

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

SDI-LAC

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Spatial Data Infrastructure-Latin America and the Caribbean (SDI-LAC) is a regional, monthly, and free, electronic newsletter from the [Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association](#) (GSDI). It focuses on aspects related with Spatial Data Infrastructure, and on GIS, remote sensing, and data management issues, related with SDI in Latin America and the Caribbean. It aims to raise awareness, provide useful information to strengthen national SDI initiatives, and support synchronization of regional efforts.



Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

GSDI

[GSDI Definition](#)

The [Pan-American Institute of Geography and History](#) (PAIGH), member organization of GSDI, and the [Permanent Committee on Geospatial Data Infrastructure for the Americas](#) (PC-IDEA), promote SDI development in the region. The newsletter is prepared by PAIGH for GSDI.

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Message from the Editor

Current SDI-LAC issue is largely contributed by Santiago Borrero. The **Global and Regional SDI** section comprises the Announcement of 2011-2012 GSDI Small Grants Program; GGIM's initiative on National Policies on Geospatial Information: SDI, Regulatory Practices, and Information Management Issues; First Announcement of 2011 GEOSS in the Americas Symposium; A note on the Latin America Geospatial Forum (LAGF) to be held this month in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Guyana's recent membership to SIRGAS, and new GIS User Group; OGC's 3D Summit, and GML 4.0 Workshop; Launch of GEO's Agricultural Initiative; Conferences and Workshops taking place outside of the Americas; and an Invitation for Joining the Land Portal and IALTA. The **National SDI** section covers activities of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Peru including: Argentina's VI IDERA Conference to be held on October, 2011; Brazil's New Digital 2010 Census Tracts' Information and Data, and Monitoring Center for Natural Disaster Alerts; the Chilean Project Progress to Develop Geospatial Information Management Standards; and a note on the Peruvian *Geoservidor*. **Articles and Publications** of the month highlights a paper on the Spatial Information for Latin America published in *ArcNews*; Recent launching of *SDIMAG* Online Magazine; Online publication of the 1st Uruguay gvSIG Conference presentations and articles; Latest Issue of the Ibero-American Cadastral Digital Magazine (*REI*); and the 1st e-Edition of USGS Access Newsletter. **Geospatial**

Research and Applications comprise comments on the National Cadastral Plan of Venezuela; Launching of the OSGeo-es (Spanish) blog; DCNA's GIS applications to Map Nature in the Dutch Caribbean; Launching of Mapaz map server for analysis of ecosystem services in the Amazon; the I3N initial distribution of New Invasive Species Database; and the UNITAR/UNOSAT agreement to make Google Map Maker data more widely and easily available. The **Training and Funding Opportunities** section encompasses calls for international and national initiatives, among them an International Autumn School on 3d Imaging Technologies to be held in Spain; Fully Funded Ocean Affairs Research UN-Nippon Fellowships; Lincoln Institute of Land Policy Professional Development Course on Methods of Analysis Applied to Land Markets in Latin America; the course repository for the ELOGeo project; and the UN/Vietnam Workshop on Space Technology Applications for Socio-Economic Benefits. Finally, several **Events taking place in the Americas** are highlighted in the last section.

Back issues of the newsletter are at the GSDI website: <http://www.gsd.org/newsletters.asp>

Editor, Nancy Aguirre, Pan-American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH), <http://www.ipgh.org>, cnaguirre@ipgh.org

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Input to this Issue

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Ludo Engelen	SADL, K.U.Leuven, (Spatial Applications Division Leuven), Leuven, Belgium
Glenn Hyman	Decision and Policy Analysis Group (DAPA), International Center for Tropical Agriculture (in Spanish CIAT), Cali, Colombia
Christopher F.G. Jeffrey	Marine Biologist, Spatial Ecologist, NOAA National Ocean Service, NCCOS, CCMA Biogeography Branch, Silver Spring, MD, USA
Kate Lance	SERVIR, NASA/USRA Coordinator, Huntsville, AL, USA
Elma Montaña	CONICET and National University of Cuyo, Argentina
Douglas D. Nebert	Senior Advisor for Geospatial Technology, System-of-Systems Architect, FGDC Secretariat, USA
Harlan Onsrud	GSDI Executive Director
Jean Parcher	International Coordinator, Land Remote Sensing, US Geological Survey, Reston, VA, USA
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Mirka Zimmermann	AGSE Organizing Committee, Germany

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Global and Regional SDI, News, Presentations



GSDI
Global Spatial Data
Infrastructure Association



[2011-2012 GSDI Small Grants Program Announcement](#)

Source: Harlan Onsrud

The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association is pleased to announce its Small Grants Program for the year 2011-12.

Summary:

Awards for spatial data infrastructure or Earth Observations Systems (EOS)-related activities in economically disadvantaged nations

Application deadline of 31 October 2011

4,000 words maximum

Awards of \$2500 USD in cash and/or contributed volunteer professional services for the project

Background:

The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure (GSDI) Association is dedicated to international cooperation and collaboration in support of local, national, and international spatial data infrastructure developments that would allow nations to better address social, economic, and environmental issues of pressing importance. We are committed to bringing about an infrastructure that will allow users globally to access spatial data at a variety of scales from multiple sources that



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ultimately will appear seamless to all users. The GSDI Association supports the work of organizations to develop their own Web-enabled Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) initiatives, nationally and regionally, and collaborates with local, national, and international organizations to ensure that spatial data, services, and metadata are accessible through interoperable standards-based services, systems, software, and products that operate in a web-enabled environment. The success of the GSDI Association depends on the quality of its partnerships with public, private, academic, and non-governmental organizations. Through adoption of common, international standards, key architecture principles, and approaches for capacity building in developing countries, the GSDI initiatives also link national SDI efforts with the vision and goals of the Group on Earth Observation (GEO) and its Global Earth Observations System of Systems (GEOSS).

Additional information:

Overview of GSDI - http://memberservices.gsdi.org/files/?artifact_id=844 (in MS PowerPoint)

GSDI Strategic Plan - http://portal.gsdi.org/files/?artifact_id=544 (in PDF)

Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) and the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) - <http://www.earthobservations.org/>

The GSDI is being advanced through the leadership of many nations and organizations represented by a GSDI Association Council and Board of Directors. The multi-national Board includes representatives from all continents and all sectors: government, academia, and the private sector as well as the following regional SDI initiatives:

Africa: United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Committee on Development Information, Science and Technology (CODIST) – GeoInformation Sub-committee

Americas: Pan-American Institute for Geography and History (PAIGH)

Europe: European Umbrella Organization for Geographic Information (EUROGI)

Please visit the GSDI Association website (<http://gsdi.org>) to familiarize yourself with the mission, goals, programs, accomplishments and priorities of the organization.

The GSDI Association, along with partners and participants, has allocated resources from the U.S. Federal Geographic Data Committee and the GISCorps of The Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA), to fund a small grants program to support national or sub-national activities that foster partnerships, develop in-country technical capacity, improve data compatibility and access, and increase political support for spatial data infrastructure and earth observations application development. The GSDI is also a Participating Organization of the intergovernmental Group on Earth Observation (GEO) and encourages the registration of SDI data and services in their registry system.

These resources will be used to offer two types of grants this year:

Cash up to 2,500 USD

Professional Services to be determined

Professional Services will be coordinated by the GISCorps, an international initiative that offers volunteer GIS services (www.GISCorps.org). It is possible to request a combination of cash and professional services.

Support may be used for technical or institutional projects, as long as tangible outputs are achieved and several institutions collaborate on the effort. Please clearly indicate the staffing expected to perform the work and whether additional expertise from GISCorps may be useful. If GISCorps assistance is needed indicate the type that is needed. A list of typical projects follows - but this list is not exhaustive:

Convening of national or sub-national seminars or workshops related to SDI

Producing SDI- and EOS-related training manuals and modules (these materials must not duplicate existing materials)

Establishing metadata and clearinghouse nodes (catalog services)

Establishing standards-based web mapping and data access services

Accomplishing geospatial data and/or SDI surveys or inventories

Producing and disseminating newsletters and awareness-raising materials about SDI

Drafting policy and legislation related to SDI



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Priority will be given to projects in developing nations and countries with economies in transition. Grants can be awarded to SDI coordinating bodies (councils, committees) and GIS user groups, but the GSDI Association asks that one institution take responsibility for receiving/depositing the funds. Grants cannot be used to cover organization overhead expenses.

