to refugee situations. Requires: Highest level of university degree in Geography and related earth sciences linked to geographic information systems, remote sensing, and global positioning system; fluency in English and French; three years of international experience; and at least seven years experience in similar functional area.



Spatial Data Infrastructure – Africa Newsletter

Closing date: 4/20/04. Full curriculum vitae, including nationality and references, should be sent to: Vacancy Management Unit (ref: 285004), UNHCR, hqpe14@unhcr.ch. Reference Vacancy Post Number: 285004 on the application.

[Programme Co-ordinator: Promoting Exchange of Information and Experience](#), Wageningen, The Netherlands
The Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Co-operation (CTA) is inviting applications for the post of Programme Co-ordinator for programmes concerning the exchange of informational and experience. The successful candidate will contribute to achieving the objectives of the Department to which they are appointed, working to promote (a) the sharing of information and experience in agricultural and rural development and (b) access to high quality information for those involved in agricultural and rural development in the ACP countries. Closing date 15 April 2004 (revised).

[Professor of Earth Surface Systems Analysis](#), Enschede, the Netherlands
The professor leads a chair-group in the Department of Earth Systems Analysis that is responsible for initiating, coordinating and executing research, education and advisory services projects in geo-information science and earth observation applied to understanding surface geologic processes and socio-economic and environmental issues related to them. The professor is required to develop and maintain excellence in the disciplines covered by the chair and to assure the scientific quality of the academic output of the chair-group. The chair is linked through an adjunct professorial appointment to Utrecht University. Successful candidate profile: PhD in geomorphology, soil geography, physical geography or related discipline; experience with and a vision of the application of geo-information science and/or earth observation to earth surface process modelling; an international reputation and a strong record of publication; a demonstrable affinity with the development-related mission of ITC. Further preferred attributes include a multidisciplinary approach, proven didactic qualities, evident management capabilities, professional experience in developing countries and a record of research funding acquisition. For additional information, contact: Prof. Dr. F.D. van der Meer, Chairman of the Department of Earth Systems Analysis, vdmeer@itc.nl, tel. +31 53 4874 353. Curriculum vitae and a letter elaborating the motivation for the application to Mrs. B.A.J. Leurink, ITC, P.O. Box 6, 7500 AA Enschede, the Netherlands, posecretariat@itc.nl. Closing date 24 April 2004.

Other

[Poverty and Environment Times launched](#)

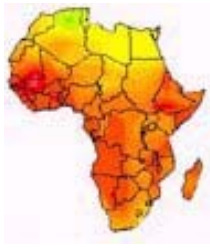
The Poverty and Environment Times launched at UNEP's Governing Council in Jeju Korea, 31 March 2004, is a user-friendly package of information on the links between environment and poverty. The newspaper is highlighting recent research, ongoing projects and events, and suggestions for policy action. The newspaper contains original maps and graphics and contributions from authors all over the world.

[Call for Papers: Institutional Change in Agricultural Innovation Systems \(AISs\)](#)

The International Journal of Agricultural Resources, Governance, and Ecology is calling for papers on the theme "Institutional Change in Agricultural Innovation Systems (AISs)." The closing date is May 30, 2004. Contact: t.temel@cgiar.org

[Coordination Failure in Foreign Aid](#)

Halonen-Akatwijuka analyzes the allocation of foreign aid to various sectors in a recipient developing country. Donors tend to favor social sectors over other public expenditure programs. Due to incomplete information, donors may concentrate too much on priority sectors, leaving lower-priority yet important sectors lacking funds. Alternatively there may be gaps in services in priority areas because of the information problem. The author finds that the more similar preferences the donors have, the more scope there is for coordination failure. Therefore improving information is particularly important when the parties have similar priorities. A joint database on planned projects and budget allocations in each recipient country would provide such information. The author's point is that such databases should have both information on current projects and forward-looking information on the planned activities needed to improve aid coordination. She also analyzes the aid fungibility problem in an incomplete information setting and finds that incomplete information reduces the fungibility problem. On the other hand, incomplete information introduces coordination failure and the allocation can be inferior for both the recipient and the donor.



