

Spatial Data Infrastructure – Asia and the Pacific (SDI-AP) is a free electronic newsletter from the [Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association \(GSDI\)](#) which is available in both English and Chinese language versions. The newsletter is produced for people interested in Spatial Data Infrastructure, GIS, remote sensing and geospatial data issues in Asia and the Pacific. It aims to raise awareness and provide useful information to strengthen SDI initiatives and support synchronising these activities across the region. Support for the newsletter is also provided by the [Permanent Committee on Geographic Information for Asia and the Pacific \(PCGIAP\)](#), a regional forum to enhance cooperation in the development of a regional geographic information infrastructure. The newsletter is currently being produced for GSDI by the [Centre for Spatial Data Infrastructures and Land Administration](#) at the University of Melbourne.



To subscribe to SDI-AP use [this link](#). Back issues of the newsletter are at the [GSDI website](#). You can also sign up for [GSDI News List](#) to receive alerts of special news and announcements as well as notification of new issues of the SDI-AP newsletter. To subscribe and access archives of thematic or regional discussion lists [please visit](#).

## Contents

Message from the editors.....	1
Contributions .....	1
GSDI News.....	2
SDI News, Links, Papers, Presentations .....	4
SDI Spotlight.....	4
GIS Tools, Software, Data.....	5
News from abroad.....	6
Articles .....	10
Books and Journals (including Videos and Web publications).....	10
Just for Fun!.....	13
Training Opportunities.....	15
Funding Opportunities, Awards, Grants.....	17
Employment Opportunities.....	18
Conference Proceedings.....	18
Conferences, Events.....	19

## Message from the editors

Welcome to the November issue of the newsletter.

If you have news or information related to SDI, GIS, RS or spatial data that you would like to share with the community (e.g. workshop announcements, publications, reports, websites of interest etc.), kindly [send us](#) the materials by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the each month for your contribution to be included in the next newsletter.

Malcolm Park and Serryn Eagleson ([Editors](#)), at the [Centre for Spatial Data Infrastructures and Land Administration](#), The University of Melbourne.

## Contributions

Thank you to the following people and organisations for their contributions to this issue: Baek Wonkug for news feeds, Sean Lin and colleagues for the Chinese translation as well as Shivani Lal, *GIS Development*, *GeoSpatial World* and *Asia Surveying & Mapping* magazine for directly contributing to the newsletter.

[Back to contents](#)

## GSDI News

### [GSDI and IGS Global News, Volume 3 Number 9 for 2013 \(October 2013\) \(PDF\)](#)

#### **\* GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL CONFERENCE 2013 UPDATE\***

The organisers of the Global Geospatial Conference 2013, to be held at the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 4-8 November, are pleased to announce that industry leaders Esri, Intergraph, Google and DigitalGlobe have been joined by GEO, the Group on Earth Observations, as sponsors for this joint GSDI 14 World Conference and AfricaGIS 2013 Conference. [For latest details.](#)

#### **[GSDI Technical - Request for input](#)**

Which standards in the SDI Standards Baseline do your national/regional SDI activities use?

You may find the SDI Standards Baseline in [Table 2, of Chapter 10 of the SDI Cookbook](#). Julie Maitra is building a table that will show the core SDI standards that various SDIs use for inclusion in Chapter 10 of the SDI Cookbook.

Contact - [Julie Binder Maitra](#), FGDC Standards Coordinator, Federal Geographic Data Committee, Core Science Systems, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Department of the Interior, Phone: [703-648-4627](tel:703-648-4627), Fax: [703-648-5755](tel:703-648-5755), [www.fgdc.gov/standards](http://www.fgdc.gov/standards), <http://www.linkedin.com/in/juliebindermaitra>

#### **[Call for Expressions of Interest in Hosting GSDI 15 and GSDI 16 Conferences](#)**

The [Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association](#) supports a major international geospatial conference every twelve to eighteen months. The conference is typically delivered in affiliation with another regularly held national, regional or global geospatial conference and/or with the support of a major sponsoring organization. The gathering is purposefully moved around and across the globe in order to accomplish the Association's purpose of promoting international cooperation and collaboration in support of local, national and international spatial data infrastructure developments that allow nations to better address social, economic, and environmental issues of pressing importance. The [locations and proceedings](#) of the past twelve world conferences.

The [GSDI 14 World Conference](#) will be held in Africa at the UNECA Conference Center, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, November 4-8, 2013

Ideally GSDI 15 should be held within the time frame of November 2014 to May 2015 and GSDI 16 would be held approximately 12 to 18 months after that.

The GSDI Association is inviting expressions of interest to host either of these conferences. Affiliation with the GSDI World conference can bring international and global attention to a national or regional geospatial conference or Spatial Data Infrastructure initiatives, attract substantial international participation and sponsorship, and increase numbers of attendees overall.

While the GSDI Association can provide substantial support services, we try to work with a competent local organizing committee that is committed to working with broad geospatial stakeholder communities and which has a proven track record of supporting large geospatial events. Many tasks must be accomplished in preparing for a successful conference. The major conference planning and implementation tasks to be accomplished by the parties are open for negotiation. The specification of these tasks is typically set forth in a written agreement between the GSDI Association and a local legal entity such as a local hosting organization or government agency.

Because revenue from the GSDI World Conferences is an important contributor to the Association's overall budget, organizations proposing to host the next conference(s) should also provide a business case to support their proposal, indicating expected income, expenses and the cost- and revenue-sharing proposal.

Organizations or agencies interested in hosting the 15th or 16th GSDI World Conference should submit a written expression of interest of a maximum of four pages that must include:

- the name of the organization(s) or government agency(s) to serve as the local organizer for the conference,
- the name of the national, regional or global conference with which the GSDI World Conference would be affiliated (if any),
- the country, city and venue proposed for the conference (if known),
- the proposed approximate date for the conference,
- a short statement concerning the resources the local organizers would be able to contribute to the conference and past record in providing such resources,
- the facilities available for the event,

[Back to contents](#)

- the benefits to GSDI of affiliating with the organisation and/or event,
- other pertinent information bearing on the success of the conference, and
- the name and contact details for further communications.

Please send your expressions of interest to [mgallant@gsdi.org](mailto:mgallant@gsdi.org) no later than 17 October 2013.

Proposers will have the opportunity to briefly present their expression of interest orally to the GSDI Council at its meeting on Sunday 3 November 2013 in Addis Ababa. A physical spokesperson is not required but highly recommended. Council members will vote on the proposals and thereby indicate the preferred options with which the GSDI officers should negotiate to select the organizers and locations for GSDI 15 and GSDI 16.

### International Geospatial Society (IGS) Free Memberships

At its recent meeting, the GSDI Board of Directors passed a motion that allows individuals in low and very low income nations to join the International Geospatial Society (IGS) by providing specific information of value to the global community in lieu of annual cash dues. To join, simply add your professional profile to the growing interconnected network of geospatial specialists across the globe. Benefits of membership in IGS are listed at <http://www.igeoss.org/benefits>. For further information, contact [Harlan Onsrud](#), Executive Director, GSDI Association.

### Outreach & Membership Committee

Committee vice-Chair, Roger Longhorn has joined the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) Marine SDI Working Group (MSDIWG) and attended the Marine SDI Open Forum meeting in Copenhagen (remotely!) and the following two-day workshop of the MSDIWG, hosted by the Danish Hydrographic Service. The MSDIWG, which has existed since 2009, is setting its new workplan for 2013-2014 and is interested in developing a stronger relationship with non-marine SDI development initiatives at national, regional and global levels. Longhorn will explore this with the GSDI Board and Executive Committee at the next opportunity. The Outreach & Membership Committee also manages the GSDI Group on LinkedIn, which has added seven new members in the past month, for a total of 229 members today. If you are not already a member of this group, please join today – and tell your friends! Visit <http://www.linkedin.com> to join, then find GSDI in the 'Groups' option, to join the group.

### Technical Committee

Technical Committee Chair, Eric van Praag, Regional Coordinator, GeoSUR Program of the Latin American Development Bank (CAF), along with USGS, has nominated the GeoSUR Topographic Processing Service (TPS), built with ESRI's AG Server 10.1, for the AAG Stanley Brunn Award for Creativity in Geography. See more news later in this issue.

The Technical Committee is also responsible for updating of the GSDI SDI Cookbook, a wiki maintained at: [http://www.gsdi docs.org/GSDIWiki/index.php/Main\\_Page](http://www.gsdi docs.org/GSDIWiki/index.php/Main_Page).

