

# Spatial Data Infrastructure – Africa Newsletter

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SDI-Africa Newsletter

July 2005

Vol. 4, No. 7

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

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

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

Best regards, Kate Lance, Editor, [lancekt@aya.yale.edu](mailto:lancekt@aya.yale.edu)

## Message from the Editor

Dear colleagues,

SDI-Africa newsletter issues typically are published at the beginning of each month. During the course of the month, when I come across announcements with approaching deadlines, I send them to the [GSDI SDI-Africa Discussion List](#). I encourage you to join the Discussion List if you'd like to be informed of these updates. The SDI-Africa Discussion List also provides an opportunity for you to pose questions or express your opinion and concerns about spatial data infrastructure development in Africa. You never know what 'pearls of wisdom' are just an email away. I look forward to your input. Regards, Kate

## Input to this Issue

Thank you to Lucy Phalaagae, Department of Surveys and Mapping (Botswana); Félix Elongo, Centre de Recherche Géographique et de Cartographie (CERGEC) (Congo); Gavin Fleming, The Sensor Web, CSIR Geomatics Alliance (South Africa); Glenn Hyman, CIAT/Consortium for Spatial Information, CGIAR (Colombia); Jide Kufoniyi, Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys (RECTAS) (Nigeria); Arnold Bregt, Centre for Geo-Information, Wageningen University (the Netherlands); and Lami Ali-Fadiora, African Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education (ARCSSTE-E) (Nigeria) for their contributions to this issue of the newsletter.

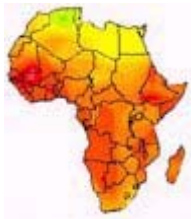
## SDI News, Links, Papers, Presentations

### [Décret pour le Conseil National de Cartographie du Congo](#)

Le décret est le résultat de la concertation entre les services producteurs de la carte tels que les CERGEC, le Cadastre, le Service Géographique de l'Armée, le Ministère du Plan. Il est déjà adopté au niveau de ministère de CERGEC qui va se charger de le transmettre au Secrétariat Général du Gouvernement pour adoption par le Gouvernement et signature. Souhaitez-eux bonne chance! Contact: Félix Elongo, [fx\\_elongo@yahoo.fr](mailto:fx_elongo@yahoo.fr).

### [Création d'une association de géographie numérique en Tunisie](#)

Tunis, 24 juin (AFP) - - Une Association de l'information géographique numérique (ATIGN) a été créée en Tunisie pour promouvoir l'utilisation des nouvelles technologies dans le domaine géographique, ont annoncé



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ses fondateurs. Cette association vise à développer l'utilisation de l'information géographique numérique, notamment dans les domaines de l'aménagement du territoire et du développement durable, a indiqué le président de l'ATIGN, Mohamed Ayari. Elle prévoit notamment l'élaboration d'un atlas géographique numérique des différentes régions de Tunisie et la numérisation des sites touristiques et historiques de la ville de Tunis. L'ATIGN envisage aussi la création d'un centre de formation à la géographie numérique, a-t-on ajouté de même source. La Tunisie organisera en 2008 le 31e Congrès mondial de l'Union internationale de géographie. [Voir aussi: [Un atlas géographique numérique pour toutes les régions en préparation](#)]

### **Summary of Botswana IGIS-II Workshop**, Gaborone, Botswana, 18-22 April 2005

The IGIS workshop, held in Gaborone at Mmokolodi Nature Reserve on 18th-22th April 2005, was attended by 25 Department of Surveys and Mapping (DSM) senior staff. The objectives of the workshop were to:

- review the IGIS II plan for each Task Group that was drawn during the Inception period (6th –December 2004 – 22nd April 2005);
- ensure that all the objectives outlined in the project are prioritized based on their relative importance to the development of an effective action plan and the ultimate success of IGISII Project.

After the opening of the workshop, the DSM Director assured everyone attending that the success of the project would need concerted efforts, commitment and dedication. He emphasized the importance of communication among task group members because in this project everyone was going to be involved and also reminded everyone not to lose sight of the fact that the aim of the project is to integrate the topographic, cadastre and geodetic databases into a centralized storage in order to make it easier to access, query and manage this data both internally and externally for our stakeholders.

The building of this geo-spatial data is in line with DSM's mission, vision and value statements for the improvement of productivity and service delivery to DSM customers and also as a contribution towards an informed and educated nation outlined in vision 2016.

The presentations covered 9 Task Groups, which are: 1) IT, 2) NSDI, 3) Geodesy, 4) Cadastre, 5) Geodatabase, 6) Data Conversion and Production, 7) Production Flows (Photogrammetry and Cartography), 8) Products, and 9) Print-on-Demand.

A report from each task group was presented on the current status of the IGIS II plan. Each task group outlined its objectives and how they planned to implement and achieve them. At the of the workshop each task group was assigned to prepare a detailed implementation plan for each objective. On the whole, the workshop provided each task group with an opportunity to work towards achieving a complete integration of the three databases. This will also be a major contribution to the NSDI in Botswana.

### **[Nationwide Geological and Mining Information System for Madagascar / Projet de Gouvernance des Ressources Minérales \(PGRM\)](#)**

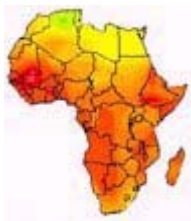
The overall objective is to design and implement a “Databases for the Mineral Resources Management Project in Madagascar (BPGRM)” as a nationwide geological information system for the interpretation, analysis and exploitation of existing and future geological, geo-physical and mining information for Madagascar. Initially, BPGRM shall manage and optimise the use of existing geological and mining information, which will be incrementally supplemented with new field data, collected using a variety of ground-based and remote methods. See also: [GAF AG awarded a geological mapping contract](#) by the “The Mineral Resources Management Project in Madagascar”, Ministry of Mines and Energy, Antananarivo, Madagascar]

### **[South Africa must act or miss out on earth observation opportunity](#)**

The need for having a national, cross-sector earth observation strategy was articulated by Mothibi Ramusi, CSIR Satellite Application Centre Manager, in a recent article, “We are putting together a plan for the infrastructure that we will need at SAC to give efficient and effective support to all branches of the government.... This is to find out what we need and how much it will cost....We should be supported by the whole government, not just a couple of departments, because we serve the whole government, for example the Departments of Agriculture, Defence, Environment Affairs and Tourism, Safety and Security, and Water Affairs and Forestry.” [Engineering News, 20-26 May 2005, p. 21. (May 20, 2005)]

### **[South Africa to have Space Agency by next year](#)**

Cape Town, South Africa (SPX) May 31, 2005: It is important that poverty-stricken South Africa have it own space agency so the country can cooperate with other countries on science-related issues, according to



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Mosibudi Mangena, the country's science and technology minister. The minister says South Africa will have its own space agency by the end of 2006. Legislation is being drafted and will be submitted later this year.

### [Experts exchange ideas at CSIR SAC's GeoServer Hack Fest](#) (South Africa)

Some 21 participants came together for the GeoServer Hack Fest, hosted by the Earth Observation unit of the [CSIR Satellite Applications Centre \(SAC\)](#) and held at CSIR Environmentek. The Hack Fest coincided with a visit by Chris Holmes (31 May and 2 June), one of the lead developers in the [GeoServer project](#), the open Internet gateway to geographic information. Attended by representatives from the Geoinformation Society of South Africa (GISSA), the National Spatial Information Framework (NSIF) of the Department of Land Affairs, Eskom ESI-GIS, Knowledge Factory, Nhoru Consulting, the Gauteng Provincial Health Department, Agilework and staff from CSIR Environmentek, CSIR Transportek, CSIR Boutek and CSIR Centre for Logistics and Decision Support, the event provided a valuable opportunity for discussion and debate on GeoServer and Open Source Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

Gavin Fleming from CSIR SAC gave the first presentation of the day, which dealt with the Sensor Web, a research project based at CSIR SAC, and the use of GeoServer as a key component of the first sensor web prototype, the Advanced Fire Information System. [Holmes's informal presentation](#) focused on the philosophy and practice of open source software development, his specific plans for further use of open source, and his main project, Geoserver. Geoserver is the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) reference implementation for Web Feature Services (WFS). It is an open source project in every sense of the word, as it employs one developer only and incorporates about 80% of its code from other projects and contributions. Holmes also spoke on SDI development, emphasising his current work as a Fulbright Scholar in Zambia, and shared his vision for community geospatial web services and creative commons licensing of data.

Ensuing discussion explored the option of how to utilise GeoServer to the best advantage, as well as the role of the NSIF in leading South Africa's SDI and opportunities for interested parties to contribute to GeoServer. The programme also included a session for participants with Holmes at the CSIR Environmentek GIS laboratory, at which GeoServer was installed and configured to gain a better understanding of the system. Positive feedback by participants confirmed the value of the event, which has resulted in the nucleus of a GeoServer and Open Source interest group within GISSA and prospects of further discussions. [GISSA](#) will probably host an OS GIS list or forum for South Africa (and the region). If you're interested in contributing to an GeoServer and Open Source interest group, contact: Gavin Fleming, [gffleming@csir.co.za](mailto:gffleming@csir.co.za).

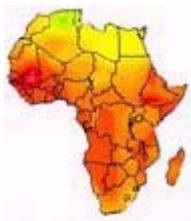
### [Atelier régional sur le lancement de l'élaboration d'une SNDS - Afrique Francophone](#) / **National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) Workshop for Francophone Africa countries**, 6-8 July 2005, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

Un atelier régional pour les pays de l'Afrique francophone sur le lancement de l'élaboration d'une Stratégie Nationale de Développement de la Statistique (SNDS) se tiendra à Ouagadougou du 6 au 8 juillet 2005 dans les locaux du Splendid Hôtel. Cet atelier, organisé en collaboration avec [l'Institut National de la Statistique et de la Démographie \(INSD\)](#), est destiné à évaluer les progrès réalisés par chaque pays depuis les ateliers d'[Addis-Abeba](#) en décembre 2004 et de [Bamako](#) en février 2005, et de discuter de l'élaboration du diagnostic du système statistique national qui est considéré comme l'étape qui suit immédiatement la phase de lancement de la SNDS. Le problème du financement de la mise en oeuvre de la SNDS sera également discuté.

### [National Strategy for the Development of Statistics \(NSDS\) Workshop for SADC Countries - Strategic Statistical Planning](#), 27-28 May 2005, Livingstone, Zambia

From 27 to 28 May 2005, PARIS21, in collaboration with SADC, held a workshop for the Anglophone countries of Southern Africa. This workshop, held in Livingstone, Zambia, helped sustain the dialogue among data users, data producers, and statistical partners. Eleven countries attended the workshop. Each country delegation was composed of directors of national statistical offices and PRSP coordinators. Many countries already have some form of strategic plan in place, so the main objective of the workshop was to help identify the successes and constraints to implementation of these plans; to share experiences; and to assist in finding solutions to any obstacles that exist.

[National Strategy for the Development of Statistics \(NSDS\) Regional Workshop for Portuguese-Speaking Countries](#), 3-5 May 2005, Bissau, Guinea-Bissau. Participating countries drafted roadmaps for taking their NSDS design processes forward.



