

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 January (& first for 2014) issue of the newsletter.

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, Sean Lin 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 and IGS Global News, Volume 3 Number 9 for 2013 \(October 2013\) \(PDF\)](#)****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.

Outreach & Membership Committee

Committee vice-Chair, Roger Longhorn has joined the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) Marine SDI Working Group (MSDIWG) and attended the Marine SDI Open Forum meeting in Copenhagen (remotely!) and the following two-day workshop of the MSDIWG, hosted by the Danish Hydrographic Service. The MSDIWG, which has existed since 2009, is setting its new workplan for 2013-2014 and is interested in developing a stronger relationship with non-marine SDI development initiatives at national, regional and global levels. Longhorn will explore this with the GSDI Board and Executive Committee at the next opportunity. The Outreach & Membership Committee also manages the GSDI Group on LinkedIn, which has added seven new members in the past month, for a total of 229 members today. If you are not already a member of this group, please join today – and tell your friends! Visit <http://www.linkedin.com> to join, then find GSDI in the 'Groups' option, to join the group.

Technical Committee

Technical Committee Chair, Eric van Praag, Regional Coordinator, GeoSUR Program of the Latin American Development Bank (CAF), along with USGS, has nominated the GeoSUR Topographic Processing Service (TPS), built with ESRI's AG Server 10.1, for the AAG Stanley Brunn Award for Creativity in Geography. See more news later in this issue.

The Technical Committee is also responsible for updating of the GSDI SDI Cookbook, a wiki maintained at: http://www.gsdi docs.org/GSDIWiki/index.php/Main_Page.

GSDI Member organisations, members of the GSDI Association Committees, Council and Board, and IGS members are involved in the many other regional and global initiatives on an on-going basis:

- [Digital Earth](#) (International Society for Digital Earth).
- [Eye on Earth](#).
- [Group on Earth Observations \(GEO\) / Global Earth Observation System of Systems \(GEOSS\)](#).
- [EuroGEOSS](#) – GEOSS Project funded by the European Union.
- [INSPIRE](#) – Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community.
- [International Hydrographic Organisation](#) – Marine SDI Working Group.
- [UNESCO IOC](#) – Marine/Coastal Spatial Data Infrastructure development.
- [UNSD \(Statistics Division\) – UN-GGIM \(UN Global Geospatial Information Management\)](#).
- [UNGIWG](#) (UN GI Working Group).
- [UNESCO IOC](#) – Marine/Coastal Spatial Data Infrastructure development.
- [UNSDI – UN-GGIM](#) (UN Global Geospatial Information Management).
- [UNSDI – UNGIWG](#) (UN GI Working Group).

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SDI News, Links, Papers, Presentations**[Destination Spatial Matchmaker portal - a way for students, employers and educators to link up](#)**

Destination Spatial is a free service provided by the spatial information industry and is committed to providing future geospatial professionals with opportunities and resources to gain valuable professional experience. The Matchmaker portal helps to bring together secondary schools, colleges and universities, students and employer organisations in the spatial information industry for work placement opportunities including work

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experience, scholarships and cadetships, internships, full-time, part-time and casual employment. It is our goal to make the Matchmaker portal a gateway for geospatial students, whether school, college, university or postgraduate to gain valuable hands-on experience through practical work assignments with professional spatial employers.

The Matchmaker portal also provides spatial employers with a resource through which to source the assistance of highly qualified students specialised in various spatial fields.

[Vietnam: Soc Trang province launches geospatial database](#)

Officials from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ) handed over a geospatial database to the administration of Soc Trang province, as it joins four other provinces in the Mekong Delta in a climate change adaptation programme.

The climate change adaptation programme is national project which aims to help provinces in the Mekong Delta develop an effective strategy to adapt to climate change and ensure sustainable natural resource exploitation. The initiative is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Development and Cooperation and implemented by GIZ.

Le Thanh Tri, deputy chairman of the Soc Trang People's Committee, noted that Vietnam is among five countries judged most vulnerable to climate change and rising sea levels, and the Mekong Delta was among three deltas that would suffer the biggest climate change impacts.

As Vietnam's rice basket, the delta needs to have a sustainable environmental strategy that would enable it to adapt to climate change so as to prevent substantial socio-economic losses.

The geospatial database compiles authoritative data from various government agencies in Vietnam.

Additionally, it also contains maps which dates back to 1904 and were only available in France.

Since shoreline changes can only be understood over long periods of time, the database will provide decision makers with historical maps that would help them trace back the development of the coastline and to identify suitable and site-specific measures for coastal protection.

See: [Website](#) of Vietnamese-German cooperation project "Management of natural resources in the coastal zone of Soc Trang province".

[Advanced GIS Training Course carried out in HCMC.](#)

New guidelines which were launched, along with the geospatial database titled "[Shoreline Management Guidelines: Coastal Protection in the Lower Mekong Delta](#)" (16.3MB PDF). These were written for planners and decision-makers who should use the guidelines for the selection of site-specific and appropriated erosion protection measures. They are aimed to support decision-makers in dealing with the protection and management of Viet Nam's coasts.