Spatial Data Infrastructure – Africa Newsletter

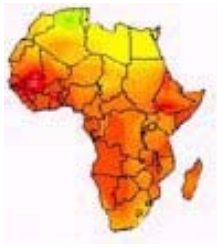
Rural ICT Toolkit for Africa

The Rural ICT Toolkit concentrates on the “how to” of implementing rural ICT programs and projects. It is aimed at providing state of the art knowledge and best practice on rural ICT development, basic recommended standards and tools for rural ICT initiatives. Among other things, it summarises best practice on rural ICT policy, funding principles & processes, monitoring and evaluation. It provides a basic understanding for technology options available. It offers a framework to select appropriate rural ICT projects, and it explains essentials of demand studies, business plans and socio-economic impact analysis.

Conferences, Events

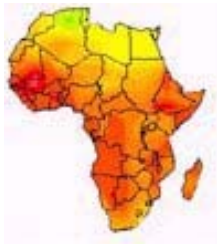
Items newly added to this listing of events since the last SDI-Africa issue are marked * **NEW** *

Date	Location	Event
April 2004		
1-3 April	Kampala, Uganda	<u>Assuring Food and Nutrition Security in Africa by 2020</u> Organized by 2020 Vision Initiative of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington, DC. Contact Rajul Pandya-Lorch, Head, 2020 Vision Initiative, r.pandya-lorch@cgiar.org .
4-8 April	Khartoum, Sudan	<u>United Nations/European Space Agency/Government of Sudan Regional Workshop on the Use of Space Technology for Natural Resources Management, Environmental Monitoring and Disaster Management</u> . Organized jointly by the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs and the Remote Sensing Authority, National Center for Research - Sudan, co-organized together with the European Space Agency. Deadline for application is: Friday 27 February 2004.
14 - 16 April * NEW *	Gaborone Botswana	<u>Regional Consultation on National e-Government Readiness</u> The event will address e-Government in its broadest sense and provide insights into the status, trends and achievements within SADC countries, and lessons learnt. It will also provide templates for the assessment of e-Government readiness and progress, capacity-building and support requirements, both nationally as well as regionally.
20-29 April	New York, NY, USA	<u>The Twenty-second Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names</u> (UNGEGN) http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/englishUNGEGN.pdf http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/frenchUNGEGN.pdf (français)
21-23 April	Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro	<u>First Mediterranean Conference on Earth Observation</u> . MeCEO 2004 has as its main objective the initiation of a dialogue between experts from developed and developing countries with a view to identifying mutually acceptable ways and means, which would enable all interested countries, either to participate in the development of this technology and its applications or to have easier access to its practical benefits. Although in its geographical scope the Conference is focused on the Mediterranean Region, where there are very specific requirements for the application of remote sensing, the Conference is open for participants from all countries.
29 April – 1 May	Heraklion, Crete, Greece	<u>7th AGILE Conference on GI Science</u>
May 2004		
May/June 2004 (dates to be determined)	Cape Town, South Africa	<u>Third African Evaluation Association (AfrEA) Conference</u> The theme of the conference is proposed to be Evaluation for Effective Development in Africa
3 May	Cairo, Egypt	<u>Egyptian ESRI User's Conference</u>
3-8 May	Port Harcourt,	Annual Conference of Nigerian Institution of Surveyors. The theme is



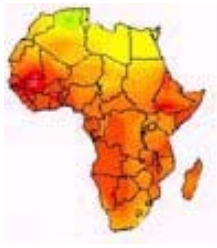
Spatial Data Infrastructure – Africa Newsletter

