



# Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association

[gsdiassociation.org](http://gsdiassociation.org)



*"The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association - Advancing a Location Enabled World"*

- **Our Vision** is of a world where everyone can readily discover, access and apply geographic information to improve their daily lives.
- **Our Purpose** is to encourage international cooperation that stimulates the implementation and development of national, regional and local spatial data infrastructures.
- **Our Mission** is to advance geo-information best practices, knowledge sharing and capacity building for the improved sharing and application of geographic information.

## Introducing the GSDI Association

The **GSDI Association** is a global organization connecting professionals, students, companies and organisations for international cooperation and collaboration to support local, national and international Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) development. SDIs allow organizations, nations and regional governments to better address socio-economic, governance and environmental issues of pressing importance, using harmonized and interoperable location-based information.



GSDI has held 14 successful major conferences since 1996, in Bonn (Germany), Chapel Hill (USA), Canberra (Australia), Cape Town (South Africa), Cartagena (Colombia), Budapest (Hungary), Bangalore (India), Cairo (Egypt), Santiago (Chile), St. Augustine (Trinidad), Rotterdam (Netherlands), Singapore, Quebec (Canada) and 2013 in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia). Attendance has increased with each conference, including representatives from major national and international organisations, universities and commercial firms from the geomatics and allied industries, attesting to the growing global influence of the Association, which is represented on global initiatives such as UN-GGIM and GEO/GEOSS.

Learn about the **GSDI Association** from our web site at [gsdiassociation.org](http://gsdiassociation.org). Here you will find details of the organisation's structure, links to current Members and information on governance and operation of the Association, benefits of membership, our current and past activities and more.

Also visit the latest Regional and Global SDI-related news published daily to the website, and our archive of hundreds of **Regional SDI Newsletters** that were produced for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America & Caribbean regions from as far back as 2002, plus news about our Members' activities.

Visit the Project pages at to learn more about the GSDI funded Projects that Association members are engaged in, including the **GSDI Small Grants Program** that provides financial support for SDI-related activities in developing nations. Other ongoing projects include **GLIM – the GSDI Geo Legal Interoperability Map of the World** and **Marine SDI Best Practice**.



For further information or to find out how to join the GSDI Association, contact us today at:  
<http://gsdiassociation.org/index.php/join-gsdi.html>



## **GSDI Individual Members**

The GSDI Association includes Organisational Members and, since 2009, Individual Members (formerly incorporated into the International Geospatial Society), which today number more than 400 from 55 countries across the globe.

### **For all of our Members, the GSDI Association mission is:**

- to serve as a point of contact and effective voice for those in the global community involved in developing, implementing and advancing geospatial, spatial data infrastructure, geographic information science, and geographic information system concepts;
- to foster geospatial, spatial data infrastructure, geographic information science, and geographic information system concepts that support sustainable social, economic, and environmental systems integrated from local to global scales;
- to promote the informed and responsible use of geographic information and spatial technologies for the benefit of society.

### **The Goals of the GSDI Association apply equally to our Organisational and Individual Members**

- to support the establishment and expansion of local, national, and regional (multi-nation) spatial data infrastructures that are globally compatible;
- to provide an organization to foster international communication and collaborative efforts for advancing geospatial technology, spatial data infrastructure, geographic information science, and geographic information system innovations;
- to support interdisciplinary research and education activities that advance geospatial technology, spatial data infrastructure, geographic information science, and geographic information system concepts, theories and methods;
- to enable better public policy and scientific decision-making through such advancements;
- to promote the ethical use of and access to geographic information;
- to foster geospatial technology, spatial data infrastructure, geographic information science, and geographic information system developments in support of important worldwide needs such as:
  - improving local to national economic competitiveness,
  - addressing local to global environmental quality and change, -- increasing efficiency, effectiveness, and equity in all levels of government, and
  - advancing the health, safety and social wellbeing of humankind in all nations.

### **Key Strategies for Achieving our Goals**

- Engage with members, especially from developing countries, for knowledge sharing.
- Strengthen SDI education globally, through multiple capacity building actions.
- Improve the external visibility and image of the society
- Expand the IGS membership geographically, especially among students and young professionals.
- Improve financial viability for long term sustainability of strategy and work plan activities.

**Individual Members from developing nations can join the GSDI Association for free. Check the GSDI website for details!**