

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



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

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Message from the editors

Welcome to the April issue of the newsletter for the year 2012.

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

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

Contributions

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

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GSDI News

[GSDI Small Grants Awards for 2011-2012](#)

The GSDI Association announced in February 2012 the winners of the GSDI Small Grants Awards for 2011-2012.

Under the GSDI Small Grants Program, the GSDI Association, along with partners and participants, allocates resources from the U.S. Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) and the GISCorps of The Urban and Regional Infrastructure Systems Association (URISA) to fund a small grants program to support national or sub-national activities that foster partnerships, develop in-country technical capacity, improve data compatibility and access, and increase political support for spatial data infrastructure and earth observations application development.

For more information, including links to the results of some of the former award winners application of the funds, please visit the [GSDI Small Grants Program Web site](#).

[Calls to Host GSDI 14 and GSDI 15](#)

The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association (<http://gsdi.org>) supports a major international geospatial conference every twelve to eighteen months. The conference is typically accomplished in affiliation with another regularly held national, regional or global geospatial conference and/or with the support of a major sponsoring organization or agency. The gathering is purposefully moved around and across the globe in order to optimally accomplish the Association's purpose of promoting international cooperation and collaboration in support of local, national and international spatial data infrastructure developments that allow nations to better address social, economic, and environmental issues of pressing importance. The locations and proceedings of the past twelve world conferences may be found at <http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconferences>.

The thirteenth GSDI World Conference will be held in North America from 14-17 May 2012 in Quebec City Canada (See <http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsd13/>).

Ideally GSDI 14 should be held within the time frame of August through October of 2013 and GSDI 15 would be held approximately 12 to 18 months after that. The GSDI Association is inviting expressions of interest to host either of these upcoming planned conferences. Affiliation with the GSDI World conference can bring international and global attention to a national or regional geospatial conference or Spatial Data Infrastructure initiatives, attract substantial international participation and sponsorship, and increase numbers of attendees overall.

Please submit your brief statement of interest on or before 1 May 2012 to mgallant@gsdi.org.

Proponents will have the opportunity to briefly present their statement of interest orally to members of the GSDI Council at its meeting on Sunday 13 May 2012 in Quebec City (a physical spokesperson is not required.)

Council members will vote on the proposals and thereby indicate the preferred options with which the GSDI officers should first negotiate in selecting sites for GSDI 14 and GSDI 15.

[International Geospatial Society \(IGS\) Free Memberships](#)

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

[GSDI 13](#)

The joint **GSDI World Conference** (GSDI 13), the 14th **GEOIDE Annual Scientific Conference**, the 7th **3DGeoInfo Conference**, and the **Canadian Geomatics Conference 2012** will take place in historic Québec City, Canada at the Québec City Conference Center in the heart of the city. Primary partners in organizing this conference include the [GSDI Association](#) and [GEOIDE](#).

SDI News, Links, Papers, Presentations**[Philippines LGUs to set up land info centres](#)**

Bohol, Philippines: The Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) in Bohol, Philippines, encouraged all local government units (LGUs) in the province to set up their respective public titling and land information office to create the cadastral council in preparation for its comprehensive public land titling programme.

Source: Geospatial World and [PIA](#)

[Open access to government data on the cards](#)

The way has been cleared for public access to the data collected by Union government ministries and departments, with official approval being accorded to the National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy (NDSAP).

Following its recent approval by the Union Cabinet, the policy has been notified and is in the process of being gazetted, said R. Siva Kumar, CEO of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure, and head of the Natural Resources Data Management System, Department of Science and Technology.

The NDSAP states that at least five 'high value' data sets should be uploaded to a newly created portal, data.gov.in, in three months of the notification of the policy. Uploading of the remaining data sets should be completed within a year.

Source: The Hindu

[Possibility or a dream? Spatially Enabled Government and Societies](#)

By definition, 'spatial enablement in action' means that we (governments) must make our spatial information "actionable". That is, it must be used and leveraged beyond just for mapping. It must form the enduring fundamental authoritative spatial data layers of a nation, and do so in a way so that it is able to support evidence-based decision making for the many social, economic and environmental drivers challenges that face our Governments. It is incumbent on us doing so. Should we not do so, we seriously risk "spatial stagnation", and have a rich resource of geoinformation that remains largely untapped and with significant unrealised potential.

Source: Coordinates

[The use of SDI in Spatial Planning in Indonesia](#)

Spatial planning arrangements in Indonesia have incorporated cross-sector stakeholders and people. The arrangements require a new approach to embrace all stakeholders and formulate spatial planning. On the other hand, Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) is considered as a new instrument that provides a communication channel for people to share and use spatial data. The data are then used to formulate spatial planning policy. This paper proposes the potential use of SDI in supporting spatial planning in Indonesia. Results of the observation among related scientific literature and in-depth interviews in research areas were used to determine an appropriate method to measure the use of SDI in spatial planning and summarize the use of SDI in spatial planning in Indonesia.

Source: Wageningen University

[Working towards an OGC Forum for Australia & New Zealand](#)

A proposal for ANZLIC to support the creation of an ANZ OGC Forum has been endorsed at the ANZLIC meeting this month (March 2012). The proposal will see ANZLIC work with OGC and existing Australian and New Zealand OGC members to develop a coordinated regional community for participation in the development of OGC standards.

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) is an international industry consortium of 445 companies, government agencies and universities participating in a consensus process to develop publicly available interface standards. OGC standards support interoperable solutions that "geo-enable" the Web, wireless and location-based services and mainstream IT. OGC Standards empower technology developers to make geospatial information and services accessible and useful with any application that needs to be geospatially enabled.

A workgroup will be formed to start the process of engaging with all the existing OGC members in Australia & New Zealand to understand the regional requirements for the forum and begin developing a community structure, charter and an inaugural meeting forecast to take place as part of the 2012 spatial@gov conference to be held in Canberra 20-22 November 2012.

Source: ANZLIC

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[GITA Revamps Web Presence and Membership Structure](#)

Following a six-month period during which all facets of its operations and activities were assessed and reviewed in detail, GITA has streamlined its website and completely restructured the association's membership categories.

Source: GITA Press Release

[Thailand's NSDI Portal and Clearinghouse launched](#)

The Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency ([GISTDA](#)) and relevant parties, particularly those involved with the Fundamental Geographic Data Set (FGDS), jointly inaugurated Thailand's National Spatial Data Infrastructure Portal and Clearinghouse on February 9, 2012, at the IMPACT Convention Center. The Minister of the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) and the Chairman of the Board of GISTDA presided over the opening ceremony.