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## [Summary of Ad Hoc GEO-6 meeting](#) (GEO-6 Draft Summary, April 2005)

This document summarizes the results of the GEO-6 meeting (Group on Earth Observation) in Brussels, February 14-15, 2005 where the [Global Earth Observation System of Systems \(GEOSS\) 10-year implementation plan](#) was adopted. Two new African countries were welcomed as GEO members since the GEO-5 meeting – Niger and Tunisia. A number of new participating organizations also were recognized including AARSE (African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment), GSDI (Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association), and OGC (Open Geospatial Consortium). There are now 60 member nations plus the European Commission, and 43 participating organizations, which is an indication of the increasing interest in the work of GEO. The first six meetings (GEO-1 to GEO-6) were ad-hoc and preparatory meetings to formalize the establishment of GEO and the implementation of its programme (GEOSS). The [first meeting GEO-1](#) under the formal establishment of GEO, was held in Geneva, Switzerland, May 2-4, 2005, organized by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). WMO will host the GEO Secretariat. The 12-member Executive Council was elected there. Africa was given two slots, with South Africa and Morocco representing Africa on the Council. See <http://earthobservations.org> for more information. Contact: [secretariat@geosec.org](mailto:secretariat@geosec.org).

## **TIGER Programme facilitating access to European Space Agency earth observation data**

In order to further foster the partnerships and cooperation with African stakeholders and to facilitate the easy and low cost access to EO data, African institutions were invited to submit proposals for Pilot Projects to be carried out in the context of the [TIGER programme](#). The 95 project proposals submitted by more than 300 African experts reflect the information needs of the water sector in Africa. After the review process, in early 2005, some 50 projects have been selected to be included in the TIGER programme and will benefit from free access to ESA EO data, such as MERIS or ASAR. A list of the selected proposals can be consulted in the web page of the [ESA Principal Investigator Portal](#) by using the searching tool. To reach the list you should 1) click on “Search”; 2) click on “Other”; and 3) select the EO Tiger option in the “Type” field. Contact: [tiger@esa.int](mailto:tiger@esa.int). [Source: TIGER Newsletter, No. 1, June 2005]

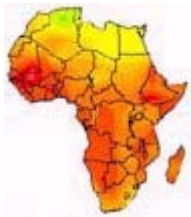
## **ESA TIGER service demonstration projects**

Within the framework of [TIGER programme](#), the European Space Agency (ESA) has launched a set of information services demonstration projects aimed at developing and transferring to African authorities information systems responding to their specific information needs for integrated water resources management. Contact: [tiger@esa.int](mailto:tiger@esa.int). [Source: TIGER Newsletter, No. 1, June 2005]

- The [Aquifer project](#) shall provide information to users including land-use and land-cover maps, change maps, surface water extent and dynamics, digital terrain models and estimation of water consumption and extraction. (Algeria, Libya, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, and Tunisia)
- The [GlobWetland project](#) is developing an information system for water authorities and wetland managers to support the inventory, assessment and monitoring of wetlands (Algeria, Egypt, Kenya, Senegal, South Africa and the member countries of the lake Chad Commission: Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria, Chad, and Central African Republic)
- The [Rivers & Lakes project](#) will develop of a new hydrological product ready to use by hydrologists; the aim is to translate the valuable hydrological data encoded in altimeter echoes returned from rivers and lakes into height estimates, thus permitting time series of river and lake heights to be produced. (River Congo and Senegal, Lake Victoria, Kyoga, Tana, Mai-Ndombe, Volta, Lake Chad and the Aswan Dam)
- The [Epidemio project](#) develops Earth Observation services in the context of health and sanitation, with a particular focus on malaria in Africa. It provides maps of water bodies, digital elevation models and weekly land surface temperature maps.

## [ITC and UNU Joint Program on capacity building in disaster management and in land administration](#)

On 4th April 2005, the [United Nations University](#) and [ITC](#) entered into an agreement, appointing the International Institute for Geoinformation Science and Earth Observation (ITC) as Associated Institution of the UNU. The UNU-ITC agreement has an initial duration of five years and is directed at developing and carrying out a Joint Programme on capacity building in Disaster Management and in Land Administration, and the dissemination of knowledge on these and directly related issues. Within the framework of the ITC-UNU agreement, ITC is in the process of formulating a UNU programme on Capacity Building for Disaster Risk Information Management, which will contain activities related to research, training, capacity building,



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and projects dealing with the use of Geoinformation for natural and man-made hazard and risk assessment and management, with specific activities in different regions.

The [Global study of international remote sensing markets for aerial and satellite data technologies](#), which was highlighted in the May '05 SDI-Africa issue, is still welcoming responses, until until August 15, 2005. **So far, African colleagues have provided 16% of responses to NOAA global remote sensing study** (*that's great! - especially when one considers that Africa wasn't originally distinguished in the survey design*) The survey, sponsored by NOAA, includes a five- and 10-year analysis of the global geospatial market, and the results will be publically available (by the end of 2005). The [GSDI Association](#) contacted those conducting the survey and asked that the African region be incorporated into the survey, so that the African market could be distinguished from and compared to the other regions already included in the survey. Please take a few minutes (an estimated 5-8 minutes) to complete the appropriate multiple-choice survey. (And thank you to all those who have already done so).

[Preliminary results of ISO/TC 211 global survey on geographic information standards](#) - presentation (ppt) to TC211 plenary in Stockholm. This presentation provides a preliminary summary of the [ISO Geographic Information Standards Survey](#) being conducted by the Focus Group on Data Providers (FGDP). FGDP developed an [on-line questionnaire](#) to identify the requirements and current state of standardization of data providers. Approximately 90 responses have been received so far. The survey will remain accessible until 10 September 2005. This survey was highlighted in the May '05 SDI-Africa issue.

[SALB - Second Administrative Level Boundaries – June 2005 Newsletter](#), Vol. 5, No. 1

The Second Administrative Level Boundaries (SALB) dataset is a dataset aiming to improve the availability of information about administrative boundaries down to the second subnational level. The SALB dataset forms part of the UN geographic database and was developed in the context of the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group (UNGIWG). Contact: Steeve Ebener, [ebeners@who.int](mailto:ebeners@who.int).

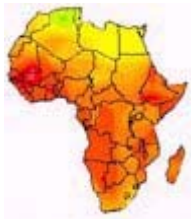
**Deadline for early-bird registration for AfricaGIS is July 29, 2005.**

You can now register for the [AfricaGIS2005 Conference](#). Registration forms can be downloaded – [Word Document](#), [PDF](#). July 29<sup>th</sup> is the last date to qualify for reduced registration fees. The conference is to be held at the CSIR International Convention Centre, Tshwane (Pretoria), South Africa, from 31 October to 4 November 2005.

[PGIS 2005 - Mapping for Change: International Conference on Participatory Spatial Information Management and Communication](#) ([announcement – English](#)) ([announce – Français](#)), 7-10 September, Nairobi, Kenya. The focus of the event is on sharing experiences and defining good practices for making geographic information technologies and systems (GIT&S) available to less-favoured groups in society. The event will enhance the capacities of under represented groups in managing and communicating spatial information in the contexts of:

- asserting ancestral land and resource rights and entitlements;
- supporting collaborative planning and management of lands and natural resources;
- promoting equity in terms of ethnicity, culture, gender, environmental justice, hazard mitigation, etc;
- managing and ameliorating conflicts amongst and between local community groups, between communities and higher-level authorities or economic forces; supporting cultural heritage preservation and identity building among indigenous peoples and local communities. Participatory GIS (PGIS) has resulted from a merging of Participatory Learning and Action (PLA) methods with applications of GIT&S. The PGIS approach adopts a combination of geo-spatial information management tools ranging from sketch maps, Participatory 3D Models (P3DM), aerial photographs, satellite imagery, Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to compose and represent peoples' spatial knowledge. The methodology incorporates forms of virtual or physical, 2 or 3 dimensional maps which are used as interactive vehicles for spatial learning, discussion, information exchange, analysis, advocacy and decision making.

**International Workshop on Space Technology for Peace, Rehabilitation and Development**, Khartoum, Sudan, 26-29 September 2005. The Remote Sensing Authority of Sudan is organizing jointly with the Inter-Islamic Network on Space Science and Technology (ISNET) and with support from the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) the above international workshop. The topic proposed for this workshop is of prime importance to



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the whole world, in particular developing countries, which are adversely affected by natural and man-made disasters. Additionally, peace is very crucial for sustainable development of resources and the welfare of people. For additional information on submission of abstracts and participation please contact, Dr. Amna A. Hamid, Director, Remote Sensing Authority, [amnaah71@hotmail.com](mailto:amnaah71@hotmail.com) with copy to: [absdoka@hotmail.com](mailto:absdoka@hotmail.com). [Source: UNOOSA-STDM List]

-- news from the U.S.

**[Geospatial Interoperability Return on Investment \(ROI\) Study Report](#)** (NASA study brief (ppt), [BAH presentation to FGDC](#) (ppt). [NASA Geospatial Interoperability Office](#) recently embarked on a Return on Investment Study on Geospatial Interoperability, conducted by Booz Allen Hamilton (BAH). The study focused on systems currently implementing ISO, FGDC, and OGC standards/specifications, comparing and contrasting two programs -- one utilizing, and one not utilizing voluntary, consensus-based interface standards for a 5 year lifecycle. They found that the program that adopted geospatial interoperability standards resulted in \$1.00 invested netting a \$1.19 in savings in operations and maintenance compared to projects not based on open standards. This resulted in savings of 26.2 % compared to projects not implementing standards. [Source: FGDC Coordination Meeting Summary, June 7, 2005]

-- news from Europe

### **[Unanimous policy agreement on the draft INSPIRE directive](#)**

"At its 24 June meeting in Luxembourg, the Environment Council reached a unanimous policy agreement on the [draft INSPIRE directive](#), which creates a legal framework for the establishment and operation of a geographical information infrastructure in Europe. Its purpose is twofold: First, to make top-quality geographical data available at all levels in the Member States, in order to better implement community policies; and, second, to give the public access to the information.

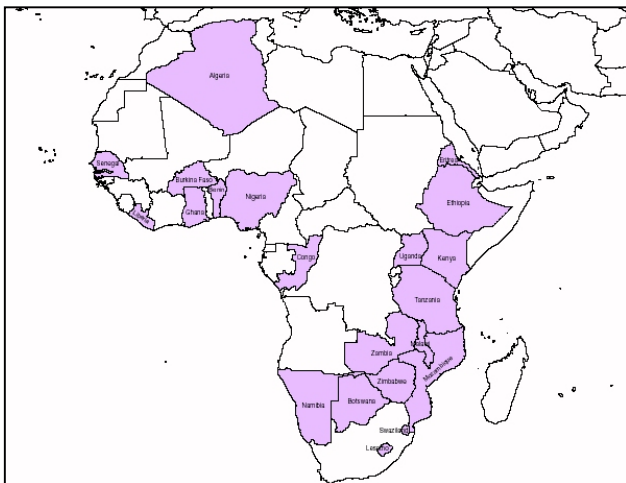
INSPIRE is completely in step with other laws in this area, and in particular with the directive on public access to information on the environment. According to Lucien Lux, the Council's President, "the unanimous policy agreement was necessary due to the European Commission's stated opposition on this issue. INSPIRE mainly pertains to environmental policy, but is of course open to use by other sectors."