**GSDI Member organisations**, members of the GSDI Association Committees, Council and Board, and IGS members are involved in the many other regional and global initiatives on an on-going basis:

- [Digital Earth](#) (International Society for Digital Earth).
- [Eye on Earth](#).
- [Group on Earth Observations \(GEO\) / Global Earth Observation System of Systems \(GEOSS\)](#).
- [EuroGEOSS](#) – GEOSS Project funded by the European Union.
- [INSPIRE](#) – Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community.
- [International Hydrographic Organisation](#) – Marine SDI Working Group.
- [UNESCO IOC](#) – Marine/Coastal Spatial Data Infrastructure development.
- [UNSD \(Statistics Division\) – UN-GGIM \(UN Global Geospatial Information Management\)](#).
- [UNGIWG](#) (UN GI Working Group).
- [UNESCO IOC](#) – Marine/Coastal Spatial Data Infrastructure development.
- [UNSDI – UN-GGIM](#) (UN Global Geospatial Information Management).
- [UNSDI – UNGIWG](#) (UN GI Working Group).

## SDI News, Links, Papers, Presentations

### Promote Asia Forum to GSDI members

[Upcoming OGC TC/PC event](#). On December 2nd to 6th in India, OGC will hold a TC/PC meeting, and a session of Asia Forum will be held by Dr. Chou and GIS Research Center. Membership is not required to attend the Asia Forum. Anyone who is interested in geospatial and interoperability issues is welcomed. This is a great opportunity to have people discussing interoperability issues among Asia countries. Also, it's a chance to promote GSDI. [Further details](#).

[Back to contents](#)

## SDI Spotlight



This month's "Spotlight" feature is from Sam Amirebrahimi who previously completed his MSc(GIT) at the University of Melbourne and holds a MBA degree. He is currently a PhD candidate in the Centre for Spatial Data Infrastructures and Land Administration, the University of Melbourne.



### A 3D approach for flood damage assessment of Buildings in Urban Environments

Flood Damage Assessment (FDA) is considered as one of the key components of modern risk-based methods in the field of flood design and risk management. Currently, the common approaches of FDA utilize damage curve method or post-flood damage investigation using surveys of the affected properties and interviews. These methods contain significant level of uncertainty as the damage curves assess the damage in a probabilistic way and generally ignore the unique characteristics of the buildings since it generalizes and approximates buildings into classes. On the other hand, the post-flood damage assessment is labor-intensive and time consuming; and factors such as perception of the damage data collectors may affect the consistency and accuracy of the collected data or result in potential errors in the outcomes. These may not be an issue if the application is at large-scale and include large number of buildings at city, catchment, or even national levels. However, as the scope of analysis becomes smaller and individual or small number of buildings may be the focus of the investigation, generalizing and approximating buildings results in uncertainties in the outcomes and inaccuracies rooted in ignoring the uniqueness of the buildings in terms of their structural and non-structural aspects. Hence, the effectiveness of the existing approaches at small-scale is arguable and sometimes they are inadvisable for this scale of analysis (Pistrika & Jonkman, 2010).

On the other hand, applications of 3D technologies such as virtual 3D city models and Building Information Models (BIM) are increasing in the urban environments. They have formed a paradigm shift in analysis and visualization from traditional 2D approaches into sophisticated 3D methods for a variety of applications, such as urban planning and sustainable development (Amirebrahimi & Rajabifard, 2012; Kolbe, Groger, & Plumer, 2005); disaster management and emergency response (Kwan & Lee, 2005); land and property management (Ross, Kleinschmidt, Dollner, & Kegel, 2007 ; Shojaei, Kalantari, Bishop, Rajabifard, & Aien, 2013); and hazard and environmental mapping (Kemec, Duzgun, Zlatanova, Dilmen, & Yalciner, 2010; Stoter, De Kluijver, & Kurakula, 2008). The flood damage assessment is an area which can significantly benefit from the 3D models. Such rich sources of information can provide accurate data about buildings, their complex structures and their relationships with the surrounding environment beyond the capabilities of the one- or two-dimensional spatial information. The use of such information sources may eliminate the need for assumptions about the buildings components and generalization and the damage can be assessed using unique components of each building. In this way, less uncertainty can be resulted in the results; and if smaller the uncertainty means more accuracy, this approach provides a more accurate FDA for buildings at micro-level assessments.

My research has proposed a new 3D approach for FDA that utilizes 3D spatial information about buildings in the urban context. Such data are used in the analysis of the impacts of flood on a building for assessment of the structural damage to the building and their quantification using appropriate methods. A 3D visualization of the damages can be facilitated using this method to provide a more comprehensive picture to the relevant decision makers.

For further information, please contact the author at [amis@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:amis@unimelb.edu.au).

[Back to contents](#)

### References

- Amirebrahimi, S., & Rajabifard, A. (2012). *An Integrated Web-based 3D Modeling and Visualization Platform to Support Sustainable Cities*. Paper presented at the Proceeding of the XXII International Society for Photogrammetry & Remote Sensing Congress, Melbourne, Australia.
- Kemec, S., Duzgun, H. S., Zlatanova, S., Dilmen, D. I., & Yalciner, A. C. (2010, 15-20 June 2010). *Selecting 3D Urban Visualization Models for Disaster Management: Fethiye Tsunami Inundation Case*. Paper presented at the 3rd International Conference on Cartography and GIS, Nessebar, Bulgaria.
- Kolbe, T. H., Groger, G., & Plumer, L. (2005). *CityGML – Interoperable Access to 3D City Models*. Paper presented at the Proceedings of the first International Symposium on Geo-Information for Disaster Management, Delft, Netherlands.
- Kwan, M.-P., & Lee, J. (2005). Emergency Response after 9/11: the Potential of Real-time 3D GIS for Quick Emergency Response in Micro-Spatial Environments. *Computers, Environment and Urban Systems*, 29, 93-113.
- Pistrika, A. K., & Jonkman, S. N. (2010). Damage to residential buildings due to flooding of New Orleans after hurricane Katrina. *Journal of Natural Hazards*, 54, 413–434.
- Ross, L., Kleinschmidt, B., Dollner, J., & Kegel, A. (2007 ). *Geovirtual urban environments as media for communication of information related to managing urban land*. Paper presented at the 2nd International Conference on Managing Urban Land, Freiberg, Saxony.
- Shojaei, D., Kalantari, M., Bishop, I., Rajabifard, A., & Aien, A. (2013). Visualization requirements for 3D cadastral systems. *Journal of Computers, Environment and Urban Systems*, 41, 39–54.
- Stoter, J. E., De Kluijver, H., & Kurakula, V. (2008). 3D noise mapping in urban areas. *International Journal of Geographic Information Science*, 22(8), 907-924.

The editors remind our subscribers and readers that we welcome contributions for the *Spotlight* feature.

[Back to contents](#)

## GIS Tools, Software, Data

### [A new antenna design could make GPS significantly more reliable](#)



Good GPS readings are hard to get in cities because of the multipath phenomenon: signals from positioning satellites bounce off buildings and other structures. That confuses GPS receivers, which calculate their location by knowing exactly how long it took for signals to arrive from satellites overhead.

The Air Force Institute of Technology is now trying to tackle that problem with an antenna able to recognize and ignore multipath GPS signals. The project builds on a design invented by Locata, a company based in Canberra, Australia. The institute is testing the company's soccer-ball-sized proof-of-concept prototype, and plans to adapt it into versions that could conform with the frame of a Humvee or aircraft, or be built into helmets.

Source: MIT Technology Review

### [Mapping the 'Time Boundaries' of a City](#)

Maps don't typically convey time very well. They're static snapshots of a moment in history. They tell you *what* exists, not when people go there, or how the value of a place might be tied to time – whether it's a nightlife district or a public park most popular with early-morning joggers.

We've come across a handful of animated maps that do a good job combining time and space, frequently using either transit data or geo-tagged social-media hits. Now a new project, called Geographies of Time, is trying to do something similar with a more typical two-dimensional map. The effort is part of a broader EU-funded project called UrbanSensing that's building platforms to detect patterns in how people use urban spaces. With Geographies of Time, the researchers wanted to erase how we typically think of boundaries within cities – between neighborhoods, for instance – and replace them with new ones dictated by time. Which parts of a city come alive between midnight and 3 a.m.? How about at lunch time? And what might those patterns tell us about how individual places – and whole cities – are experienced differently over the course of a day?

Source: The Atlantic "Cities": Maps

[Back to contents](#)

### [Australian Wildfires Map](#)

Numerous bushfires in New South Wales, Australia are currently threatening communities near Sydney. View an interactive map of wildfire locations and warnings via streaming data from MODIS and other sources. See the real-time effects of the fires via social media posts. To change the search terms, go to the Social menu, click the settings icon, and update the keyword.

Source: [esri.com](#)

### **SEE ALSO:** [Google's Crisis Map: can technology save us from nature?](#)

In late October, Google launched a [Google Crisis Map application](#) that shows information about bushfires across five Australian states and territories.



According to Google, the project's goal is to provide easily accessible and reliable information about the location of current fires, their size, listings of fire warnings, as well as to issue [alert messages](#) to users.