<p>* NEW *</p>	<p>Rivers State, Nigeria</p>	<p>"Expanding the spheres of Surveying and Geo-informatics for National Development" with the following sub-themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Geo-information capacity utilization in the Niger Delta - Professional networking for effective planning and national development - Skill acquisition for efficient geo-information management - Spatial data infrastructure for National development - Survey and geo-referencing in satellite mapping for national resources development - Adjusting national geodetic framework for satellite mapping
<p>4-7 May * NEW *</p>	<p>Nairobi, Kenya</p>	<p><u>Smart City 2020 Nairobi Conference: Creating a Blueprint for the sustainable African City</u> is a 4-day event, focusing on strategies for transforming African cities to become livable, safe, prosperous and sustainable through a comprehensive process of discussion among stakeholders, practitioners, development organizations, and theoretical researchers/academics around 12 major issues; 1. Education 2.. Environment and Aesthetics 3. Good Governance & Accountability 4. Health 5. Housing 6, Information and Communication Technology 7. Poverty Eradication 8. Safety 9. Tourism, culture and heritage. 10. Transportation 11. Waste Management 12. Water. You can now <u>register online</u></p>
<p>10-12 May</p>	<p>Johor, Malaysia</p>	<p><u>7th Conference on GIS and Developing Countries: GISDECO 2004</u>, on GIS Capacity Building and Infrastructure. GISDECO Secretariat: Email :b-haris@utm.my. General information on GISDECO or details of past events please see: http://www.itc.nl/gisdeco/ or email Richard Sliuzas, GISDECO Int'l coordinator at <u>GISDECO@itc.nl</u>.</p>
<p>10-12 May * NEW *</p>	<p>Alexandria, Egypt</p>	<p>DIVERSITAS workshop - to define a science agenda and launch a series of international activities on the theme of agriculture and biodiversity. <u>DIVERTAS</u> is an international global change programme dedicated to promoting biodiversity science, established under the auspices of UNESCO and ICSU (International Council for Science). Contact: Anne Larigauderie, <u>secretariat@bibalex.org</u></p>
<p>12-14 May</p>	<p>Miami Beach, Florida, USA</p>	<p><u>Geospatial World 2004</u> Intergraph Mapping and Geospatial Solutions and the Intergraph GeoSpatial Users Community are organizing the fourth annual GeoSpatial World, themed, "Open. Solutions. Exchange." The program for GeoSpatial World will address open technology and standards, demonstrate proven industry solutions, and provide a platform for the exchange of ideas and expertise with users from around the world.</p>
<p>22-27 May</p>	<p>Athens, Greece</p>	<p><u>FIG 27th Working Week</u> The theme and programme covers all ten FIG Commissions (professional practice; professional education; spatial information and management; hydrography; positioning and measurement; engineering surveys; cadastre and land management; spatial planning and development; valuation and the management of real estate; and construction economics and management).</p>
<p>24-28 May * NEW *</p>	<p>Cape Town, South Africa</p>	<p><u>9th International Meeting on Statistical Climatology</u> The purpose of the meeting is to bring together climatologists and statisticians to exchange concepts and approaches to analysis of problems. The IMSC provides a forum for climatologists to present statistical problems in climatology (including meteorology and related fields) and consider the methods currently used to deal with these problems. Contact: Bruce Hewitson, <u>imsc@egs.uct.ac.za</u></p>
<p>25-28 May</p>	<p>Ohrid FY Repub.</p>	<p><u>IAHS Conference on Water Observation & Information System for Decision Support (BALWOIS)</u></p>



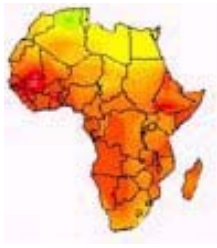
Spatial Data Infrastructure – Africa Newsletter