The first reading in both the European Parliament and European Council (Environment) has now been completed. The co-decision process will now move to the next stage - second reading. The Council has still to publish documents 10151/05 and the 10151/05 annex regarding Common guidelines. Hopefully those responsible for publishing these documents will feel that they can do so promptly now that the Environment Council has met. [Source: EGIP List]

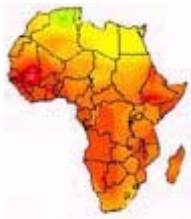
## GIS Tools, Software, Data

### **[GSDI/Global Map Grant – twenty-nine African countries still eligible for the grant / Le don de GSDI/Global Map encore disponible aux vingt-neuf instituts géographique national](#)**

This graphic shows the African countries that have been awarded a GSDI/Global Map Grant – 22 in all.



These grants are designed by ESRI to support framework data development by African national mapping agencies. The Grants consist of software (ArcGIS) and a credit for training. If your country is not colored, then your national mapping agency still is welcome to apply. ESRI is accepting applications from the following countries: Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, DRC, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Niger, Reunion, Rwanda, Sao Tome & Principe, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Togo, Tunisia. Due to U.S. trade restrictions, Libya and Sudan are not eligible. See GSDI/Global Map Grant website for further information, as well as the [online application](#).



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## [Madmappers has South Africa 50K maps available for free download](#)

More than 2200 maps of South Africa (almost 8Gb) now are available for free download. Each image file has an OziExplorer .map calibration file. In 2004, South Africa opted to liberalize the flow of GIS data, and MadMappers, a non profit initiative, subsequently acquired the rights to make Surveyor General data available over the web. They are currently negotiating similar rights with other African Governments, though the process for doing so is expected to be long. More data, particularly satellite imagery, is being converted to formats suitable for lower-end GIS software. Also, Madmappers is processing data to a higher level, generating datasets which will be available online for the African continent for the first time. They have many other African countries already in their archive, but, they are waiting for formal written permission before hosting online. For more information, contact [maurizio@madmappers.com](mailto:maurizio@madmappers.com)

## [Forest Spatial Information Catalog - Version 2](#)

The CIFOR GIS Unit is pleased to announce a complete upgrade of the Forest Spatial Information Catalog (FSIC). FSIC is a web based portal which gives users easy access to forest related geospatial (meta-)data. FSIC is meant to serve a diverse community of users with a catalog that holds over 1200 metadata records and has 97 registered users from over 50 forestry related institutes out of 24 countries. Data transferred so far is 3.47 gigabytes and the website usage is on average 400 requests per day. In the very near future, the CIFOR GIS Unit is planning to add more geospatial related publications and downloadable content to the catalog as well as global forest statistics. Improvements from the previous version include:

- a new and improved user interface
- a web mapping client with 7 themes to choose from
- OGC compliant Web Mapping Services
- upgraded the backend to Arc9 (ArcIMS, ArcSDE and ArcCatalog)
- added support for the Z39.50 and Open Archive Initiative Metadata Harvesting Protocol (OAI-MHP)

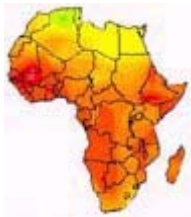
If you have any questions or if you want to give feedback, feel free to contact [fsic@cgiar.org](mailto:fsic@cgiar.org).

## [Data Set Release, Global Rural Urban Mapping Project \(GRUMP\)](#)

The majority of the world's population will soon live in urban rather than rural areas. Thus, it is vitally important to know where urban areas are located and how many people live there, yet until now one could find either tabular city populations or stylized maps of urban extents, but not both. CIESIN set about to rectify this data gap, and through the Global Rural Urban Mapping Project has now created three complementary data products build upon tabular population datasets, satellite data, and other representations of settlements: (1) GRUMP Human Settlements is a global database of cities and towns of 1,000 persons or more, where each settlement is represented as a point, and includes information on population sizes, longitude and latitude coordinates, and data sources. (2) The GRUMP Urban Extent Mask is the first systematic global-scale attempt to portray the boundaries of urban areas with defined populations. (3) The GRUMP Population Grid represents the distribution of human population across the globe, accounting for urban population concentration more precisely than previous efforts to this end. GRUMP is a collaborative project with partners from the International Food and Policy Research Institute, the World Bank, and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture. Primary financial support was provided by the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the International Food Policy Research Institute, and the World Conservation Monitoring Center. The GRUMP datasets, as well as the newest release (version 3) of GPW, may be accessed through the [NASA Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center \(SEDAC\)](#), operated by CIESIN, at GRUMP and GPW datasets and map collections are distributed free of charge.

## [GeOxygene 1.0 disponible](#)

Après deux années de développement, de test et de correction de bogues, la version 1.0 de GeOxygene est disponible. GeOxygene vise à fournir un cadre ouvert de développement, compatible avec les spécifications édictées par l'Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) et l'ISO, pour la conception et le déploiement d'applications s'appuyant sur des données géographiques (SIG). Il s'agit d'une contribution open source du [laboratoire COGIT](#) de l'IGN ([Institut Géographique National](#)). GeOxygene est diffusé selon les termes de la licence LGPL (GNU Lesser General Public License). GeOxygene est basé sur Java et les technologies open source. Il met à disposition des utilisateurs un modèle de données objet et extensible (permettant la modélisation des objets géographiques, de la géométrie, de la topologie et des méta-données) compatible avec les spécifications de l'OGC et les standards de l'ISO concernant l'information géographique. Il est prévu



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dans un futur proche que GeOxygene implemente les interfaces Java developpees par le projet [GeoAPI](#). [Source: Freegis-list]

### [GeOxygene 1.0 released](#)

After two years of development, testing and debug, version 1.0 of GeOxygene has been released. GeOxygene aims at providing an open framework compliant with Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)/ISO specifications for the development and deployment of geographic (GIS) applications. It is a open source contribution of the [COGIT laboratory](#) at the IGN ([Institut Geographique National](#), the French National Mapping Agency). It is released under the terms of the LGPL (GNU Lesser General Public License) license. GeOxygene is based on Java and open source technologies and provides users with an extensible object data model (geographic features, geometry, topology and metadata) compliant with OGC specifications and ISO standards in the geographic information domain. The support of the Java interfaces developed by the open source [GeoAPI](#) project is planned in a near future. [Source: Freegis-list]

### [Google launches free 3D mapping and search product](#)

Google Earth (Beta version) combines satellite imagery, maps and Google search technology to provide access to worldwide geographic information.

## Geospatial Research, Applications, Reference Material

### [Presentations from 'Standards into Action' Workshop are available online](#)

The workshop was held 16 April 2005 in Cairo, Egypt in conjunction with the 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Global Spatial Data Infrastructure and the 2005 International Federation of Surveyers (FIG) Working Week.

### [Presentations from NSIF Workshop - Geographical Information System \(GIS\) Applications in Business, held in Pretoria, South Africa, 13 May 2005](#)

[Land tenure management systems in informal settlements: a case study in Nairobi](#). Antony Lamba, ITC Thesis, 2005. This research investigates the land administration tools that are used to regulate land tenure systems in informal settlements in the city of Nairobi. First, a city-wide survey was conducted using a questionnaire to get an insight into the current situation of the informal land development sector in Nairobi. A settlement level case study was then carried out. The case study investigated the tools (actors, rules and procedures) used in the collection, maintenance and use of land information in three selected informal settlements. The final part of the research involved the development of a framework for assessment of the performance of land tenure management systems in informal settlements. The case study findings are used to test the assessment framework by using a scoring method.

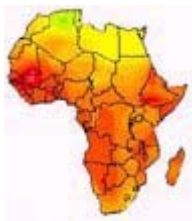
[Monitoring the effects and risks of the locust plague in Sahelian countries](#) (September 2004 - April 2005). In September-October 2004, the Sahelian region, and most particularly Mauritania, Senegal, Mali and Niger, has suffered the worst locust invasion for almost 20 years.

[Suivi des effets et des risques d'invasion acridienne dan les pays du Sahel](#) (Septembre 2004 - Avril 2005). En Septembre-Octobre 2004, la région Sahélienne, et principalement la Mauritanie, le Sénégal, le Mali et le Niger, a connu la plus importante invasion acridienne de ces 15 dernières années.

[The potential of Community Mapping and Community Integrated GIS: A study in the Sofala Province, Mozambique](#) Current Mozambican land law regulations allow two stages of cadastral land recording called delimitation and demarcation, both involving community mapping and participatory GIS as tools. A number of organizations are working in Mozambique on the implementation of land use rights, which also includes community based land use and natural resources planning. Within this paper, the authors describe the methodology of community mapping and its position within the scientific PGIS (participatory GIS) debate. Conclusions and recommendations gained from practical experiences at field are drawn.

### [One Planet, Many People: Atlas of Our Changing Environment](#)

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in cooperation with NASA, United States Geological Survey (USGS) and University of Maryland launched One Planet, Many People: Atlas of our Changing Environment— a publication that provides visual evidence of environmental change using satellite images, graphics and text. The focus is on the status and trends over several decades, both in physical and human



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geography. The volume presents visual evidence of global environmental changes resulting from natural processes and human-induced activities.

### Training Opportunities

#### **[ARCSSTEE Academic Programme for 2005/06](#)**, Ile Ife, Nigeria, September 2005 – June 2006

The [African Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education \(ARCSSTE-E\)](#) is an Activity Centre for, and also supported by the National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA), Federal Ministry of Science and Technology (FMST) Nigeria. [Applications are invited](#) from suitable qualified persons for admission into the nine month postgraduate diploma programme in space science technology applications in a) Remote sensing/Geographic Information Systems, b) Satellite Meteorology, and c) Satellite Communications. Application forms are available for collection from ARCSSTE-E Ile-Ife Nigeria, by post (on request) or online at the ARCSSTEE website. Contact: Prof. Ekundayo E. Balogun, Director, ARCSSTEE, [ebalogun@oauife.edu.ng](mailto:ebalogun@oauife.edu.ng) or [eebalogun@yahoo.com](mailto:eebalogun@yahoo.com). Deadline for receipt of applications: June 20, 2005 (Flexible for foreign applicants).

#### **[Training in Social Science Research Methodology](#)**, 11-22 October 2005, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The [Organisation for Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa \(OSSREA\)](#) is a regional research and capacity-building organization based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Its mission is to develop and promote the emergence of a culture of excellence in the study, research and training in the social sciences. OSSREA has recognized the need for upgrading the research skills of its members so as to build the research and teaching capacity of institutions in Eastern and Southern African countries. To this end, OSSREA's Research Methodology Institute offers short-term training in social science research methodology. Applicants for the training must have at minimum a BA Degree in Social sciences, be between 20-35 years of age, and have at least two years' experience in Social Science research. OSSREA will cover travel, accommodation and subsistence expenses during the training period for a limited number of the short-listed candidates. Application and supporting documents should reach OSSREA headquarters not later than 31 July 2005.