The system was developed by upgrading the existing GIS clearinghouse demonstration program of GISTDA, established in 2009. The main objective is to enable retrieval and exchange of up-to-date data among users, under the auspices of the National Committee on Geo-Information, for which GISTDA serves as the Secretary. The standardized data will serve not only the public and private sectors, but academic circles, as well.

See also [\[SDI-AsiaPacific\] Thailand to launch NSDI portal by 2012](#) (April 27, 2011)

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SDI Spotlight

This month the Editorial Board has determined that none of the submitted material meets the high standard demanded for publication in the SDI-AP newsletter.

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

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GIS Tools, Software, Data

[Climate Change Tracking Program Partners China with U.S. University](#)

The University of Maryland is partnering with Beijing Normal University to create the Joint Center on Global Change and Earth System Science that will develop tools to track climate change. The center will create an international remote sensing database, track land use and cover, in addition to monitoring agriculture.

Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping

[India: National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy](#) (pdf format)

There is a general need to facilitate sharing and utilization of the large amount of data generated and residing among the entities of the Government of India. This calls for a policy to leverage these data assets which are disparate. According to the Ministry of science & Technology, the current regime of data management does not enable open sharing of Government owned data with other arms of the government, nor does it expect proactive disclosure of sharable data available with data owners.

The objective of the National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy is to facilitate the access to Government of India owned shareable data and information in both human readable and machine readable forms through a network all over the country in a proactive and periodically updatable manner, within the framework of various related policies, Acts and rules of Government of India, thereby permitting a wider accessibility and use of public data and information.

The National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy will apply to all data and information created, generated, collected and archived using public funds provided by Government of India directly or through authorized agencies by various Ministries / Departments / Organizations / Agencies and Autonomous bodies.

[Seoul Metropolitan Geoinformation Portal](#)

Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping

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[Alignment Study of Spatial Data Supply Chains \(Australia & New Zealand\)](#)

Currently in Australia and New Zealand, a great many organisations collect, maintain and share spatial data, and consequently there are a multitude of SDSC initiatives being pursued at all jurisdictional levels.

Many CRC-SI participants agree that there is little to no co-ordination of these developments and very little understanding of what components have already been built, leading to duplication of effort, wasted investment and missed opportunities to define a world leading research agenda. To address this issue of lack of coordination and to identify R&D and collaboration opportunities, the "Alignment Study" project is being conducted. The project consists of three phases, as described in this document.

[CRC-SI – Alignment Study of Spatial Data Supply Chains: Phase 1: Quick Scan of Relevant Initiatives 24 February 2012 Version 2.0](#)

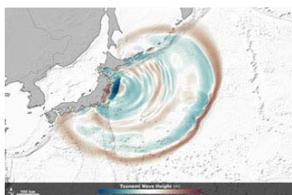
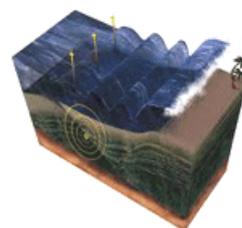
Thanks to Ross Johnson for this item

[Mapping the Japan Tsunami Disaster in 3D](#)

The Japan Tsunami disaster resulted in a proliferation of mapping and cartographic production. This resulted from the many needs of people to identify and provide emergency services, to enable protective services, assist in geophysical studies and to help provide services for recovery. 3D mapping technologies are being used for mapping and visualization purposes for the event and are helping government, business and the public to understand the tsunami, plan and to develop for the future.

Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping

SEE ALSO [Mapping the Japanese tsunami to prepare for future events](#) (Source: Science Codex)



[Deadly topography - Geospatial World's "Image of the Week"](#)

In the wake of the Tohoku-oki tsunami, scientists now know that seafloor topography affects the strength and height of a tsunami even in the deep ocean and at great distances from the genesis of the wave. They used satellite altimeters (from Jason-1, Jason-2, and Envisat satellites) to observe "merging tsunamis".

Source: [NASA](#) & Geospatial World

[Integrated Information of Highway Bus Routes](#)

To meet people's right to know and enable them to query bus information such as routes, stop information and so forth, "Highway Bus Information System" was announced to public in 2009. However, it could neither manage information efficiently with WebGIS surface, nor enable people to query easily due to diverse formats of bus stops. Now, through this project, information of bus routes and stops in Taiwan is investigated and compiled thoroughly to integrate spatial and attribute data which is related to countrywide bus operating routes of the 1,300 roads comprehensively

Source: GIS User

[Wifi sensors tackle bushfires in Australia](#)

Researchers at Edith Cowan University's (ECU) Centre for Communications Engineering Research (CCER), Australia, developed sensors which take readings of the temperature, oxygen and carbon dioxide in surrounding bushland. When these sensors detect smoke, they instantly alert fire authorities via wireless internet connection or a text message to a mobile phone, with accurate GPS information on the fire.

Source: [Geospatial World](#) and Edith Cowan University

[Accused killer was outsmarted by police who used sophisticated mapping techniques](#)

Malcolm Naden spent almost seven years on the run, eking out an existence in dense, remote NSW bushland. But on Thursday the accused killer was finally outsmarted by police who used sophisticated mapping and booby-trapping techniques to track him down.

...

Finally, a "painstaking" mapping of Naden's movements between the homes he visited, and the tracks he used, helped lead to his arrest.

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell said ... that as well as intelligence, "incredible" technology had made Naden's capture possible.

Source: Sydney Morning Herald

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[Photogrammetry: Unmanned Aerial Vehicles flying over Singapore](#)

For the first time Singaporean authorities have given permission for a photogrammetric UAV mapping/modeling flight over an important area of the city. In the context of the SEC-FCL (Future Cities Laboratory) project a pilot study is conducted with the goal to generate a high quality 3D city model of the NUS campus from UAV images. 800 images were needed to cover the area. Data processing is in progress.



UAVs – Unmanned Aerial Vehicles have recently become a strong focus of attention, since fairly inexpensive platforms, navigation and control devices and sensors for instantaneous digital data production have become available.

Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping

[See also - Is there a mapping drone in your future?](#)

Source: V1 Magazine

[Researcher turns inaccuracy of GPS into a tool to predict quake](#)

GPS users often complain about some inaccuracy in the device. A researcher at the Sardar Vallabhbhai National Institute of Technology (SVNIT), Surat, India, turned that inaccuracy into a tool to predict earthquakes. Source: Geospatial World and [The Times of India](#)

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News from abroad

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

[Investigation of Earth Catastrophes From the International Space Station: Uragan Program](#)



The Uragan program aboard the Russian segment of the International Space Station uses digital photography to study Earth's natural resources by monitoring catastrophes, both natural and human made. Uragan, which means "hurricane" in Russian, began during the first days of habitation on the station and continues to be an important Earth observation program, with the primary goal of defining requirements for a ground-space system for disaster warning and damage mitigation. The program is a logical continuation of the Earth Visual-Instrumental Observations Program (in other words, a crew Earth observation program) started in the Soviet

Union/Russia in the early 1970s as part of the Salyut series of space stations and followed by the Mir orbiting complex.

Source: NASA

[Mapping Your Water Footprint](#)

Students at the Harvard Graduate School of Design have compiled an [online map](#) that takes a look at the "water footprint" of countries around the world. The data visualization compiles data on water consumption as well as the hidden water content in consumer goods in order to determine the differing amount of water consumed per person as well as the water supply.

The site takes into account the amount of water it takes to produce such consumer goods as beverages, fast food, clothing, and footwear as well as the agricultural requirements of different agricultural crops and livestock.

Source: Vector1Media



[Geospatial mapping enhances Arlington National Cemetery management USA](#)

Officials at Arlington National Cemetery will use an Army-designed geospatial mapping system to manage cemetery operations, the executive director of the Army National Cemeteries Program said Thursday.

"Arlington is no longer a paper-based operation. By producing a single electronic map of Arlington, the staff will assign, manage and track gravesites with an authoritative digital map," Condon said. "It will allow us to synchronize in real time our burial operations at Arlington."

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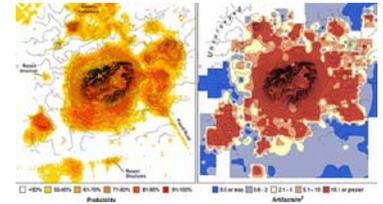
The geospatial mapping system allows officials to synchronize burial operations with other daily operations, such as public ceremonies, infrastructure repair, grounds upkeep and public safety activities, Condon explained. The system is linked to Arlington's interment scheduling system, which allows schedulers to assign gravesites and assign procession routes. It also alerts Arlington staff of other activities in the area, she said. Arlington is the first national cemetery to use this technology, Condon told the panel.

Source: GIS User

[New frontier in archaeology](#)

For decades, working as an archaeologist meant being the guy with the muddy boots. But, Jason Ur, an archaeologist from Harvard University, and his team, developed a software that can identify ancient settlements on satellite images. The software analyses factors like soil discoloration and distinctive mounding.

Source: Geospatial World "Image of the Week" (26 March) & [Harvard Gazette](#)



[Mapping Matters: From Disasters to H1N1](#)

Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping

[GIS & Social Media Team Up to Combat Disasters](#)

Software companies are integrating geographic information systems (GIS) technology and social media to map people's tweets and other social media platforms with geospatial data.

GIS paired with social media has been used in every major disaster over the past two years.

Source: GISUser

[An Online Map You'll Actually Want to Look At](#)

No one can really debate the functionality of Google Maps, nor doubt its engine power, but the question of its graphic design is another matter entirely. Yet, it's leagues ahead of OpenStreetMap (OSM) and further still ahead of the other "competition" (Bing Maps) – that is, until now. Stamen Design has developed unique map skins which make OSM the most aesthetically pleasing digital maps available.

Source: The Atlantic Monthly magazine's "Cities" website



[China publishes high-resolution full moon map](#)



China published a full coverage map of the moon, as well as several high-resolution images of the celestial body, captured by the country's second moon orbiter, the Chang'e-2.

Source: [Geospatial World](#) & English.News.cn

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Articles

[Report of A Half Day Workshop on "Unformation Sharing in Integrated Water Resource Management", Kathmandu University, 24th February, 2012.](#)

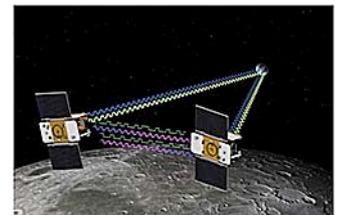
29 February, 2012 14:46

Source: Kathmandu News

[American Surveyor "Spotlight"](#)

Last year, NASA launched another gravity experiment, this time to the Moon. The experiment will allow us to determine the make-up of the Moon's inner core.

Dubbed GRAIL (Gravity Recovery and Interior Laboratory), it is basically identical to GRACE. But here's the cool measurement part: Even though the two spacecraft will range between 40 and 140 miles apart, the Ka-band radar NASA is using to make the measurements can resolve the distance between them to less than the size of a red blood cell, or a few tenths of a micron per second in their relative velocities.



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[What Is A GIS?](#)

What exactly is GIS? Always a good question and topic of discussion it seems.

To this day professionals still can't decide if GIS is a profession, a tool, or a niche area but one thing is for sure, the question it always generates some discussion. And so a look at some popular/common descriptions of GIS
Source: GISUser

[Learning about your community and the world with GIS](#) by Joseph J. Kerski

In his typical, fun and educational approach, Joseph touches on some interesting Geo facts and history. He then leads us into details of the importance of GIS in education (his true passion) and offers up interesting real world stories

Source: GISUser

[10 Best Practices for Very Large Boundary Surveys](#)

I haven't run across very many easy boundary surveys. Even most of the "small" ones can be quite complicated. However, large boundary surveys come with additional challenges. This article reveals 10 of the best practices I have developed to deal with the challenges of boundary research and data management.

Source: The American Surveyor

[Design of 3D cadastre model in the Russian Federation](#)

With an aim to introduce 3D cadastre registration in the Russian Federation, the Russian Government commissioned 3D cadastre modelling project in the country. After the initial analysis of the Russian legislation, an inventory of possible use cases in Russia, and the examination of 3D Cadastre 'solutions' in other countries, the project is currently in the phase of the design of a 3D Cadastral model, which will then be followed by the development of a prototype system. The project is based on experience of the Netherlands

Source: Geospatial World

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Books and Journals (including Videos and Web publications)

[Mapping India](#) By Manosi Lahiri. *Niyogi Books*; 320 pages; £90. Buy from [Amazon.co.uk](#)

Indians did not create maps—this task fell largely to Europeans, says Manosi Lahiri in her richly illustrated book, "Mapping India"

This book was reviewed in [The Economist](#)

[India: A Sacred Geography](#) By Diana Eck. *Harmony*; 576 pages; \$27 and £18.99. Buy from [Amazon.com](#), [Amazon.co.uk](#)

India "is more than a map, it's a three-dimensional sacred landscape, linked by its storylines".

