

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

Beginning this month, we are introducing changes to SDI-LAC Newsletter particularly looking for geographically oriented information sections. For this purpose we are keeping, revising, and adding sections. Modified sections include the following: "SDI News, Links, Papers, Presentations" will now focus on the Global and Regional levels, and will include a subsection on the recently launched International Geospatial Society (IGS); a new section on the LAC region's "National SDIs" will spotlight related activities from national to local levels; the "Geospatial Research and Applications" section is now combined with "GIS Tools, Software, Data" and will include information at all geographical levels; likewise, sections on training and funding opportunities will now merge; and the "Conferences and SDI Events in the Americas" will increasingly reduce and focus on the LAC region. Finally, a slightly modified template is also offered. We hope you enjoy the above changes and continue contributing to SDI-LAC Newsletter!

Due to an increasing volume of information on events, the respective section will be restricted to those events taking place in the Americas. However, for "The Rest of the World: Conferences, SDI Events", please find a link to upcoming events of global or major international interest in GSDI webpage at: <http://www.gsdi.org/events/upcnf.asp>

We kindly inform that SDI-LAC Newsletter is taking correspondent members in each country of the LAC region. Next issues will include their contributions. If you would like to become a correspondent for your country please contact Nancy Aguirre cnaguirre@ipgh.org. In principle the only requirement is that you are an active member in the Spatial Data Infrastructure activities of your country.

If you have news or information related to GIS, remote sensing, and Spatial Data Infrastructure that you would like to highlight (e.g., projects, conferences, workshop announcements, publications, reports, websites of interest, etc.), kindly send them in. We would be happy to include them in the newsletter.

We also encourage you to send to the editor your comments and suggestions for the continuous improvement of SDI-LAC Newsletter. PLEASE share this newsletter with colleagues who may find the information useful, and ideally they will subscribe themselves.

Back issues of the newsletter are at the GSDI website: <http://www.gsdi.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

Thanks for their contributions to this SDI-LAC Newsletter issue to:

Mabel Alvarez	President International Geospatial Society (IGS), Argentina
Santiago Borrero	Secretary General, Pan-American Institute of Geography and History, PAIGH, Mexico
Arturo Brun-Martinez	Architect, Bogota, Colombia
Rinku R. Chowdhury	Department of Geography, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, USA
Ellen Hines	Associate Professor, Director, Marine & Coastal Conservation and Spatial Planning Center, Department of Geography and Human Environmental Studies, San Francisco State University, USA
Reinaldo P. Pérez	Profesor, Departamento de Geografía. Universidad de São Paulo, Brazil
Blanca R. Ramirez	Department of Theory and Analysis, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Xochimilco Unit, Mexico
Dee Dee Barton	Department Manager, Department of Geography and the Environment, University of Texas at Austin, USA

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GSDI-12 Conference

Geospatial community members of Latin America and the Caribbean region (LAC) are present at GSDI 12 Conference. This section highlights this year's contributions to this World event including keynote and technical presentations, all of them featuring relevant speakers. Below are listed some of these contributions:

Wednesday 20 October 2010

Spatially Enabling Society: Expanding Visions

Location: Theater, Level 3

[An Exemplar Regional Vision](#) (08:30-10:00 am)

[Santiago Borrero](#), Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) "At the global level but, particularly, in the case of the Developing Nations, the building of sound spatial data infrastructures is a prerequisite to attain the UN Millennium Development Goals. Beyond the current incorporation of technology and the production of digital data, spatial information should perform properly everywhere to support day-to-day citizenship growing needs."

Parallel Session 2.1 (1:00-2:30)

SDI Experiences: National

[Colombian Earth Observation Program and the Implications for the National Spatial Data Infrastructure: Technical and Political Challenges](#) (2.1c)

Lilia Patricia Arias and Ivan-Dario Gomez, Agustín Codazzi Geographic Institute (IGAC) (Colombia)

[Abstract](#): The Colombian government established two strategies to ensure the development and use of geospatial technologies: the Colombian Spatial Data

Infrastructure (ICDE) and the National Earth Observation Program (PNOT), which were approved by the President of the Republic and the Board of Ministers. On the one hand, the National Geospatial Information Policy (PNIG) (Conpes 3585, 2009) formulates the guidelines to strengthen production, sharing, access and use of geospatial information to consolidate ICDE as the mechanism to integrate policies, standards, organizations and technological resources to support decision making in all the topics of public policy. Bearing in mind that imagery is a fundamental dataset defined by ICDE, the PNIG established the consolidation of the National Repository of Imagery (BNI) to optimize the inversion of government in acquisition and use of remote sensing images. On the other hand, the Colombian Space Commission promotes the knowledge about the Earth and space through the use of satellite technologies and information with the aim of increasing productivity, efficiency and competitiveness of several sectors that request geospatial information to support sustainable development. In this context, the PNOT (Conpes 3683, 2010) sets up a long time strategy to implement and Earth Observation Satellite program and the consequent harmonization with ICDE policies and information management issues.

Parallel Session 3.1 (3:00 - 4:30)

SDI Experiences: National

[Measuring the Advancement of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure in the Americas \(2000-2008\)](#) (3.1c)



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Monica Duque (Ecuador), Jean Parcher (USA)

Abstract: The level of development of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) in countries within Central America, South America and the Caribbean varies widely. In 2000 the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure (GSDI) undertook a survey of national and region Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) around the globe, which included 21 responses from the Americas. The results summarized the types of institutions currently leading the NSDI efforts, the existence of legislature to support a NSDI, and the geospatial data availability for each country. In 2008-2009 the Ecuadorian Center for Integrated Surveys of Natural Resources with Remote Sensing (in Spanish CLIRSEN) conducted a NSDI survey for each country within the Americas as a sub task of the Global Map of the Americas project. The survey was jointly funded from grants awarded by GSDI and the Pan American Institute of Geography and History. The major objectives of the survey were to assess the availability of geospatial information for each country, the level of development of SDI's for each country, determine the capacity building and technical transfer assistance needed to engage in the Global Map project and collection of geospatial data for each country, and gather information on applied use of small-scale data for the Americas. Overall 18 countries responded to the survey. This paper will compare the reported findings between the 2000 and 2008-2009 surveys and apply these data to measure the advancement of the NSDI in the Americas during the first decade of the 21st Century.

Thursday 21 October 2010

Parallel Session 6.1 (3:00 - 4:30)

SDI Capacity Building

Social Networks and Web 2.0 Tools as a Good Complement to the Local SDI's (6.1c)

Mabel Alvarez (Argentina), Tatiana Delgado Fernández, and Rafael Cruz Iglesias (Cuba)

Abstract: Social networks and Web 2.0 tools for different purposes have advanced significantly in recent years. The Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDI's) are not easily understood as the infrastructure of gas, water or roads. This fact makes their benefits are not always seen by policy makers and citizens in some places, mainly in local environments. Consequently, available resources, experiences gained and lessons learned in the Spatial Data Infrastructure field, are not taken into account or undervalued. The use of Web 2.0 tools and social networks can be of effective help for the understanding of the SDI's and its implementation process, particularly in local environments. This paper

describes experiences in Cuba with respect to local SDI's and applications of the Web 2.0 tools and social networks in local, national and transnational contexts. The local SDI's experiences in Cuba have taken place after the implementation of the National SDI in the country. The experiences in social networks and Web 2.0 tools have been implemented for the purpose of information dissemination, training or knowledge management in the context of initiatives or research projects and applied to the Geospatial Information or other issues. The paper concludes with some considerations concerning local Spatial Data Infrastructures and its benefits, steps for implementation and support that Web 2.0 tools and social networks can offer to this end [The complete paper may be found at: <http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsd12/papers/117.pdf>]

Friday 22 October 2010

Parallel Session 7.3 (08:30-10:00)