#### **[UNU Programme on Disaster Risk Information Management Workshop - University Network for Disaster Risk Reduction in Africa \(with emphasis on the use of Geoinformation and Capacity Building\)](#)**, Department of Geography, Makerere University, 12-13 September 2005

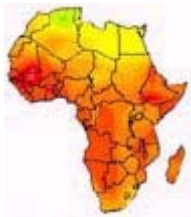
As an initial step towards the establishment of a network of Universities in Africa with interest in disaster management courses, a workshop will be organized on 12 and 13 September in the Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. The workshop is intended for representatives from Universities in Africa, and international organizations working in the fields of training, disaster management, and geoinformation. During the workshop, the intention is to evaluate the requirements for setting up such a University network and to plan the activities in the following phases. As a preparation to this workshop a [draft proposal](#) has been written. Contact: Yazidhi Bamutaze, Makerere University, [bamutaze@arts.mak.ac.ug](mailto:bamutaze@arts.mak.ac.ug); Dr. Cees van Westen, ITC, [westen@itc.nl](mailto:westen@itc.nl). It is possible to apply for the workshop and the course separately, although university teachers from African Universities are encouraged to apply for both events. Deadline: July 30, 2005.

#### **[ITC Refresher Course - Geo-Information for Natural Disaster Reduction in Eastern Africa](#)**

Department of Geography, Makerere University, 14-23 September 2005

Directly following the workshop a 1.5 week course will be organized to introduce the most important concepts in relation to the University network. One of the important aspects in the course is the application of GIS and Remote Sensing for disaster monitoring, hazard assessment and vulnerability assessment. Remote Sensing applications will be demonstrated for hazard identification, early warning, disaster monitoring and damage assessment. New developments in earth observation for disaster management will be presented. Geographical Information Systems will be used hands-on by the participants in the evaluation of risk, through the combination of hazard and vulnerability information. It is possible to apply for the workshop and the course separately, although university teachers from African Universities are encouraged to apply for both events. Deadline: July 30, 2005.

#### **[ITC Refresher course in Kenya - Spectroscopy and dynamic GIS modeling of earth surface processes for nature conservation](#)**, Nairobi, 12 September 2005- 23 September 2005.



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The course centers on the state-of-the-art in geological remote sensing in combination with soil engineering and physics directed toward sustainable use of environment and natural resources. It combines the specialist knowledge in Earth Science fields with the latest insights in the fields of geo-information management and earth observation methods. To apply, fill in [registration form](#). Contact: Prof. Dr. Freek van der Meer, email: [vdmeer@itc.nl](mailto:vdmeer@itc.nl).

**[ITC Refresher course in Rwanda - Geo-Informatics for Hydrological Modeling](#)**, Butare, National University of Rwanda, Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing Regional Outreach Centre (CGSI – NUR), 3-14 October 2005. To apply, fill in [registration form](#). Contact: Dr. Ben Maathuis, [maathuis@itc.nl](mailto:maathuis@itc.nl).

**[ITC Refresher Course in Eritrea - Novel approaches in earth observation and geoinformation science for earth systems analysis](#)**, Asmara, November 2005.

This course aims at strengthening the capacity of various surveying and educational institutions in the application of Earth Observation and GI techniques to explore and prioritize areas for exploitation of earth resources (considering costs, benefits and potential impacts on the environment). To apply, fill in the [registration form](#). Contact: Dr. John Carranza, [carranza@itc.nl](mailto:carranza@itc.nl).

**[ITC Refresher course in Ghana - The use of Geo-information as a Tool for Combating Bush Fires in West Africa](#)**, Kumasi, 28 November - 9 December 2005

The objective of the course is to give the participants an overview of the state of the art methods and tools that can be used for fire prevention, management, monitoring bush fires and identification of burnt areas. To apply, fill in the [registration form](#). Contact: Dr. Yousif Hussin, [hussin@itc.nl](mailto:hussin@itc.nl), Mrs. Ir. Louise van Leeuwen, [vanLeeuwen@itc.nl](mailto:vanLeeuwen@itc.nl).

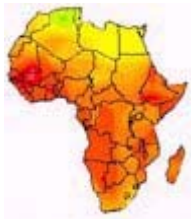
**e-Learning courses for proposal preparation**, July 1-September 30, 2005

The Learning and Capacity Strengthening Program of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) is organizing three e-Learning courses: 1) How to Write a Convincing Concept Note; 2) How to Write a Convincing Proposal; 3) How to Prepare a Logical Framework Matrix. Contact: Zenete Peixoto Franca & Abeba Tefera, [IFPRI-ISNARLearning@cgiar.org](mailto:IFPRI-ISNARLearning@cgiar.org). [Source: IPGRI TCSP Newsletter, June 2005]

### Funding Opportunities, Awards, Support

#### **[Call for Proposals - INNOVATORS TIGER](#)**

In 2002, ESA has initiated TIGER as a concrete step to implement the recommendations of the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). The WSSD Plan of Implementation, the main document adopted by UN member countries including 104 Heads of States in Johannesburg in September 2002, contains 12 articles specifically referring to the role of earth observation for sustainable development. Based on this political recognition, the CEOS WSSD Follow-up Programme was launched at CEOS Plenary in ESRIN. CEOS WSSD comprises five modules, one of which on water. To put words into action, ESA started the TIGER initiative, which aims at developing sustainable earth observation information services for integrated water resources management in developing countries, with a particular focus on Africa. In this context, the Data User Element of the Envelop Programme launch this call for proposals, INNOVATORS TIGER, which has the double objective of: 1) give African User organisations and industry an opportunity to capitalise on the latest research results and new technology in order to prototype and demonstrate innovative products, services and information systems to support integrated water management in Africa; 2) improve the capabilities of African partners to use EO technology and build the basis for a long-term sustainable service. A maximum of 5 implementation and demonstration projects will be funded, each with a maximum budget of 100KEuro. Bidders shall implement and demonstrate innovative information services that gives a practical and concrete respond to specific users needs expressed by African water organisations. To this end, projects shall be carried out by North-South partnerships involving European/Canadian Industry and research groups besides African users (e.g., National departments of Water) and technical centres (e.g., African remote-sensing centres, African National Environmental Agencies, local service providers). Registration with ESA is required to view the announcement of opportunity (AO4834). To register as a user, please send an e-mail message to [IDHelp@esa.int](mailto:IDHelp@esa.int). Deadline: 28 July 2005.



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### World Summit Award - for eContent developers...

The World Summit Award (WSA) is a global contest for selecting and promoting the World's best e-contents and applications. It is being held in the framework of and in cooperation with the World Summit on the Information Society 2003-2005. It involves representatives from numerous countries on each continent and sees the bridging of the digital divide and narrowing of the content gap as its overall goal. The contest will be open to producers and companies from all over the world, without any discrimination in terms of language, technological platform or nationality. Participants from developing countries are especially encouraged to apply. Sectors such as health, politics, science, education, business, as well as entertainment, are the main social aspects of daily human life in which people not only have the right and the opportunity to communicate but also shall have access to use the best applications to further increase knowledge and progress in their countries. The categories of the contest are:

- e-Learning
- e-Culture
- e-Science
- e-Government
- e-Health
- e-Business
- e-Entertainment
- special category: e-Inclusion

Deadline: August 1, 2005. Contact: [wsis-award@icnm.net](mailto:wsis-award@icnm.net).

### Request for Proposals: from Sand County Foundation's Community Based Conservation Network

The Sand County Foundation (SCF) is looking for innovative Community-Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) projects to fund in the range of \$10,000 - \$20,000. SCF wants to stimulate competition as a way of encouraging innovation in CBNRM and to develop open communication on CBNRM innovation to improve peer-to-peer learning. Awards will be available from September 2005. This invitation is extended to individuals or organisations working in CBNRM in North America or eastern and southern Africa. Underlying this invitation are two fundamental questions:

- What motivates people to change the manner in which they manage their land and natural resources?
- How can land and natural resource use be improved for conservation and human well-being?

Deadline: 31 August 2005.

### Cranfield University at Silsoe - Scholarships for International Students

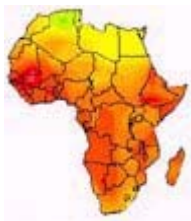
A number of Cranfield Scholarships of up to £3000 are available, based on merit, for international (non EU) students studying at Cranfield University at Silsoe. In certain circumstances an alternative accommodation bursary is available. See [brochure for MSc Geographical Information Management](#). For further information, contact Student Enquiries, [StudentEnquiries.silsoe@cranfield.ac.uk](mailto:StudentEnquiries.silsoe@cranfield.ac.uk).

### ReSource Award for Sustainable Watershed Management

Launched in 2002, the ReSource Award is an internationally recognised prize for leadership in implementing the principles of sustainability in watershed management. NGOs, private, scientific or public institutions and similar bodies are invited to participate. Projects are sought that genuinely seek to contribute to raising awareness of the ecological, social and economic significance of water sources and watersheds in developing and emerging countries. Preference will be given to those projects which demonstrate innovative preventative measures for protecting water resources and involve local community and/or regional institutions. Submission deadline for 2005 is 31 August 2005. Contact: [resource\\_award@swissre.com](mailto:resource_award@swissre.com).

### Sabbatical Research Grant Programme

The [Organisation for Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa \(OSSREA\)](#) is offering Sabbatical Research Grants to successful applicants based in Eastern and Southern Africa. African scholars based in various institutions in the region often go outside the region for their sabbaticals. This programme is, therefore, intended to give an opportunity to these scholars to arrange their sabbaticals in the various research institutions and universities found in the region and hence, strengthen the teaching and research capacity of the region, and encourage South-South cooperation. Proposals may be submitted by researchers from any of the disciplines in the social sciences involving applied social and economic analysis of contemporary development issues. All applicants must be based in Eastern or Southern Africa, currently employed, enrolled in or otherwise affiliated with a national institution that conducts research. They must hold a PhD degree from an accredited academic institution and a minimum of seven years full-time university teaching experience. The applicant's institution must endorse the research to be undertaken and be willing to



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provide some support to the applicant. Grant applications and proposals should be submitted to OSSREA by express mail before 31 July 2005.

### Post-Doctoral Fellowship Grant Programme

Committed to its conviction of maintaining the teaching and research capacity in Africa, the [Organisation for Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa \(OSSREA\)](#) is offering Post-Doctoral Fellowship Grants to successful applicants based in Eastern or Southern Africa. Proposals may be submitted by researchers from any of the disciplines in the social sciences involving applied social and economic analysis of contemporary development issues. All applicants must hold a PhD degree from an accredited institution and a not more than five years full-time university teaching experience. The budget for the proposed research should not exceed US\$10,000 and may be used to cover actual research costs (e.g., local travel and subsistence, supplies, acquisition of documents, photocopying, etc.). Grant applications and proposals should be submitted to OSSREA by mail before 31 July 2005.