Proposals should include information under the following headings:

- 1) Title of Project/Activity
- 2) Focal Point Institution
- 3) Contact Person (business street address, phone/fax, email, and website)
- 4) Introduction and Background (include a description of the national or local institutional framework and what has been achieved thus far)
- 5) Project Description
- 6) Project staff including their responsibilities and skills (Indicate here whether GISCorps assistance may be needed and what staff and skills are needed.)
- 7) Summary of Deliverables
- 8) Period of Performance (time-line for overall project, deadline dates for deliverables, date of final project report to be submitted to grants@gsdi.org)
- 9) Indicate your preference for an award of cash or professional services or combination.
- 10) Budget (itemize how the money is to be spent or the predicated extent of services needed for specific tasks)
- 11) Details of additional or in-kind funds to co-finance the activity
- 12) List of Collaborators (with contact information)
- 13) Envisioned Follow-up Activities
- 14) Appendix: May include the Final Reports from any previous GSDI Small Grant Awards

Proposals must be submitted digitally to grants@gsdi.org in English and should be preferably two pages in length but no more than five pages or 2500 words (excluding any appendices). Please submit your proposal as a .pdf file (or alternatively .doc, docx or .rtf file) using 12-point Times Roman or Arial font.

We anticipate funding up to 14 Grants in Cash and up to 4 Grants in Professional Services. Grant funds will be issued as paper checks in US dollars drawn on U.S. Banks or as wire transfers. If the recipient chooses to receive a paper check, up to \$100 U.S. will be deducted from the award amount to cover the delivery charge for the check payment. If the recipient chooses to receive funds by wire transfer, \$50 U.S. will be deducted from the award amount to cover the processing costs for the wire transfer. The recipient institution will be required to provide a project report and an expense report upon completion of the project. The GSDI Association may include excerpts of the project reports in GSDI newsletters and/or on its website. Awardees are encouraged to publish a local press release highlighting the award from the GSDI Association as well as the proposed activities, and to send copies of these to the GSDI Association.

*Proposals are due on **31 October** 2011. Please e-mail them to:*

Societal Impacts Committee
GSDI Association
grants@gsdi.org

For more information about the GSDI or to subscribe to the GSDI News List, please see <http://www.gsdi.org>. For questions about this request for proposals, please contact grants@gsdi.org

Note: The Small Grants Program is intended as a benefit of "full membership" in the GSDI Association. Because the GSDI Association is fairly young, we are making this opportunity available currently to non-members as well. However, full members may obtain favored treatment in the instance in which two grant applications have been ranked similarly in the peer review process. Note that the annual GSDI Association membership fee for national organizations in low and very low per capita income nations may be as little as U.S. \$100 or documented in-kind contributions in lieu of dues. Please see <http://www.gsdi.org/joinGSDI>

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National Policies on Geospatial Information:

Spatial Data Infrastructure, Regulatory Practices, Information Management Issues

Source: <http://ggim.un.org/>



GGIM | United Nations Initiative on
Global Geospatial Information Management

In response to the growing needs for timely and accurate geospatial information for national development, countries are building a strong foundation for their geospatial infrastructure and regulatory framework. Creating a successful National Spatial Data Infrastructure is a highly challenging management task, and the most important element lies, not at the technical level, but rather in establishing effective coordination and infrastructure management in order to realise the full potential of geospatial information and the underlying technology, and to make it accessible to and effectively used by a broad range of users. The role of the government, as the regulator and programme implementer, is rapidly shifting from being a primary provider of authoritative geospatial information to coordinating and managing geospatial data and facilitating partnerships among the producers and consumers of geospatial information. As a result, many countries are developing national policies and practices that formalize the ways in which their geospatial data can be shared, used, and disseminated. They are also considering legislation and regulatory framework for protecting national security, confidentiality and citizen privacy rights, if they have not already done so. This site includes links to key documents and material available on the web, some of them provided by Member States regarding their National Policies on Geospatial Information. The section is meant to be populated by the national geospatial authorities of the countries to ensure that the information is an authentic reflection of the national situation. Please send documents and links to ggim@un.org or frani@un.org

First Announcement: 2011 GEOSS in the Americas Symposium

Source: Jean Parcher



The 2011 GEOSS in the Americas Symposium “Exploring how the Americas Benefit from and Contribute to Development of GEOSS (Global Earth Observation System of Systems)” will take place on October 5-7, 2011 in Santiago, Chile (www.geossamericas2011.cl).

Our world, including all countries in the Americas region, is experiencing a changing climate, increasing numbers and severity of natural and human-induced hazards, challenges with food production and security, and scarcer water resources. Coordinated, comprehensive and sustained Earth observations are essential to better understand these phenomena and to develop mechanisms to mitigate the effects on society and the environment.

The 2011 GEOSS in the Americas Symposium will build on the outcomes and priorities identified in previous symposiums held in Brazil (2007) and Panama (2008), plus a number of focused regional Group on Earth Observations (GEO) workshops held in 2007 through 2011.



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The 2011 Symposium will focus on the role of Earth observations in four thematic areas of high importance in the Americas:

- Agricultural Monitoring
- Geological Hazards, including earthquakes, volcanoes and landslides
- Hydrometeorological Hazards, including droughts, floods, and hurricanes
- Water Resource Management

In addition to the technical speakers and discussion sessions, there will be poster sessions for each of the thematic areas. An exhibits area will provide opportunities for participants to view demonstrations of Earth observations data, tools, and applications. An afternoon of relevant field trips for participants will also be organized for each of the symposium themes.

Symposium Objectives

The 2011 Symposium will explore the important role of GEOSS in helping to better understand and address the key issues of importance to most countries in the Americas region. The four interdependent thematic areas affect society and economies at all levels. These themes are particularly relevant given the impacts on agriculture and water resources from natural hazard events which are taking place with increased frequency and severity.

GEOSS is being developed as the global source for Earth observation data and information to make informed decisions for societal benefit. While GEOSS is still in an early stage of development and implementation, there are opportunities for the Americas region to take a lead role in contributing to and benefiting from strong engagement in GEOSS. To help realize these opportunities, specific objectives of the 2011 Symposium are to:

- Further increase an understanding of the importance of GEO and GEOSS to technical experts, researchers and decision makers;
- Increase awareness and build capacity to better use the data, tools and applications available through GEOSS to improve analysis and fact-based decision making;
- Increase collaboration on existing GEO and GEOSS initiatives, including full and open access to data, in the Americas region to realize societal benefits;
- Encourage strong regional engagement in the development of GEOSS through concrete actions that will result in contributions of expertise, data, tools and applications.

Participation

The 2011 Symposium is targeted to technical experts, researchers, and decision makers who can contribute to the discussion and planning for the implementation of GEOSS in their countries, throughout the Americas, and ultimately as contributors to the international GEOSS initiative. In addition, those who could benefit from improved awareness of data sources, tools, applications and processes that are available to decision makers in the region are encouraged to attend.

Organization and Contacts

The Chilean Group on Earth Observation (CLGEO) is hosting the 2011 GEOSS in the Americas Symposium which will be held on the campus of the Federico Santa Maria University (in Spanish USM) in beautiful Santiago, Chile.

In addition to the partner organizations in Chile, the Symposium Organizing Committee includes representatives of GEO organizations in Brazil, Canada, and the United States. Leading experts from throughout the Americas region will participate in the planning and development of the technical sessions in each of the four thematic areas. Further information will be available on the Symposium website at www.geossamericas2011.cl

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[Latin America Geospatial Forum \(LAGF\)- August 17-19, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil](#)

Source: <http://lagf.org/2011/>



**Latin America
Geospatial Forum**

17 - 19 August, 2011
Windsor Barra Hotel, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

**Theme: Bringing Global
Perspectives to Local Action**

The Latin America Geospatial Forum (LAGF) is the 1st Annual Latin American Conference and Exhibition on Geospatial Information, Technology and Applications. It will take place on August 17-19, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The conference would highlight the need for firmly placing “geospatial knowledge” at the heart of economic and development agenda of the nation. LAGF is an initiative that would provide a well-needed regional forum in Latin America for geospatial cooperation within Latin America and beyond the region. An initiative which is supported by PC IDEA (Permanent Committee for Spatial Data Infrastructure for Americas), LAGF shall highlight the need for: Raising the Profile of Geospatial Industry; Building and connecting the geospatial community with different user communities; fostering Regional Outreach; serve as a Business Development Platform; and providing Networking Opportunities. The conference, which will include [plenary](#) and keynote sessions, symposia, seminars, workshops, technical sessions, technology shows and a state-of-the-art exhibition, would bring all stakeholders in the geospatial domain: government, academia, researchers, students, and the industry, onto one platform to come forward and share their learning and experiences with each other and rest of the world; and enter into meaningful dialogue towards development and strengthening of geospatial industry in Latin America. The [Program Agenda](#) includes various symposiums on applied geospatial information, standards and interoperability, Global navigation satellite systems, and Spatial Data Infrastructure. Technology tracks and PC-IDEA meetings are also incorporated. The Symposium on [Spatial Data Infrastructure: Federal to Local](#) will take place on August 19, which will focus on the status of SDI activities among the various local and national level organizations, the challenges faced and prospects. In addition, the GIS Development Geospatial Excellence Awards for Best Applications in the Latin American Region will be granted in the form of a trophy to meritorious projects which have made significant and measurable contributions towards the development of new geospatial applications, or innovative modification of existing geospatial technology practices to substantially reduce project costs and bring in efficiency in the workflow. For Registration please log on [here](#) or contact Mr. Rajesh Kumar at registration@lagf.org. For more information and questions please contact: info@lagf.org