This book was reviewed in [The Economist](#)

[Famous US Surveyor – Abraham Lincoln](#)

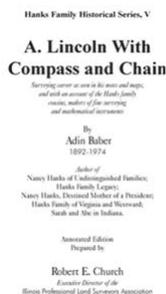
See also [Abraham Lincoln, the surveyor by Carl Sandburg](#)

Book [Lincoln with Compass and Chain](#)

Lincoln's work as a surveyor was first documented by Adin Baber, a surveyor from southeastern Illinois. While researching his genealogical connection to the family of Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks, Mr. Baber began to document Abraham Lincoln's surveying work.

Before his death in the 1970s, Mr. Baber researched early surveying instruments made by the Hanks family, studied the surveying laws under which Abraham Lincoln worked, and resurveyed and redrew plats from many original Lincoln surveys. He visited the towns Lincoln helped lay out and even located some of the bearing trees Lincoln used to establish critical survey points.

Mr. Baber then published a book, *A. Lincoln with Compass and Chain*, to document his research. This book contains much of the information we know today about how Lincoln practiced surveying, and it became the impetus for the Lincoln Surveyor Statue Project.



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[The February 2012 issue of SSSI's GeoMessage is now available](#)

[The Geospatial Desktop — Open Source GIS & Mapping](#), authored by Gary Sherman, is [now available on the Kindle](#) platform for download and at a discount to the print book.

Open source GIS and mapping application are in increasing demand. Created specifically to support consultants and academics needing more material on the subject, this book gives an overview of the desktop software that is currently available and dives deeply into particular cases — including scripting, analysis and day-to-day usage of products such as Quantum GIS and GRASS GIS. This is an introduction to products as well as concepts, so is well suited for beginner GIS students and intermediate users who want to expand their portfolio of options.

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

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

by Frank Jacobs

Frank Jacobs is a London-based author and blogger. He writes about cartography, but only the interesting bits.

Blog of [Ragnvald Larsen, geographer](#)

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

[International Society for Digital Earth](#) - December, 2011 [Newsletter](#)

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

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

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

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

[SDI Magazine](#)

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

The January 2012 issue has been posted:

[LiDAR News, Vol 2, No 3](#) (February 2012) and [LiDAR News, Vol 2, No 4](#) (Mid-February 2012)

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

[Coordinates](#) monthly magazine (February 2012)

[SERVIR-Africa community news](#)

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

[National Geographic website](#)

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

[Professional Surveyor](#) magazine

[The American Surveyor](#) newsletter (March 28)

[Pampering pedestrians](#)- by *Bal Krishna*

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... I asked a security personal at the Convention Center how to reach Bukit Bintang. He paused for a while and suggested me to go outside and take the foot over bridge. I did that, and what I experienced, was simply great.
Source: Coordinates

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Just for Fun!

[Who bit my border?](#) Have our readers ever wondered where **the border dividing Asia from Oceania is located?** This blog from the NY Times Borderlines blog answers the question – and provides a history of the 141st East parallel of longitude
Note that Asia **AND** Oceania together make up the Asia-Pacific region



[Winston's Hiccup: the curious zigzag of the border between Jordan and Saudi Arabia](#)

In his later years, Winston Churchill liked to boast that in 1921 he created the British mandate of Trans-Jordan, the first incarnation of what still is the Kingdom of Jordan, “with the stroke of a pen, one Sunday afternoon in Cairo”

Source: NY Times [Borderlines blog](#)

[Mapping Fruit ! - EAT A FREE PEACH: MAPPING “PUBLIC FRUIT”](#)

David Burns, Matias Viegner, and Austin Young, three CalArts graduates who founded [Fallen Fruit](#), a mini-collective that several years ago began [mapping](#) the “public fruit” of Los Angeles: the guavas, cactus, apples, bananas, figs, grapes, nectarines, peaches, plums, carob, persimmons, walnuts, passion fruit, pomegranates, avocados, lemons, limes, and oranges that either grow on or overhang public land. Avocado and citrus, planted by commercial growers a hundred years ago, long before the neighborhoods were built, still align to a grid. In areas settled by Chinese, they found loquats; where Mexicans lived, they found plantains and prickly pear cactuses (the fruit makes good jam).



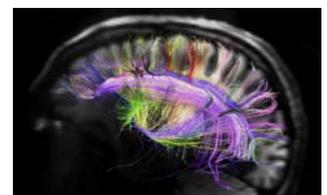
They have since mapped numerous other cities, including San Francisco, Madrid, Malmo, Denver, Sherman Oaks, Christiania (where the hippies planted mulberry trees), and Cali, Colombia. The Venice Canals, where I am writing from, have loquats, lemons, and bananas, if I’m reading the key right. “The streets were unwalked,” Austin said. “People didn’t *know* the fruit was there.” Their first idea was to distribute maps to the homeless, but then, Matias said, they realized the homeless already knew where the fruit was—“what they needed was a meal not a fruit map.” They started showing neighborhood residents where the fruit was—this was before foraging had entered the public consciousness—and frequently encountered the question: “Is this edible?” “We’d be like, ‘Yeah, it’s a peach tree,’ ” Matias said.

Source: New Yorker blog

[Grid of the Day: The Brain](#)

This is your brain on urban planning.

In a new study in *Science*, researchers looked at the network of fibers that carry signals from one part of the brain to the other. They unocvered a remarkably organized three-dimensional grid. According to study author Van Wedeen, the grid is a little like Manhattan “with streets running in two dimension and then the elevators in the buildings in the third dimension.”



Of course the human brain has a lot of folds and curves. So, Wedeen says, you have to imagine Manhattan bent into some odd shapes. But the underlying grid doesn’t change. The streets intersect at 90-degree angles and the buildings rise vertically.

Source: The Atlantic Monthly

[A Fantasy Transit Map for San Francisco](#)

If a picture is worth a thousand words, a map is worth the difference between getting lost for two hours and getting to your destination in 20 minutes, anxiety-free.