Other data provided by Google's Crisis Map application will provide information on how to stay safe in fire threat areas, whether the fire is under control and which regional emergency response agency is responding to the crisis.

While working with fire authorities across Australia, the Crisis Map is able to receive updates about fires that can be accessed with any device connected to the web.

Source: [The Conversation](#)



### [Effective April 13, 2014, government stops lithographic printing of NOAA nautical charts](#)

#### **May be replaced by PDFs**

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced Tuesday that to save money, the government will stop turning out the traditional brownish, heavy paper maps after mid-April 2014.

#### **[What is the difference between a "lithograph" chart, a Print-on-Demand chart, and a PDF chart?](#)**

- The NOAA lithograph chart is the traditional paper chart. The federal government prints each chart in large print runs at the time of a new edition, and keeps it in stock until purchased. After a mariner buys a lithograph chart, they must make corrections by hand; this can entail hundreds of corrections through many years (until the next edition).
- The Print-on-Demand chart is available from companies that have an agreement with NOAA. POD charts contain corrections released in the weekly Notice to Mariners up to the actual date of printing.
- The PDF\* chart is a chart that may be viewed on screen or printed. The PDF chart, like the Print-on-Demand chart, depicts corrections released in the latest weekly Notice to Mariners at the time it is posted to our website. (\*PDF is the Portable Document Format developed by Adobe Acrobat. The PDF "reader" can be downloaded free from <http://get2.adobe.com/reader/>)

Source: [NOAA Press Release](#) (PDF), [GISuser blog](#), and [MyFoxNY.com](#)

[Back to contents](#)

## News from abroad

*"This section has been included to highlight some of the developments happening outside the region which demonstrate SDI in action.*

### [Uzbekistan: national GIS part of e-Government strategy](#)

Uzbekistan is planning to implement its national geographic information system. The GIS is a part of the e-Government project. It is aimed at developing satellite geodetic network, unified computerised system of the state cadastre and property registration.

Earlier, the Government of Uzbekistan and Export-Import Bank of Korea signed an agreement on provision of a soft loan of \$15 million for 40 years for implementation of this project. Recently, President Islam Karimov signed a resolution for implementation of the project titled *Establishment of the National Geographic Information System*. The period of implementation of the project will last for four years (2013-2017). The project will create a multi-purpose information system to provide national integrated accounting and assessment of natural and

[Back to contents](#)

economic potential of the country. It will also ensure operational provision of cadastral information for public authorities, businesses and individuals.

The National Center of Geodesy and Cartography (NCGC) of Uzbekistan was a recipient of a 2011-2012 GSDI Association Small Grant, consisting of a cash award and offer of professional services from GISCorps. The title of the project was "Stakeholder Analysis of Institutions in Uzbekistan Involved State Cadastres in Order to Increase Awareness on Implementation of Spatial Data Infrastructure." The [final report](#) from the project and appendices are available online at the GSDI website. [Appendices](#)

See also: [Creation of a National Geographic Information System for Uzbekistan](#) (2010)

### [The Plain Maths of Disaster Preparedness – Every Dollar spent saves 5 dollars in Future Losses](#)

The Great Flood of 1993, in which the Missouri and Mississippi rivers and their tributaries overran their banks, caused \$15 billion in property damage, killed more than 30 people, destroyed entire towns and millions of acres of crops.

In 1995, it flooded again, and guess what? Not one dollar was spent on recovery."

A subsequent cost-benefit analysis showed the magnitude of the return on the investment made in disaster mitigation. "Every dollar we spent saved five dollars in future losses," said Witt. "And it saved lives. That's a big deal."

Source: Atlantic "Cities"

### [Niger: herding from space](#)

In southern Niger's Aguié Department, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has been working to ensure food security and support small-scale rural producers. To help their monitoring activities, IFAD uses maps created from high-resolution satellite data for land cover, land use and change detection.

While preparing these maps, a team from the geo-information service provider GAF pinpointed the importance and localisation of a network of corridors that do not correspond to the regular road maps, but show passages for livestock.

This network links pastures, water points and grazing areas both in villages and farmland. Established to prevent conflicts between farmers and herders over the use of land and scarce water resources, the corridors are regulated by the Rural Code – a national law defining the rights to land use by pastoralists.

Analysing these corridors yields detailed insight into livestock movement in the region. This information can help IFAD with agricultural development and project planning in the areas of water supply, forage supply, livestock markets and the cross-border transfer of animals.

See also: [GAF AG earth observation technology for IFAD supports rural development projects in Niger](#).

### [Russia: Open landscape partnership program hitting the road](#)

An innovation partnership program 'Open Landscape' officially started on October 1, 2013. Founding members of the Open Landscape program include: ScanEx Research and Development Center and NGO, Transparent World, together with the World Bank, the World Resources Institute, members of the Global Forest Watch 2.0 and the Global Tiger Initiative. The program is supported by DigitalGlobe, NASA, and other satellite imagery data providers.

The aim of the Open Landscape program is to strengthen the public's ability to monitor environmental "hot spots" and protected heritage sites across our planet. To monitor these protected heritage sites the program plans to use multi-temporal high resolution satellite images managed by crowd mapping volunteers from around the world using open sourced monitoring tools.

The "Open Landscape" program will engage local universities and non-profit organizations in Russia. They will also include organizations outside of Russia experienced in land-use monitoring (national parks, other protected natural areas, municipalities, departments of regional planning, local forest subdivisions and hunting farms) who are interested in the responsible management of critical habitat areas.

The "Open Landscape" program will provide:

- Access to the Transparent World portal with sets of high resolution satellite images for the areas of interest with simplified licensing terms;
- User-friendly software for visualization of satellite imagery for monitoring purposes
- Training on the basic use of data, analysis, and interpretation of satellite images, as well as crowd-mapping.

The materials obtained after the first stage of the "Open Landscape" program will be published on the

<http://www.openlandscape.info/> portal.

Source: RDC ScanEx press release

### [50th ICA-OSGeo Lab established at Fondazione Edmund Mach \(FEM\), Italy, and new GeoforAll website launched](#)

#### Related URLs:

- [OSGeo Educational wiki page](#) -
- [ICA-OSGeo Labs new website](#)
- [New Lab homepage](#)

The launch of the **new website of the ICA-OSGeo lab initiative**.

The motto of ICA-OSGeo Labs initiative is "**Geo For All.**" By combining the potential of e-learning tools and open source geospatial software, the academic community can strengthen education in GIScience providing students with holistic education covering open source, open standards, and open data in geospatial technology. The widespread application of e-learning tools and open source GIS will increase access to GIS education. Free and open GI software helps make geospatial education available to students from economically poor backgrounds worldwide (removing the need for high cost proprietary GI software). Our key aim is to make it possible for students in developing and poor countries to be also able to get geospatial education. We also will be starting work on "Train the Trainer" GIS programs for school teachers all over the world. It is very important to have open source GIS and standards (OGC, ISO TC 211) based solutions to achieve widespread application of geotools at grassroots level especially in developing countries. Open source GIS provides accessibility, low cost solutions and lowers the entry barriers for the use of geospatial technologies for all. We look forward to working with you all for making geospatial education and opportunities accessible to all. [More details of the website and mission.](#)

**ALSO** The 50th ICA-OSGeo Lab has been established at the **GIS and Remote Sensing Unit (Piattaforma GIS & Remote Sensing, PGIS), Research and Innovation Centre (CRI), Fondazione Edmund Mach (FEM), Italy**. CRI is a multifaceted research organization established in 2008 under the umbrella of FEM, a private research foundation funded by the government of Autonomous Province of Trento. CRI focuses on studies and innovations in the fields of agriculture, nutrition, and environment, with the aim to generate new sharing knowledge and to contribute to economic growth, social development and the overall improvement of quality of life.

The mission of the PGIS unit is to develop and provide multi-scale approaches for the description of multi-dimensional biological systems and processes. Core activities of the unit include acquisition, processing and validation of geo-physical, ecological and spatial datasets collected within various research projects and monitoring activities, along with advanced scientific analysis and data management. These studies involve multi-decadal change analysis of various ecological and physical parameters from continental to landscape level using satellite imagery and other climatic layers. The lab focuses on the geostatistical analysis of such information layers, the creation and processing of indicators, and the production of ecological, landscape genetics, eco-epidemiological and physiological models. The team pursues actively the development of innovative methods and their implementation in a GIS framework including the time series analysis of proximal and remote sensing data.

The GIS and Remote Sensing Unit (PGIS) members strongly support the peer reviewed approach of Free and Open Source software development which is perfectly in line with academic research. PGIS contributes extensively to the open source software development in geospatial (main contributors to GRASS GIS), often collaborating with various other developers and researchers around the globe. In the new ICA-OSGeo lab at FEM international PhD students, university students and trainees are present. PGIS is focused on knowledge dissemination of open source tools through a series of courses designed for specific user requirement (schools, universities, research institutes), blogs, workshops and conferences.