Participatory Initiatives

Training in Web 2.0 Tools: Bringing Spatial Data Infrastructures to People

Mabel Alvarez, Domingo Gallego Gil, Marta Isabel Dans, Zulema Beatriz Rosanigo, Karina Cela, Jorge Valdivia Guzmán, Nibaldo Gatica Zapata, and Lara Anabel López Alvarez

Abstract: The fast evolution of the Internet and the Information and Communication Technologies is highly superior to the ability of the people to get used to it and to understand it. Many people, such as professionals, technicians and members of the society in general, may have a very valuable knowledge, but it remains hidden. The use of the Internet and the Web 2.0 tools is still an obstacle. To think about the Internet as a tool for seeking information, but not as a Web 2.0 environment with interaction, is a handicap of many people. This situation can be seen in many environments, including the Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDI) and related issues, taking into account the fact that the whole society is participating in the SDI when it is considered in a wide sense. Therefore, the situation mentioned above was considered to develop a Project, including researchers from: Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED) from Spain, the Universidad Nacional de la Patagonia San Juan Bosco (UNPSJB) from Argentina, the Universidad de Concepción (UdC) from Chile and the Escuela Politécnica del Ejército (ESPE) from Ecuador. This Project is titled: "Training and Knowledge Management with Web 2.0 tools for University Teaching, Administrative and Educative Management and Continuing Professional Development in Argentina,

Chile and Ecuador” . This project is currently in the implementation phase. The paper has five sections. The first one describes the identified problem. The second one, the lines of action of the project. The third one, the project’s general tasks and, particularly, the training program using online courses and video-conferences (these ones mainly oriented to SDI). The fourth one, the specific characteristics of those tasks and the results obtained until the present, and the fifth and last one is centered in some final considerations about the current project.

Parallel Session 7.4 (08:30-10:00)

Standards and Interoperability

Elaboration of National Standards for Geospatial Information Management. A Contribution to the Development of the Chilean SDI (7.4b)

Alvaro Monett, María Loreto Advis, María Viviana Barrientos, Presenter: Colonel Juan Vidal García-Huidobro (Chile)

Abstract: This paper reports on the progress of a national project for the development of 19 Chilean standards for geospatial information based on the family of ISO 19100 standards. It corresponds to an associative project, which involves a group of institutions closely related to geospatial information production in the country, led by the national agency of standardization. The main objective of the project is to enable interoperability of geospatial information between different agencies producers, users and developers of geographic information, facilitating decision making in the field of natural resources, territorial policies and the efficient use of State resources [The complete paper may be found at: <http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsdi12/papers/145.pdf>]

Parallel Session 8.2 (10:30 - 12:00)

SDI Applications: Crisis Situations

Cartographic Services Provided in the Response to the Great Earthquake of February 2010 in Chile (8.2a)

Juan Vidal, Edwin Hunt (Chile)

Abstract: This paper describes the way in which cartographic services supported the emergency response after the major earthquake of February 2010 in Chile. On the 27th of February 2010 there was an earthquake of 8.8 degrees on the Richter scale with its epicenter at Cobquecura, on the coast of central Chile. It caused severe damage in all the cities and populated areas around it. It also triggered several

tsunami waves that affected most of the ports, resorts and populated areas along the coast of central Chile. The consequences range from more than 400 fatalities to a series of serious damage to the public and private infrastructure of the country, given that the area declared as ‘zone of catastrophe’ includes a large part of the most densely populated areas of Chile, with a significant concentration of economic activity. The emergency support began immediately. From the beginning, the authorities saw the need for cartographic material as an aid. The Military Geographic Institute of Chile (IGM), as the official authority responsible for the cartography portraying this country, has acted to provide this material as a matter of urgency. The IGM has worked in conjunction with several other bodies, most particularly the Army and the National Emergencies Office of the Interior Ministry (in Spanish ONEMI). In the first few weeks, two groups of professional staff from the IGM moved to and worked at Army bases in the field, one in Concepcion and the other in Talca, in order to provide maps in the field, responding to the immediate needs of the organisations working in the catastrophe zone. The field teams, using as a base resource the cartography of the IGM, provided material intended for use in (i) recovering control, order and security in the zone (ii) getting basic services (water, electricity, etc.) to work again (iii) putting the logistics network (roads, bridges, etc.) back into usable condition, and (iv) delimiting danger sites (for example, by risk of collapse). Currently the IGM continues to provide information and special services, now incorporating satellite images, aimed at the reconstruction activities. The cartographic material and services have been successfully used by units and organisations in their operations, thus demonstrating how inter-institutional cooperation in matters involving geo-spatial information can work in emergency mode, in parallel with the normal workings of the national spatial data infrastructure. Chilean institutions in Chile have the capacity to respond to disasters of great magnitude. Nevertheless, the experience has demonstrated that the resources available for dealing with these situations need to be improved, in particular, the material designed for operations in the field should exist already, instead of being set up during the days following the disaster [The complete paper is found at: <http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsdi12/papers/158.pdf>]

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Global and Regional SDI, News, Presentations

GSDI is pleased to announce its Small Grants Program for the year 2010-2011.



GSDI
Global Spatial Data
Infrastructure Association



Summary

- Awards for spatial data infrastructure or Earth Observations Systems (EOS)-related activities in economically disadvantaged nations
- Application deadline of **31 October 2010**
- 4,000 words maximum
- Awards of \$2,500 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 ultimately will appear seamless to all users. The GSDI Association supports the work of organizations to develop their own 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).

Description

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 regional SDI initiatives referred to as permanent committees: -

- Africa: United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Committee on Development Information: Geo Subcommittee (CODI-GEO)
- Americas: Pan-American Institute for Geography and History (PAIGH)
- Asia and Pacific: Permanent Committee for Geographic Information for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP) (ex-officio)
- 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 Infrastructure 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. These resources will be used to offer two types of grants this year: -

- Cash up to 2,500 USD -
- Professional Services up to the value of 2,500 USD

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GIS Professionals Volunteering for a Better World

Professional Services will be coordinated by the GISCorps, an international initiative that offers volunteer GIS services (www.GISCorps.org). 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. 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
- Establishing web mapping services and applications
- Accomplishing Geodata and/or SDI surveys or inventories
- Producing and disseminating newsletters and awareness-raising materials about SDI
- Drafting policy and legislation related to SDI

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. Summary of Deliverables
7. Period of Performance (time-line for overall project, deadline dates for deliverables, date of final project report to be submitted to grants@godi.org)
8. Indicate your preference for an award of cash or professional services
9. Budget (itemize how the money is to be spent or the predicated extent of services needed for specific tasks)
10. Details of additional or in-kind funds to co-finance the activity
11. List of Collaborators (with contact information)
12. Envisioned Follow-up Activities
13. Appendix: May include the Final Reports from any previous GSDI Small Grant Awards

Proposals must be submitted digitally to grants@godi.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 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 US Banks or as wire transfers. If the recipient chooses to receive a paper check, up to \$100 US 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 US 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

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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** 2010.

Please e-mail them to: Societal Impacts Committee, GSDI Association, grants@godi.org

For more information about the GSDI or to subscribe to the GSDI News List, please see <http://www.godi.org>. For questions about this request for proposals, please contact grants@godi.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 US\$100 or documented in-kind contributions in lieu of dues. Please see <http://www.godi.org/joinGSDI>

MOP Chile publishes its first web map service via the GeoSUR Portal



Source: <http://www.geosur.info/>

The Roads Division of Chile's Ministry of Public Works (MOP) published its first web map service with detailed geographic information on the Chilean Road Network. The service contains a great variety of digital maps of Chile, including information on roads, hydrography, urban areas, cities, towns and administrative boundaries. The service has been developed by MOP's staff with internal funding and resources. The system can be consulted on <http://geoportal.mop.gov.cl/vialidad/> or via the GeoSUR Portal at www.geosur.info

State of progress for the Americas SALB project

Source: SALB Newsletter, September 2010, Vol. X No. 3

Three maps represent the state of progress of the SALB project (Second Administrative Level Boundaries) for the countries covered by the project in the Americas in regards to the National Mapping Agencies (NMA) contact information, historic changes, and GIS format maps. The full size version of these maps can be downloaded from the project overview page of the SALB web site (<http://www.unsalb.org>). Please look at the project overview page on the SALB website for more information about the process followed in the SALB project. You can also consult the "Help us" section in the September 2010, Vol. X No. 3 Newsletter for more details about the information needed in order to complete the coverage of the SALB data set in the Americas.