Source: The Atlantic Monthly

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Training Opportunities

[Learn to Use HTML5 with Esri ArcGIS](#)

Get a brief introduction to HTML5 and learn how to use HTML5 technologies with the ArcGIS API for JavaScript and ArcGIS Online.

Source: GIS User and [ESRI](#)

[Large-Scale 3D Laser Scanning: The Complete Process](#)

Don't worry if you missed the live webinar, "Large-Scale 3D Laser Scanning: The Complete Process". It's now available online for you to watch any time!

[e-Learning for the Open Geospatial Community](#)

We are pleased to inform that the course repository for the ELOGeo (An e-Learning Framework for Using Geospatial Open Data, Open Source and Open Standards) project is ready.

ELOGeo is a JISC-funded project based at the Centre for Geospatial Science, the University of Nottingham in partnership with the Mimas Centre of Excellence at the University of Manchester. ELOGeo main collaborators are Open Source Geospatial Foundation, Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC), Ordnance Survey, Open Nottingham, International Cartographic Association (ICA) and gvSIG Association.

[More details of ELOGeo.](#)

[gvSIG Training platform opens with a first course for gvSIG users](#)

The gvSIG Association tries to increase its learning offer through online courses, publishing a new learning platform: gvSIG Training. In parallel, the gvSIG Association launches its official certification program.

It's a step forward in the training processes in free geomatic, creating an online training centre, that contributes to the spreading as well as to the sustainability of the gvSIG project. Training without geographic barriers, and with the best professionals.

In this platform, you will find courses in several languages to learn to use the different applications of the gvSIG project, in a user level as well as in a developer one. The courses list will be extended gradually with different gvSIG and free geomatic specialization courses (databases, map servers...), with the objective of covering the different needs of the Community.

The courses offered by gvSIG Training are part of the training routes that are required to obtain the gvSIG official certification.

For further information:

- gvSIG Training: <<http://gvSIG-training.com/>>

- gvSIG Certifications: <<http://www.gvsig.com/services/certification>>

GIS Courses by Distance Education

NSW Riverina Tafe

The courses listed below are all full Geographic Information Systems courses which can be studied over a number of semesters by distance study pathways.

[Certificate III in Spatial Information Services \(GIS\)](#)

[Certificate IV in Spatial Information Services \(GIS\)](#)

[Diploma of Spatial Information Services \(GIS\)](#)

Source: [NSW River](#)

[Participatory Spatial Information Management and Communication Training Kit now available on-line](#)

Co-published by CTA and IFAD in English and Spanish, the Training Kit is a unique product that can be tailored to meet user needs, ensuring that employees get the best training available on Participatory Spatial Information Management and Communication.

The online version was launched at the beginning of March 2011. The DVD version was launched in December 2010. The Training Kit contains 15 Modules, each presented through a series of Units. Modules cover the entire spectrum of good developmental practice – from mobilising communities to developing a communication strategy based on the outcome of participatory mapping activities. The Modules touch on topics such as the fundamentals of training, ethics and community groundwork and processes as well as the more technical low-, mid- and high-tech participatory mapping methods.

Users decide what they want to cover and when. The product has been developed using the Multimedia

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Training Kit (MMTK) approach – which allows you to pick and choose those Modules, Units and components that best suit your particular requirements and develop a curriculum to suit your specific needs.

Publishers: Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Co-operation ACP-EU (CTA), Wageningen, The Netherlands and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Rome, Italy

Source: [The Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation](#)

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Funding Opportunities, Awards, Grants

[Call for Proposals for Research Grant in Geospatial Information Science & Engg. \(GISE\)](#)

NRDMS/ NSDI Divisions, Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India

The Department of Science & Technology (DST), Govt. of India announces a call for proposal for short term research in the area of Geospatial Information Science and Engineering with particular reference to Geospatial Interoperability. The proposals should be centered on the standards defined by the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC). Insights gained in the research are expected to contribute to the development and application.

Deadlines

Proposals for Research Grants will be reviewed three times a year with funding decisions made approximately within a month/ month and a half from the review date. Upcoming deadline for the proposal is: **10 April 2012**

Further information is available from [here](#).

Source: NSDI India

[2012 IEEE GRSS Data Fusion Contest](#)

The [2012 IEEE GRSS Data Fusion Contest](#) is up and running and something that you should think about participating in. While with ever increasing spatial and spectral resolutions in the variety of imagery and elevation data available now-a-days has reduced the need for certain data fusion products, it is also creating new opportunities to fuse the new data options. This year's contest is based on [data](#) made available by [Astrium](#), [Digital Globe](#), and the [USGS CLICK](#). The Data Fusion Contest is designed to investigate the potential of multi-modal/multi-temporal fusion of very high spatial resolution imagery. This year, participants will download three different sets of images (optical, SAR, and LIDAR) over the downtown of San Francisco and each participant will get to choose their own research topic to work with. The contest is open to everyone and the deadline for submission (of the paper) is May 1, 2012. The [entry details](#) and [prize list](#) are available on the [contest website](#).

[Scholarship for Research in S&T-based Societal Programs-\(WOS-B\)-2012 – Indian Nationals](#)

The Scholarship Scheme for Women Scientists for societal programmes is an initiative of India's Department of Science & Technology. This scheme is addressed to women scientists and technologists who have a "break in their careers" due to social responsibilities but have desire to return to mainstream science and work as bench-level scientists. Women scientists desiring to apply for this scheme are required to develop research project/ proposals for disseminating science and technological solutions addressing issues at the grass roots for societal benefits.

The deadline for applications is 30th April 2012

[Challenge to spur the geospatial industry](#)

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

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

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

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

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

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Employment Opportunities

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

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

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

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

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

[Spatial Data Infrastructure specialist for Integrated Environmental and Coastal ecosystem Management \(INCAM\), Lebanon](#)

One-year position to be filled immediately

Gross salary: 2500 €/month

The SDI specialist will contribute to the INCAM project (www.incam-cnrs.eu) which aims at enhancing Lebanon's capacity for key environmental issues, based on a regional approach. Collection of existing research data is needed to reflect the present conditions and status of natural resources and to identify gaps in environmental assessment capacities in the intensively developed Lebanese coastal zones. Along with this need come the requirements for better standardization, organization, management and sharing of increased production and use of GIS data. The project develops a Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDIs) approach, implying technology, standards, and policies to acquire, process, store, distribute, and improve use of geospatial data for Lebanon. The leading organization is CNRS-Lebanon and the others two partners are the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (IAM-B), Italy and the Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD) of Toulouse, France.