### WCS Research Fellowship Program

The Research Fellowship Program (RFP), administered by WCS-International Conservation's Training & Capacity Building Program, is a small grants program designed to support individual field research projects that have a clear application to the conservation of threatened wildlife and wildlife habitat and that are based on sound and innovative conservation science. In addition, the RFP aims to build capacity for the next generation of conservationists. Most of the grantees are professional conservationists from the country of research and/or post-graduates pursuing a higher degree. The RFP supports field research in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Grants are for up to \$25,000 dollars, and are for no longer than one year. The average grant is \$11,000. Deadline: September 1, 2005.

### Global Development Network Seventh Annual Global Development Awards Competition

Submissions are being accepted for the Seventh Annual Awards Competition. Submissions will be accepted for an ongoing development project, completed research, or a new research proposal. The last day for submissions is September 16, 2005 (August 22 for the development Project award). The Board of Directors of the [Global Development Network \(GDN\)](#) has chosen 'Institutions and Development: at the Nexus of Global Change' as the theme for the Seventh Annual Global Development Conference to be held in St. Petersburg, Russia in January 2006. The five topics proposed for the research awards are consistent with this theme:

- Topic 1: Institutions and Poverty Reduction
- Topic 2: The Effect of Institutions on Long-Run Growth
- Topic 3: Institutional Development and Change in the Health Sector
- Topic 4: Political Institutions, Governance and Development
- Topic 5: Globalization, Institutions, and Development

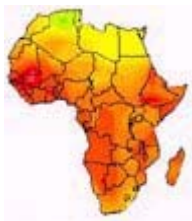
Under each topic, GDN welcomes submissions from all branches of the social sciences. Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary submissions are particularly encouraged. The three finalists in the large award categories and the five finalists in each of the five medal categories will present their papers at the Annual Conference. For more information on the awards, including full descriptions of topics, visit the GDN website.

### Medals for Research on Development

The Medals for Outstanding Research on Development carry cash prizes of \$60,000 plus travel expenses to the Global Development Network's Seventh Annual Development Conference. Two prize medals - one for \$8,000 plus travel and another for \$4,000 plus travel - will be granted for completed research papers in each of five topic areas, described below, corresponding to the themes of the Seventh Annual Conference of the Global Development Network. In addition, several other applicants will be invited at GDN expense to attend the Conference. The Medals will be awarded based upon the degree of innovation and the quality of content. The deadline for submitting the application form, abstract, and completed paper for the Medals is September 16, 2005.

### Japanese Award for the Most Innovative Development Project

An award of US\$50,000 will be given to the institution whose project embodies a fresh approach to an important development need and holds the greatest promise for benefiting the poor in developing and transition countries. Criteria include the degree of innovation and the potential for broad application of the project in other countries. The institutions of the two other finalists will receive prizes of US\$7,500 each. In



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addition, several other applicants will be invited at the expense of the Global Development Network to attend the Conference. Funding for the award is provided by the government of Japan. The award is open to all development projects in Africa, Asia, Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean, Pacific Islands, and the transition economies of Europe and Central Asia. The project must be managed by an institution with its headquarters in a country in one of the above regions. The project must have been implemented before December 31, 2003. To apply, fill out and submit an application form, a 200–300 word summary of the project, and a full description of the project by August 22, 2005.

### Highlights in Surveying Project Contest

[Point of Beginning \(POB\)](#) is accepting entries for their Second Annual Highlights in Surveying Project Contest. This year, they have waived the entry fee. This awards competition is open to U.S. and international-based surveyors, civil engineers, construction surveyors, mappers, photogrammetrists, imaging professionals, GIS practitioners, transportation employees, etc. POB wants to know all about your greatest project--as long as it will be completed during the 2005 calendar year. Click to the [online form](#) and 'brag' about why your surveying project deserves to be honored by POB -- but please keep it to 500 words. To read the article published about the 2004 project contest winner, click to: "[A Survey of Great Proportion](#)." In addition, you can read the judges' evaluation of the winning project at: "[Our Highlights in Surveying Project Contest Winner](#)."

### [Environmental Research and Education Foundation Offers Scholarships](#)

The Environmental Research and Education Foundation annually offers funding through the Francois Fiessinger Scholarship Fund to support the work of outstanding students pursuing environmental research at the doctoral level. Applications will be considered from full-time Ph.D. students who have a clearly demonstrated interest in environmental research. Awards are made without regard to an applicant's race, religion, national or ethnic origin, citizenship, or disability. Applications from students outside the United States or studying abroad will receive equal consideration. Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of: academic or professional performance; relevance of one's work to the advancement of environmental science; and potential for success. Awards include up to \$12,000 per year, renewable for two additional years for a total of \$36,000. Amounts awarded take into account the cost of tuition at the recipient's institution and any other funds received. Applications are available at the foundation's Web site or by contacting the foundation's offices. Deadline: September 1, 2005. Contact: Environmental Research and Education Foundation, 4301 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20008, USA, Tel: +1 (202) 364-3789.

[Rufford Small Grants for Nature Conservation \(RSGs\)](#) are aimed at small conservation programmes and pilot projects and are not designed to be a small part of a large undertaking. There need to be a strong emphasis on field-work with clear conservation applications. Any award will be for the field based element. RSG's are available to individuals and small groups. Applications can be made at any time of the year and these are reviewed twice annually with deadlines at the end of January and July. Contact: [josh@rufford.org](mailto:josh@rufford.org).

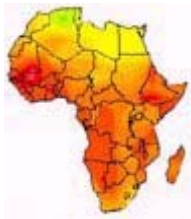
## Employment Opportunities

### **Photointerpreter – Consultant**, Nairobi, Kenya, with possible missions in Somalia

The consultant will perform the photointerpretation activities for the production of the integrated land cover/landform maps (at 1:100,000 scale) of the defined areas of interest. Duties and responsibilities:

- Provide technical assistance to the Land Coordinator and the GIS Officer during the planning of the photo-interpretation activity regarding agronomic / landform / vegetation / climatology aspects (according with his/her professional background and expertise) and in the identification of photo-interpretation keys.
- Contribute to the definition of the legend.
- Perform preliminary and final digital photointerpretation based on Landsat TM, Ikonos and other RS data.
- Contribute to the class selection for the field work.
- Perform any other related duties as required.

Candidates must have a degree in one of the following disciplines: agronomy, geology, forestry, environmental sciences, geography, agro-meteorology; experience in Remote Sensing data photo-interpretation and in the use of vector data model (like ArcView editor); good interpersonal and communication skills (English language); experience in Land Cover maps production and Remote Sensing applications (in particular about the study and data acquisition as to vegetation, landform and/or land use)



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would be a distinct advantage; and an ability to work in difficult environments/complex emergencies. Preference will be given to suitably qualified Somali nationals. Qualified female candidates are particularly encouraged to apply. Duration: 6.5 months. Deadline: 12 July 2005. Contact: Operations Manager, SWALIM office, 3rd floor, Kalson Towers, Parklands, Box 1230 Village Market, Nairobi, Kenya. Candidates are requested to submit a cover letter quoting Consultants Services Announcement No. FAO/SWALIM/09/05 along with their current/detailed Curriculum Vitae and completed FAO Personal History form (if not available, contact: [pwangari@faonairobi.or.ke](mailto:pwangari@faonairobi.or.ke)), photocopies of certificates and name, address and e-mail address of three referees. Envelopes should also clearly be marked CONFIDENTIAL - FAO/SWALIM/09/05. Only short listed applicants meeting all essential qualifications will be contacted. [Source: ReliefWeb]

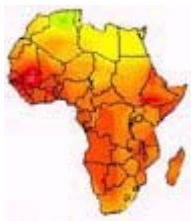
### **Land Use/Land Resources Evaluation Expert – Consultant, Nairobi, Kenya (& field missions in Somalia)**

The consultant will provide expert guidance on a land evaluation activity. The consultancy is likely to consist of two separate missions, with the actual duties of the second mission determined by the outcome of the first mission. During the first mission he/she will undertake the following duties:

- Perform a review of available relevant information (including the production of a bibliography of supporting studies for Somalia) and make recommendations on their use.
- Based on best available information from studies and fieldwork (and incorporating the recommendations of an independent soil expert), prepare definitions of relevant Land Utilization Types (LUTs) and their major requirements and constraints.
- Make recommendations on the use of the available climatic data, including pre-war time-series and currently available spatial products (Meteosat, USGS NOAA - RFE, etc), to support the land evaluation activity.
- In order to improve the analysis results, evaluate the possibility of, and define the parameters for, implementing further thematic layers in addition to the foreseen ones (land cover, landform, Landuse, climate).
- Plan for land use field data collection (identifying the objectives, indicating the methodology, preparing the survey forms, and the related manual for land use data collection).
- Contribute to the set up of a legend, for the landcover and landform photo-interpretation, compatible with the development of a land use map and to the land mapping units' description, identifying the relevant qualities and characteristics.
- Assist the Land Coordinator and the WaterLand Mapping – GIS/RS Coordinator in defining convenient methodologies for data analysis in relation to Land Suitability, Land Degradation, Qualitative and Semi-Quantitative Soil Erosion assessments and referring to the Somali context.
- Scope and assess the needs for capacity building of Somali authorities and civil society in relation to the SWALIM project.
- In close co-operation with working partners, explore and define synergies for inter-project programming that strengthen the role and results of SWALIM project (eg. with FSAU on the livelihood zone mapping).

Candidates must have an advanced degree in environmental science and/or related fields; professional experience in the use/application of Remote Sensing for Land Resources evaluation; work experience in Land Evaluation procedures; work experience in the field of land-use planning; work experience in the design and management of territorial resources and socio-economic database; prior work experience in arid environments and developing countries; experience in coordination and capacity building of working teams; good interpersonal and communication skills (English language); and an ability to work in difficult environments/complex emergencies. Prior work experience in Somalia and/or with complex emergencies would be a distinct advantage, as would knowledge of Somali. Preference will be given to suitably qualified Somali nationals. Qualified female candidates are particularly encouraged to apply. Duration: 45 days (first mission with follow up of a further 45 days foreseen). Deadline: 12 July 2005. Contact: Operations Manager, SWALIM office, 3rd floor, Kalson Towers, Parklands, Box 1230 Village Market, Nairobi, Kenya. Candidates are requested to submit a cover letter quoting Consultants Services Announcement No. FAO/SWALIM/06/05 along with their current/detailed Curriculum Vitae and completed FAO Personal History form (if not available, contact: [pwangari@faonairobi.or.ke](mailto:pwangari@faonairobi.or.ke)), photocopies of certificates and name, address and e-mail address of three referees. Envelopes should also clearly be marked CONFIDENTIAL - FAO/SWALIM/06/05. Only short listed applicants meeting all essential qualifications will be contacted. [Source: ReliefWeb]

**SDI PhD position - “Development of Framework to Assess National Spatial Data Infrastructures”, Wageningen, the Netherlands.**



## Spatial Data Infrastructure – Africa Newsletter

[The Centre for Geo-Information of Wageningen University](#) is offering a PhD position. The research will focus on the development and application of a framework to assess National Spatial Data Infrastructures (NSDIs) worldwide in order to enhance and innovate these NSDIs in a more strategic and operational way. The research challenge is to develop this framework using key variables and assessment criteria. The developed framework will be periodically applied worldwide for international benchmarking. This PhD position is embedded in a joint research project with partners Wageningen University, Delft University of Technology and The Melbourne University, Australia. Requirements for the position are:

- MSc level, preferably in the field of geo-information science, geomatics, geography, computer sciences, or social-economic sciences.
- Familiarity with the theory and practice of Spatial Data Infrastructures (spatial data, policies, standards and network technologies and stakeholders).
- Experience with assessment frameworks is desirable.
- Affinity with team work in multidisciplinary environment.