[GEO selects Portal and Clearinghouse for accessing GEOSS](#)

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



The selection process established to identify single providers for the GEO Web Portal and the GEOSS Clearinghouse has now been completed. The Executive Committee has recognized the US Geological Survey (USGS) as the GEOSS Clearinghouse provider and the European Space Agency/UN Food and Agriculture Organization (ESA/FAO) as the GEO Web Portal provider. All of the contributors to the development phase of the GEOSS Common Infrastructure are thanked for their vital support and invited to remain involved in its ongoing development. To visit the GEO Portal, click [here](#).

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[UNSDI Focal Points endorse the Project Proposal for the Center of Excellence for UNSDI](#)

Source: <http://www.unsdi.nl/>

On 9 April 2010 at a conference call of UNSDI Focal Points, the Project Proposal for the Center of Excellence for UNSDI drafted by the Office of the CITO for UNGIWG was endorsed in principle by representatives from many organizations with only one representative of the UNGIWG members present opposing the Proposal. As the author of the Project Proposal, the office of the ASG/CITO abstained. After the suggested revisions are completed, Chairs will seek UNGIWG Principals' endorsement of the Project Proposal for the Center of Excellence for UNSDI along with the ToR for the UNSDI Steering Committee and the Technical Advisory Body. Conference call participants also decided to establish an UNGIWG Task Force to work on the updated UNSDI Framework for presentation to the Interim UNSDI Steering Committee to be established before UNGIWG-11.

[OGC launches Iberian and Latin American Forum \(OGC ILAFA\)](#)

Source: <http://external.opengeospatial.org/>



The OGC Iberian and Latin American Forum (OGC ILAFA) seeks to cover the Spanish and Portuguese-speaking community interested in OGC developments and objectives. It covers both OGC members and those who, without being, do share interests with these developments and objectives. OGC ILAFA is postulated as:

- A coordination and communication mechanism with OGC on interoperability requirements and for participation in standardization processes.
- A way for OGC to meet the needs, and to canalize dialogue and training in the Hispanic and Portuguese community.
- A voice before the European Forum for OGC to coordinate issues of interest within the European framework related to OGC international processes.

For detailed information about this forum see: [Charter adopted by OGC during summer 2010](#).

[\(Iberian and Latin-American Forum \(ILAFA\) Charter\)](#)

Call for Participation: 6th International Conference of Critical Geography 2011

Source: Blanca Rebeca Ramirez by way of Santiago Borrero

The 6th International Conference of Critical Geography will be held in Frankfurt, Germany, 16-20 August 2011. Following very successful conferences at Vancouver (1997), Taegu (2000), Békéscsaba (2002), Mexico City (2005) and Mumbai (2007), we will be meeting at Goethe University Frankfurt to discuss "Crises – Causes, Dimensions, Reactions". The focus will be on critical and emancipatory discussion aimed at radical explanation and change, organized in (but not limited to) eleven themes (see below). The format is designed to enhance debate beyond the confines of national traditions and academic hierarchies. While the primary conference language will be English, we will explore creative ways to deal with the multiplicity of languages. In addition, Theme 9 will address language concerns and Theme 11 will be presented in German. The website for the conference can be found at: <http://www.iccg2011.org>. For further information about the conference or to register your interest in attending, please contact Beth DeVolder bethbickle@hotmail.com or Levi Gahman levi.gahman@ubc.ca.

[ISRSE 34th International Symposium](#)

Source: <http://www.unsdi.nl/>



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Entitled “The GEOSS Era: Towards Operational Environmental Monitoring”, the 34th International Symposium for Remote Sensing of the Environment (ISRSE) will take place on April 10-15, 2011 in Sydney, Australia. ISRSE will provide a forum for programmatic discussions on remote sensing components of GEOSS. Abstract submission for the symposium is now open. For more information, visit www.isrse34.org

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IGS News, Links, Publications

International Geospatial Society Inaugural Meeting and Round Table in the GSDI 12 World Conference

Source: Mabel Alvarez



The International Geospatial Society (IGS) is the individual member arm of the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association (GSDI). Its goal is to engage and enhance communications internationally among individuals that are actively involved in promoting, developing, or advancing spatial data infrastructure and affiliated concepts. The International Geospatial Society and the GSDI Association as a whole provide a global venue for networking, communicating and learning among members. The organizations are highly inclusive providing contacts and communication avenues to diverse parties from across the world. The GSDI 12 World Conference will take place in the garden city of Singapore from 19 to 22 October 2010 and the theme for this conference is “Implementing Spatially Enabled Societies”. This conference will explore the complementary roles of government, private industry and the academic community. The purpose is to discover the best ways to exchange geographic data, technologies and location-based services to meet the real world needs. The Program of the GSDI 12 World Conference includes the following two specific activities for IGS:

- **Monday October 18: IGS Inaugural Meeting** (Room 304; 3:00-4:30)
Purpose: First face-to-face business meeting of the International Geospatial Society.
Participants: All members, GSDI staff and explicitly invited guests.
Contact: Mabel Alvarez, President, IGS and David Coleman, President-Elect, GSDI Association.
- **Thursday October 21: International Geospatial Society Round Table**
(Parallel Session 4.5; Room 306; 10:30-12:00)
Moderators: Mabel Alvarez, President and Lilia Patricia Arias, Vice-President, IGS

This roundtable is hosted by GSDI through the Geospatial Information Society (IGS) as the individual membership division, recently constituted to engage and enhance communications globally among individuals that are actively involved in promoting, developing, or advancing spatial data infrastructures and related subjects. The main issues about IGS goals will be presented. Organizers invite the geospatial community to suggest and discuss about the most important IGS strategies and projects to formulate the Work Plan as well as the mechanisms to increase participation, membership and communication. Applications for membership will be provided at the meeting for those who might be interested on contributing to the consolidation of IGS. All interested parties are invited to join and conclude about the future activities that will define the future of IGS as a representative of the geospatial community worldwide.

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

[CINDE Meeting](#)

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

Aimed at defining future activities of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure Committee (in Portuguese CINDE), and consequently of the INDE, two meetings were held on August 24 (in Brasilia) and 26 (in Rio de Janeiro). These meetings sought participation of people committed with the project progress, same as with first part of the committee's work (the plan drafting) where results were only achieved through participation.



[IBGE releases new radar images of the Amazon and Northeast](#)

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

From September 14, users of mapping services, mapping and evaluating natural resources will have new satellite images of the Amazon and the Northeast. The 2100 images available on the website of IBGE have resolution of 20 meters, are recent (obtained between April and September 2008) and went through orthorectification process (they had corrected strain relief and geographical coordinates included). The new orthorectified images covering 17 states, add a total area of over 6.3 million km², which corresponds to approximately 74% of the country. These can be accessed at the address <ftp://geofp.ibge.gov.br/Alos>.

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

[SNIT conducts workshops for professional training at the coordination bureau of the Metropolitan Region](#)

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

Under SNIT's Annual Executive Secretariat Training Activities to support regional coordinating bodies, from August 30 to September 6, 2010 two workshops were conducted involving professionals from various governmental agencies comprised by the SNIT Metropolitan Regional Bureau. During first workshop each institution published at least one information product inside the National Metadata Catalog. Second course focused on training attendees on the "Introductory Use and Management of the Geonode Portal"; this activity sought to allow participants publishing their mapping products using this tool developed by the Metropolitan Regional Government.