Contact:

Applications (CV + cover letter) should be submitted to: <mailto:laurent.drapeau@cesbio.cnrs.fr>

Source and further information [Cesbio](#)

[Post-Doctoral Position for DataONE Provenance and Scientific Workflows Working Group](#)

The Data Observation Network for Earth ([DataONE](#)) is recruiting a post-doctoral associate to work with the Provenance and Scientific Workflows Working Group of DataONE. This is a full-time, 12-month position initially for one year, but renewable pending progress and availability of funds. Applications will be accepted starting immediately and will be accepted until the position is filled.

The post-doc will be mentored and supervised by the DataONE PI, Dr. William Michener (UNM, USA), DataONE/ProvWG leads Dr. Bertram Ludaescher (UC Davis, USA), and Dr. Paolo Missier (U Newcastle, UK). Interested candidates should send a CV, a brief statement of interest in this position, and a list 3 references and their contact information to both [Bertram Ludaescher](#) and [Rebecca Koskela](#) (Executive Director of DataONE), DataONE, University of New Mexico, 1312 Basehart Drive SE, MSC04 2815, Albuquerque, NM 87106. Inquiries for further information about the position are welcome. Salary and benefits for this position are competitive and commensurate with the applicant's qualifications and experience.

Source: DataOne

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

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

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

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

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

For more information about GIS Job Board, please visit their website at www.gisjobboard.com

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Conference Proceedings

[Possibility or a dream? Spatially Enabled Government and Societies](#)

Geospatial experts from different background and part of the world share their views on Spatially Enabled Government and Society (SEGS) at [UNRCC-PCGIAP International Symposium](#) organized by Department of Surveying and Mapping Malaysia during **15 – 16 February at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**. They highlight pertinent issues, challenges and suggest way forward to achieve the goal

[GNSS vulnerabilities: Testing the Truth](#)

[European Navigation Conference ENC GNSS 2011, held in London in November and December 2011](#)

This paper is based on a presentation given to the European Navigation Conference ENC GNSS 2011, held in London in November 2011. The authors present an overview of threats and vulnerabilities of GNSS systems in general and with a focus at application level across a spectrum of domains. They highlight some of the important countermeasures that are already available on the market, but which are not ubiquitously used.

[Timor Leste \(East Timor\) – environmental data review workshop](#)

The 6th of March as part of the Norwegian Petroleum Assistance Program together with DNMA I contributed to a workshop to be held at the Arbiru Hotel in Dili, Timor Leste. The intended outcome was to contribute to a process for establishing better handling of environmental data. The workshop was opened by his Excellency Sr. Abilio de Deus de Jesus Lima, State Secretary for the Environment.

[Iraq Spatial Data Infrastructure workshop completed](#)

In mid-February 2012, over 25 persons representing 13 national and regional government organizations assembled in Erbil in the north of Iraq for an intensive three-day exchange to explore concepts and ideas towards the establishment of a National Spatial Data Infrastructure for Iraq.

The workshop was conducted under the auspices of the Prime Minister Advisory Committee (PMAC), and supported by the United States Geologic Survey (USGS).

Staff from the GPC Group facilitated the workshop, bringing experience and insights regarding the implementation of GIS federations and Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) in other countries and regions around the world.

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

[National Geomatic Plan in Gabon: results of pilot projects presented](#)

IGN France International presented the main results of the work conducted between April and December, 2011 at the occasion of a final seminar. This seminar was held on December 6th, 2011 in Libreville and brought together around 60 representatives, most of whom were general managers and permanent secretaries from the main ministries, all in the presence of Emmanuel Isozot, Minister of the Budget and Madame Yolande Nyonda, Permanent Secretary of the Budget.

[Phase pilote du PNG Gabon : Promesses tenues](#)

[NGP Gabon: IGN France International presented the results of the pilot projects during a final seminar](#)

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Conferences, Events

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

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

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

Call for Expression of Interest to host the 10th biennial International Conference of the African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment (AARSE) in October 2014 and future Conferences. The 9th conference will be held in Morocco in October 2012.

Date	Location	Event
April 2012		
11 - 13 April	Lancaster, UK	<p>Call for Papers, GISRUK2012, Lancaster University, 2012</p> <p>We are pleased to invite you to submit short (~1500 word) papers for the 20th annual GIS Research UK conference (GISRUK). We welcome papers covering all aspects of theoretical and applied GIS research.</p> <p>For more information and submission details please visit the conference website: http://www.lancs.ac.uk/gisruk2012 or contact members of the local organising committee via gisruk2012@lancs.ac.uk . We look forward to receiving your submissions and welcoming you to Lancaster in 2012.</p>
23 – 27 April	Amsterdam, The Netherlands	 <p>Geospatial World Forum Theme: Geospatial Industry & World Economy</p>
May 2012		
2-3 May "NEW"	Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic	<p>Annual Central Asia GIS Conference - GISCA 2012 "GEOINFORMATION FOR LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT"</p>
7-9 May	Rio de Janeiro, BRAZIL	<p>4th International Conference on GEographic Object Based Image Analysis 2012 – GEOBIA 2012</p>
14-17 May	Quebec City, Canada	<p>2012 Joint World Conference GSDI 13 and Canadian Geomatics Conference (CCC) & there's more - 14th GEOIDE Annual Scientific Conference & there's even more - 7th 3D GeolInfo Conference hosted by GEOIDE Network</p> <p>GSDI 13 invites presentations/papers covering the full range of practice, development and research experiences that advance the practice and theory of spatial data infrastructure development and spatial enablement of society. GSDI 13 will support three primary forms of publication:</p> <p>(1) a normal conference proceedings with abstracts and full articles (non-refereed and refereed), published on a USB drive or CD and archived on the web,</p> <p>(2) a pre-conference published book of fully refereed articles titled "Spatially Enabling Government, Industry and Citizens: Research and Development Perspectives" to be distributed to all conference participants and archived on the web, and</p> <p>(3) a post-conference special edition of the International Journal of Spatial Data Infrastructures Research (IJS DIR) with full articles selected from the proceedings and then fully refereed and revised after the conference.</p> <p>In addition, two separate calls arising from the joint conference are being issued for chapter submissions to two additional books:</p> <p>(1) "The Added Value of Scientific Networking: GEOIDE Network Experiences" to be distributed to all conference participants (Call for chapters at http://www.geoide.ulaval.ca/call-for-chapters.aspx), and</p> <p>(2) "3DGeo Info Conference Proceedings" (Springer) to be mailed after the conference to all 3DGeo Conference participants which will be a single track on Wednesday and Thursday (Call at http://www.3dgeoinfo2012.ulaval.ca/?page_id=48).</p> <p>IMPORTANT LINKS</p>