[Guyana: a New SIRGAS Member](#)

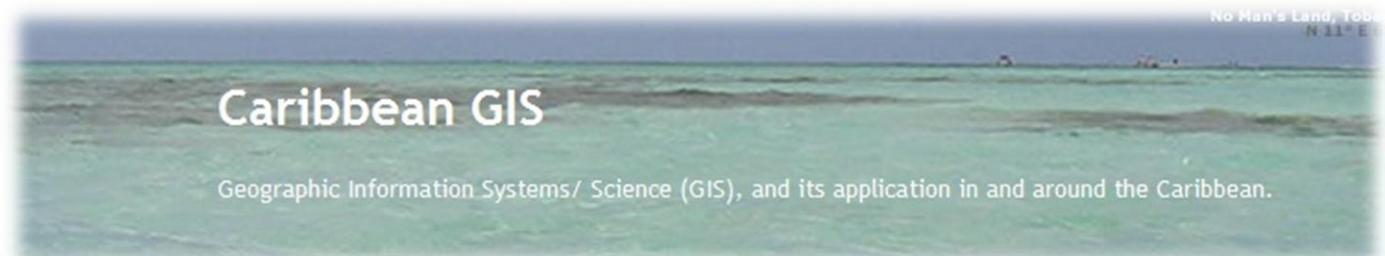
Source: <http://www.sirgas.org/>

Guyana, following the Geocentric Reference System for the Americas (in Spanish SIRGAS) bylaws, applied to become a member country of SIRGAS. The application was carried out by the Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission (GLSC), responsible for land administration and surveying in this country. Since all the requirements were satisfied, Guyana is a SIRGAS member since April 1, 2011.



[Guyana's first GIS User Group](#)

Source: <http://caribbean-gis.blogspot.com/> by way of Kate Lance



Caribbean GIS

Geographic Information Systems/ Science (GIS), and its application in and around the Caribbean.

No Man's Land, Tobago
N 11° E

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A GIS User Group has been formed in Guyana. This group consists of technicians, users and administrators of geodatabases of government agencies and private companies. The University of Guyana is also included among the participants. The group will be meeting on the second Wednesday of every month to discuss various topics of direct relevance for the advancement of GIS in Guyana. All interested GIS users are free to join. The first meeting of the Group in July 2011 consisted of a presentation from GGMC (mining commission) showing the implementation and testing of ArcServer for its mineral property holdings. This was followed by a similar presentation by GeoTechVision Enterprises Limited of work done for the Works Services Group using ArcServer. This was followed by a healthy discussion to determine which coordinate system should be used when storing GIS data for Guyana.

The OGC Announces 3D Summit

Source: OGC Press Release



The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC®) 3D Information Management (3DIM) Working Group is hosting a second 3D Summit focused on the current impact and future opportunities for open standards to better enable 3D geospatial practices. The summit will be held Tuesday, September 20, 2011 in Boulder, Colorado in conjunction with the OGC Technical Committee Meeting. Building on the success of the 2009 3D Summit hosted at MIT, this industry gathering is open to anyone interested in 3D applications and standards that enhance interoperability and integration. What are the emerging best practices for data and services interoperability? Who is leading the way

with technical innovation and market adoption? The 3D Summit is a great opportunity in 2011 to engage in 3D standards. See details of the summit here: <http://www.opengeospatial.org/event/11093dim>. Participants are invited to submit a one paragraph abstract by **August 12, 2011**. See the online form here: <http://tinyurl.com/3dsummit2011submissions>. Online registration is required. See <http://www.opengeospatial.org/event/1109tc>

The OGC Announces GML 4.0 (Geography Markup Language) Workshop

Source: OGC Press Release

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC®) and the OGC GML Working Group (WG) invite interested parties to attend a one-day workshop on GML 4 on September 19th in Boulder, Colorado. The workshop is organized as part of the September OGC TC meeting, but is open to non-OGC members. The current approved version of GML is GML 3.2, which is identical to ISO 19136: 2007. An official call for GML change requests was completed in 2008. The GML WG approved several of these change requests for the release of GML 3.3 later this year. GML 3.3 is an extension to GML 3.2 and will be fully backwards compatible with GML 3.2. Many communities and organizations use GML. Therefore, creating version 4.0 is not undertaken lightly. Besides a number of pending change requests to be considered by the GML Working Group, GML 4.0 is also required to comply to the OGC's new modular specification policy (<http://www.opengeospatial.org/ogc/policies/directives>) One of the key challenges of the revision will be the identification of a modular structure for GML. The goal of the workshop is to get input and guidance from the GML user community for the development of GML 4.0. The workshop should result in a set of guiding principles the GML Working Group can use in the process of designing the next version of the standard. Interested parties are encouraged to provide statements in advance, outlining their opinion on the subject. These statements will be used to prepare the meeting so that we can get maximum use out of the workshop. To attend, register at https://portal.opengeospatial.org/public_ogc/register/110919gml4.php. Statements can be posted and viewed on the public OGC wiki: http://external.opengeospatial.org/twiki_public/GML/Gml4WorkshopInput.

G-20 Ministers Launch GEO Agricultural Initiative

Source: GEO News (Issue #15, 20 July 2011)

The agriculture ministers of the G-20 countries adopted a ministerial declaration on 23 June in Paris launching a Global Agricultural Geo-Monitoring Initiative. The aim of this Group on Earth Observations (GEO)-led international monitoring network is to produce more accurate crop forecast data in order to promote food security. "In order to improve crop production projections and weather forecasting, with the use of modern tools, in particular



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remote sensing tools, we decide to launch, via the Group on Earth Observation, an international voluntary network of agricultural production monitoring based on geoinformation. This “Global Agricultural Geo-Monitoring Initiative” will be a useful input for AMIS (Agricultural Market Information System) concerning the provision of more accurate crop forecasts data. The objectives, principles, modalities and schedule of this initiative are detailed in the annex n°3.” (Ministerial Declaration: Action Plan on Food Price Volatility and Agriculture, p. 8). [The Declaration is available here.](#)
GEO-VIII Plenary Meeting: Information on the GEO-VIII Plenary Meeting, to be held in Istanbul on 16-17 November, is now available on the [GEO website](#). Conference participants are invited to visit the site to learn more about registration procedures, the GEO-VIII Exhibition, hotel availability, visa requirements, the scheduling of the week’s events, and much more.

National GIS or SDI?

Source: Spatial Sustain at <http://www.vector1media.com/>

In the executive session on Spatial Data Infrastructure, at the ESRI International User Conference, there rose a discussion of what SDI means in reaction to Jack Dangermond’s comment that he’d love to move beyond discussion of SDI and rather call it National GIS. A Spatial Data Infrastructure is a bit different than a National GIS in the panelists’ minds, and many stated that data building, standardization, data delivery, rules and procedures, and established authority is the start, which is SDI, rather than the solutions that reside within a GIS. Nancy Tosta of the United States feels that SDI is much bigger than a GIS. Singapore discussed the role of SDI to encompass broader geospatial awareness than traditionally is encompassed in GIS. Abu Dhabi discussed that the creation of a mindset as well as the physical environment for the sharing of data are encompassed in the concept of SDI as a spatial data institution for collaboration rather than solutions. India is pursuing a National GIS, and in their eyes it’s about the delivery of targeted services for specific vertical markets that is hosted on the cloud.

Webcast Presentations of Open Source GIS Conference 2011

Source: Suchith Anand by way of Santiago Borrero



The webcasts of presentations of Open Source GIS 2011 Conference (OSGIS 2011) including the plenary presentations from OGC-OSGeo Interoperability day are now available for the benefit of the wider community at http://cgs.nottingham.ac.uk/~osgis11/os_call_info.html. We would like to thank all our presenters, workshop organizers, sponsors and delegates for helping us make OSGIS 2011 a great success.

<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/~lgzwww/contacts/staffPages/SuchithAnand/Suchith%20Anand.htm>

<http://www.opensourcegis.org.uk/> / <http://ica-opensource.scg.ulaval.ca/>

Open Source GIS Workshop Materials Ready

Source: SDI magazine



WALK-IN WORKSHOP **Open Source GIS & WebCartography**

5th, 6th & 7th July 13:30 – 15:15



All the workshop materials from the Open Source GIS workshops at the International Cartographic Conference (ICC) 2011 are now available at <http://kartoweb.itc.nl/kobben/ICA-OSGEO-workshop> for the benefit of the wider community. Thanks to Barend Köbben and Ivana Ivanova (ITC) for putting together the course materials (presentations, exercises, etc.) and Eric Grosso and colleagues from the National Geographic Institute of France for making all local arrangements for making this a great success [Written by Roger Longhorn].