[SNIT Metropolitan Coordination and DIFROL reviewed mapping information](#)

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

Accomplishing second agreement of year 2010 business plan and as part of the SNIT's Metropolitan Regional Bureau activities, a meeting was held with participation of the National Directorate of State Borders and Boundaries (in Spanish DIFROL). This meeting's main objective was to understand and scale a DIFROL request for review and validation of map data covering all international borders that is intended for publishing by any means.

[First meeting of SNIT's Executive Board - Magellan Regional Government](#)

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

The meeting was attended by regional ministries and municipalities mayors, among others. SNIT's Executive Secretary, Christian Aqueveque, met with executive authorities of the Regional Government of Magallanes and Chilean Antarctica in order to report on efforts made at the central level for developing this area. In his presentation,

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Christian Aqueveque stressed the need to design a training program on Geographic Information Systems, "using existing internal capacities of the SNIT's Regional Technical Commission."

[ECUADORIAN GEOSPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE \(IN SPANISH IEDG\)](#)

[Ecuador Approves National Geospatial Information Policy](#)

Source: <http://www.geoportaligm.gov.ec>

According to the Official Gazette No. 269 of September 1, 2010, under Resolution 001 the National Council on Geoinformatics (in Spanish CONAGE) endorsed the National Geospatial Information Policy in order to "ensure the production, processing, availability, exchange, maintenance, dissemination and use of geospatial information created at the national level, to provide the general framework to encourage the creation, maintenance and administration of the Ecuadorian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (in Spanish IEDG), and strengthening the National System of Participatory Planning (in Spanish SNDPP). The National Geospatial Information Policy have a compulsory character for all public sector institutions, established by article 2251 of the Republic Constitution, and for private sector institutions producing geospatial information with state resources, in order to streamline the construction and development of IEDG." [See Official Register No. 269](#)

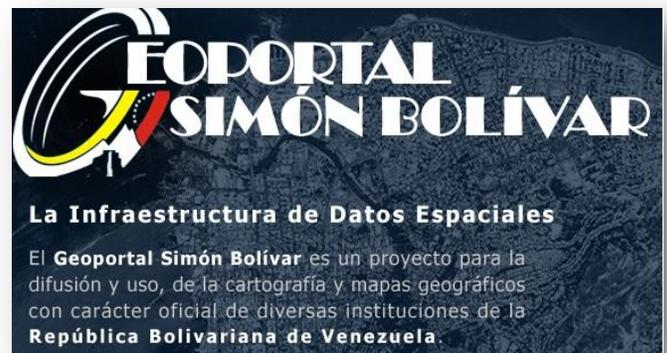


[SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE OF VENEZUELA \(IDEVEN\)](#)

[CNTI and Hidroven join to develop Spatial Data Infrastructure, Venezuela](#)

Source: <http://www.radiomundial.com.ve/>

HIDROVEN, Parent Company for Water Supply and Sanitation (Sector APS) and National Center of Information Technology (CNTI) of Venezuela, signed a Cooperation Framework Agreement to strengthen inter-agency governance through the development and implementation of the Spatial Data Infrastructure of Venezuela (IDEVEN). The IDEVEN project is in its second phase, where two nodes of geographic information with support of the Geographic Institute of Venezuela Simon Bolivar (in Spanish IGVSB) will be used in the National Geoportal, together with publication of self-instructional courses, important in the consolidation of the IDEVEN under free software, and to obtain the consultation and remote access to spatial information.



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Articles and Publications of the Month

Spatially Enabling Coastal Zone Management: Drivers, Design Elements, and Future Research Directions (paper submitted to GSDI-12 Conference)

By Rohan Bennett, Abbas Rajabifard, and Sheelan Vaez (Australia)

Abstract: This paper provides an insight to the drivers, design elements and issues associated with spatially enabling the management of coastal zones, in particular coastal property rights, restrictions and

responsibilities. Coastal zones are encumbered by hundreds of property rights, restrictions, and responsibilities. These are created to manage coastal population increases, climate change, and to deliver good governance. Currently, the interests are managed disparately across and between governments: sustainability requires these interests to be managed in an integrated fashion. Spatial enablement can deliver information integration and minimizes the need for

redesigning legal, institutional and administrative frameworks. This is recognized in international, regional, and national coastal forums. Emerging concepts including Marine Cadastres, Marine SDI, Seamless SDIs, and Property Objects will inform the solution, however, this paper suggests further research is required to fully understand the complete legal, administrative and technical arrangements in the coastal zone. Moreover, methods for streamlining the integration of property and non-property information are required, particularly the harmonization vertical datums. Finally, the feasibility of spatially enablement needs to be assessed [The complete paper may be accessed at: <http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsdi12/papers/14.pdf>]

Legal Interoperability in Support of Spatially Enabling Society

By Harlan Onsrud (USA)

Abstract: Spatial data is critically important for the wellbeing of society. Yet appropriate spatial data is often very difficult to find and, when found, the legal ability to use it is often in question. Lack of an operational web-wide capability allowing users to legally access and use the geospatial data of others without seeking permission on a case-by-case basis remains as an entrenched major impediment to general spatial enablement for all sectors in society. This chapter presents a legal interoperability vision for offering, acquiring, and using spatial data and proposes an operational environment for gaining much greater legal clarity and efficiency in wide scale sharing and licensing of such data [The complete paper is found at: <http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsdi12/papers/907.pdf>]

Volunteered Geographic Information in Spatial Data Infrastructure: An Early Look At Opportunities And Constraints (8.3b)

By David Coleman (Canada)

Abstract: Advances in personal positioning, Web mapping, cellular communications and wiki technologies have surpassed the original visions of the architects of spatial data infrastructure programs around the world. Using GPS-based cell phones and personal navigations systems, people now view their own position (and those of others) in real time on a backdrop of georeferenced maps and/or imagery. Similarly, they can share location information describing points of interest, places visited, recent construction, and corrections to out-of-date feature attributes. This capability to "view and provide contributions in context" is fundamental to the vision of a spatially enabled society. By tapping the distributed knowledge, personal time and energy of volunteer contributors, Geographic Information (GI) voluntarism

has the potential to relocate and redistribute selected GI productive activities from mapping agencies to networks of non-state volunteer actors. However, if we are to design strategies and systems to maximize its advantages and minimize the risks to authoritative mapping programs, we must have a clear understanding of the people and technologies involved. This chapter describes a program of research led by the author in examining the risks and opportunities created by the emergence of Volunteered Geographic Information (or VGI) as a viable means of updating and enriching authoritative geographic information databases maintained by public and private sector providers. After briefly summarizing early research into the nature and motivation of contributors, the author develops a framework to compare three very different programs driven by volunteered contributions in Australia, the United States, and internationally Geological Survey. Finally, the author describes early empirical accuracy testing results and important questions to be posed by authoritative data providers when considering VGI as a source of data updates. [The complete paper may be found at: <http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsdi12/papers/905.pdf>]

Availability of Geospatial Information for Research through Implementation of a SDI

By Eddy J. De la Cruz (paper presented at the session on Spatial Data Infrastructures, E-Cadastre of the "Applied Geoinformatics Conference for Society and Environment" (AGSE 2010), August, 3-6, 2010, Peru)

Abstract: (translation)

Demand for geospatial data is growing day by day and availability of reliable information is immersed in a literature search that is often tedious and not very satisfactory. A solution to spatial information publication is required to support or supplement different topics that are being worked at office. For this purpose Web Map Service (WMS), Catalog Web Service (CWS), and in some cases, Web Coverage Service (WCS) which is more raster-oriented are used. There are various online publication means both proprietary and free/open source, which may be chosen according to resources availability for acquisition of one or the other. For this case we have chosen to use two software: MapServer currently supported by OSGeo and GEONETWORK. Institutions could implement their SDI to streamline information organization and to avoid effort duplication in products creation [The complete article may be found at: <http://www.applied-geoinformatics.org/index.php/agse/agse2010/paper/viewFile/161/100>]