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		<p>Conference Website: http://www.gsdi.org/gsdi13 Past GSDI World Conference Proceedings: http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiConferences Past open access Books affiliated with the conference: http://www.gsdi.org/openaccessbooks Other Important Dates: http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsdi13/dates.html</p>
16-17 May	Quebec, CANADA	7th International Conference on 3D Geoinformation
18 May “NEW”	Quebec, CANADA	<p>International Workshop on Geospatial Data Quality Legal, ethical and technical aspects to be held from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM on Friday, 18 May 2012, in the Quebec City Convention Centre, Room 205C, immediately following the Global Geospatial Conference 2012, 14-17 May, at the same venue. The workshop will start by a keynote address from Kevin Pomfret, Executive Director of the Centre for Spatial Law and Policy, followed by talks presenting the main research results coming from the project IV-23 of GEOIDE network. The workshop will finish with a panel discussion on “Volunteered geographic information (VGI): Legal and Ethics issues?” facilitated by Roger Longhorn and involving panellists David Coleman, Michael Goodchild, Harlan Onsrud and Teresa Scassa. Visit the workshop website for more details and to register. Fees (including lunch and refreshment breaks): Regular registration: 130 \$CAD Student: 75 \$CAD Participant to the Global Geospatial conference 2012: 90 \$CAD Workshop size is limited to 90 participants - so if interested, register today! (You can pay online with PayPal.) If you have any question, feel free to contact Tania Roy, project coordinator.</p>
21-3 May	Prague, Czech Republic	<p>FOSS4G-CEE & Geoinformatics Important dates: 1.1.2012 Call for papers & workshops 1.2.2012 Workshop submission deadline 1.3.2012 Papers submission deadline 15.2.2012 Confirmation of accepted workshops 15.3.2012 Confirmation of accepted papers 1.4.2012 Early bird registration deadline</p>
23-4 May	Taza, Morocco	<p>International conference of GIS users, Taza GIS-Days 2012 The Taza-GIS-Days symposium is being organized by the Laboratory Natural Ressources and Environment of the Polydisciplinary Faculty of Taza in collaboration with the Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Fez. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about GIS through a series of presentations, exhibitions and practical exercises presented by a distinguished group of professionals. Topics: Development and Planning, Archaeology and History, Environment, Water Resources Management, Remote sensing, Photogrammetry, GPS, Natural Hazards, Mapping and Geology, Web application, GIS and Open Sources, Geolocation and Network Interoperability and Standards OGC Deadline for abstracts submission: February 29, 2012 Contact</p>
June 2012		
3-5 June	Kuala Terengganu,	The International Conference on Informatics & Applications (ICIA2012)

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	Malaysia	<p>The proposed conference on the above theme will be held at University Sultan Zainal Abidin, Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia, From June 3-5, 2012 which aims to enable researchers build connections between different digital applications.</p> <p>Important Dates =====</p> <p>Submission Date: April 1, 2012 Notification of acceptance: April 15, 2012 Camera Ready submission: May 2, 2012 Registration: May 2, 2012</p>
4-7 June	Las Vegas	Hexagon 2012 conference.
8-11 June "NEW"	Shanghai, China	<p>2nd International Workshop on Earth Observation and Remote Sensing Applications (EORSA 2012)</p> <p>Call for Papers</p> <p>Following the first EORSA conference in Beijing in 2008, the second workshop (EORSA2012) will be held in Shanghai, China, on June 8-11, 2012. This event is jointly organized by Tongji University, Peking University, and Nanjing University, with technical sponsorship from IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society and International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing.</p> <p>Timetable:</p> <p>Abstract submission due - March 15, 2012 Notification of acceptance - March 30, 2012 Full paper submission - May 15, 2012 Pre-conference registration due - April 15, 2012 Pre-conference workshops - June 8, 2012 Conference: June 9-11, 2012</p> <p>Abstract Submission:</p> <p>Please submit your abstract through the following web site: https://www.easychair.org/conferences/?conf=eorsa2012</p> <p>An abstract should be between 400 and 600 words in English, and be saved in Microsoft Word format. Please include title, key words (up to five), full name, affiliation, and contact details (e-mail, phone, fax, and regular mailing address). Please also indicate your preference for oral or poster presentation.</p> <p>For more information about the workshop, visit the website</p>
15-17 June	Hong Kong	<p>20th International Conference on Geoinformatics (Geoinformatics 2012)</p> <p>Abstract/Paper submission deadline: 15 November 2011</p> <p>In response to the increasing concerns on global changes and natural disasters, the 2012 conference theme is "Global Change, Adaptation and Risk Management". Earthquakes, floods, droughts, pollutions and many other natural and man-made disasters are severe threats to the mankind. Geoinformatic technologies shall play an essential roles to mitigate damages of the disasters. This conference will provide an excellent opportunity for professionals and students in the geographic information science area to exchange innovative ideas, discover cutting-edge technologies, and present inspiring applications. Meanwhile, 2012 will be the 20th Anniversary of the International Association of Chinese Professionals in Geographic Information Sciences (CPGIS, http://cpgis.org/) and its Annual Conference (the Geoinformatics series), the organizing committee cordially invite geoinformatics professionals and scholars all around the world, review and celebrate our accomplishments and to develop our vision for the next 20 years.</p>
18-20 June	Salvador de Bahia, Brasil	<p>"Cities, Technologies and Planning" - CTP 12 http://www.unibas.it/utenti/murgante/geog_an_mod_10/index.</p>