[Details about the GIS and Remote Sensing Unit.](#)

**Open Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGeo)** is a not-for-profit organisation founded in 2006 whose mission is to support and promote the collaborative development of open source geospatial technologies and data.

**International Cartographic Association (ICA)** is the world authoritative body for cartography and GIScience.

### [Campaign to map earthquake faults has slowed to a crawl](#)

After the 1971 Sylmar earthquake, California began an ambitious effort to map hundreds of faults. But since 1991, only 23 have been drawn.

Over the next two decades, officials published 534 maps of active earthquake faults. New construction was prohibited on top of these fissures because previous quakes showed that buildings could be torn apart during violent shaking.

But the mapping campaign has slowed to a crawl — with many dangerous faults still undocumented. Since 1991, only 23 have been drawn. Because of budget cuts, none were completed between 2004 and 2011, according to records reviewed by The Times.

[Back to contents](#)

State officials said there are still about 300 maps to draw and even more to revise — including some in heavily populated areas of Southern California. That represents about 2,000 miles of faults statewide. The slow pace affects public safety. The ban on building atop faults is enforced only for those formally mapped by the state; the regulations don't cover faults not on California's official map.

Source: Los Angeles Times

### [ServiceOntario and Teranet Recognized for Improving Land Registration System Using GIS](#)

Paper registry maps are now a thing of the past in Ontario. ServiceOntario and Teranet have developed and implemented eMap, a new central map viewer that allows land registry information to be accessed online. Built using Esri's geographic information system (GIS) technology, eMap provides up-to-date, detailed information on 6 million properties in Ontario. It replaces paper registry maps, significantly reducing costs and increasing the efficiency of the land registration process. For their outstanding GIS application, Esri Canada has presented ServiceOntario and Teranet with an Award of Excellence.

Source: The American Surveyor newsletter

### **OGC PRESS RELEASE, 1 November 2013, For Immediate Release**

[Contact](#)

### **The OGC requests comment on the candidate "I15" standard providing ebRIM extension to OGC Catalog Services Interface Standard**

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC®) is seeking comments on the candidate OGC standard, "OGC I15 (ISO19115 Metadata) Extension Package of the OGC Catalogue Services 2.0 (CS-W) ebRIM Profile."

The OGC Catalogue Services Standard establishes a general framework for implementing catalogue services used for publishing and discovering geospatial data and geoprocessing services.

The candidate I15 standard provides an extension package aligned with the ebRIM application profile of CS-W for the cataloguing of data and services whose metadata implements ISO geospatial metadata standards. The I15 Extension Package defines mechanisms that allow an ebRIM catalogue to manage and search ISO conformant metadata in ways that enable arbitrary, complex and deep searches involving multiple metadata elements.

The draft standard was initially produced during the ESA HMA (Heterogeneous Missions Accessibility) initiative (HMA) and related projects. The OGC OWS-9 testbed initiative tested the draft standard and provided input. Download the candidate OGC I15 (ISO19115 Metadata) Extension Package of the OGC Catalogue Services 2.0 (CS-W) ebRIM Profile at <http://www.opengeospatial.org/standards/requests/114>.

### **Comments are due by 30 November 2013.**

Once approved by the OGC Membership, all OGC standards are free and publicly available.

The OGC is an international consortium of more than 475 companies, government agencies, research organizations, and universities participating in a consensus process to develop publicly available geospatial standards. OGC Standards support interoperable solutions that "geo-enable" the Web, wireless and location-based services, and mainstream IT. OGC Standards empower technology developers to make geospatial information and services accessible and useful with any application that needs to be geospatially enabled.

[Visit the OGC website.](#)

### [Google Trekkers tasked with capturing images of Florida's beaches for Google Maps](#)



Soon, people around the world will be able stroll Southwest Florida beaches virtually. It's coming courtesy of a Google and Visit Florida photo-mapping project that documented Lee and Collier county shorelines last week. The statewide campaign ends with a splash on Miami's famed South Beach early next month. The end result will be 360-degree panoramic views of Florida beaches — some 825 miles of them — available to Web surfers 24/7. Think Google Street View, in which users see places they are going before they arrive, minus the streets. The photo crews, called trekkers, walk the

beaches carrying 15 cameras embedded in a watermelon-size orb perched just above their heads.

Source: NewsPress.com

### [Why Using the Word Geomatics Sucks in Canada](#)

GoGeomatics asked a number of distinguished Canadian writers to share their thoughts on a controversial subject. It asked them to think about whether or not we should continue to use the word "geomatics" to describe our industry and sector, or if we should look to a more fitting alternative. We now have four well-thought out articles on this subject.

Source: GoGeomatics Canada

[Back to contents](#)

### [Mapping the World's Deadliest Roads](#)

Where on the planet are you most likely to perish in an implosion of crumpled metal and flying glass? The Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting has the answer with this grimly fascinating tour of world traffic safety, titled (in the best learner's-ed shock-video manner possible) the "[Roads Kill Map](#)." Open it up and you'll find the globe washed in sickly shades of olive and yellow, with the darkest hue representing the highest number of road deaths (more than 30 per 100,000 people).

Source: The Atlantic "Cities": Maps

[Back to contents](#)

## Articles

### **A spatial statistical study on upscaling in the SDI framework: the case of yield and poverty in Burkina Faso**

[PhD Defence by Mr Muhammad Imran](#), ITC (University of Twente) Department of Earth Observation Science  
Cropping conditions in West-Africa are highly spatially and temporally variable. Because of this, a variety of computational models have been developed based on understanding agricultural processes at different spatial scales. Farmers and extension workers need scientific tools that allow accessing, combining, and assessing data and models to obtain sustainable solutions at a farm location. Ideally such tools should be part of an agricultural spatial data infrastructure (SDI) so that wall to wall services are possible. In this work, we carried out four studies that support the creation of such an agricultural SDI in Burkina Faso.

To access the dissertation, [click here](#).

[Back to contents](#)

## Books and Journals (including Videos and Web publications)

### **CALL for PAPERS: [Special Issue "NeoGeography and WikiPlanning 2014"](#)**

A special issue of Future Internet

#### **Deadline for manuscript submissions: 15 March 2014**

The special issue will examine the creation, diffusion, and use, through the web, of geographic information and focuses particularly on the Web 2.0 phenomenon, so as to understand how the interaction between producers and non-expert users can modify the traditional fundamentals of map making, which is one of the most ancient forms of human expression. Other than IT and spatial experts (or spatially aware professionals or academics), the issue's topic should be attractive for people not directly dealing with such 2.0 spatial issues, but who are active as scholars in spatially related disciplines (*i.e.*, geography, geoscientists, spatial economists, spatial planners, *etc.*). These scholars can contribute with a vision on the role of the "traditional" mainstream subject and their relationship with such new instruments and tools.

The special issue represents an opportunity for provocative debate and reflection on the roles of both traditional disciplines (*e.g.*, geography, economics, planning, *etc.*) and of new ones (*e.g.*, GI sciences, image processing, *etc.*) in comparison with the bottom-up blossoming of uncontrolled, nearly anarchical geographical expressions.

### **D\_City manifesto**

The Group on Earth Observations (GEO) has sponsored two print runs of the D\_City manifesto: the world's first comprehensive 'snapshot' report on efforts to create a networked environmental monitoring system.

Warmly received by several hundred geospatial scientists attending the latest International Society for Digital Earth (ISDE) conference in Kuching, Malaysia in September 2013, the [D\\_City: Digital Earth | Virtual Nations | Data Cities](#) report also is being commended by publishers and editors of the top three international geospatial trade publications ([Geospatial World](#), [Sensors and Systems](#), and [Apogee Spatial](#)), the science and development network (SciDev.Net), architecture book publishers [Actar](#), and the quarterly journal for city governments (Cities Today). They are all supporting different aspects of the emerging 'Science for Cities' and 'Data Cities' movement.

Shortly before the ISDE conference, GEO and the ISDE issued a [joint media release](#) announcing GEO's approval of the report, which was co-edited by two founders-leaders of the ISDE's digital cities working party, Davina Jackson and Richard Simpson. They collaborated on D\_City (the 'D' being defined as 'dynamic digital

[Back to contents](#)

data design for decent development') to help educate next generation urban development professionals about effective ways of using geospatial technologies.