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Episode #1 of the Penn State Geospatial Revolution Project is now ready

Source: <http://geospatialrevolution.psu.edu/>

The Geospatial Revolution Project is an integrated public service media and outreach initiative about the world of digital mapping and how it is changing the way we think, behave, and interact. The mission of the Geospatial Revolution Project is to expand public knowledge about the history, applications, related privacy and legal issues, and the potential future of location-based technologies. Penn State Public Broadcasting's four-part online video series, The Geospatial Revolution Project, tells how geospatial information transforms lives. The first of the series'

episodes is available now and focuses on how geospatial technology aided first responders during the Haitian earthquake relief efforts. The 13-minute episode, which is divided into four chapters, begins with an overview and moves into how GPS works. Following a brief history of the evolution of mapping, the episode wraps with the practical and human application of crisis mapping and crowd sourcing, and uses the earthquake in Haiti as the case study. The Geospatial Revolution Project: Episode One is available in its entirety or in shorter chapters at Penn State Public Broadcasting's website, <http://geospatialrevolution.psu.edu>, starting Sept. 15.

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Geospatial Research, Applications, Software, Data

[Guatemala launches Fire Monitoring System](#)

Source: <http://www.servir.net/>

On August 18, 2010, the Geospatial Information System for Fire Management (SIGMA-I, in Spanish) was officially launched at the national level in the Republic of Guatemala. The system is executed by the National Council on Protected Areas (CONAP), the National Forestry Institute (INAB), the National Forest Fire Prevention and Control System (SIPECIF-CONRED) and the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (MARN), jointly with CATHALAC, financed in context of SERVIR through USAID, CATHALAC and NASA.

[Launch of USP Historical Cartography Digital Library, Brazil](#)

Source: Arturo Brun-Martinez



The Digital Library of Historical Cartography brings together the printed collection of the former Banco Santos - currently under custody by the Brazilian Studies Institute (in Portuguese IEB/USP). Besides publication of high resolution maps, the site offers cartographic-bibliographic and biographic information, technical and editorial data, and explanatory context on the production, distribution and appropriation of cartographic images. The Digital Library was conceived by the Historical Cartography Studies Laboratory (in Portuguese LECH) team, of the "Cátedra Jaime Cortesão", Department of Philosophy, Literature and Humanities (in Portuguese FFLCH/USP), and was developed by the São Carlos Computing Centre (in Portuguese CISC/USP) with support of FAPESP (Portuguese Empire Dimensions Thematic Project). The IEB team digitized all maps and is responsible for their conservation. More information en: <http://www.mapashistoricos.usp.br/>

[Cuba to link up with GLONASS system](#)

Source: <http://beta.gisdevelopment.net/>

Cuba: Cuba is planning to connect itself with GLONASS, according to Mikhail Kamynin, Russian ambassador to Cuba. GLONASS -the Global Navigation Satellite System- is the Russian equivalent of the US Global Positioning System, or GPS, and is designed for both military and civilian use. Both systems enable users to determine their positions to within a few meters. "Russia and Cuba are currently developing cooperation in the sphere of advanced technology. Our plans include a detailed work on connecting Cuba to the GLONASS system," the ambassador said.

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[Bicycle Route Map of Santiago, Chile](#)

Source: Arturo Brun-Martinez

"World day without car" is celebrated worldwide; so we wanted to highlight the map of bicycle routes of Santiago, prepared by the [Metropolitan Regional Government](#). In blue lines are displayed the currently operational bicycle routes or bicycle tracks; and in yellow are those which are planned and will be built during the period 2009-2012. The map is ideal for planning bicycle trips through the capital, thus avoiding high traffic areas. To download the map [click here](#).



[CATHALAC supports Haitian National Observatory of the Environment and Vulnerability, ONEV](#)

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



CATHALAC assists in the strengthening of specialized institute of Haiti's Ministry of the Environment. In the wake of the January 12, 2010 earthquake which devastated the Republic of Haiti, the Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean (CATHALAC) has been working diligently with Haiti's Ministry of the Environment to rebuild capacity. The collaboration with Haiti's Ministry of the Environment was initiated by an early 2009 visit by Jean-Marie Claude Germain, the Minister of the Environment. In that context, last week CATHALAC hosted a technical exchange by Cornel Cheron and Haendel Dorfeuille, two technical specialists from that Ministry's National Observatory for the Environment and Vulnerability (ONEV, in French). The visit by Mr. Cheron and Mr. Dorfeuille followed a March 2010

visit by the ONEV's Director, Dwinel Belizaire. The technical exchange featured both training sessions and technical discussions related to remote sensing and computational infrastructure. The two specialists were trained the various facets of acquisition of satellite- and model data, and in basic interpretation of that data. The technical representatives expressed much interest in the capacity of CATHALAC's numerical forecasting, to facilitate early warning for hurricanes. Significantly, as a part of the technology transfer, the ONEV representatives were also provided with almost a single terabyte (1TB) of public domain satellite imagery, aerial photos, and other data collected by a host of institutions during the massive international response effort to the January quake. Mr. Cheron and Mr. Dorfeuille were thus able to use some of that information to develop preliminary maps of areas affected by the earthquake in southwestern Haiti. The technical discussions also focused on assessing the ONEV's needs in terms of appropriate hardware and software resources for vulnerability assessment in Haiti. It is anticipated that this technical exchange will be the first of a series of capacity-building activities between CATHALAC and the Government of Haiti. CATHALAC has also committed to implementing the Tropical Carbon Monitoring System 2.0 (TROPICARMS 2.0) in Haiti. Through that implementation, the ONEV and CATHALAC hope to more quantitatively assess Haiti's forest resources, toward integrated and sustainable management of those forests and other natural resources.

[Validated data for the Central American Land Use and Land Cover map 2010](#)

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

Data verification process in the field for the Central American Land Use and Land Cover Map (MC-UT) in the Central American region has finished. The map is one of expected outputs of the Regional Programme for Vulnerability and Environmental Degradation Reduction (PREVDA), within which runs the Project PREVDA/UGR/SER/14/08 "Implementation of the Central American Region Integrated Geographic and Hydro-meteorological Platform and Practical Applications." Field activities conducted in the region's countries (Panama, Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Honduras)

within this project's framework aimed at verifying areas difficult to discern through satellite images during the map design process. Participants learned about the project background, methodology, and classification system, for estimating the Central American land use map progress. Training activities included remote sensing, satellite imaging, and exercises on identifying water bodies and changes, including temporal analysis. In addition, during four days participants from National Environmental Information Systems (SINIA-SIA), and local experts went to the field to locate recognition and verification areas in each country using GPS receivers. The Central American Land Use Map, is



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funded by the European Union and is one of the expected outputs of the PREVDA/UGR/SER/14/08 contract executed by CATHALAC through PREVDA, and funded by the European Union as part of the Central American Integration System (SICA).

[GeoServer 2.1 Beta Released](#)

Source: <http://blog.geoserver.org/>



Just in time for FOSS4G the GeoServer community is pleased to announce the release of 2.1 beta1. The first beta release of the long awaited 2.1 branch is now available for [download](#). Anticipation for this release has been growing over the last few months due to the number of notable new features it brings. Detailed information on new features [here](#).