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"NEW"		html > in conjunction with The 2012 International Conference on Computational Science and its Applications (ICCSA 2012)* Geospatial Expo 2012								
21-3 June "NEW"	Yokohama, Japan	Contact								
25-7 June "NEW"	Taipei, Taiwan	International Conference on Earth Observations and Societal Impacts (ICEO-SI) The ICEO-SI 2012 Meeting will advance the understanding of earth observations and societal impacts from the regional to the global levels. Through the promotion and construction of the Global Earth Observation System (GEOS), the conference will namely address the following topics: Ecosystems – Biodiversity – Water – Disasters – Energy – Health – Weather – Climate - Agriculture								
25-30 June	Istanbul, Turkey	World GIS Summit "The World GIS Summit" has been postponed to June 25-30, 2012."								
July 2012										
8-11 July	Brisbane, Australia	2012 Brisbane International Geospatial Forum								
23-27 July	San Diego, USA	Esri International User Conference Now Accepting Presentation Submissions Participation from the GIS community makes the Esri International User Conference (Esri UC) < http://www.esri.com/events/user-conference/index.html > much more than just another technology user conference. It's a place to collaborate with your colleagues and get inspired by their work. What do you know that could help others make the most of ArcGIS? Here's your chance to share tips, strategies, and accomplishments with fellow GIS professionals. Both new and seasoned ArcGIS users are encouraged to submit presentation abstracts for consideration. Of particular interest are proposals related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying ArcGIS to new problems in innovative ways • Leveraging new capabilities of ArcGIS 10 • Extending your GIS to a broader audience through web and mobile applications • Driving GIS advancements in your industry • Collaborating inside and outside your organization to increase efficiency, share data, and maximize geospatial resources Review the session topics to see how your contribution can fit into this year's agenda. Abstract submission deadline: passed.								
August 2012										
6 – 8 August "NEW"	Melbourne, Australia	GITA 2012 – GITA 17th Annual Geospatial Solutions Conference "From Fundamentals to the Future – Managing Assets Spatially" Important dates <table border="1"> <tr> <td>30 March 2012</td> <td>Abstract submission closes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>late April 2012</td> <td>Authors notified of initial acceptance or otherwise; successful authors invited to submit a full paper</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 March 2012</td> <td>Registration opens</td> </tr> <tr> <td>31 May 2012</td> <td>Deadline for authors to register for the meeting</td> </tr> </table> Contact	30 March 2012	Abstract submission closes	late April 2012	Authors notified of initial acceptance or otherwise; successful authors invited to submit a full paper	5 March 2012	Registration opens	31 May 2012	Deadline for authors to register for the meeting
30 March 2012	Abstract submission closes									
late April 2012	Authors notified of initial acceptance or otherwise; successful authors invited to submit a full paper									
5 March 2012	Registration opens									
31 May 2012	Deadline for authors to register for the meeting									
25 August –	Melbourne,	XXII International Society for Photogrammetry & Remote								

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1 September	Australia	Sensing Congress Email: jsprs2012@icms.com.au
September 2012		
2-5 September	Wellington, New Zealand	The 4th Digital Earth Summit focusing on “Natural Disasters”
6-8 September	Tokyo, Japan	2012 International Conference for OpenStreetMap (OSM) State of the Map 2012 (SoTM12)
9-14 September	Ticino, Switzerland	11th NCCR Climate Summer School, 2012 The NCCR Climate, Switzerland's Centre of Excellence in Climate and Climate Impact Research, invites young scientists to join leading climate researchers in a scenic southern Swiss Alpine setting on the occasion of the 11th International NCCR Climate Summer School 2012. Deadline for applications: <u>closed</u> . Successful applicants will be notified in February 2012. Detailed information and the application form are available at http://www.nccr-climate.unibe.ch/summer_school/2012/ . Contact: University of Bern, NCCR Climate Management Centre, Zähringerstrasse 25, CH-3012 Bern, Switzerland, mailto: nccr-climate@oeschger.unibe.ch Telephone +41 31 631 31 45, Telefax +41 31 631 43 38.
17–9 September “NEW”	Hanoi, Vietnam	11th Asia Geospatial Forum Contact
October 2012		
2-4 October – “NEW”	Gauteng, South Africa	Call for papers for the peer-reviewed academic track of GISSA Ukubuzana 2012 Conference theme: 'An African Dialogue: Geomatics for Infrastructure Development and Service Delivery' Authors are invited to submit full-text academic papers, approximately 5000 words in length and relevant to the themes and subject matter of the conference, for the peer-reviewed academic track at the GISSA Ukubuzana 2012 conference. Important dates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 June 2012: Submission of full papers for peer-review for academic track • 13 August 2012: Notification of acceptance of papers for academic track • 10 September 2012: Submission of revised peer-reviewed full papers for academic track • 17 September 2012: Registration of presenters of accepted papers for academic track • 25 September 2012: Submission of PowerPoint presentations for conference CD • 2-4 October 2012: GISSA Ukubuzana 2012 in Kempton Park, Gauteng, South Africa Instructions to authors of peer-reviewed academic papers. Conference brochure (1 MB pdf)
29 October – 2 November “NEW”	El Jadida, Morocco	10th biennial International Conference of the African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment (AARSE)
29 October – 2 November “NEW”	El Jadida, Morocco	AARSE 2012 Conference: Call for Side-event Workshops As you might be aware the AARSE 2012 Conference will take place from October 29 to November 2, 2012 in El Jadida, Morocco. This 9th holding of the AARSE Conference represents a major event in the long series of internationally recognized AARSE conferences. AARSE 2012 welcomes dedicated workshops -

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		<p>organized as pre- or post-conference events or as halfday events concurrent with the conference scientific programme (the latter in exceptional cases only). Workshops should present state-of-the-art research and cover the development, deployment and operational use of Earth observing systems both space- and airborne. Workshop Summary Submission Interested parties should submit a summary of the workshop they propose. The summary must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Title of workshop; - Relevant keywords; - Full name and title, e-mail address, fax, telephone of workshop organizer(s); - Short description of the workshop (maximum one page); - Target audience; - Proposed duration of workshop <p>The Workshop summary should reach the Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee: Prof. Kamal LABBASSI, no later than 30 June 2012. Workshop proposers will be notified of acceptance as soon as the requirements are fulfilled.</p> <p>Note: Please be aware that the following policy of the AARSE Executive Council on workshops organized by other parties applies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organizers of a pre-/concurrent-/post-conference workshop must pay a fixed amount of €3000 to cover expenses for projector, venue, writing materials and microphone. Anything extra is to be borne by the workshop organizer. However, organizers of a pre-/concurrent-/post-conference workshop who pay the conference registration fee for 8 of their participants, 2 months prior to the conference date, pay a fixed amount of €1500 to cover costs of projector, venue, writing materials and microphone. <p>REMINDER: Abstract submission deadline: 30 April 2012</p>
2014		
	Malaysia	Malaysia will be hosting the (International Federation of Surveyors) FIG Congress in 2014. The decision was taken at the recently concluded FIG Congress 2010 in Sydney, Australia.

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

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

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