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54 ICA, Vienna, 2012

Source: Elma Montaña and Harry Polo Díaz by way of Santiago Borrero

54 International Congress of Americanists
"Building Dialogues in the Americas"
Vienna, Austria, July 15-20, 2012

54 Congreso Internacional de Americanistas
"Construyendo Diálogos en las Américas"
Viena, Austria, Julio 15-20, 2012



אירועים בינלאומיים

אירועים בינלאומיים



The Symposium No. 911: "Vulnerabilities and Adaptations to Climate extremes in the Americas" will convene at the 54 International Congress of Americanists (ICA) "Building Dialogues in the Americas", Vienna, Austria, July 15-20, 2012. This symposium is included in the thematic area No. 15: "Socio-Ecological Crisis, Environmental and Resource Politics". Spanish and English versions of the symposium proposal are found at: <https://ica2012.univie.ac.at/home/>. Financing for [grants](#) for the congress participants could be secured by the 54 ICA Organizing Committee. Paper proposals consist in a title, an abstract (between 1,000 and 2,000 characters) and 3 to 5 keywords. Submission of paper proposals is only possible via the online form at <https://ica2012.univie.ac.at/call-for-papers/proposal-submission/>. In order to submit paper proposals, an account is needed. Creating an account is free and easy. The symposium conveners will also appreciate a copy sent to their e-mail addresses. Guidelines for submitting a proposal are posted at <http://ica2012.univie.ac.at/call-for-papers/how-to-submit-a-proposal/>. The deadline for the submission of paper proposals is **31 August, 2011**.

Available Videos and Presentations of the 1st Francophonie gvSIG Day

Source: gvSIG News Office

Are now available presentations and videos from the 1st Francophonie gvSIG Day, which took place on July 1 in Rennes (France). With the publication of this material we try to bring the conference to all interested parties who could not attend (<http://www.gvsig.org/web/community/events/journees-francophones/2011/Programa>).

International Conference and Summer School: Applied Geoinformatics for Society and Environment

Source: Mirka Zimmermann

The International Conference and Summer School: Applied Geoinformatics for Society and Environment (AGSE) under the slogan "Geo Information for a Better World" will be held at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Nairobi, Kenya (Africa) on August 15-19, 2011. Detailed information is found on the website: <http://applied-geoinformatics.org>. Contact: secretary@applied-geoinformatics.org



GEOProcessing 2012: The Fourth International Conference on Advanced Geographic Information Systems, Applications, and Services

Source: IARIA Committee by way of Santiago Borrero

The Fourth International Conference on Advanced Geographic Information Systems, Applications, and Services

GEOProcessing 2012

January 30 - February 4, 2012 - Valencia, Spain

The Conference will be held between January 30 to February 4, 2012 in Valencia, Spain (<http://www.iaria.org/conferences2012/GEOProcessing12.html>)

GEOProcessing 2012 Topics: Geo-spatial fundamentals; GIS; Geo-modeling; Earth Geo-observation; Geo-sensing; Geo-spatial domain applications; and Managing geo-spatial data. Committee: <http://www.iaria.org/conferences2012/ComGEOProcessing12.html>

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- Call for Papers: <http://www.iaia.org/conferences2012/CfPGEOProcessing12.html>
 - Submission page: <http://www.iaia.org/conferences2011/SubmitGEOProcessing12.html>
Before submission, please check and conform with the Editorial rules: <http://www.iaia.org/editorialrules.html>.
 - Submission deadline: **September 5, 2011**
 - Extended versions of selected papers will be published in IARIA Journals: <http://www.iaiajournals.org>
- Sponsored by IARIA, www.iaia.org.

Invitation for Joining Land Portal and IALTA

Source: IALTA Research Group by way of Santiago Borrero

All over the world, land researchers and practitioners develop and accomplish research on land, from different disciplines, in different regions and countries, on different topics, all in the context of their work at universities and other research institutions. Two newly initiatives are developed: a new web site: the Land Portal, and a network of researchers on land: the International Alliance on Land Tenure and Administration (in Spanish IALTA). The Land Portal was originated by the International Land Coalition and Landtenure.info and currently is a partnership of more than 40 land-concerned organizations. IALTA is the coordinator of the Researchers Network of the Portal. Since land information is dispersed and difficult to locate, the Land Portal will help to aggregate it and make it available to a wide range of users. It will enable users to quickly and easily search multiple

databases at the same time; find reliable and updated information by country and theme; customize user and organizational profiles and alerts; and share knowledge by uploading and validating content in a range of formats. It will also help people connect and collaborate with a vibrant user community around the world, thus enabling them to join thematic working groups and build collective actions. As the Land Portal is the result of a broad partnership, we encourage you and your organizations to adopt it as a tool to be used for promoting initiatives, sharing knowledge and connecting to people and organizations. The Land Portal is sponsored by the European Commission, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Omidyar Network (ON) and Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD). Please visit the Land Portal at www.landportal.info and watch the promotional video at <http://www.vimeo.com/21724375>. For your further information on IALTA, please visit www.ialtanetwork.org. Hosted by: Faculty of Law, University of Groningen, The Netherlands. For further information please contact: Dr. Yongjun Zhao, Prof. Dr. Wilbert Kolkman, Prof. Dr. Leon Verstappen at yongjun.zhao@rug.nl, or l.c.a.verstappen@rug.nl or w.d.kolkman@rug.nl

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National SDI, News, Links, Presentations

[SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA \(IDERA\) - UNDER CONSTRUCTION](#)

VI IDERA Conference

Source: IDERA Project Working Group on Institutional Outreach and Communication

The Government of the Province of Tucuman and the Coordination Team of the Platform for the Consolidation of IDERA organize the "Sixth Conference on the Spatial Data Infrastructure of Argentina - VI IDERA." The Conference will be held on October 13-14 this year, in San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina. The aim is to provide a forum for discussing initiatives, projects and ideas for the consolidation of the Argentinean SDI over the construction of provincial and local SDIs as well as the integration of other related initiatives. Presentations will be on SDI initiatives of any kind, encompassing mainly the strategic and organizational aspects, problems encountered, results achieved and envisioned benefits. Proposals contributed for presentation (both oral and poster), must be sent before **August 30, 2011**, detailing the following information: agency or institution, title, type of presentation (oral or poster), brief summary and authors. Registration for the conference is free and may be online, as of **August 30, 2011**, through the form available in the IDERA website www.idera.gov.ar. For paper submission and further information please send an email to: contacto@idera.gob.ar

Proyecto IDE Argentina

IDERA

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[NATIONAL SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE OF BRAZIL \(INDE\)](#)

[New Municipal 2010 Census Tracts' Mesh and Information](#)

Fuente: <http://www.inde.gov.br/>

The Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (in Portuguese IBGE) has made available to the public the Digital Municipal Mesh Census 2010 census tracts, as well as data aggregated by census tracts: Preliminary Synopsis of the Census. The lattice, along with aggregate data, displays results of Census 2010 on a digital map. The sectors are the smallest territorial units established by IBGE for the purpose of collecting the Census. For your viewing, IBGE is making available on its homepage a web application that allows exploration and visualization of data by municipality / sub-district/ quarter of all 316,574 census tracts. Municipal Mesh Archives and census tracts and the Information Base for the 2010 Census tracts are available at <http://www.censo2010.ibge.gov.br/sinopseporsetores/>. To work with the mesh, you must use GIS software. For simpler applications of georeferenced information retrieval, IBGE provides the Estatcart as well as a DVD containing all data and information.



[Government Creates a Monitoring Center for Natural Disaster Alerts](#)

Source: <http://www.inde.gov.br/>

The federal government of Brazil published the Decree No. 7513 establishing a Center for Natural Disaster Monitoring and Alert (in Portuguese CEMADEN), which will be led by the Ministry of Science and Technology (in Portuguese MCT). The core of the intelligent system, responsible for managing information captured by radar, weather forecasts and rain gauges will be installed at Cachoeira Paulista (SP). The idea is to start the monitoring in 25 cities with ready geotechnical charts. The list of municipalities will be defined by the Ministry of Cities. CEMADEN experts will work with high resolution forecasts and with a range of weather radar and soil analysis equipment. The first analysis should take place from November, when the Center will open. For four years, during installation of the alert system will be invested \$ 250 million Brazilian real. Among the tasks of CEMADEN are: developing natural disaster alerts relevant to protective actions and civil defense in the country; conducting and disseminating studies and research aimed at producing information necessary for planning and promotion of actions against natural disasters; capacity building on science, technology, and innovation to continuously optimize natural disaster warning; operating computer systems necessary for natural disaster warning preparation; promoting capacity building and training, and fostering specialization and post-graduate activities in the fields of interest; and providing natural disaster alerts for the National Center for Disaster and Risk Management (in Portuguese CENAD) of the Ministry of National Integration, aimed at supporting the National Civil Defense System.