[OpenLayers 2.10 Final Release](#)

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

The OpenLayers Development Team is proud to announce the release of OpenLayers 2.10, the latest stable release of OpenLayers. The 2.10 release adds several important features. Some of the highlights include: (i) Support for Google Maps v3; (ii) Significant improvements to the panel control functionality and (iii) Improvements in support for WMS, WFS standards. More information at: <http://trac.openlayers.org/wiki/Release/2.10/Notes>

[ESRI Geoportal Extension to Become Open Source](#)

Source: <http://www.gim-international.com/>

The Geoportal Extension is to become a Free and Open Source solution from ESRI. Despite code documentation and samples as included on the Geoportal Resource Center, implementers of the Geoportal Extension have continued asking for source code access to support integration with content management systems, map viewers, desktop etc. The Geoportal Extension will be released under one of the variants of the Creative Commons open source license. Seven years ago ESRI created what was then called the GIS Portal Toolkit as a software and services solution, based on code from a number of earlier projects and prototypes for data discovery and map viewing. Since starting with GIS Portal Toolkit, those using it to create geoportals and clearinghouses have had access to its source code. The code will be available by the end of September 2010 and the team is looking forward to working with a larger community to further develop this product.

[Welcome to the Center for Satellite Based Crisis Information new portal](#)

Source: <http://www.zki.dlr.de/>



The Center for Satellite Based Crisis Information (in German ZKI) presents a service of the German Remote Sensing Data Center (DFD) of DLR. It provides a 24/7 service for the rapid provision, processing and analysis of satellite imagery during natural and environmental disasters, for humanitarian relief activities and civil security issues worldwide. The resulting satellite based information products are provided to relief organizations and public authorities and are also freely available on the ZKI website.

[Data Warehouses](#)

Source: <http://gislounge.com/>

Information about web sites that host large amounts of datasets both at the United States and global levels. Most of the data is available for free or for little cost.

[EROS Data Center](#): The USGS EROS Data Center houses millions of aerial



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photographs of the United States, as well as images from several series of satellites covering the entire Earth.

[GIS Data Depot](#): Online inventory of more than a terabyte of spatial databases spanning the entire globe. Free downloads or create custom CDs.

[OpenStreetMap](#): Exportable geographic data for the entire globe. Data is created and edited through crowd sourcing. Click on the "export" tab to extract data.

[WeoGeo](#): Find and order data through a web-based geographic search interface. Store, search, and exchange geographic data. Complete information about how to use WeoGeo is found on their wiki.

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Training and Funding Opportunities, Awards

MA on Geographic Analysis at Universidad de Concepción, Chile

Source: <http://snitchile.blogspot.com/>

University of Concepcion, Chile informs that the Department of Geography will issue a Masters Program on Geographic Analysis from year 2011. This Master program is targeted at professionals with a degree in Geography or related areas, seeking to gain analytical skills necessary to all professional when using various technical tools such as Geographic Information Systems. This program is intended to meet the growing demand of public and private sectors' professionals seeking improvements on geographic analysis. This is a two year Masters program. Detailed information [here](#).



Register now for courses in Geo-information Science and Earth Observation at ITC starting in 2011

Source: <http://www.itc.nl/>

UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.



Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation

When you are selecting a programme, it is important to find the right level. Whichever programme you decide to take, you will receive full support from our academic staff and access to modern resources and information, all within a truly international environment where you will be able to meet mid-career and young professionals from all over the world. For detailed information on the courses please log on to: <http://www.itc.nl/study>

Masters of Science in Geographic Information

Source: Ellen Hines



The Department of Geography and Human Environmental Studies at San Francisco State University is now accepting applications for Spring 2011 admission to our new program: Masters of Science in Geographic Information Science (MS GISci). This program is designed to prepare students for careers in a wide range of geospatial information research and applications. GISci encompasses the development, use, and applications of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), remote sensing, global positioning systems (GPS), and spatial statistics. Students completing this program will be prepared to take on advanced technical and leadership roles in environmental or resource agencies and firms employing GIS, remote sensing and other geospatial technologies. Applicants must have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution with a GPA of 3.25 or better in Geography or a related discipline, with emphasis or experience in spatial data analysis, and have earned a grade of B or better in an introductory GIS course such as Geog 603 or

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equivalent. In addition to the general application and grade transcripts which must be sent to the Graduate Studies Office, applicants must submit to the department in one packet a detailed Statement of Purpose, GRE scores and two letters of recommendation. Check the department website at <http://bss.sfsu.edu/geog/> for details on how to apply. Personal interviews with the graduate advisers and appropriate department faculty are recommended. The deadline for application materials is **November 1, 2010**. Please contact the program advisors for further information: Leonhard Blesius (remote sensing, geomorphological hazards): lblesius@sfsu.edu; Jerry Davis (GIS for environmental and surface modeling, GPS and survey field methods): jerry@sfsu.edu; Ellen Hines (GIS/remote sensing, resource management, marine/coastal areas): ehines@sfsu.edu; and XiaoHang Liu (GIS, socio-economic, urban remote sensing): xhliu@sfsu.edu

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Employment Opportunities

Assistant Professor - Human-Environment Interaction, University of Iowa

Source: Rinku Roy Chowdhury



The Department of Geography at the University of Iowa invites applications for a full-time tenure track appointment at the Assistant Professor level. The department's focus is on human-environment interaction informed by geographic information science. We seek an individual who will broadly complement one or more of the department's existing strengths in geographic information science, land use science, environmental policy, biogeography, and health geography. The applicant's primary teaching and research interests should be in a field related to our focus of human-environment interaction. This could include, for example, the study of climate/climate change, socioeconomic processes and the environment, environment and health, or coupled human-natural dynamics. The successful candidate must have evidence of their ability to publish in leading academic journals and to secure external support for their research activities. The appointment will begin in **August 2011**. A Ph.D. in geography or related discipline is required at the time of appointment. For further information, please see our web page describing this position at <http://www.uiowa.edu/~geog/humanenvposition/index.shtml>, requisition #58242. Candidates must submit applications online at <http://jobs.uiowa.edu/> (requisition #58242). Attachments to the application should include a letter of application and curriculum vitae. The letter of application should include: a statement of research interest, a statement of teaching interest, and evidence of teaching ability. Three letters of recommendation should be mailed to: Dr. Kathleen Stewart, 316 Jessup Hall, Department of Geography, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242. Screening of applications begins **October 15, 2010** and will continue until the position is filled. Questions regarding this position can be directed to Dr. Stewart (kathleen-stewart@uiowa.edu)

GIS Teaching Position at Tulane University

Source: Dee Dee Barton



EARTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

The Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences seeks to fill a non-tenure track, Professor of Practice position to teach courses in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and to supervise the GIS computer lab. To be considered, the applicant must have experience using geologic, topographic, and geophysical raster and point cloud data sets. Expertise with ESRI products is required, including customization of GIS applications. We seek an individual possessing an enthusiastic dedication to teaching who is willing to make a long-term commitment to the department and the University. A Ph.D. is required at the time of appointment. The initial appointment will be for three years with the possibility of renewal after a performance review at the end of the second year. The deadline for applications is

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Oct. 30, 2010, but the position will remain open until filled. Applications should include a curriculum vitae, a statement of teaching interests and goals, and the names and contact information of at least three referees, and sent to Dr. Stephen Nelson, Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences, Tulane University, 6823 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA 70118-5698 (snelson@tulane.edu) (email preferred). Further information at <http://tulane.edu/sse/eens>

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Other

[More Than 1,200 Satellites to be Launched Over the Next 10 Years](#)

Source: <http://www.spacedaily.com/>

Euroconsult has forecast that an estimated 1,220 satellites will be built for launch over the next decade. The average of 122 satellites to be launched per year is up significantly from the annual average of 77 satellites launched in the previous decade, a sign that government and commercial operators require more satellite capabilities. In Euroconsult's just-released "Satellites to be Built and Launched by 2019, World Market Survey," the company projects that revenues from the manufacturing and launch of these 1,220 satellites will reach \$194 billion worldwide for the decade. The report concludes that governments around the world will continue to dominate the space market, accounting for two thirds of the total number of spacecraft launched and the same amount of launch and manufacturing revenues. "Governments realize that satellite systems are a critical part of their country's infrastructure and contribute to socio-economic development by providing communications and geo-information solutions to many government agencies," said Rachel Villain, Director for Space for Euroconsult and editor of the report.