	Macedonia	
June 2004		
2-4 June	Innsbruck, Austria	International seminar on e-Land Administration , organised by FIG Commission 7 ('Cadastre and Land Management') in co-operation with the Austrian Society of Surveying and Geoinformation and BEV, Austria, e-land administration makes impressive progress in many countries and it is time to shape the future for the implementation of new structures and techniques and to learn from each other experiences so far. The seminar dedicates time to e-government, that might be seen as the context in which e-land administration develops. Experiences from various countries and exploring the opportunities of public private co-operation will be highlighted as well.
2-7 June	Orleans, France	20th Colloquium of Africa Geology - First circular / 20eme Colloque de Geologie Afrique - Cirulaire premiere. Symposia topics include: Geodynamics of Africa; Earth Resources and Sustainable Development of Africa; Geohazards, Environmental management, Paleoclimatology and Human Evolution in Africa; and Geoscience Education in Africa. There will also be workshops: 1) The future role of African Geological and Mining Surveys, 2) Earth resources, sustainable development and poverty alleviation in Africa, 3) Geoscientific Maps of Africa including Tectonic map of Africa (CGMW), and 4) Initiative for integrated research projects in Africa (CNRS-INSU, Univ., IRD, IFREMER, BRGM, etc.).
7-9 June	Gavle, Sweden	Geoinformatics 2004 : Geospatial Information Research: Bridging the Pacific and Atlantic, 12th International Conference on Geomatics.
July 2004		
8-9 July	Rabat, Morocco	Conference on Tele-Health and Satellites Based on the French project RED GEMS (Re-Emergent Diseases Global Environment Monitoring from Space) it will be an in-depth concentration on tele-medicine and tele-epidemiology.
12-16 July	Johannesburg, South Africa	GEOSCIENCE AFRICA 2004 The conference will embrace several parallel symposia catering for different areas of specialization, including economic geology, palaeontology, tectonics, geophysics, sedimentology, geohydrology, geological education and geomorphology, together forming the Geoscientific Forum. University of the Witwatersrand
12-23 July	Istanbul, Turkey	XXth International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) Congress -Geo-Imagery: Bridging Continents. Contact: oaltan@srv.ins.itu.edu.tr
28-30 July * NEW *	Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe	Conference on Water and Waste Management for Developing Countries – WAMDEC 2004
August 2004		
9-13 August	San Diego, California, USA	ESRI International User Conference
30 August – 3 September	Mauritius	2004 International Small Island Developing States Network Meeting (BPoA +10). Contact: mauritius2004@sidsnet.org
September 2004		
(dates to be determined) * NEW *	Accra, Ghana	8th West Africa Information and Communications Technologies Conference The theme for AITEC2004 is: "Building Public-Private Partnership and Creating Opportunities Through ICT"
1-4 September * NEW *	Kampala, Uganda	Integrated Agricultural Research for Development--Achievements, Lessons Learnt, and Best Practice For more information, contact: NARO Conference Organizing Committee at naroconf@narosaari.org or at



Spatial Data Infrastructure – Africa Newsletter

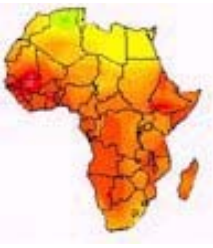
		dgnaro@infocom.co.ug .
15-17 September	Agro-Montpellier, France	Global Workshop on Digital Soil Mapping The Workshop (GW-DSM) aims to discuss and further develop new rapid and economic methods for digitally mapping soil classes and attributes (and their uncertainties) particularly at resolutions of 20 metres to 500 metres. The Workshop should be of interest to all those concerned in the future of soil resource assessment. For expressions of interest, and more details, contact Philippe Lagacherie, lagacherie@ensam.inra.fr .
18-22 September	Geneva, Switzerland	40th Annual Congress of International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISoCaRP). Theme: 'Management of Urban Regions'
19-24 September	Marrakech, Morocco	The World Water Congress , sponsored by the International Water Association (IWA), will bring together all those interested in sustainable water resources management. Topics to be discussed include: operating water and wastewater systems; integrated water resource and river basin management; and water and health.
26-29 September	Cairo, Egypt	The European Association of Remote Sensing Laboratories (EARSeL) is organising its 3rd Workshop on Remote Sensing for Developing Countries . The main topics will include : Adapted Mapping Methods, Monitoring Salinisation, Desertification and Erosion and DEM Generation from Remote Sensing Data.
27-30 September	Maputo, Mozambique	13th International Congress of the Names Society of Southern Africa . Contact: DINAGECA , dinageca@teledata.mz
October 2004		
1-4 October * NEW *	Nairobi, Kenya	Inter-regional Conference on Strategies for Enhancing Rural-urban Linkages Approach to Development and Promotion of Local Economic Development Contact: contact: Ananda.Weliwita@unhabitat.org
6-7 October	Paris, France	SIG 2004, Conférence Francophone ESRI
7-8 October	Baveno, Italy (JRC)	ISO/TC211 19th Plenary
13-15 October	Cape Town, South Africa	African Development and Poverty Reduction: The Macro-Micro Linkage Contact: dpruconf@commerce.uct.ac.za or bontong@commerce.uct.ac.za Organized by the Development Policy Research Unit (DPRU) at the University of Cape Town, Trade and Industrial Policy Strategies (TIPS), South Africa, and Cornell University (USA). Deadline: April 15, 2004 (papers)
18-21 October	Nairobi, Kenya	5th African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment (AARSE) Conference . Jointly hosted by the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD), Ministries of Environment, Natural Resources and Wildlife and of Lands and Settlement in Kenya, and UNESCO/UNEP Office, Nairobi. The theme of the 5th AARSE Conference is "The Role of Geo-Information Technologies (GIT) in the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD)". Contact: rcmrd@rcmrd.org or ottichilo@rcmrd.org . Fees: US \$100 (before May 31, 2004), US \$125 (from June 1-September 30, 2004), US \$150 (Walk-in at the conference), and US \$75 (AARSE fully paid members). Deadline for abstracts: <u>May 1, 2004</u> .
18–22 October * NEW *	Munich, Germany	United Nations International Workshop on the Use of Space Technology for Disaster Management . Contact: David.Stevens@unvienna.org
20-23 October * NEW *	University of Maryland, Adelphi, Maryland, USA	GIScience 2004 will bring together scientists from academia, industry, and government to analyze progress and to explore new research directions. The conference program aims to attract leading GIScience researchers from all fields to reflect the interdisciplinary breadth of GIScience, including cognitive science, computer science, engineering, geography, information science,