[NATIONAL TERRITORIAL INFORMATION SYSTEM OF CHILE \(SNIT\)](#)

[Project Progress to Develop Geospatial Information Management Standards](#)

Source: <http://www.snit.cl/>

On July 28 was held the second meeting of the Project Committee on "Development of Chilean Standards for Geospatial Information Mapping and Management as a Contribution to Developing the National Spatial Data Infrastructure." The meeting took place at headquarters of the Navy Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service (in Spanish SHOA), located in the city of Valparaiso, and aimed to analyze the progress of this important initiative, which adds 18 months of execution within a total period of three years. As part of this project, led by the American National Standards Institute (in Spanish INN), and coordinated by the Ministry of National Assets through the Executive Secretariat of SNIT, in the coming months the drafting of a manual on Geospatial Information Chilean Standards Implementation will begin. It is expected this product to allow practical implementation of pertinent rules for the benefit of this type of information public



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organizations' management. The Project Committee comprises, in addition to the Navy, representatives of the Military Geographical Institute (in Spanish IGM), the Air Force Photogrammetric Service (in Spanish SAF), the Natural Resource Information Center (in Spanish CIREN) and the Ministry of Public Works (in Spanish MOP).

[PERMANENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON THE SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE OF PERU \(CCIDEP\)](#)

[Geoservidor: Peru into Maps](#)

Source: <http://geoservidor.minam.gob.pe/>

[Geoservidor](#) is a mechanism for geospatial information dissemination and exchange that is available to professionals, government sectors, regional governments, local governments and civil society more general. Relevant, transparent and updated information on the country's environmental and territorial status may be accessed through the web. The *Geoservidor* is a product developed at the Land Management General Directorate (in Spanish DGOT), thanks to the Ministry of Environment GIS team efforts (in Spanish SIGMINAM), and comprises the following information: maps, interactive maps, repository data, metadata catalog, documentation and specialized forum. The broader Spatial Data Infrastructure of Peru (in Spanish GEOIDEP) web portal may be found at <http://www.geoidep.gob.pe/>

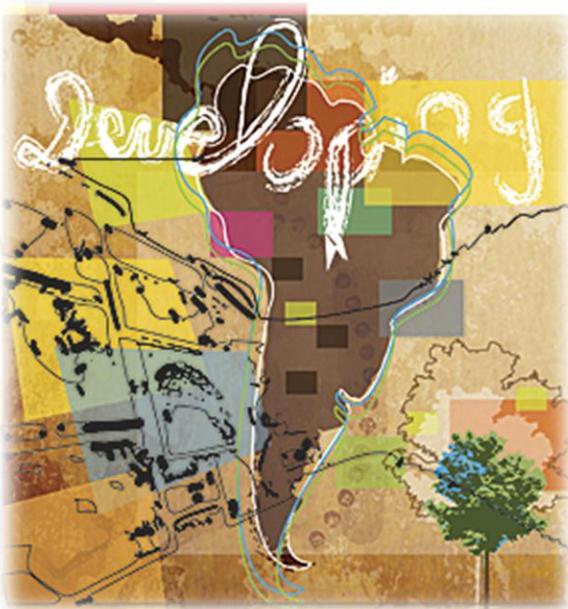


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Articles and Publications of the Month

Hand in Hand—Spatial Information for Latin America

By Santiago Borrero, Secretary General, Pan American Institute of Geography and History. Article published in *ArcNews* 2011.



Excerpt: In order to better implement spatial information in developing countries, training and institutional development must go hand in hand. A good number of national development plans in Latin America prioritize education based on new technologies and state that digital illiteracy must be eradicated, as it constitutes an obstacle to access to the opportunities offered in today's globalized world. However, very little, if ever, is said about the fundamental need for spatial information, and thus the subject should be incorporated into national development plans and broad interdisciplinary processes. GIS is a key tool to critically understand geographic problems and put geographic thought into practice, especially now that citizens enjoy the benefits of instant geography through map services, dynamic photo files, and 360-degree street maps, for example. The Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) is the oldest organization in the Organization of American States (OAS) and the one in charge of providing it with the spatiotemporal component necessary to promote the comprehensive development of the region. Among other activities, PAIGH fosters the development of Spatial Data Infrastructure in the Americas and to that end carries out workshops and regional projects every year [The complete article

may be found at: <http://www.esri.com/news/arcnews/summer11/articles/hand-in-hand-spatial-information-for-latin-america.html>].

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SDIMAG Online Magazine Available

Source: Douglas D. Nebert by way of Santiago Borrero

SDIMAG an online magazine for Spatial Data Infrastructure was recently released by Vector1 media (<http://www.sdimag.com>). It includes links to the regional SDI newsletters from GSDI, a blog, articles, and events. It also organizes information by regions.



1st Uruguay gvSIG Conference: Presentations and articles

Source: Sergio Acosta y Lara and gvSIG News Office

Presentations and papers of the 1st Uruguay gvSIG Conference, held on June 16, 2011 at the Faculty of Architecture UDELAR (Montevideo, Uruguay), under the slogan "Geographic Information for All" are now available. Videos of presentations will be published soon.

<http://www.gvsig.org/web/community/events/jornadas-uruguay/2011/ponencias>. More information about the conference is available at: <http://blog.gvsig.org/2011/06/29/1as-jornadas-gvsig-uruguay-%E2%80%99Cla-informacion-geografica-al-alcance-de-todos%E2%80%99D/>

Latest Issue of the Ibero-American Cadastre Experts Network Digital Magazine (REI)

Source: <http://www.catastrolatino.org/>

Is now available in the section of documents / publications a new issue of the Ibero-American Cadastre Experts Network Digital Journal (REI). The REI Cadastre Magazine, number 8, may now be [downloaded here](#).

New USGS Access Newsletter Spring 2011

Source: Ron Sepic by way of Santiago Borrero



This first electronic edition of Access quarterly e-newsletter replaces the print version, including same great stories on data management issues in biology –and beyond– but now with a tiny carbon footprint. You are invited to take the inaugural issue of this electronic edition for a test drive. If you want to see PDFs of earlier issues of Access, just log on to its Archives. You may sign-up for the new Access by going to the subscribe section at http://www.usgs.gov/core_science_systems/Access, or by sending an e-mail to ron_sepik@usgs.gov. Please send questions, comments, and suggestions to the Access editor, Ron Sepic, at: ron_sepik@usgs.gov

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Geospatial Research, Applications, Software, Data

[National Cadastral Plan of Venezuela](#)

Source: <http://www.catastrolatino.org/>

The National Cadastral Plan of Venezuela "will promote the urban transformation in the country." The Geographic Institute Simon Bolívar (IGVSB), through its General Land Management Office, and with support of the Federal Government implements the National Cadaster. It is aimed at the generation, management and conservation of a Geographic Information System and for the training and dissemination of national cadaster, whose main objective is to train the staff of Municipal Cadaster Offices (in Spanish OMC) on tools, methodologies and conceptual issues related to the implementation, training and maintenance of the National Cadaster. This year through this project registration of 183 municipalities' properties will be accomplished. The program aims to promote economic development, urban planning, poverty eradication, land policies and sustainable development of the country. The first cadastral survey will be made in the State of Bolivar in the following municipalities: Piar, Caroni, Heres and Cedeno. Next year, the remainder municipalities' cadastral survey will follow.

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OSGeo-es is Intended to Increase Visibility of the Internet OSGeo Community

Source: Technological Gazette at <http://www.gacetatecnologica.com/>

Blog de OSGeo-es

Noticias y actualizaciones del Capítulo Hispanohablante de la Fundación OSGeo

On June 14 the Board of the Spanish Speaking Local Chapter has launched [OSGeo-es](#), a blog that aims to increase visibility of the community on the Internet and is used as the official voice for the Chapter's transmission of all activities and projects that engage the Spanish speaking OSGeo community. This blog is not an exclusive means of the Board; everyone, both within the community and related to geomatics may collaborate with it by bringing pertinent knowledge, so that any Spanish speaking OSGeo related activity in the area has the largest dissemination and impact. In the different threads are published notes, reminders, updates, links and any comments that members of the Commonwealth of OSGeo want to communicate. Contact may be through the [mailing list](#), [wiki](#), the twitter account [@OSGeo](#) and #osgeo-es of irc.freenode.net

Using GIS to Map Nature in the Dutch Caribbean

Source: <http://dcnanature.wordpress.com/> by way of Kate Lance

Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance
Safeguarding nature in the Dutch Caribbean



The Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA) highlighted in a recent (April) blog some of their recent conservation work involving monitoring and mapping of flora and fauna in Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, St. Eustatius and St. Maarten. "DCNA is working to help the protected area managers use GIS and ArcInfo software to collect data on environmental threats, key species, vegetation, visitor resources, and other information that will aid in all aspects of management," said Kalli De Meyer, Executive Director. "Partnering with the ESRI office based in Curacao, DCNA is training protected area staff not only on how to use and understand GIS, but also how to apply these skills to their day-to-day work." Assessments of protected area management over the last three years have shown gaps between protected area needs and how resources are allocated. "One of our first GIS goals," said Nathaniel Miller, DCNA's Conservation Projects Assistant, "is to enable park management staff to map their protected area threats and resources and then overlay where and how they are expending their resources. This data visualization will give us a fresh perspective on the biodiversity we are protecting and allow us to be more efficient in the work we are doing to ensure its vitality."