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Americas: Conferences, SDI Events

2o CARTOGEO - II International Symposium "New Paths to Cartography within Geography: the map as form of expression of the Geographies"

Source: Reinaldo Paul Perez by way of Mabel Alvarez



This international event will be directed to the academic world, students, professors and professionals of the several knowledge areas that apply Cartography, Remote Sensing and Geoprocessing to research as to empirical

applications. The symposium intends to promote interdisciplinary studies, encouraging scientific debate and discloses the utilization of the new technologies of geographic information in diverse fields of knowledge, with emphasis, although not exclusive, in the integration of Geography as a whole. Considering that other similar events in Brazil have evolved in a commercial direction, and were consequently less theoretical, we intend with this meeting to occupy this lacuna and promote a forum of scientific discussion about the theoretical and practical issues related to Geotechnologies. During the meeting several activities

will take place, such as conferences, panel sessions, cartography exhibits, oral and poster presentations and field work. The Symposium will be organized by themes intended to treat several issues that involve the application of Cartography and the New Technologies of the Geographic Information, as research, teaching, extension and the technologies evolved to the production of knowledge or to its application. Additional information at: www.2cartogeo.com.br

[Seminar on the Use of Satellite Data for Glacier Monitoring](#)

Source: <http://www.conae.gov.ar/>

Between August 9 to 13, 2010 it was held in Barreal, Calingasta Department, Province of San Juan, Argentina, a seminar on "Satellite technology to reduce uncertainty of climate and hydrological scenarios: Glacier Identification and Monitoring" organized by the National Commission on Space Activities (in Spanish CONAE), within the framework of cooperation activities between CONAE and the European Space Agency (ESA) for capacity building. The cooperation program CONAE-ESA is part of the Supporting Policy Dialogue between the EU and the Republic of Argentina Project, and is part of the Committee on Sustainable

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Development in Mountain Areas of Argentina training activities. More information [here](#).

XIII Latin American Conference on Geographic Information Systems

Source: Organizing Committee by way of Santiago Borrero



XIII Conferencia Iberoamericana de
Sistemas de Información Geográfica

The XIII Latin American Conference on Geographic Information Systems (CONFIBSIG), will be held in the city of Toluca, Mexico on May 25-27, 2011. CONFIBSIG is an event that brings together experts and institutions that are active in research, teaching, government and business development using geotechnologies, particularly Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Conference themes include: Geotechnology emerging trends and positioning; Geographic Information Legislation, Standards and Intellectual Property; Public Administration Resource and Service Management; Urban and Regional Planning; Education and Teaching; and Geotechnology Applied to Environmental Management. The first Latin American Conference on Geographic Information Systems was held in Costa Rica in July 1987 and since then there have been 12 editions of the event every other year held in countries such as Venezuela, Chile, Brazil, Argentina, Peru, Spain, and Puerto Rico. The themes of the events have focused mainly on Atlas and cartographic issues, remote sensing, GIS design and applications and other innovative themes that according to geotechnological progress have been implemented year after year. For detailed information please visit: <http://facgeografia.uaemex.mx/confibsig/>
E-mail: confibsigXIII@uaemex.mx

Geomatics 2011: First Call

Source: <http://www.iderc.co.cu/>



The Organizing Committee of the VII GEOMATICA International Congress announces its 2011 seventh edition in the framework of the XIV International INFORMATICA Convention 2011, to be held in its historic headquarters, the Palacio de las Convenciones in Havana, Cuba, between 7 and 11 February 2011. The focus is aimed at "Geospatial Interoperability and the Web of the Future" For more information please see the First Circular on Geomatics 2011 (pdf) <http://www.iderc.co.cu/index.php/the-news/35-noticias/48-geomatica.html>

Argentina: San Luis Hosted 2nd National Congress on Cadastre

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



San Luis Province, Argentina, hosted the Second National Congress on Cadastre, under the slogan "Digital

Cadastre as a Tool for Public Policy Projection. A Road towards Cohesion between Progress and the Environment", that took place between September 29 to October 1. The meeting was organized by the Provincial Directorate of Cadastre and Land Tax with collaboration of the Federal Cadastre Council (in Spanish CFC) and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (in Spanish AECI). Information on the meeting may be obtained at <http://www.catastrosanluis2010.com.ar>

Regional Conference "Climate Change, Adaptation, and Security" aims for action plans

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

The Regional Conference "Climate Change, Adaptation, and Security: From Strategy to Action" in Central America and the Caribbean, was held in Panama City on September 8th. The three day conference was organized by the Department of State's Regional Environmental Hub for Central America and the Caribbean, the U.S. Southern Command and the Center for Strategic Leadership (CSL), together with the Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Central America and the Caribbean (in Spanish CATHALAC.) Climate change poses challenges to governments and security forces that range far beyond its impacts on the natural environment. Amid growing evidence that the region is vulnerable to direct and indirect impacts associated with climate change, many in the region are increasingly concerned about the challenges that climate change poses for the region in terms of rising sea levels, changes in rainfall patterns, increased intensity and frequency of major storm and drought events, and other direct impacts on natural resources, infrastructure, communities, as well as indirect impacts on public security arising from the same. Countries across the region could experience mass migrations, crop failures, the wider spread of disease, and competition over increasingly scarce resources especially water. While not itself a source of threat or conflict, climate change could act as a threat multiplier, exacerbating existing problems and tensions. As part of the "Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas" (ECPA) announced by U.S. President Barack Obama

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at last year's Summit of the Americas, this workshop brought together key public and private sector actors from the environmental, public security, and natural disaster communities to examine the implications of regional climate change trends for their respective sectors. This activity which included plenary and breakout sessions, also enabled participants, representing 14 countries from Central America and the Caribbean, to review climate change adaptation plans and actions underway in the region and to

develop customized take home action plans to mainstream climate change adaptation into their respective areas of responsibility. The event was held in Panama City, Republic of Panama and was attended by representatives of organizations from Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Saint Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago.

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OCTOBER 2010

3	Santiago, Chile	GEOSS Workshop XXXIX – Forest and Bio-energy
4-7	Canoas RS, Brazil	Integrated Symposium on Geotechnologies of Southern Cone - SIG-SUL 2010
4-8	Botucatu SP, Brazil	XXIV Week on Farming and Forestry Studies of Botucatu - SEAB 2010
NEW		
4-8	Botucatu SP, Brazil	Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems Applied to Environmental Planning
NEW		
4-8	Uberaba MG, Brazil	I Week of Geography at the Federal University of Triangulo Mineiro
NEW		
4-8	Santiago, Chile	Latin American Remote Sensing Week (LARS)
4-6	Atlantic City NJ, USA	MAC URISA 2010 Conference
5-7	Rio Claro,SP, Brazil	I Brazilian Congress of the Space Organization and X Graduate Geography Seminar UNESP Rio Claro
6-7	San Francisco CA, USA	Location and Beyond Summit
6-7	Toronto ON, Canada	ESRI Regional User Conference
6-8	Binghamton NY, USA	Race, Ethnicity and Place Conference
6-9	Panama, Panama	XIII National Congress on Science and Technology Contact: cojucip@hotmail.com
8-12	Buenos Aires, Argentina	International Congress on Bicentenary Geography, 71st Geography Week
8-12	Guanajuato, Mexico	14th SELPER International Symposium
10-14	Florianópolis SC, Brazil	9th Congress of Multipurpose Technical Cadastre and Territorial Management COBRAC 2010
12-14	Guayaquil, Ecuador	International Workshop on ENSO, Decadal Variability and Climate Change in South America
12-15	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	24th Meeting of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS)
13-15	Frankfort KY, USA	2010 Kentucky GIS Conference
16-20	Cáceres MT, Brazil	3rd Symposium on Wetland Geotechnologies Further information: http://www.geopantanal.cnpia.embrapa.br/2010/
17-20	Dearborn MI, EUA	2010 ESRI Electric & Gas User Group Conference
18-20	Denver CO, USA	2010 ESRI Health GIS Conference
18-22	Orlando FL, USA	E-Learn 2010
18-22	Singapore, Singapore	GSDI 12 World Conference 2010: Realizing Spatially Enabled Societies
18-22	Curitiba PR, Brazil	7th Curitibaano Geography Congress - Geopolitics of Contemporary World
NEW		
18-22	Campinas SP, Brazil	6th Week of Geography UNICAMP
NEW		
19-20	Ottawa, Canada	ESRI Regional User Conference
19-21	Curitiba Paraná, Brazil	IX Updated Seminar on Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems Applied to Forestry Engineer
19-23	San Francisco CA, USA	Oracle OpenWorld
20-21	Naperville IL, USA	ILGISA Fall Conference