The D\_City report can be read and downloaded at [dcitynetwork.net/manifesto](http://dcitynetwork.net/manifesto). It has been online since early 2012. The current update includes a 'Postscript' summary of latest advances supporting the GEO-co-ordinated 'global Earth observations system of systems' (GEOSS) project. These recent ventures include the International Council for Science's Future Earth project and programs promoting cities and the emerging 'space economy' at the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

—Geospatial World has published an interview with D\_City co-editor and 'network catalyst' Davina Jackson, on its '[Asia Geospatial Digest](#)' site

[GSDI and IGS Global News, Volume 3 Number 9 for 2013 \(October 2013\) \(PDF\)](#)

[MMA Location Terminology Guide](#)

[World Disasters Report 2013: Focus on technology and the future of humanitarian action](#)

[2013 Tasmanian Bushfires Inquiry Report](#)

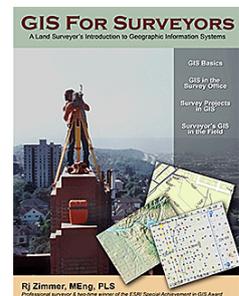
[Disaster Risk Management in Asia and the Pacific Issues Paper \(April 2013\)](#)

### [New Book Released - GIS for Surveyors](#)

Rj Zimmer, PLS, has just published a new book about GIS for the land surveyor audience. The book, GIS for Surveyors was written by a land surveyor for surveyors to explain how surveyors use Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technologies to support land surveying activities and how GIS helps surveyors work more effectively and efficiently. The book covers how surveyors support GIS data development, data integrity, and spatial accuracy.

GIS for Surveyors covers GIS fundamentals, data sources, using GIS in the survey office and in the field, spatial accuracy topics, and other GIS issues of interest to the land surveyor. The book is easy to read and fully illustrated.

The book is available now on [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) for \$68.50.



### [D\\_City: New report on modelling Earth systems for climate and environmental solutions](#)

The world's first comprehensive 'snapshot' report on how science and technology leaders are supporting the 'global Earth observation system of systems' (GEOSS) project. Titled *D\_City: Digital Earth | Virtual Nations | Data Cities*, the report has been produced to explain to urban development professionals the emerging 'Google era' of satellite Earth observations and geospatial science and technologies for modelling climate-related environmental solutions.

Co-edited by urbanists and scientists leading the digital cities working party of the International Society for Digital Earth, the book's first printings have been sponsored by the Group on Earth Observations secretariat in Geneva, led by Ms Barbara J. Ryan.

GEO is supporting D\_City's proposed 'network concept diagram' for the GEOSS project – which suggests a new stream of 'Virtual Nations' projects and increasing integrations of computer modelling the stocks and flows of nature, buildings and cities.

The GEO news article is at [earthobservations.org](http://earthobservations.org). The report (with downloadable PDF) is available from [dcitynetwork.net/manifesto](http://dcitynetwork.net/manifesto). Printed copies can be ordered from DCity at [info@dcitynetwork.net](mailto:info@dcitynetwork.net). The media release is at <http://dcitynetwork.net/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/GEOISDE-Data-Cities-press-release.pdf>. A blogpost with links to press coverage of the report is at <http://dcitynetwork.net/2013/09/geo-sponsors-first-printings-of-d-city-report/>

[NewGeography website](#)

[Mapping London blog](#)

[LandScan: a news update from Land Information New Zealand, Issue 64 \(March 2013\)](#)

In this issue...

- International acclaim for the LINZ Data Service
- Property rights reputation remains high

[Back to contents](#)

- LINZ establishes Crown Land Centre of Expertise
- Location-based information to boost Canterbury recovery
- First new nautical paper chart produced in-house
- LINZ takes learners on a geospatial adventure
- Stakeholder survey - thanks for your feedback

### [Borderlines blog from the New York Times](#)

Countries are defined by the lines that divide them. But how are those lines decided — and why are some of them so strange? Borderlines explores the stories behind the global map, one line at a time.

by Frank Jacobs

Frank Jacobs is a London-based author and blogger. He writes about cartography, but only the interesting bits. His other blog is [Strange Maps](#)

Blog of [Ragnvald Larsen, geographer](#)

Geographer working with maps at the Norwegian Directorate for Nature Management. Part of his job is to contribute to development aid projects.

Steve Goldman's [Map Fodder](#) website

### [Location matters: spatial standards for the Internet of Things](#)

ITU-T's latest Technology Watch report introduces readers to location (spatial) standards and their role in enabling the Internet of Things, describing how communications infrastructure has increased people's associations with the natural and built environment as well as how this can be leveraged to improve governance and service delivery by revealing new insights into how we interact with one another and the services and infrastructures that surround us.

Authored by staff and members of the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC), with support from ITU-T, the report is titled "Location matters: Spatial standards for the Internet of Things" and can be [downloaded](#) free of charge.

The report discusses the technologies and standards emerging in support of location-based services (LBS), analyzing shortfalls in interoperability and highlighting where global standardization can tap the full potential of these fast-maturing technologies and the valuable data they return.

Spatial standards' role in the marketplace is critiqued with a view to uncovering clear trends or market drivers, and readers will discover that location matters in a wide range of sectors, with examples being made of emergency and disaster management and response; smart infrastructure; smart water management; and, of course, transportation.

The report goes on to describe the spatial standards landscape, looking at the activities of the involved standardization bodies and concluding with an analysis of the greatest obstacles to be overcome in the spatial standards arena.



### [David Rumsay Map Collection](#)

[International Society for Digital Earth](#) - August, 2012 [Newsletter](#)

[Thoughts on the Geospatial industry, Open Standards and Open Source](#) Cameron Shorter's blog

[New Zealand - SDI Cookbook Chapter 6 – Government and Industry, moving forward.](#)

[Carnival Of The Geospatialists #3 - Musings and Down-Right Cool Things Shared by the Geo Faithful](#)

[Open Planet 5, the magazine published for the International gvSIG Conference is now available in electronic format](#)

### [SDI Magazine](#)

[Technology & More](#) (July 2013)

### [Mother Pelican: A Journal of Sustainable Human Development](#)

The November 2013 issue has been published

[Back to contents](#)

[LiDAR News, Vol 3, No 16 \(September, 2013 Newsletter\)](#) ([Vol 3, No 17; 22 October, 2013](#))

[LiDAR News magazine](#) (Sept/Oct, Vol 3, No 5, 2013)

[Think Quarterly](#) – Google’s new on-line magazine

[Coordinates](#) monthly magazine - **PDF** (February 2013)

[SERVIR-Africa community news](#)

[GISuser - GIS and Geospatial Technology News](#)

[National Geographic website](#)

[The Atlantic Cities website](#) including [Maps](#)

[Professional Surveyor](#) magazine

[The American Surveyor](#) newsletter (October 2), [The American Surveyor](#) newsletter (October 16),  
[The American Surveyor](#) newsletter (October 30)

[The American Surveyor Vol.10 No.9](#) (September 2013)

[My Co-ordinates e-zine](#) – August 2013 issue (PDF)

[UN-SPIDER Newsletter](#) June 2013

[UN SPIDER Updates](#) September 2013

[Thematic Mapping blog](#) Terrain mapping with Mapnik

[Back to contents](#)

## Just for Fun!

### [Glowing, Seemingly Self-Aware Bike Path](#)



The spectral blue glow emitted from this British bike path looks like it should be pulsing off of magic crystals inside some miles-deep cavern. But if it saves a rider from road rash or fractured bones, then more power to the folks who made it: Let's get even more parts of the cycle infrastructure lit up like Marie Curie's lab table. The so-called "Starpath" is a type of solar-enhanced liquid and aggregate made by Pro-Teq Surfacing, a company headquartered southwest of London near the awesomely titled town of Staines-upon-Thames. It's in the prototype phase, with a test path running 460 feet in a Cambridge park called Christ's Pieces. The material works by absorbing UV rays during the day and later releasing them as topaz light. In a weird feature, it can somehow adjust its brightness levels similar to the screen of an iPhone; the path gets dimmer on pitch-black nights "almost like it has a mind of its own," says Pro-Teq's owner, Hamish Scott. The company patented this curious substance to suit the needs of certain thrifty municipalities, which are trying to cut back on their nocturnal electricity bills.  
Source: The Atlantic "Cities"

### [the Most Popular Baby Names for Girls Since 1960](#)

The most popular baby girl names in the United States are flashes in the pan—each one appearing on the map briefly, before being swept out by an up-and-comer.

The map was built in Adobe Illustrator by *Deadspin's* Reuben Fischer-Baum using data from the Social Security Administration.

[Back to contents](#)



Source: The Atlantic "Cities": Maps

See **ALSO** [America's Most Popular Boys' Names Since 1960, in 1 Spectacular GIF](#)

## [WHY ABRAHAM LINCOLN LOVED INFOGRAPHICS](#)

Credit for the world's first infographics should probably go to William Playfair, a Scottish engineer, economist, and failed silversmith. In 1786, Playfair published the "Commercial and Political Atlas," which included the first known line graphs. In one graph, for example, Playfair showed England's exports and imports in a single chart: in the seventeen-fifties, the export line shoots up, and around the middle of the decade it crosses the import line, showing a trade surplus. Until that time, economists worked with expanses of figures arranged in rows and columns. With Playfair's innovation, the numbers became dots connected in space and their broader meaning became immediately apparent.