This is a full time temporary scientific training position for a period of four years, and to be concluded with a PhD thesis. Gross salary start at € 1867 per month, according to the collective labour agreement. For more information, contact Prof. Dr. Arnold Bregt, phone +31-317-474458, [Arnold.bregt@wur.nl](mailto:Arnold.bregt@wur.nl) and Joep Cromptvoets, phone +31-317-474399, [Joep.cromptvoets@wur.nl](mailto:Joep.cromptvoets@wur.nl). Application letters or e-mails with your curriculum vitae should be sent before July 14, 2005 to Wageningen UR, HRM Environmental Sciences Dept., attn. Mrs. J. Cobben-Molenaar, P.O. Box 47, 6700 AA Wageningen, or to [vacatures.dow@wur.nl](mailto:vacatures.dow@wur.nl).

### [Open Source Database Programmer](#), Nairobi, Kenya

The open source database programmer will assist in the programming of various modules for the Food Security Analysis Unit for Somalia (FSAU) integrated database system. This is a 6 month Personnel Service Agreement Contract, with possible extension. Deadline: July 8, 2005. Contact: [Mariam@fsau.or.ke](mailto:Mariam@fsau.or.ke).

### [Climate Change Project Coordinator, West Africa Region](#)

The Coordinator must hold a PhD in biophysical or social sciences; have a minimum 5-8 years experience in research and research coordination in the field of climate change, development, environment and policy-related issues; and be fluent in English and French. The Climate Adaptation Project of the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) has five principle 'work packages':

- Evaluation of impacts of climate change and climatic variability on tropical forest ecosystems
- Development of monitoring protocols to assess the impacts of climate change on tropical forest ecosystems
- Development of tools for adaptation measures
- Development of criteria and indicators for adaptive forest management
- Science-policy dialogue in and across three regions

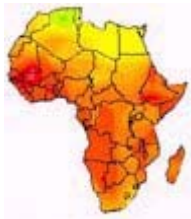
Applications should be submitted as soon as possible. Interviews for the position will be conducted in West Africa in third quarter of 2005.

### [Associate Programme Officer, P-2](#), Nairobi, Kenya

Provide support in the coordination, management and delivery of U.N. Regional Office for Africa Programme; develop and maintain a "one-stop-shop" system for provision of relevant information; maintain updates on relevant sustainable development, emerging issues and initiatives in Africa; develop, coordinate and support regional activities with civil society organizations; support the development and implementation of regional communications strategies; prepare documents and presentations; research and compile relevant data, and prepare briefing notes for the Director and Deputy Director for meetings and missions; and perform other functions as may be assigned by the Director, Regional Office for Africa. Deadline: 10 July 2005. Vacancy announcement number: 05-PGM-UNEP-406288-R-NAIROBI.

### [Call for International Experts, Consultants in Environment for Roster/Reserve List](#)

The Western and Central Africa Regional Office (WCARO) is responsible for development and post-crisis rehabilitation programmes and projects entrusted to UNOPS in the region. With its main office in Dakar with further implementation facilities expected to be progressively opened, it has implemented projects and programmes for UNDP, UNFPA, UNDP-GEF, AfDB, the EU and bilateral Governments Bank. In 2005, UNOPS WCARO will pursue the change process, which was initiated in 2003-2004 with the decentralization of operations from New York to Dakar. With a target delivery of around US\$35M, UNOPS WCARO is



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therefore looking for extremely dynamic field managers, experts, and consultants with a demonstrated or fast growing potential, capable of efficiently implementing/supporting multi-sectorial projects in the region. Deadline: July 30, 2005.

### Call for Roster List - Global Land Tenure Specialists

[ARD, Inc.](#) is currently recruiting long and short-term consultants specialized in land tenure, land policy, land legislation, and land administration who can help extend and deepen ARD's global work on the tenure and management of land and related resources. They are seeking candidates with strong physical and social science credentials and excellence in applied work who can assist with our land tenure work internationally. ARD's work will vary from project to project, but includes land tenure assessments, project monitoring and evaluation, project planning and design, land tenure research and policy development, project and program implementation, and training and human resource development.

Multi-disciplinary skills are needed that will help ARD in dealing with issues in the following areas (with attention to gender throughout):

- Land and governance including constitutional reform, judiciary reform, development of magistrates and notaries, and mechanisms for legal redress and contract enforcement
- Conflict or dispute resolution including settlement of refugees and displaced peoples, arbitration and mediation, restitution, resolution of ethnic and social conflict over land and related resources, and formal and alternative dispute resolution
- Legal and regulatory framework concerning land including indigenous rights, customary land law, common property management, individualized and group forms of tenure and ownership, policy analysis, legal education, public awareness, and legal aid
- Land redistribution including land and agrarian reform, market assisted land reform, privatization and farm restructuring, resettlement, and strategies to deal with informal settlements, illegal occupations, and uneconomical size of landholdings
- Land administration including land market development, land tilting and registration, registry development, land information systems, land survey/demarcation, valuation, and taxation
- Land use planning and conservation including land use planning, land reclamation, biodiversity and conservation set asides, land suitability assessments, buffer zone and protected area management, and zoning

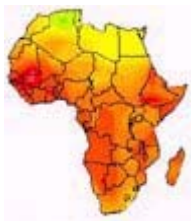
Requirements include advanced degree (minimum Masters) in relevant field, and at least five years of international development field experience. Applicants would ideally have strong working knowledge in of Arabic, French, Portuguese, Russian or Spanish (minimum FSI S-3/R-3) as well as fluent spoken and written English. To apply: email full, current CV in reverse chronological format (according to [example](#)) to [jhammond@ardinc.com](mailto:jhammond@ardinc.com), and put LAND-001 in the subject line. Applicants must complete the U.S. Department of Labor's [Employment Opportunity form](#) using Job Code: LAND-001. U.S. citizenship is not required. Deadline: July 15, 2005.

### [Research Fellow](#), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) seeks a qualified candidate to serve as a Research Fellow for a three-year, fixed term, renewable appointment based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Learning and Capacity Strengthening (L&CS) of ISNAR Division aims to provide opportunities to improve performance among the researchers and policy makers in the national agriculture systems, organizational, team/group and individual levels to achieve tangible and observable outcomes, i.e. impact results. The Research Fellow will work in close collaboration with ISNAR Division research programs to integrate high quality learning and capacity strengthening approaches to research aiming at creating innovations. This includes research on capacity strengthening, leading the design of learning plans, implementation, follow up, evaluation and impact assessment of Learning and Capacity Strengthening activities. Deadline: August 31, 2005.

### [Experienced geological mappers needed for exciting mapping projects in Africa](#)

The [Council for Geoscience \(CGS\)](#) is a South African National Science Council specializing in all fields of the geosciences (geophysics, seismology, geohydrology, regional geological mapping, engineering geology, mineralogy, geochemistry, palaeontology and economic geology). The CGS will be undertaking a variety of large geological mapping projects in Africa. The regions to be mapped by the CGS include large areas of Senegal, Ghana, Gabon, Uganda, Malawi, Mozambique, and Madagascar. These regions offer an experienced mapping geologist an opportunity to be part of an international mapping team where he or she



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can be exposed to, and contribute to high levels of scientific discovery in parts of the world where little or no geological mapping and research has been done previously. The international mapping projects managed by the CGS enjoy a high level of technical and financial support, and the CGS places a strong emphasis on a high level of scientific quality and integrity in their products. Should you be interested in being part of these exciting and challenging mapping programs, the CGS has prepared a website where all interested mapping geologists as well as geologists with other specialised skills or experience (e.g. groundwater), can enter their personal and work experience details. This information will be stored in a database from which geologists for these and other projects will be identified and contacted. Work may be available on both a permanent and contractual basis.

### [Young Professionals Program at the World Bank](#)

The Young Professionals Program (YPP) is a starting point for a career in the World Bank. The Program is designed for highly qualified and motivated young people who demonstrate a commitment to development, supported by academic success, professional achievement, and potential for leadership. The following are minimum requirements to be eligible for the YPP: be 32 years of age or younger (born on or after January 1, 1974); have at least a masters degree (or equivalent); specialize in a field relevant to World Bank's operations such as: economics, finance, education, public health, social sciences, engineering, urban planning, and natural resource management; have a minimum of three years of relevant professional experience, or continued academic study at the doctoral level; and be fluent in English. Interested candidates may apply on-line until August 31, 2005. Contact: [yprogram@worldbank.org](mailto:yprogram@worldbank.org).

### Other

### [Making sense of the world by visualizing statistics](#)

Gapminder is a non-profit venture for development and provision of free software that visualize human development. This is done in collaboration with universities, UN organisations, non-governmental organisations and public agencies, i.e. SIDA. The main project during the coming three years is a collaboration with UN Statistic Division with the aim to visualize UN common database.

### [Science research portal](#) (beta version)

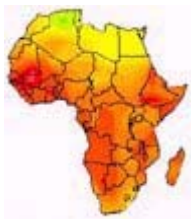
ScienceResearch.com is free, publicly available web portal allowing access to numerous scientific journals and public science databases. It allows students, teachers, professors, researchers, and the general public to access pertinent science information quickly and easily. Powered by Deep Web Technologies (DWT)'s proprietary Explorit(TM) deep web search engine, a single query will search thousands of high quality journals and databases, effectively millions of documents, in real-time. Additionally, powered by DWT's proprietary QuickRank(TM) technology, the results are conveniently ranked by relevance on a single results page. [Source: CODATA List]

### [New study projects drought in Southern Africa, rain in Sahel](#)

A new analysis of Africa's past and future climate shows that the Sahel region, which experienced catastrophic drought until rains returned in the 1990s, could experience wetter monsoons for decades to come. However, drought across southern Africa is projected to intensify further. James Hurrell of the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in the U.S. presented the findings on May 24, 2005 at the spring meeting of the American Geophysical Union. The study, conducted with Martin Hoerling (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), was supported by NOAA and the National Science Foundation, NCAR's primary sponsor. [See also [Drought in the Horn of Africa](#)]

### [African State of the Environment Reporting Knowledge Base Publication](#) (30 April 2005)

A CD published with support from UNEP containing documents on state of the environment reporting in Africa. It includes city, provincial, national sub regional and regional state of the environment reports as well as resources such as training manuals and publications on environmental indicators. The knowledge base has been developed as a resource for governments, NGO's and the public to promote the development of state of the environment reporting as a tool for effective environmental management and development and to increase access to the valuable information contained in the state of the environment and related reports provided by a variety of African and global institutions. [Fill in form to order.](#)



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## [The Digital Divide: ICT Development Indices 2004](#)

This report updates UNCTAD's ICT Development Indices to benchmark ICT development and review trends in the digital divide. It presents a summary of the policy options that countries can adopt to foster ICT development, and illustrates these by reviewing four country case studies that have successfully promoted growth in ICTs. Importantly, this Report adds depth to its benchmarking analysis by describing examples of innovative grassroots programmes in the field of ICTs in Africa. One of the key findings of the analysis is that it is not merely policy that matters but also what drives the policy and the quality of its implementation. The report contributes to the discussion on how to overcome the digital divide on the basis of examples of ICT policies that are being enacted in practice and to draw guidance as to how implementation might be improved. It represents part of UNCTAD's contribution to the World Summit on the Information Society, to be held in Tunis in November 2005.