Spatial Data Infrastructure – Africa Newsletter

		mathematics, philosophy, psychology, social science, and statistics. Abstracts due by <u>April 12, 2004</u> .
20-24 October	Udine, Italy	Agro Environ 2004: Role of Multi-purpose Agriculture in Sustaining Global Environment . The Symposium covers a wide range of topics addressing key environmental and agricultural issues through applying new technologies that aim at sustaining agricultural systems, monitoring environment and conserving natural resources. Participants are invited to submit papers, coherent with the above said objectives and topics, that will be published in the proceedings. E-mail address: agroenv@uniud.it .
27-29 October	Chioggia, Venica, Italy	24th Urban Data Management Symposium The Urban Data Management Society, has organised international symposia at various locations in Europe in order to promote the development of information systems in local government since 1971. An important aim of UDMS has been to provide a forum for people to discuss new approaches, to consider new technologies and to share practical experiences in the field of urban data management. The focus has been on urban applications but regional and rural issues have always been well represented and have grown recently in importance.
21-23 October	Geneva, Switzerland	EnviroInfo 2004 - 18th International Conference on Informatics for Environmental Protection The 2004 symposium will focus on 'sharing': sharing information technologies, sharing data and knowledge. Organized by the CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research.
November 2004		
8-10 November	Berlin, Germany	19th CODATA International Conference (Committee on Data for Science and Technology)
8-10 November	Pretoria, South Africa	TIGER 2004 . This effort is aimed at providing the use of Earth observation data from ESA's Envisat satellite and other ESA missions to assist in managing water resources, primarily in Africa. Co-hosted by the South African Department for Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF) and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). Contact: josef.aschbacher@esa.int
8-11 November	Cape Town, South Africa	IAPSO International Workshop on Forecasting and Data Assimilation in the Benguela Current and Comparable Systems
December 2004		
7-9 December	United Arab Emirates	Seventh ESRI Middle East & Africa User Conference
2005		
23-25 February 2005	Bonn, Germany	International Conference on Integrated Assessment and Management of Water Resources: A North-South Analysis The main objective of the conference is to analyze the challenges that are encountered in the integrated assessment and management of water resources in large river basins. By bringing together (omenistst and managr)Tj0.0003 Tc 0.3925 Tw 10.02

that



Spatial Data Infrastructure – Africa Newsletter

29 August – 2 September 2005 * NEW *	Sandton, Joburg, South Africa	AFRICAGIS '05
2006		
9-15 July 2006	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA	<u>IUSS 18th World Congress of Soil Science</u>

Kate Lance

Copyright © 2004. All rights reserved.

DISCLAIMER:
info:infrastructure will not be held liable for any errors, mistakes, misprints or incorrect information.