Mapaz: Map Server for Analysis of Ecosystem Services in the Amazon

Source: Glenn Hyman by way of Kate Lance

Amazon Initiative officially launched Mapaz, server maps for analysis of ecosystem services in the Amazon <http://wiki-ia.wikispaces.com/MAPAZ++Principal>. On July 19 took place the presentation and discussion open to the general public of Mapaz - Mapping Environment and Population for Sustainable Amazon, through the creation of a virtual event over the Amazon Dialogues Series. Mapaz was developed under the Consortium International Amazon Initiative (AI), through a proposal by the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF, <http://www.icraf-la.org>), in collaboration with the



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International Center for Tropical Farmer (in Spanish CIAT, <http://www.ciat.cgiar.org>) and the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR <http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/>), funded by the Institutional Development Fund of World Bank through the project "Strengthening the Amazon Initiative Consortium for the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources." The system provides tools for geospatial analysis and creates reference scenarios quickly and easily in areas of municipalities, departments and countries, or even a piece of land bounded by the user. His concept is related to the context of REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation), as is the case with PES (Payment for Environmental Services), with the aim of contributing to the mitigation of climate change and the involvement of rural communities in the Amazon region. The main event aimed to discuss practical usefulness with current and potential users that can be inserted in decisions making, scientific research, project design and management, academic activities, among others. The AI map server is a tool in the toolkit that the organization has developed in recent years, under the leadership of ICRAF. For example, the July 19 presentation took place on the Internet through a system where people could see and interact with presenters no matter which country of the Amazon or the world they were at.

[I3N Begins Distribution of New Invasive Species Database](#)

Source: Access Newsletter Spring 2011



The Invasives Information Network (I3N) of the Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN) creates and makes freely available tools for invasive species information management in English, Spanish, and Portuguese. Both the I3N Database and Web templates are now freely available with associated standards and instruction manuals by visiting the I3N web site at <http://i3n.iabin.net>. IABIN recently held a meeting of its Executive Committee and network leads in Costa Rica. Country representatives and NGOs from throughout the Americas reviewed the progress of the network, discussed the future of IABIN, and set goals for fundraising and technical integration. The Executive Committee also decided upon a final spending and implementation plan for the few months remaining in the Global Environment Facility project currently providing base funding for IABIN activities. USGS, which has held the Chair of IABIN since the network's inception over 10 years ago, informed attendees that, in the interest of fostering new leadership for IABIN, it will step down from its role as Chair following a new election among all 34 IABIN member countries later this year. USGS plans to remain involved in IABIN as the U.S. Focal Point and continue involvement in IABIN's Invasive Species and Pollinators-focused activities and continue leading development of the IABIN Catalog, IABIN's search engine. Based upon feedback received during the meeting, USGS also recently completed an improved version of the Catalog. Based on the same Vivisimo technology underpinning Raptor, the NBII search engine, the new tool integrates a trilingual version of the NBII Biocomplexity, Thesaurus translated with IABIN funds, and will provide access to thousands of resources throughout IABIN's many Web sites and projects. For additional information, please contact Ben Wheeler at bwheeler@usgs.gov. More information in [Access Newsletter Spring 2011](#)

[UNITAR/UNOSAT and Google aim to provide map data for improved disaster and humanitarian response](#)

Source: <http://www.unitar.org/>



After years of successful collaboration, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research Operational Satellite Applications Programme ([UNITAR/UNOSAT](#)) and Google have strengthened their collaboration by signing an agreement that will give the crisis response and humanitarian community increased access to Google Map Maker source data for use in more than 150 countries around the world. Under this agreement

UNITAR/UNOSAT will act as a conduit within the United Nations family and its Member States to make Google Map Maker data more widely and easily available to aid organizations in the event of major disasters and for humanitarian efforts. Government and United Nations agencies will be able to contact UNOSAT/UNITAR (e-mail: unosat@unitar.org) for consideration as potential licensees of the Google Map Maker data, for their disaster response, humanitarian and development projects. This agreement builds on dozens of previous joint mapping efforts between UNITAR/UNOSAT and Google, such as the ones that were coordinated for Pakistan, Sudan, and West Africa.

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Training and Funding Opportunities, Awards

International Autumn School on 3d Imaging Technologies

Source: Ludo Engelen by way of Santiago Borrero



The INIT International Autumn School 2011 is organized by the Institute of New Imaging Technologies (INIT) of the University Jaume I of Castellón, Spain, and co-sponsored by the Spanish Association of Pattern Recognition and Image Analysis (in Spanish AERFAI) and the Spanish Section of Eurographics. The focus of this year Autumn School is to study the most relevant approaches to 3D Imaging Technologies and discover new challenges and trends for this scientific area. This event is open to any researcher or PhD-student who is interested in learning or refreshing their knowledge about the most successful approaches in the fields of 3D data modelling, processing and visualization, GPU computation, digital holography, auto-stereoscopic displays, human 3D vision, among others. The Autumn School 2011 is organized as a five-days intensive course to be held October 3-7 in Benicàssim (Spain). Leading experts in the field shall present each tutorial, followed by a practice session with demos and/or specific software in order for participants to gain a better understanding of the theory. A non-formal poster session will also be organized for the participants to present their current research and interact with their scientific peers. Detailed information may be found at: <http://www.init.uji.es/school2011>. Contact: info@init.uji.es

Fully Funded Ocean Affairs Research Fellowship (UN-Nippon Fellowship) Call for Applications

Source: Carib-coral-reefs list



Oceans and Law of the Sea

Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

The United Nations -Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellowship Programme- is a fully funded research fellowship for developing State ocean professionals. The main objective of the fellowship is to provide advanced education and training in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea, and related disciplines, to government officials and other mid-level professionals from developing States. We are pleased to note that during the last seven years, 70 awards have been made to nationals of 55 States. Successful candidates will undertake their research/studies in two back-to-back phases: the first, lasting six months, with a participating academic host institution; and the second, lasting three months, with the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS), United Nations Office of Legal Affairs, or an appropriate participating host institution. The Fellowship application deadline is **15 September 2011**, and candidates should forward their applications directly to DOALOS. Successful candidates will be expected to begin their placements early in 2012. Additional information, including the application package, detailed application instructions, and a list of participating host institutions, is available on the fellowship website: www.un.org/depts/los/nippon

Lincoln Institute of Land Policy - Professional Development Course on Methods of Analysis Applied to Land Markets in Latin America

Source: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy - Program on Latin America and the Caribbean

Professional Development Course on Methods of Analysis Applied to Land Markets in Latin America, will be held in Montevideo, Uruguay, 10 to 14 October, 2011 (Monday to Friday). This course is designed to familiarize researchers

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and people working in the field of land policy with the existing quantitative methods and the type of information required and/or for the taking of decisions in this field. In the course are ideal tools for mapping and analyzing the information of the land market in Latin America and its usefulness. At the end of the course students will have more tools to be part of research teams and participate in consulting for government agencies and international institutions on issues of urban land. The deadline to apply is until **August 15, 2011**. For more information, visit the course through the following link: [Professional Development Course on Methods of Analysis Applied to Land Markets in Latin America](#)

For inquiries and further information, please contact:

- Course content: [Ciro Biderman \(biderman@mit.edu\)](mailto:Ciro.Biderman@mit.edu)
- Application process: [Marielos Marín \(marielosmarin@yahoo.com\)](mailto:marielosmarin@yahoo.com)
- Logistics in Montevideo, Uruguay: [Rosario Casanova \(rosario.casanova@gmail.com\)](mailto:rosario.casanova@gmail.com)

e-Learning for the Open Geospatial Community

Source: Suchith Anand by way of Santiago Borrero

We are pleased to inform that the course repository for the ELOGeo (An e-Learning Framework for Using Geospatial Open Data, Open Source and Open Standards) project is ready at <http://elogeo.nottingham.ac.uk/xmlui>.

ELOGeo is a JISC-funded project based at the Centre for Geospatial Science, the University of

Nottingham in partnership with the Mimas Centre of Excellence at the University of Manchester. ELOGeo main collaborators are Open Source Geospatial Foundation, Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC), Ordnance Survey, Open Nottingham, International Cartographic Association (ICA) and gvSIG Association. More details of ELOGeo at <http://elogeo.nottingham.ac.uk/index.html>. Over the next few months we will be adding many course materials and other resources to the repository for the benefit of the wider community. The learning material preparation guidelines are available at the ELOGeo site. The International Cartographic Association (ICA) Commission on Open Source Geospatial Technologies (<http://ica-opensource.scg.ulaval.ca/>) strongly supports ELOGeo initiative as part of its education and training agenda and we welcome contributions from all interested for this. We look forward for your support and active participation for this initiative.