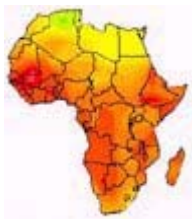
## [E-Journal of Land and Water](#)

The e-Journal of Land and Water is an open access and peer reviewed international scientific journal published by Sakia.org for research and developments in land and water. It aims at publishing scientific papers of international significance covering basic, applied, and strategic research in the area of land and water. It covers irrigation science; technology and management; land degradation; catchment management; soil and water conservation; community, social, and economic aspects of land and water; sustainability issues; and policy and planning from the wider land and water arena. [Source: IPGRI TCSP Newsletter, June 2005]

### Conferences, Events

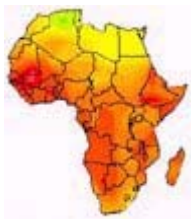
Items newly added to this listing of events since the last SDI-Africa issue are marked **\*NEW\***

Date	Location	Event
<b>July 2005</b>		
3-6 July	Southampton, UK	<u><a href="#">Cambridge Conference: The Exchange</a></u> – to be held at Ordnance Survey's head office in Southampton, UK. With a greater emphasis on networking and round-table discussions, CC:The Exchange is designed to strengthen relationships between national mapping organization senior representatives and to complement the 2007 Cambridge Conference. Contact: <a href="mailto:nmonetwork@ordnancesurvey.co.uk">nmonetwork@ordnancesurvey.co.uk</a>
5-7 July	Cape Town, South Africa	<u><a href="#">WCCE 2005 — The 8th IFIP World Conference on Computers in Education</a></u>
5-7 July	Elmina, Ghana	<u><a href="#">Restoration and Sustainable Forest Management in Ghana</a></u> Contact: TBI-Ghana Conference Secretariat, <a href="mailto:kwame.oduro@wur.nl">kwame.oduro@wur.nl</a>
6-8 July	Mauritius	<u><a href="#">AITEC Indian Ocean</a></u> - Mobilising ICTs for Development and Competitiveness in Mauritius, Madagascar, Reunion & Seychelles
9-16 July	La Coruña, España	<u><a href="#">XXII ICA International Cartographic Conference</a></u> . <u><a href="#">Call for abstracts</a></u> . Abstracts due 1 November 2004. A limited number of <u><a href="#">travel awards</a></u> will be made to young cartographers who are nationals from developing countries.
18-22 July	Vancouver, Canada	<u><a href="#">GML Days 2005</a></u> - will be the fourth annual conference on the OGC Geography Mark-up Language (GML) and Web Services for GIS. Abstracts due: <u><a href="#">April 30, 2005</a></u> .
18-23 July	Tours, France	<u><a href="#">International Union for the Scientific Study of Population - XXV International Population Conference</a></u>
19-23 July	Elmina, Ghana	<u><a href="#">1st Regional Biannual Conference of Africa Chapter of International Association of Landscape Ecology (Africa-IALE)</a></u> Changing Landscapes of Africa: A Common Approach to Diverse Challenges / Paysages Changeants de l'Afrique: Une Approche Commune aux Défis Divers. Contact: <a href="mailto:hbulley@calmit.unl.edu">hbulley@calmit.unl.edu</a> ; <a href="http://calmit.unl.edu/africa-iale/cd/">http://calmit.unl.edu/africa-iale/cd/</a> ; <a href="http://calmit.unl.edu/africa-iale/index.html">http://calmit.unl.edu/africa-iale/index.html</a> ; <u><a href="#">Africa-iale mailing list</a></u>



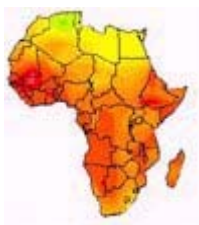
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24-29 July	San Diego, CA, USA	<a href="#">ESRI International User Conference</a>
31 July – 2 August	Cleveland, Ohio, USA	<a href="#">4th Annual Public Participation GIS (PPGIS) Conference</a> . Deadline for abstracts: March 11, 2005.
<b>August 2005</b>		
22-25 August	Jakarta, Indonesia	<a href="#">Map Asia 2005</a> Theme: Empowering People Through Geoinformation. Sub-themes: Regional Cooperation and Disaster Management. Seminars: a) Natural Resource Planning, b) Marine & Coastal GIS. Abstracts due: <u>30 May 2005</u> . Contact: <a href="mailto:info@mapasia.org">info@mapasia.org</a>
22-26 August	Copenhagen, Denmark	<a href="#">2nd International Workshop on Geographic Information Management (GIM '05)</a> in conjunction with DEXA 2005 and EGOV 2005. Submission of full papers: <u>March 04, 2005</u> .
24-26 August	Cape Town, South Africa	<a href="#">2nd Annual Conference of the Community Informatics Research Network</a> Deadline for abstracts and panel proposals: <u>1 February 2005</u> .
29-31 August	Cape Town, South Africa	<a href="#">7th Annual Conference on World Wide Web Applications</a> Deadline for abstracts/proposals: <u>28 February 2005</u> . Contact: <a href="mailto:infow3@cput.ac.za">infow3@cput.ac.za</a>
29 August – 3 September	Grand Baie, Mauritius	<a href="#">4th WIOMSA Scientific Symposium</a> - Advances in Marine Science in Western Indian Ocean Region: Contribution of Research in Improving Human Welfare and Poverty Alleviation Contact: <a href="mailto:secretary@wiomsa.org">secretary@wiomsa.org</a>
31 August – 2 September	Gaborone, Botswana	<a href="#">2nd World Information Technology Forum (WITFOR)</a> Hosted by the Government of the Republic of Botswana, in collaboration with the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP). Contact: <a href="mailto:witfor@gov.bw">witfor@gov.bw</a> .
<b>September 2005</b>		
1-3 September <b>* NEW *</b>	Dead Sea, Jordan	<a href="#">Symposium on Land Administration in the Arab World - Challenges and Ambitions</a> Call for Papers. Deadline for abstracts: July 1, 2005. Contact: <a href="mailto:dima.k@dls.gov.jo">dima.k@dls.gov.jo</a> .
5-7 September <b>* NEW *</b>	Gauteng, South Africa	<a href="#">12th South African National Hydrology Symposium: Managing Water for People and the Environment</a> . Contact: <a href="mailto:stephenson@ebe.wits.ac.za">stephenson@ebe.wits.ac.za</a>
5-9 September	Cape Town, South Africa	<a href="#">14th Conference of Commonwealth Statisticians</a>
6-8 September	Bologna, Italy	<a href="#">River Basin Management 2005</a> - the third conference in the series which marks the growing international interest in the planning, design and management of river basin systems -- including all aspects of hydrology, ecology, environmental management, flood plains and wetlands.
6-8 September	Pretoria, South Africa	<a href="#">International Workshop on Strategies for Permanent Access to Scientific Information in Southern Africa: Focus on Health and Environmental Information for Sustainable Development</a>
6-9 September	Johannesburg, South Africa	<a href="#">ACT 2005 – Seventh Annual African Computing &amp; Telecommunications Summit</a> Presentation proposals deadline: <u>30 June 2005</u> .
6-10 September	Cape Town, South Africa	<a href="#">2005 Society for South African Geographers (SSAG) Biennial Conference &amp; 2005 Annual Students Geographical Conference</a> The University of the Western Cape is hosting the Biennial Society for South African Geographers (SSAG) Conference in conjunction with the 36th Annual Students Geographical Conference. Contact: <a href="mailto:ssag2005@uwc.ac.za">ssag2005@uwc.ac.za</a>



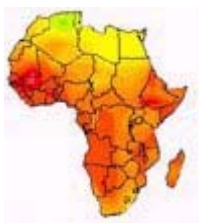
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7-9 September	Brno, Czech Republic	<a href="#">EnviroInfo 2005 - Informatics for Environmental Protection - Networking Environmental Information</a> Deadline for abstracts: February 1, 2005.
7-9 September	Trier, Germany	<a href="#">1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Remote Sensing and Geoinformation Processing in Assessment and Monitoring of Land Degradation and Desertification</a>
7-10 September	Nairobi, Kenya	<a href="#">Mapping for Change: International Conference on Participatory Spatial Information Management and Communication</a> Contact: <a href="mailto:pgis2005@itc.nl">pgis2005@itc.nl</a>
12-13 September	Cairo, Egypt	<a href="#">Arab Map 2005 - ITI 6<sup>th</sup> Arab GIS Conference</a> . Theme: Towards improved governance and a better environment. Prior to the conference, four training days(7-8, 10-11) will be offered in topics ranging from basic GIS and RS to advanced applications, e.g. e-government, location based services and environmental decision support systems. These courses will be led by instructors from both academia and industry. Abstract deadline: 1 June 2005.
12-14 September	Bologna, Italy	<a href="#">2nd International Conference on Sustainable Planning and Development (Sustainable Planning 2005)</a> The papers presented at Sustainable Planning 2005 will be published in volume 83 of <i>WIT Transactions on Ecology &amp; the Environment</i>
13-15 September	Tanta, Egypt	<a href="#">Water, Health and Environment 2005</a> Contact: Dr Bakenaz A. Zeydan, Conference General Secretary, Head of Water Engineering Department, Faculty of Engineering, Tanta University, <a href="mailto:bakenaz@dec1.tanta.edu.eg">bakenaz@dec1.tanta.edu.eg</a>
15-16 September	Montreal, Canada	<b>ISO/TC 211 21st Plenary</b> <a href="http://www.isotc211.org/">http://www.isotc211.org/</a>
16-17 September	Cambridge, U.K.	<a href="#">GEOMED 2005</a> is the fifth international, interdisciplinary conference on geomedical systems. GEOMED brings together statisticians, geographers, epidemiologists, computer scientists, and public health professionals to discuss methods of spatial analysis, as well as present and debate the results of such analyses. Deadline for abstracts: 15 May 2005.
18-22 September <b>* NEW *</b>	Tangier-Tetuan, Morocco	<a href="#">INTA29 - 1st Biennial on Territorial Development</a> . A high-level event bringing together regional government leaders, policy makers and practitioners to discuss the key issues of Regional Competitiveness and Strategic Marketing for Territorial Development. Contact: <a href="mailto:intainfo@inta-net.org">intainfo@inta-net.org</a> .
19-23 September	Goettingen, Germany	<a href="#">STORMA Symposium 2005</a> - The Stability of Rainforest Margins: Linking Ecological, Economic and Social Constraints of Land Use Conservation
22-24 September	Nairobi, Kenya	<a href="#">A planning workshops on Africa Network in Earth System Science – first announcement</a> Contact: Professor Eric Odada, University of Nairobi, <a href="mailto:eodada@uonbi.ac.ke">eodada@uonbi.ac.ke</a> or Professor Coleen Vogel of Witwatersrand, South Africa, <a href="mailto:vogelc@geoarc.wits.ac.za">vogelc@geoarc.wits.ac.za</a> .
25-27 September	Magdeburg, Germany	<a href="#">Second International ICSC Symposium on Information Technologies in Environmental Engineering (ITEE'2005)</a> Deadline for submission of papers: February 28, 2005.
26-28 September	Kuwait	<a href="#">Kuwait First International Remote Sensing Conference &amp; Exhibition</a> Deadline for abstracts: June 30, 2005.
<b>October 2005</b>		
3-7 October	Nairobi, Kenya	<a href="#">3rd World Congress on Conservation Agriculture</a> . Theme: "Linking Production, Livelihoods and Conservation"
5-8 October <b>* NEW *</b>	Johannesburg, South Africa	<a href="#">ACT 2005 – 7th Annual African Computing &amp; Telecommunications Summit</a> , Theme: "Matching investors & partners with African ICT enterprises & projects". Deadline for abstracts: 30 June 2005.