The importance of what he had done was not recognized at the time, but Playfair, who also invented pie charts and bar graphs, had found a way to take advantage of a potent pattern-recognition machine: the human brain.

Source: New Yorker

## [The End of Car Chases?](#)

The StarChase system being used by cops in Florida and Iowa allows police officers to fire "a miniature GPS module encased in a tracking projectile/tag" from a "launcher" mounted on a police cruiser's grill. The GPS module then sticks to the rear of the fleeing car, allowing dispatch to track the vehicle while the pursuing officer breaks off.

Make no mistake: breaking off is most often a good thing. According to a 2010 FBI report on pursuit policies, high-speed chases are often dangerous and unnecessary. Breaking off the pursuit, meanwhile, has very few negative consequences for crime-fighting. Various studies (all of them cited by the FBI in the aforementioned report) have shown that once suspects realize they're no longer being chased, they tend to slow down to normal driving speeds.

Source: The Atlantic "Cities"

## [Office of Coast Survey's Historical Map & Chart Collection – United States of America](#)

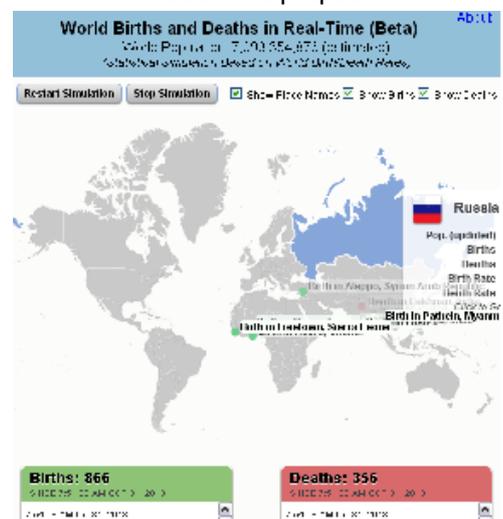
Covers the land and waters of the United States of America, including territories and possessions (past and present). The images are free to download, and may be used for commercial or educational purposes.

## [A Real-Time Map of Births and Deaths](#)

In 1950, there were 2.5 billion humans. Today there are just over 7 billion. In another 30 years, according to U.S. Census Bureau projections, there will be more than 9 billion.

Brad Lyon has a doctoral degree in mathematical modeling and does software development. He wanted to make those numbers visual. Last year he and designer Bill Snebold made a hugely popular interactive simulation map of births and deaths in the U.S. alone—the population of which is on pace to increase 44 percent by 2050. Now, Lyon takes on the world.

Source: The Atlantic



## [The Next Big Traffic Safety Debate: Google Glass](#)

Cecilia Abadie from San Diego, California, may be the first person to get a ticket for driving while wearing Google Glass.



After being pulled over late Tuesday night, Abadie promptly posted a scan of her ticket on her Google Plus profile, along with the big question: "Is #GoogleGlass illegal while driving or is this cop wrong???"

To be clear, Abadie's first offense was driving above the speed limit. But the fact that "Google Glass" made it onto the ticket as a second violation virtually guarantees the beginning of a nationwide debate.

The specific law the officer cited is California Vehicle Code Section 27602, which says you can't drive while some form of visual display is operating and is located in front of the driver's seat or is otherwise visible to you while driving. Although mapping displays and GPS systems are allowed under that law, determining where wearing Google Glass fits in requires parsing a host of technicalities.

[Back to contents](#)

If Abadie fights her ticket in court — and it looks like she wants to — the case could set an important precedent. Abadie's experience highlights the modern challenge of laws failing to keep up with technology, and in the case of Google Glass, this is just the beginning.  
Source: The Atlantic "Cities"

[Back to contents](#)

### Training Opportunities

#### **"Open Geospatial Science & Applications" webinar series launched**

The "Open Geospatial Science & Applications" webinar series commenced on 18th October. The first webinar will be on "OSGeo Live for Education" by Jeremy Morley (University of Nottingham). This first webinar will address the theme "OSGeo Live for Education". With free registration, this event is appropriate for all who are interested in knowing more about the ICA-OSGeo Lab Network and its education activities. In addition to giving an overview of OSGeo Live, Jeremy will be sharing his experiences of using the OSGeo Live system for his MSc teaching in GIS at the University of Nottingham.

OSGeo Live 7.0 features more than fifty open source, standards compliant geospatial desktop applications, web applications and frameworks. A complete installation kit and high-quality sample data in multiple industry standard formats are included. It is composed entirely of free software, allowing it to be freely distributed, duplicated and passed around. Details at <http://live.osgeo.org/en/index.html>

Attendees will be able to interact with the speakers by sending their comments and questions through chat. All attendees of this web seminar will receive certificates for their participation.

Webinar: OSGeo Live for Education, Date: Friday, October 18, 2013, Time: 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM GMT

#### **The schedule of webinars for this year are:**

- Oct 18th, 2013 - OSGeo Live for Education (Jeremy Morley, University of Nottingham)
- Nov 7th, 2013 - Open Geo Science (Patrick Bell et al, British Geological Survey) **SEE BELOW**
- Dec 10th, 2013 - Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial Applications (FOSS4G): A mature alternative in the geospatial technologies arena (Maria Brovelli and Rafael Moreno)

**The webinars will also be recorded for the benefit of the wider community and made available at MundoGeo website and our new "Geo for All" website that the University of Southampton are now building (to be launched next week ).**

For those of you who are new to OSGeo Live and our ICA-OSGeo Education initiative Dr. Tuong Thuy Vu did an excellent presentation on "[Open Source Geospatial Software, Education and Research](#)" at the Asia Geospatial Forum in Kuala Lumpur last month.

#### **"Open Geospatial Science & Applications" webinar series, on November 7th**

The ICA-OSGeo Lab Network and MundoGEO are now pleased to inform the second webinar of "Open Geospatial Science & Applications" webinar series, on November 7th.

Open and free to all on first come register basis, the webinar will be on "Opengeoscience: meeting the UK's geospatial data requirements in geosciences", by Patrick Bell and Gerry Wildman (British Geological Survey).

In December 2009, the British Geological Survey released OpenGeoscience, a free open access web portal that provides the public with a wealth of geological information which they can combine with other environmental information to help understand the world around them.

OpenGeoscience is made available under the Open Government Licence. Key resources include:

- Attributed detailed geological maps at 1:50,000 scale for the whole of Great Britain
- Over 50,000 high resolution geological photographs, many of which are spatially enabled
- Nearly 1 million borehole records providing details of the geology beneath our feet.

A quarter of a million people visited OpenGeoscience on the day it was released and over 150,000 people walk round everyday with its iGeology smartphone app in their pocket. Four years since its release, we will look at the impact of OpenGeoscience and consider:

- How it has increased access to geoscience information
- How it has raised awareness of what data BGS hold
- How it has driven users to other information on the BGS web site
- How users have combined OpenGeoscience information with their own data and that from other data providers to create exciting new mashup applications, finding innovative uses for our information that we might never have imagined
- How increased accessibility to key national datasets via the web can help grow the UK economy
- How OpenGeoscience sits alongside our commercial knowledge exchange services in a balanced freemium

[Back to contents](#)

business model approach to information delivery

Attendees will be able to interact with the speakers by sending their comments and questions through chat.

Webinar: Opeengeoscience: meeting the UK's geospatial data requirements in geosciences

Date: Thursday, November 7, 2013

Time: 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM GMT

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Webinar.

System Requirements:

PC-based attendees: Required: Windows® 8, 7, Vista, XP or 2003 Server

Mac®-based attendees: Required: Mac OS® X 10.6 or newer

Mobile attendees: Required: iPhone®, iPad®, Android™ phone or Android tablet

[Reserve your Webinar seat.](#)

### [PennState EDU Introduces Maps and the Geospatial Revolution Online Training](#)

An amazing new effort from Penn State (PSU) kicks off this week in the form of a massive, online EDU offering – enter Maps and the Geospatial Revolution. In just 6-9 hours a week, students can enjoy this online offering and learn how advances in geospatial technology and analytical methods have changed how we do everything, and discover how to make maps and analyze geographic patterns using the latest tools. The course is led by PSU instructor, Anthony Robinson. Geospatial Gurus may find the course a little simple but anyone else is encouraged to take part. [See the course program.](#)

Thanks to GISUser blog AND [Meet the Man Who Wants to Teach the World to Make Maps](#) above

### [UNIGIS distance learning MSc - registration open for fall 2013](#)

Interested students and professionals from Central Asia will again have the opportunity to enhance their qualifications and to improve their career prospects: the UNIGIS MSc in 'Geographic Information Science & Systems' as well as the 'UNIGIS professional' certificate are offered via online distance learning to active professionals and graduates aiming at making GIS and Geoinformatics the basis for their current and future jobs.