<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/~lgzwww/contacts/staffPages/SuchithAnand/Suchith%20Anand.htm>

<http://www.opensourcegis.org.uk/>



United Nations/Vietnam Workshop on Space Technology Applications for Socio-Economic Benefits

Source: UN Office for Outer Space Affairs by way of Santiago Borrero

Deadline for applications is **August 15, 2011**. The overall objective of the Workshop is to increase awareness among policy makers and planners on the benefits of utilizing space technology for socio-economic benefits. The Workshop will contribute to international cooperation by providing opportunities to exchange in-depth information on Space Technology Applications for Socio-Economic Benefits. The Workshop will be held in Hanoi, Vietnam, from 10 to 14 October 2011, and will be hosted by the Vietnam Academy of Science & Technology (VAST) on behalf of the Government of Vietnam. The first Workshop was held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 14 to 17 September 2010. Background information and the report containing the recommendations that emanated from this event are available at <http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/spaceworkshop>. The working language of the Workshop will be English. Within the limited financial resources available, a number of selected participants will be offered financial support to attend the Workshop. This financial support will defray the cost of travel (a round trip ticket –most economic fare– between the airport of international departure in their home country and Hanoi, Vietnam) and/or room and board expenses during the duration of the Workshop. For detailed information on the program and application please log on [here](#). The completed application form, properly endorsed by applicant's government/institution, should be mailed to: Office for Outer Space Affairs, United Nations Office at Vienna, Vienna International Centre, P.O. Box 500, A-1400 Vienna, Austria, Phone: (+43 1) 26060- 4948, E-mail: unpsa@unvienna.org no later than **15 August 2010**.

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Employment Opportunities

Position Announcement: ESRI Ocean GIS Engineer

Source: Dawn Wright



This is a great opportunity to work on ocean GIS and seafloor mapping projects as part of ESRI's new ocean- and coastal-themed initiative. General: Work closely with ESRI's Chief Scientist (<http://bit.ly/kajHZO>) to develop application prototypes, tools, and appropriate data models, templates, datasets, and documentation. In this

role, you will also work closely when appropriate with the Maritime Professional Services Team, the Marine and Coast Industry Marketing Team and the Applications Prototype Lab. Reference Code: AE/HP/JO/0001 / Apply online at <http://bit.ly/iv3URI> / Employment Fraction: Full-time with full and generous benefits package Work / Location: Esri Headquarters, Redlands, CA, USA.

Social Science Geospatial Scientist

Source: Christopher F.G. Jeffrey by way of Mario Cardozo

Job Location: Silver Spring, MD; Start Date: September 1, 2011; where to Apply: <https://jobs-consolidatedsafety.icims.com/jobs/1287/login>. The Center for Coastal Monitoring and Assessment (CCMA), Biogeography Branch is seeking a person with academic training in human/social geography, sociology, anthropology, social-spatial statistics or similar discipline for a one-year, full-time contract position. The successful candidate will work on a research project investigating community aspects of well-being associated with coastal ecosystem health and the provision of ecosystem services, as well as support other projects on a variety of topics within the Biogeography Branch. The position will have the following core responsibilities: Provide GIS, statistical, and analytical support to projects; Evaluate spatial and tabular social science data and integrate into GIS; Evaluate and statistically analyze social science data, and create GIS maps to visualize results; Assist with preparation of reports and journal articles describing the results of analyses; Work with data and web managers to integrate datasets, maps, and analytical products into dynamic websites and online mapping tools; Assist with other project-related tasks and duties as needed. Preferred Qualifications include: Experience with the spatial modeling of human well-being and/or human use, values, and preferences related to natural resources; Experience conducting spatial analysis and mapping using existing, secondary datasets, such as the American Community Survey and decennial Census.

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Other

FAO Workshop Gender-Equitable Governance of Land Tenure

Source: FIG e-Newsletter July 2011

20 specialists were invited to the FAO Workshop which took place on last May in Rome. The purpose of the Workshop was to bring together land sector professionals from government, civil society and the private sector to share their experiences of practical approaches to improving gender-equitability in governance of land tenure. The participants defined that gender is a socially and politically constructed identity which is broader and more differentiated than just men and women. Recommendations were identified and are available at: http://fig.net/news/news_2011/fao_may_2011.htm



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Americas: Conferences, SDI Events

[Third SIRGAS School and Meeting 2011](#)

Source: <http://www.sirgas.org/>

The SIRGAS Meeting 2011 will take place in Heredia, Costa Rica, from 8 to 10 August, 2011. In this opportunity, the SIRGAS meeting is hosted by the Escuela de Topografía, Catastro y Geodesia of the Universidad Nacional (ETCG-UNA). A new version of the SIRGAS School on Reference Systems will take place during August 3 -5, 2011, in Heredia, Costa Rica, with the logistical support of ETCG-UNA and the sponsorship of the International Association of Geodesy (IAG) and the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH).

[GEOBIA 2012: Geographic Object-Based Image Analysis](#)

Source: <http://www.inpe.br/geobia2012/>

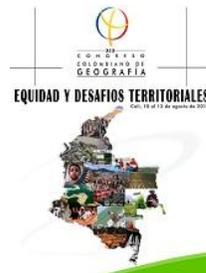


GEOBIA 2012, that will take place on May 7-9 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, will be the fourth international conference on Geographic Object-Based Image Analysis. Following the successful meetings held in Salzburg, Austria (2006); Calgary, Canada (2008); and Ghent, Belgium (2010), the biannual international conference on GEOBIA will reach South America, demonstrating the world-wide interest in the development of a set of concepts, methods and applications related to this emerging field. GEOBIA 2012 will be a forum of excellence where a selected group of researchers, students and users will present their findings and latest results. Invited keynote speakers will further highlight GEOBIA's key theoretical and methodological issues, trends and challenges. E-mail: geobia2012@dpi.inpe.br

[XIX Colombian Congress of Geography](#)

Source: XIX CCG Communications and Publicity Committee

The Colombian Association of Geographers (in Spanish ACOG) and the Department of Geography of the Colombian University del Valle convene the XIX Congress of Geography to be held on August 10-13, 2011 in the city of Cali, Colombia,. Under the theme "Equity and regional challenges" it has as main objective to discuss the territorial reality and respective territorial processes' construction. There have been many proposals for papers and posters for each of the



six themes proposed for the event. The general program of the Congress is available on the website under the tab "general schedule" www.xixccg.com.

Contact:

19congresogeografia@gmail.com;
www.facebook.com/congresocolombiano.degeografia

[II National Gathering of Geography Students](#)

Source: ENEG 2011 Organizing Team

Since last meeting of Latin American Geography Students held in Quito in 2010, students engaged in geography and related fields sought to give continuity to these National Meetings. They proposed a geography that is responding to the country's problems and research projects in the same fields. For this reason at the National Geography Students pre-meeting held on May 23-24, 2011 at the University Externado of Colombia, they built the themes and objectives of the proposed Second National Meeting of Geography Students that will take place in Pasto, Colombia on October 24-28 this year. Organizers call to join this initiative and to participate by attending the event and sending paper abstracts aimed at developing the state of the art of geography and its alternate construction. Deadline for abstracts is **August 31, 2011**. For more information, abstract and paper submission please contact pastoeneg2011@gmail.com and log on to www.enegpasto2011.tk



[CARILEC 2011](#)

Source: <http://caribbean-gis.blogspot.com/>

The Caribbean Electric Utility Service Corporation ([CARILEC](#)) 2011 GIS Symposium will be held on November 2-4, 2011 in Providenciales, Turks & Caicos Islands. The deadline for abstracts is **22 August 2011**. For further details contact the CARILEC Training Department (slprimus@carilec.org) in Saint Lucia.