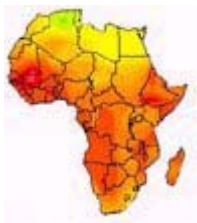
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8-12 October	Kansas City, Missouri, USA	<a href="#">Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA)'s 43rd Annual Conference</a> Abstract deadline extended to: February 11, 2005
9-13 October	Bonn, Germany	<a href="#">6th Open Meeting of the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change Research Community</a>
23-26 October	Chicago, Illinois, USA	<a href="#">2005 ESRI Health GIS Conference</a> Contact: James Cox, <a href="mailto:jcox@esri.com">jcox@esri.com</a> .
23-27 October	Sioux Falls, South Dakota, USA	<a href="#">Pecora 16 - "Global Priorities in Land Remote Sensing"</a> Deadline for abstracts: February 15, 2005.
25-29 October	Kusadasi, Turkey	<a href="#">MEDCOAST 2005 – 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Mediterrenan Coastal Environment</a> Deadline for abstracts: January 31, 2005.
30 October – 4 November	Pretoria, South Africa	<a href="#">AFRICAGIS '05</a> 7th bi-annual Africa GIS Conference. Theme: Beyond Talk: Geo-information working for Africa. This conference aims to take people beyond talking about what can be done with geo-information, to sharing information and experiences about what is being done on the continent and to showcase examples of where geo-information has made an impact on people's lives, particularly through local development and partnerships. Deadline for submission of abstracts: 15 April 2005.
31 October – 4 November	Nairobi, Kenya	<a href="#">11th World Lake Conference</a> Theme: Management of Lake Basins for their Sustainable Use: Global Experiences and African Issues. Deadline for abstract: April 15, 2005. Contact: <a href="mailto:info@ileckenya.go.ke">info@ileckenya.go.ke</a>
<b>November 2005</b>		
9-11 November <b>* NEW *</b>	Johannesburg, South Africa	<a href="#">Government Technology Africa 2005</a> - a forum where ideas are sourced, the latest technology is demonstrated and partnerships are formed to further the provision of better government services to the people.
14-16 November	Tunis, Tunisia	<a href="#">IRFD World Forum on Information Society</a> . Organized by the the International Research Foundation for Development. One of the Session Themes is Geographical Information System and Sustainable Information Society. Abstract deadline: March 31, 2005. Contact: <a href="mailto:wfis2005@irfd.org">wfis2005@irfd.org</a> .
14-16 November	Rabat, Morocco	<a href="#">UN/ESA Workshop on Spatial Information and Sustainable Development. Workshop international en Télédétection et SIG</a> . Date limite d'envoi des résumés: 15 septembre 2005. Contact: Prof. EMRAN Anas, <a href="mailto:emran@israbat.ac.ma">emran@israbat.ac.ma</a> , or Dr. TRACHE Abdelhak <a href="mailto:trache@emi.ac.ma">trache@emi.ac.ma</a> .
15-17 November <b>* NEW *</b>	Accra, Ghana	<a href="#">1<sup>st</sup> African Regional Conference of Vice Chancellors, Provosts, and Deans of Science, Engineering, and Technology</a> . Theme: The state of science and technology training institutions in Africa and their role in socio-economic development. Contact: <a href="mailto:info@ansticonference.org">info@ansticonference.org</a> .
16-18 November	Tunis, Tunisia	<a href="#">World Summit on the Information Society</a> – 2 <sup>nd</sup> phase
24-25 November <b>* NEW *</b>	Ankara, Turkey	<a href="#">ISPRS WGII/2 Workshop on 'Spatial/spatio-temporal data mining and learning'</a> . Deadline for extended abstracts: 19 August 2005. Contact: <a href="mailto:wwwsdm05@metu.edu.tr">wwwsdm05@metu.edu.tr</a> .
25-26 November	Rabat, Morocco	<a href="#">4<sup>th</sup> National Congress, Ordre National des Ingénierus Géomètres Topographes</a> Theme: For a land administration policy serving development. Deadline for abstracts: 20 August 2005. Contact: <a href="mailto:onigt@yahoo.fr">onigt@yahoo.fr</a>



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27 November – 2 December	Yaounde, Cameroon	<a href="#">Colloque Africain Systemes d'Information et Traitement de l'Image et du Signal (SITIS) / International Conference on Signal-Image Technology and Internet-Based Systems (SITIS'05)</a> Deadline for abstract submission: May 15, 2005; proposals for tutorials due: June 15, 2005. Contact: <a href="mailto:sitis@u-bourgogne.fr">sitis@u-bourgogne.fr</a> .
28-29 November	Pretoria, South Africa	<a href="#">International Conference on the Changing Politics of Land in Africa Domestic Policies, Crisis Management, and Regional Norms</a> Deadline for papers: April 30, 2005.
<b>December 2005</b>		
6-8 December	Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt	<a href="#">Middle East and Africa Conference for ESRI Users</a> Deadline for abstracts: 1 June 2005. Contact: <a href="mailto:meuc2005@qs4it.com">meuc2005@qs4it.com</a> . The first 2 days before the conference, (4-5 December 2005) are designed to benefit GIS managers. You are welcome to register for pre-conference seminars: Cadastral and land registry, Dec. 4th, Cost: \$250 Planning and Managing GIS, Dec. 5th, Cost: \$100 Web Services, Dec. 5th, Cost: \$100
16-21 December	Cairo, Egypt	<a href="#">13th International Conference of the Geological Society of Africa on Geology and Development</a> . Local lead organisation, the Egyptian National Authority for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences (NARSS). Contact: Dr Mahmoud Abdeen, GSAf Vice-President (North Africa), <a href="mailto:m_m_abdeen@hotmail.com">m_m_abdeen@hotmail.com</a>
<b>January 2006</b>		
4-7 January 2006 <b>* NEW *</b>	Cairo, Egypt	<a href="#">Environmental Change in Lakes, Lagoons &amp; Wetlands of the Southern Mediterranean Region (ECOLLAW): 1st International Conference</a> Abstracts should be submitted online by 1 July 2005.
<b>February 2006</b>		
<b>March 2006</b>		
March 2006	Dubai, UAE	<b>Map Middle East 2006</b> . Contact: <a href="mailto:gis@dm.gov.ae">gis@dm.gov.ae</a> . <a href="http://www.gis.gov.ae/en/news/news.asp?ID=64">http://www.gis.gov.ae/en/news/news.asp?ID=64</a>
9-12 March 2006	Accra, Ghana	<a href="#">5th FIG Regional Conference for Africa</a> Theme: "Promoting Land Administration and Good Governance". This conference is co-sponsored by UN FAO, UN-Habitat, UN ECA, RECTAS, ISM, etc. It will also be the first FIG regional conference in West Africa. Deadline for abstracts: 10 November 2005.
16-22 March 2006	Mexico City, Mexico	<a href="#">4th World Water Forum</a> The main theme of the Forum will be "Local actions for a global challenge". Guiding principles, main objectives, framework themes and topic sessions available for comments in the <a href="#">concept paper</a> .
<b>April 2006</b>		
<b>May 2006</b>		
25-26 May 2006	Orlando, Florida, USA	<b>ISO/TC 211 22nd Plenary</b> <a href="http://www.isotc211.org/">http://www.isotc211.org/</a>
<b>June 2006</b>		
<b>July 2006</b>		
9-15 July 2006	Philadelphia, PA, USA	<a href="#">IUSS 18th World Congress of Soil Science</a>
13-17 July 2006	Wollongong and Sydney, Australia	<a href="#">COAST - GIS 06 - 7th International Symposium on GIS and Computer Cartography for Coastal Zone Management</a> . GIS for the coastal zone: Spatial Data, Modelling and Management; Extending the Spatial Data Infrastructure. Collaboration between the International Cartographic Association's Commission on Marine Cartography and the International Geographical Union's Commission on Coastal Systems



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<b>31 July – 4 August 2006</b>	Denver, Colorado, USA	<a href="#">IEEE/IGARSS 2006</a> Contact: <a href="mailto:ieeegrss@adelphia.net">ieeegrss@adelphia.net</a> .
<b>August 2006</b>		
<b>7-11 August 2006</b> <b>* NEW *</b>	San Diego, CA, USA	<a href="#">ESRI International User Conference 2006</a>
<b>September 2006</b>		
<b>October 2006</b>		
<b>6-10 October 2006</b>	Santiago, Chile	<a href="#">9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Global Spatial Data Infrastructure</a> organized by the <a href="#">GSDI Association</a> & <a href="#">Instituto Geográfico Militar</a> . Contact: <a href="mailto:gdi9@igm.cl">gdi9@igm.cl</a>
<b>October 2006</b>	Cairo, Egypt	<b>6<sup>th</sup> African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment (AARSE) Conference</b> . Contact: <a href="mailto:aarse@rcmrd.org">aarse@rcmrd.org</a> .
<b>October 2006</b>	Beijing, China	<b>20<sup>th</sup> CODATA (Committee on Data for Science and Technology) Conference</b> Contact: <a href="mailto:codata@dial.oleane.com">codata@dial.oleane.com</a> .
<b>November 2006</b>		
<b>14-15 November 2006</b>	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	<b>ISO/TC 211 23rd Plenary</b> <a href="http://www.isotc211.org/">http://www.isotc211.org/</a>

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