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20-22	La Cumbre, Cordoba, Argentina	First International Conference on Advances in New Technologies, Interactive Interfaces and Communicability (ADNTIIC 2010)
20-22	Santiago, Chile	IAOS/Scorus Conference on Official Statistics and the Environment: Approaches, Issues, Challenges and Linkages
20-23	Fort Worth TX, USA	Applied Geography Conference
24-26	Saratoga Springs NY, USA	2010 New York State Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Conference
24-27	San Juan, Puerto Rico	1st Puerto Rico Space Congress and Auction - Space is the answer! Contact: Charles F. Radley info@stratowave.com
24-27	Lake Buena Vista FL, USA	Pictometry Future View 2010
25-26	Montevideo, Uruguay	First Uruguayan Congress on Spatial Data Infrastructure: Contributing to Development of a Regional Network
UPDATED 25-27	Sao Jose dos Campos, Brazil	6th Meeting of Satellite Imagery Users with remote sensing EUSISSEr
25-27	San Ramon CA, USA	2010 HDS Worldwide User Conference. Leica High Definition Surveying (HDS)
25-28	Houston TX, USA	GITA's GIS for Oil & Gas Conference
25-28	Nashville TN, USA	GEOINT Symposium 2010
26-27	Fredericton NB, Canada	ESRI Regional User Conference
28	Houston TX, USA	2nd Annual Blue Marble User's Conference
Oct.28-Nov.1	Sao Paulo SP, Brazil	GEOINFO 2010 - XI Brazilian Symposium on Geoinformatics

NOVEMBER 2010

1-4	Nashville TN, USA	GEOINT 2010
1-5	Vancouver BC, Canada	4th International Workshop on Semantic and Conceptual Issues in GIS (SeCoGIS 2010)
2	San Jose CA, USA	1st International Workshop on GeoStreaming (IWGS2010)
2-3	Vancouver BC, Canada	ESRI Regional User Conference
2-5	San Jose CA, USA	ACM SIG SPATIAL GIS 2010
4	Oakville ON, Canada	GITA Ontario Chapter Fall Forum 2010
4-5	Denver CO, USA	MAPublisher Training
8-9	Lima, Peru	International Congress on Disaster and Land Management in the Americas Contact: desastres@ign.gob.pe
8-10	Las Vegas NV, USA	Trimble Dimensions 2010
8-12	Nayarit, Mexico	National Convention of Geography and the Environment 2010 Contact: convencion.geografia@inegi.org.mx
UPDATED 8-12	Guanajuato, Mexico	XIV International SELPER Symposium "Observation & Monitoring of the Earth Related to Climate Change" (An ISPRS Regional Conference) E-mail: silvia.casas757@gmail.com
8-12	Lima, Perú	Joint Meeting of PAIGH Directing Council, Americas Geocentrical Reference System (in Spanish SIRGAS) and School of "References System" (in Spanish IAG-SIRGAS)
15-21	Bahía Blanca, Argentina	1st Working days on new Southern Argentina Geographic Information Technologies Further information: Jornadasinfogeo@gmail.com
15-19	Orlando FL, USA	AutoCarto 2010
15-19	Orlando FL, USA	ASPRS/CaGIS 2010 Fall Specialty Conference
15-19	Ciudad de México, Mexico	VI Spatial Conference of the Americas
NEW 16-17	Huntsville AL, USA	Rocket City Geospatial 2010
16-18	Orlando FL, USA	Commission IV Symposium "Geodatabases & Digital Mapping" / Marguerite Madden (President Commission IV) / mmadden@uqa.edu
16-19	Havana, Cuba	IV Conference of the Latin American Population Association "Cultural conditions and transformations, economic factors, and demographic trends in Latin America"
16-19	Orlando FL, USA	ISPRS Commission IV - Geodatabases and Digital Mapping
17-18	St. John's NL, Canada	ESRI Regional User Conference
17-18	Tallahassee FL, USA	Seven Hills Regional User Group for GIS (SHRUG)
22-26	San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina	First Latin-American Congress (IV Argentinean) on Biodiversity and Conservation 2010 , Information: info@biodiversidad.com.ar
Nov. 30-Dec 2	Las Vegas NV, USA	Autodesk University 2010 Conference and Exhibition

DECEMBER 2010

1	Salvador (BA), Brazil	National Seminar - Documentation of architectural heritage with the use of Digital Technologies
NEW 5-12	Florianópolis, SC, Brazil	15th International Biometric Conference

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6-10	Port of Spain, Trinidad	URISA's 5th Caribbean GIS Conference
14-17	Foz de Iguaçu, Brazil	Third Symposium on Spatial Statistics and Modeling Pictures III - SEEM 2010

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JANUARY 2011

19-21	Washington DC, USA	ESRI Federal User Conference (FedUC)
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FEBRUARY 2011

2-4	Washington DC, USA	ESRI Federal User Conference (FedUC)
7-9	New Orleans LA, USA	International LiDAR Mapping Forum
7-11	La Havana, Cuba	VII International Congress GEOMATICS 2011
23-24	Redlands CA, USA	2011 ESRI California/Hawaii/Nevada Regional User Group Conference
23-28	Gosier Guadeloupe, France	GEOProcessing 2011: The Third International Conference on Advanced Geographic Information Systems, Applications, and Services

MARCH 2011

6-8	Palm Springs CA, USA	2011 ESRI Worldwide Business Partner Conference (BPC)
7-10	Palm Springs CA, USA	2011 ESRI Developer Summit
21-24	Myrtle Beach SC, USA	Coastal GeoTools 2011
28-31	Fresno CA, USA	17th Annual California GIS Conference - Meeting California's Challenges

APRIL 2011

14-15	Resistencia, Chaco, Argentina	First National Congress of Geographic Information Technologies and Fourth Meeting of Members of Geographic Information Technologies of the NEA Contact: labtig@hum.unne.edu.ar
Apr.30 - May 5 *UPDATED*	Curitiba, PR, Brazil	XV Brazilian Symposium on Remote Sensing (SBSR) Deadline for paper submission: November 10, 2010

MAY 2011

1-5	Milwaukee WI, USA	ASPRS 2011 Annual Conference "Ride On The Geospatial Revolution"
2-4	Jacksonville FL, USA	2011 ESRI Southeast Regional User Group
14-18	Victoria BC, Canada	International Marine Conservation Congress: Call for proposals
19 *NEW*	Botucatu SP, Brazil	II Symposium on Geostatistics applied to Agrarian Sciences
25-27 *NEW*	Toluca, Mexico	XIII Latin American Conference on Geographic Information Systems (CONFIBSIG) E-mail: confibsigXIII@uaemex.mx

JUNE 2011

27-30	Atlanta GA, USA	2011 URISA GIS in Public Health Conference Contact: IMCCprogram@gmail.com
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NOVEMBER 2011

14-18	Santiago, Chile	UGI 2011 Regional Geographic Conference
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