[National Congress of Geography and Geography Week #72](#)

Source: <http://www.ign.gov.ar/>
The Argentina Society of Geographical Studies calls for



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participation to these events that will take place in the city of Mar del Plata, Argentina on October 7-10, 2011. The Congress theme is: Coastal Zone Development - Issues, Opportunities and Challenges. The venue is the *Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina* (Mar del

Plata, Province of Buenos Aires). Deadline for abstract submission: **August 15**. For more information please visit: www.gaea.org.ar. Contact: informes@gaea.org.ar

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AUGUST 2011

2-4 *NEW*	São Paulo SP, Brazil	19th Photoimage Brazil 2011
4 *NEW*	Des Plaines, IL USA	URISA Cartography Workshop
4 *NEW*	Denver CO, USA	Open Source URISA Workshop
3-10	Heredia, Costa Rica	SIRGAS Meeting 2011
7-12	Rio de Janeiro RJ, Brazil	International Conference on Atmospheric Electricity More at: http://www.icae2011.net.br/
8-10 *NEW*	Heredia, Costa Rica	Third SIRGAS School and Meeting 2011
10 *NEW*	Brasília DF, Brazil	Brazilian Conference IDC 2011: The Information Technology (IT) and Telecommunications in the World Cup and the Olympics
10-12	Burnaby, Canada	WG IV/5 2nd International Workshop on Pervasive Web Mapping, Geoprocessing and Services, in Conjunction with 4th ICA Workshop on Geospatial Analysis and Modeling (ICA GAM 2011)
10-12	Seattle WA, USA	5th Annual HAZUS Conference
10-13 *NEW*	Cali, Colombia	XIX Colombian Congress of Geography Contact: 19congresogeografia@gmail.com
11 *NEW*	On line USA - Canada	Data Quality Control and ArcGIS Server Cache Creation
10-13	Cali, Colombia	XIX Colombian Congress of Geography Contact: 19CongresoGeografia@gmail.com
11-12	Bogota, Colombia	Geomatics Week
15-17	La Havana, Cuba	Course on Prevention and Preparedness for Emergencies and Disasters at the Primary Level of Health
15-18	New Orleans LA, USA	URISA/NENA Addressing Conference
16-18	São Paulo SP, Brazil	International Image Trade Fair
16-18 *NEW*	São Paulo SP, Brazil	19^a Photoimage Brazil 2011
17-18 *NEW*	Mexico City, Mexico	Applied GIS to Optimizing Processes of Cadastre Registry, Public Registry, Survey and Limits
17-19	Rio de Janeiro RJ, Brazil	Latin American Geospatial Forum
21-24	Curitiba PR, Brazil	XXV Brazilian Cartographic Congress III Brazilian Geoprocessing Congress I Brazilian Geointelligence Congress XXIV Expositarta
22	Chicago IL, USA	Call for Papers: CFP: The Second ACM SIGSPATIAL International Workshop on GeoStreaming (IWGS 2011)
23-25	Panama City, Panama	Expo Geomática 2011
24-26	Minneapolis, MN, USA	12th International Symposium on Spatial and Temporal Databases
25-26	Bogotá, Colombia	ESRI's Colombian User's Conference
27 *NEW*	Brasília DF, Brazil	16th Edted Meeting on Digital Design and Technology
29-31	Calgary, Canada	WG V/3 Laser Scanning 2011
30-31	Sao Paulo SP, Brazil	ESRI's Brazilian User's Conference
Aug 31-Sep 1	Broomfield CO, USA	5th Annual GeoGathering Conference

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Aug 31-Sep 1 *NEW*	Denver CO, USA	24th Annual GIS in the Rockies Conference
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SEPTEMBER 2011

7-9	Washington DC, USA	ESRI Health GIS Conference
7-9 *NEW*	Mexico City, Mexico	SIGSA-ESRI users National meeting 2011
9-11	Denver CO, USA	State of the Map (SotM)
11-13 *NEW*	Rancho Las Palmas CA, USA	IMTA (Americas) Conference and Member Showcase 2011
11-14	Santa Fe NM, USA	WG VIII/2 Symposium on "Advances in Geospatial Technologies for Health"
12-14 *NEW*	São Paulo SP, Brazil	Futurecom
12-14	Washington DC, USA	Indoor Location Symposium
12-16	Denver CO, USA	FOSS4G 2011
13-15	Herndon VA, USA	FOSE Institute Geospatial Summit
13-15	St. Petersburg FL, USA	GIS in Public Transportation Conference
15-16	Washington DC, USA	MAPublisher Training
16	Belfast ME, USA	Call for Papers: 10th International Conference on Spatial Information Theory COSIT'11 Deadline: September 16th, 2011
17-20	Daytona Beach FL, USA	5th Annual Central Florida GIS Workshop
17-27	Chantilly VA, USA	2011 GXP User Conference Discover. Learn. Advance
19-23	Boulder CO, USA	OGC Technical and Planning Committee Meeting
20-21 *NEW*	Brasília DF, Brazil	IDC LA Infrastructure and Virtualization Roadshow
22-23	Santa Fe, Argentina	15th National Congress on Photogrammetry and Related Sciences
23	Boulder CO, USA	GEOSS Workshop XLIII – Climate
26-30	Mexico D.F., Mexico	Seminar on "Comparative History of Women in the Americas"
27-29 *NEW*	Rio de Janeiro RJ, Brazil	Rio Info 2011
28-30	San José, Costa Rica	18th ESRI's Latin-American Users Conference 2011
29-30	Columbus OH, USA	The Ohio GIS Conference

OCTOBER 2011

3-7	Morelia, Mexico	XIX National Meeting SELPER-Mexico / Contact: selper2011@ciga.unam.mx
3-4	Whistler BC, Canada	2011 GITA Pacific Northwest Chapter's 11th Annual Fall Conference
5-7 *NEW*	Santiago, Chile	2011 GEOSS in the Americas Symposium
6-27 *NEW*	New Brunswick NJ, EUA	ArcGIS: Introduction Series
7-10 *NEW*	City of Mar del Plata, Argentina	National Congress of Geography and Geography Week #72 Contact: informes@gaea.org.ar
9-11	San Francisco CA, USA	Android Open Conference
9-12	Columbia SC, USA	ESRI Electric and Gas User Conference
10-13	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Argentina Oil and Gas Expo 2011
11-13	San Diego CA, USA	CTIA Enterprise and Applications
12-13	Montreal, Canada	Geomatics 2011
12-14	Foz do Iguaçu PR, Brazil	3rd gvSIG Latin America and the Caribbean Conference: "We Share the Project"
12-14	Madison WI, USA	NACIS2011: Cartography and Information Design
13-14 *NEW*	San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina	VI IDERA Conference Email: contacto@idera.gob.ar
16-20	San Antonio TX, USA	GEOINT 2011
17-20	Ottawa, Ontario, Canada	GTEC - Ottawa - Canada's Government Technology Event
18-19 *NEW*	San Jose CA, USA	The 3rd Location Business Summit
18-20 *NEW*	Dallas TX, USA	Field Service Interactive
23-26 *NEW*	New Orleans LA, USA	Pictometry FutureView 2011

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24-27	Houston TX, USA	GITA's GIS for Oil and Gas Pipeline Conference
24-28	Pasto, Colombia	II National Gathering of Geography Students contact pastoeneg2011@gmail.com
NEW 24-28	Denver CO, USA	WCRP OSC Climate Research in Service to Society

NOVEMBER 2011

1-4	Chicago IL, USA	ACM SIGSPATIAL GIS 2011
1-4	Indianapolis IN, USA	GIS-Pro 2011: URISA's 49th Annual Conference for GIS Professionals
3-4	Seattle WA, USA	MAPublisher Training
7-12	Pará - Belém PA, Brazil	V International Symposium on Agricultural Geography and VI National Symposium on Agricultural Geography
8-11	Mar del Plata, Argentina	VIII Congress on Hydrocarbon Exploration and Development
8-11	Rio de Janeiro RJ, Brazil	1st Latin American Seminar of Geography and Gender: Space, Gender and Power / Pre-meeting of UGI Regional Conference
9-11	Villa de Merlo, Provincia de San Luis, Argentina	1st National Workshop on Digital Mapping
Nov. 10 – Dec 8	New Brunswick NJ, USA	ArcGIS: Editing & Data Development Series
NEW 13-16	Alta Gracia, Cordoba, Argentina	8th Conference on Remote Sensing Education in the Mercosur Area
14-17	Herndon VA, USA	Pecora18 - ASPRS Fall Conference
14-18	Santiago, Chile	UGI 2011 Regional Geographic Conference
15-16	Huntsville AL, USA	Rocket City Geospatial and Alabama GIS Conference 2011
16	Worldwide	GIS Day 2011 Discovering the World through GIS
NEW *NEW* 17-18	Rio de Janeiro, Brasil	CONIP 2011 - 17th Information Technology and Innovation in Public Management Congress
Nov. 28 – Dec. 10	La Havana, Cuba	Course: Psychosocial Attention in Disasters

DECEMBER 2011

Nov. 10 – Dec 8	New Brunswick NJ, USA	ArcGIS: Editing & Data Development Series
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JANUARY 2012

16-18	Los Angeles CA, USA	Eighth International Conference on Technology, Knowledge and Society
23-25	Denver CO, USA	International LiDAR Mapping Forum (ILMF)

APRIL 2012

19-21	Bahia Blanca, Argentina	IX National Conference on Physical Geography Contact: geografiafisica@uns.edu.ar
22-26	Kansas City MO, USA	MAGIC - 2012: Mid-America GIS Symposium

MAY 2012

7-9	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	GEOBIA 2012: Geographic Object-Based Image Analysis E-mail: geobia2012@dpi.inpe.br
NEW 8-10	New Orleans LA, USA	CTIA Wireless 2012
14-17	Quebec City, Canada	GSDI-13: Spatially Enabling Government, Industry and Citizens
TO BE DETERMINED	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	UN Conference on Sustainable Development (commonly called Earth Summit 2012) or 'Rio+20'

JULY 2012

7-12	San Diego CA, USA	The Survey Summit
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