The globally recognized UNIGIS qualifications are offered in Central Asia in a cooperation between the University of Salzburg's Z\_GIS competence centre and the Austria-Central Asia Centre for GIScience - ACA\*GIScience. Degrees and certificates are awarded from the University of Salzburg, Austria. The UNIGIS study programmes for Central Asia are based on English language online materials with support from instructors in local languages.

Registration now is open for the fall 2013 intake of students, starting in October. [Enquiries](#) and a brochure for Central Asian students is [available online.](#)

### [Arizona State University GIS Lab](#)

A good place to get a sense of where the geographic information system (GIS) field is headed is Lattie F. Coor Hall at Arizona State University in Tempe, Ariz. That's the home of the 30-credit-hour Masters of Advanced Study in GIS (MAS-GIS) Program within ASU's School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning. Here, students are exposed to not only the latest GIS concepts but also ever-evolving technologies.

Source: The American Surveyor

### [Free Webinars on Solving Data Challenges](#)

Sign up for future webinars and view past recorded webinars

### [Course Spotlight: Master of Spatial Information Science](#)

The University of Melbourne [Course Spotlight: Master of Spatial Information Science](#)

Spatial information is an essential and indispensable part of any economy's infrastructure. It is needed in all walks of life and on many scales, with applications in land tenure systems, environmental modelling, food production, disaster management, climate change modelling, engineering, architecture and urban planning.

Current industry shortfalls in spatial information practitioners combined with a growing demand in Australia and internationally, ensure graduates a range of well-paid job opportunities.

Find out more about the [Master of Spatial Information Science](#), as well as our [scholarship opportunities.](#)

**Funding Opportunities, Awards, Grants****[Singapore government introduces geospatial scholarship](#)**

The Singapore government has introduced the government on Friday introduced the Singapore Geospatial Scholarship, the first of its kind in the island nation. Senior Minister of State for Law and Education, Indranee Rajah, made the announcement on Friday last week. Rajah said the scholarship would be jointly conferred by several public agencies, and will meet the increasing demand for geospatial professionals for the industry. The scholarship is for undergraduate and postgraduate studies. More information is expected to be release later in the year. Ms Indranee noted that Geospatial Information Systems and Technology (GIST) touches many aspects of daily life, such as getting road directions on the smart phone, and providing live traffic condition updates. It is also used in monitoring dengue clusters, and managing issues such as climate change and disaster response

Channel NewsAsia

**[Ideas Challenge](#)**

The Ideas Challenge is at the core of the GMES Masters competition. It invites students, entrepreneurs, start-up companies and SMEs to submit their ideas for an innovative commercial use of GMES to a secure online database on the GMES Masters website. The best idea for a commercially viable business idea using GMES data will be rewarded. The winner will be rewarded with a cash prize of EUR 10,000 as well as the chance to get his idea further developed in one of the six ESA Business Incubation Centres (BICs). The incubation package has a value of up to EUR 60,000.

**[ESA App Challenge](#)**

The European Space Agency (ESA) will award the ESA App Challenge to the best application idea for the usage of GMES on mobile phones. Proposals shall address one or more GMES main thematic areas (land, marine environment, atmosphere, climate change, emergency management). ESA is looking for ideas that can be implemented quickly into a profitable business. The application should consist of a base app containing info and news on GMES, as well as one or more specific content modules that provide relevant location-based data to users in real time. The winner will be considered for support by one of the six European Space Agency's Business Incubation Centres (ESA BICs) across Europe (value up to EUR 60,000).

**[European Space Imaging High-Res Challenge](#)**

European Space Imaging (EUSI) is Europe's leading provider of Very High-Resolution (VHR) satellite data. EUSI will award the best application idea using the most advanced VHR satellite data. Application ideas which are easily implementable, sustainable, cut costs and create efficiencies are of high interest. Participants are required to submit detailed application ideas including business concepts. The winner will be awarded a data package of EUSI satellite data worth up to EUR 20,000 for use in further developing the winning application.

**[DLR Environmental Challenge](#)**

DLR is looking for new applications in Earth observation, especially proposals addressing the mapping of the environment and climate. Ideas for using Earth observation to manage sustainable supplies of energy are also welcome. In addition to any kind of non-satellite geoinformation, proposals should be based on existing or imminent Earth observation satellite data that is available either for free or under commercial terms. The product or service generated from the idea should support either professionals from organisations and companies in environmental assessment, or the general public and consumer-oriented markets. Both regional and global applications and services are possible. Innovative ways to link the service with users are especially encouraged. The ideas should also describe a realistic scenario for their implementation involving either the general public or commercial benefits. The winner(s) will receive a voucher for a workshop or initial coaching according to what further realisation of the idea requires.

**[Best Service Challenge](#)**

The Best Service Challenge invites service providers to upload profiles of their existing services within the main thematic areas of GMES to the GMES Masters competition website. The Best Service Challenge aims at increasing the awareness of existing Earth Monitoring Services and their benefits to European citizens. The winner of the Best Service Challenge will benefit from a substantial satellite data quota made available with financial support by the European Commission.

[Back to contents](#)

### [T-Systems Cloud Computing Challenge](#)

T-Systems will award the prize for its Cloud Computing Challenge to the best GMES application or service idea that will make use of the cloud computing model Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) to provide Earth observation data on demand via user-oriented web portal or mobile devices. T-Systems will assist the winner in getting the awarded project off the ground. They will support the winner to realise an innovation project, which could lead to a long-term partnership.

### [Challenge to spur the geospatial industry](#)

The Singapore Land Authority has launched OneMap Challenge that seeks to promote the development of innovative map-based desktop and mobile applications by businesses and the community.

The OneMap Challenge provides a platform for application developers to showcase their creativity through the apps they develop to an increasingly tech-savvy population and enterprises, including those represented by the Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (ASME) which is one of the competition promotion partners. The Challenge also aims to facilitate collaborations between potential business partners for creating location-based apps that are useful for business enterprises and the general community.

With two top prizes of \$20,000 cash each and other attractive prizes up for grabs, the OneMap Challenge is divided into two categories – Web Applications for applications that run on web browsers and Mobile Applications for those that run on smart phones, tablets and other portable devices.

Visit <http://www.sla.gov.sg/OneMapChallenge> to learn more about OneMap Challenge and check out the OneMap Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/OneMap](http://www.facebook.com/OneMap).

Source: Geospatial World and [SLA press release](#)

[Back to contents](#)

## Employment Opportunities



**New career resource** (now in its second month) at [GeoJobsBIZ](#). There's been about 200 opportunities listed and the growth has been steady in visits and users. If you need to recruit Geo/Tech talent hopefully you'll give it a shot and those of you simply browsing for a new gig

so you can tell the boss to go take a hike perhaps there's something here for you. Good luck!

### [GIS Job Board Launches New Website: www.gisjobboard.com](#)

New Site Provides Employers and Job Seekers Tools to Post and Search Jobs and Resumes in the GIS and Geospatial Disciplines

GIS Job Board has launched a new website specifically dedicated to GIS and other geospatial disciplines. The new site makes it simple for employers and job seekers to post and search for jobs and resumes. The site was created to serve the growing needs of the GIS community and help with recruiting and job seeking efforts.

Visitors also have the option to view the site in a different language if they choose, making it easier for them to have access to the content

Registered users can receive jobs or resumes by email. They can also flag jobs and resumes as well as save searches, setup resume alerts, and save resumes and jobs. Users have the capability of private messaging other users in case they ever want to communicate with someone.

For more information about GIS Job Board, please visit their website at [www.gisjobboard.com](http://www.gisjobboard.com)

[Back to contents](#)

## Conference Proceedings

[The 6th International Workshop on Remote Sensing and Environmental Innovations](#) in Mongolia was co-organised by The Research Center for Climate Change Adaptation (RCCCA) of Keio University – the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network's (APAN) sub-regional node for Northeast Asia, along with the National University of Mongolia, Oxford University, and the Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Science. The workshop was held **10-11 June 2013 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia** and drew 98 participants from 13 countries (Belgium, Canada, China, France, India, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, Pakistan, Russia, Switzerland, United

[Back to contents](#)

Kingdom, and United States) and eight Mongolian provinces. Participants included leaders from NGOs, governmental agency representatives, as well as academics and local community leaders. The workshop covered a broad spectrum of topics; from global climate change and the impact of human activities, to community based adaptation and from collaboration of rural communities with scientists and policy makers, to space engineering education and the integrated application of remote sensing and GIS technology. A special interview session was organised by the RCCCA that brought together rural community leaders and local governmental agents from Mongolia's Ministry of Environment to discuss the needs of the communities as seen from the perspective of daily life.

Taken together the sessions painted a broad picture of the needs of the local communities and the nation as a whole, as it faces large scale upheaval as a result of climate change. Existing gaps in policy and capacity were also revealed most sharply, especially with regards to the ability of Mongolia's

Ministry of Environment to measure and affect the territories it oversees as part of its mandate.

Importantly, the workshop provided an opportunity for participants to discover cutting-edge geo-information technology and applications. It allowed for the exchange of ideas, including research results, professional experiences, and future visions in the fields of environmental innovation and remote sensing and GIS applications.

[View Activity Brief](#)

### [2013 Esri International User Conference Paper Sessions](#)

[International Symposium on Land Cover Mapping for the African Continent](#) - June 25-27, 2013.

[3rd GMES & Africa workshop focusing on Long Term Management of Natural Resources](#) June 25-26, 2013, in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

[Back to contents](#)

## Conferences, Events

For upcoming events of global or major international interest, please visit the [upcoming conference list](#) on the GSDI website – as this conference list will be reserved for conferences within or with specific interest to the Asia Pacific Region.

**The editors welcome news of conferences & events from the newsletter subscribers**

### [Call for Expression of Interest to host AARSE 2014 and future Conferences](#)

Call for Expression of Interest to host the 10th biennial International Conference of the African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment (AARSE) in October 2014 and future Conferences.

Date	Location	Event
<b>November 2013</b>		
4-8 November  "UPDATED"  <a href="#">Program details released</a>	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	<p><b><a href="#">GSDI 14 and AfricaGIS 2013:</a></b> The GSDI Association, EIS-Africa, the International Geospatial Society, and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) are pleased to announce a close partnership in offering the joint GSDI 14 World Conference and AfricaGIS 2013 Conference.</p> <p>The theme of the conference is <b>Spatially Enabling Africa in Support of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction.</b></p> <p><b>IMPORTANT DATES</b>            Deadline for Submission of Abstracts: 15 May 2013            Deadline for Submission of Full Papers for Refereed Outlets: 15 May 2013            Deadline for Submission of Full Papers for Non-refereed Outlet: 1 Sept 2013            Deadline for Full Conference Registration Payment for All</p>

[Back to contents](#)

Presenters: 15 Sept 2013		
<b>8-10 November</b> "NEW"	Wuhan, China	<a href="#">2013 International Conference on Geo-Informatics in Resource Management &amp; Sustainable Ecosystem [GRMSE2013]</a>
<b>11 November</b> "NEW"	Sydney, Australia	<b>NSW Open Data Forum</b> The Forum will provide an opportunity for participants to hear an executive briefing on the latest NSW Government ICT policy developments, including the <i>Open Data Policy</i> , and for industry to engage with government and provide feedback on the NSW reform program. The Forum will include a wide range of speakers on key topics, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The new strategic and policy environment for Open Data</li> <li>• The NSW Open Data Policy and Open Access Licencing Framework</li> <li>• Real life case studies of data re-use</li> <li>• Facilitating access to linked government data</li> </ul> <a href="#">Register online for your free ticket</a>
<b>11-13 November</b> "NEW"	Amsterdam, The Netherlands	<a href="#">SPAR Europe/European LiDAR Mapping Forum</a>
<b>11-13 November</b> "NEW"	London, UK	<a href="#">Esri Developer Summit Europe</a>
<b>13-16 November</b>	Skopje, FYRoM	<a href="#">International Conference on Spatial Data Infrastructures and Spatial Information Management 2013</a> <a href="#">e-mail</a>
<b>14-16 November</b> "NEW"	Bathurst, Australia	<b>"Spatial Networking - Crossing the Great Divide"</b> <b>NSW Regional Conference 2013</b> This event features NSW Land & Property Information (LPI) tours, cartographic workshop, & the conference itself. Open to both members, non-members, & students. Early bird registration rate ends Friday, 1 November 2013. For the <a href="#">agenda and to register online</a> .
<b>25-27 November</b> "NEW"	Tokyo, Japan	<b><a href="#">The 1st GEOSS Joint Asia – Africa Water Cycle Symposium</a></b> The Symposium, co-organized by the University of Tokyo (UT) and the Group on Earth Observations (GEO), will build upon the commonalities of approach by both the Asian Water Cycle Initiative (AWCI) and the Africa Water Cycle Coordination Initiative (AfWCCI) towards addressing integrated water resource management in the context of climate change. Both initiatives have evolved as regional activities of the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), and are adopting principles of the GEOSS Water Cycle Integrator (WCI). The WCI emphasizes the importance of data integration, interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity for, among other applications, sustainable development of water and environmental resources – particularly as they pertain to the "Water-Food-Energy nexus" - while promoting disaster risk reduction. The main themes of the Symposium deliberations will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Expected roles of Earth observations (EO) and data integration on water management and the Water-Energy-Food nexus in Asia and Africa;</li> <li>- Introduction to the capacities of the science communities and Earth observation sectors;</li> <li>- Possible contributions of Earth Observations to monitoring progress toward Water Sustainable Development goals;</li> <li>- River basin proposals of the 1st AfWCCI implementation plan in Africa; and</li> <li>- Country proposals of the 2nd AWCI implementation plan in Asia.</li> </ul>

[Back to contents](#)

		Further information on the venue, the Symposium program, registration, recommended hotels, and visas and other travel information will be available through <a href="#">the workshop website</a> .
<b>December 2013</b>		
<b>2–5 December</b>	Bellvue, Washington, USA	<a href="#">Institute of Navigation (ION) Precise Time and Time Interval Meeting</a>
<b>3–6 December</b>	Hanoi, Vietnam	<a href="#">Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF-20)</a> Theme: Values from Space - 20 Years of Asia-Pacific Experiences APRSAF-20 is being jointly organized by the Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (VAST), the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of JAPAN (MEXT), and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA).
<b>16–19 December</b>	Ahmedabad, India	<a href="#">AGSE 2013 - "Geospatial Momentum for Society and Environment"</a> Organizers: - Dr. Anjana Vyas (CEPT University, India) Dr. Josef Behr (Stuttgart University, Germany) <b>Important Dates</b> Last date of Abstract Submission: 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2013 Last date of Full Paper Submission: 07 <sup>th</sup> September 2013 End of Early Bird Conference Registration: 31 <sup>st</sup> September 2013 <a href="#">Contact</a>
<b>2014</b>		
<b>April 2014</b>		
<b>7-9 April</b>	Canberra, Australia	<a href="#">Research@Locate'14</a> <b>Held in conjunction with LOCATE 14</b>
<b>7-9 April</b>	Canberra, Australia	<a href="#">LOCATE 14 - Conference and Exhibition</a>
<b>May 2014</b>		
<b>5-9 May</b>	Geneva, Switzerland	<a href="#">Geospatial World Forum 2014</a> <a href="#">CALL for ABSTRACTS</a> – to be submitted by November 1, 2013 Notification of Acceptance: November 15, 2013 Contact: <a href="mailto:info@geospatialworldforum.org">info@geospatialworldforum.org</a>
<b>21-23 May</b>	Thessaloniki, Greece	<a href="#">5th International Conference on Geographic Object-Based Image Analysis</a> (GEOBIA 2014).
<b>June 2014</b>		
<b>15–21 June</b> <b>“NEW”</b>	Riviera, Bulgaria	<a href="#">5th International Conference on CARTOGRAPHY &amp; GIS</a> January 10, 2014: Abstract submission February 25: Full paper submission for publication in Springer Book May 1: Full paper submission for Conference Proceedings
<b>16–21 June</b>	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	<a href="#">XXV FIG Congress: Engaging the Challenges – Enhancing the Relevance</a> <b>IMPORTANT DATES</b> <b>Peer Reviewed Papers</b> Deadline for authors to submit <b>full papers</b> : November 1, 2013 First notification to authors of acceptance: December 19 <b>Non Peer Reviewed Papers</b> Deadline for authors to submit <b>abstracts</b> : December 1 Confirmation to authors of acceptance of <b>abstracts</b> : January 31 <a href="#">Call for Papers</a>
<b>July 2014</b>		
<b>1-4 July</b> <b>“NEW”</b>	Salzburg, Austria	<a href="#">GI Forum 2014: Geospatial Innovation for Society</a> <b>Feb 1, 2014</b> : deadline for submission of full papers / extended abstracts / extended abstracts for poster presentation March 16, 2014: notification of acceptance <b>April 20, 2014</b> : final paper versions June 6, 2014: late deadline for submission of extended abstracts for

[Back to contents](#)

	poster presentation
--	---------------------

To subscribe to SDI-AP, please do so [online](#). To contact please [email](#) the editors.  
[Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association](#).

Please mention SDI-AP as a source of information in any correspondence you may have about items in this issue.

**DISCLAIMER:** The Editor and Web Host will not be held liable for any errors, mistakes, misprints or incorrect information.

Copyright © 2013. All rights reserved.