Source: FutureGov

[Philippines: NAMRIA advocates for Agency Geospatial Data Infrastructure Plan \(AGDI\)](#)

The National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA) successfully concluded its second round table discussion which aimed to present and advocate the proposed Agency Geospatial Data Infrastructure Plan (AGDI) to representatives from 28 government agencies.

According to an official statement, the AGDI plan will serve as a "cookbook" containing the basic guidelines and procedures on how to prepare, develop, and implement an Agency Node that that will be eventually and seamlessly linked to the Philippine Geoportal. By doing so, government agencies and other relevant stakeholders can easily access and share geospatial information and data in a user-friendly interface.

The proposed AGDI was created by the Policy, Planning, Change Management, Monitoring and Institutionalisation team from Geodata Systems Technologies Inc, and the Policy Framework Formulation and Planning Technical Working Group of NAMRIA.

The roundtable discussions was focused on: jumpstarting the preparation of the AGID Plan, exploring how GIS is currently being used in agencies and identifying any strategic concerns, defining the timeline for the preparation of AGDI per agency, and finalising details of the deployment of the agency's geospatial data to the Philippine Geoportal System through the agency's node portal module.

See: [2nd RTD for the Geoportal Project – Phase II successfully held](#)

Source: FutureGov

[Sri Lanka: Readies spatial data infrastructure implementation](#)

The Survey Department of Sri Lanka has recently received a Cabinet approval to build the [National Spatial Data Infrastructure](#) (NSDI).

P.M.P Udayakantha, Senior Assistant Secretary and Senior Deputy Surveyor General at the Department of Survey, told FutureGov that they have recently established a steering committee composed of representatives

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from relevant government organisations tasked with the responsibility to draft the policies, procedures and data standards necessary to foster the efficient use, management and production of geospatial information.

“Once the policies are in place, we are looking at launching a geoportal so that citizens can easily access authoritative, consistent and updated maps online. By doing so, will enable people to discover, share and use geospatial information and services in ways never before possible,” he says.

While the NSDI is still in its initial stages, Udayakantha firmly believes they can achieve results quickly because the government knows the value of investing in NSDI and the benefits they and citizens can derive from it.

“Furthermore, we are inspired by the journey undertaken by countries like Singapore, Malaysia and others [regularly featured] in FutureGov.asia such as Philippines and Indonesia. Everyone has the same challenges, so by learning from their experience, we are able make our lives easier and leapfrog.”

Source: FutureGov

[Nepal: MoU to facilitate national geospatial platform](#)

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to increase cooperation in establishing a national geospatial platform was signed between the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) and National Information Technology Center (NITC) of Government of Nepal.

The MoU was signed on 10 December 2013 by ICIMOD’s Director General Dr David Molden and NITC’s Executive Director Mr Anup Baskota. The MoU signals a commitment by the two institutions to assist in capacity building on geospatial information management.

NITC’s Executive Director Mr Anup Baskota said GIDC is a centralized location for the storage, management, processing, and exchange of data to be used by all entities of the Government of Nepal.

Source: [The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development \(ICIMOD\)](#)

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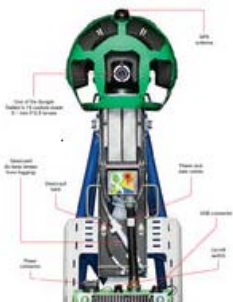
Spotlight

There will be no “Spotlight” feature in this month’s issue.

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

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GIS Tools, Software, Data



[Google’s Road Map to Global Domination](#)

One thing for sure can be said about location-awareness: maps are required. Tomorrow’s map, integrally connected to everything that moves (the keys, the tools, the car), will be so fundamental to their operation that the map will, in effect, be their operating system. A map is to location-awareness as Windows is to a P.C. And as the history of Microsoft makes clear, a company that controls the operating system controls just about everything. So the competition to make the best maps, the thinking goes, is more than a struggle over who dominates the trillion-dollar smartphone market; it’s a contest over the future itself.

Source: The NY Times Magazine

[Brunei: Geoportal workshop launched](#)

Geospatial information can now be viewed publicly through a GeoPortal which previously was exclusive only to departments under the Ministry of Development (MoD) since its inception in 2012.

A workshop was organised by the Survey Department on November 28th at the Institute of Civil Services (IPA) to familiarise some 80 officers from different ministries and departments to their work flows on the web portal so they could apply its usage to their respective professions – and make their work easier.

Explained in a press statement, the GeoPortal was designed to allow non-expert public users to enjoy viewing land information in Brunei – the public will have access to 2009 orthophotos and superimposed with selected features for the whole of Brunei.

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The system also provides an online search engine using location names, places of interest, geographical coordinates and lot parcels. According to the guest of honour, Hj Muhd Lutfi Abdullah, Permanent Secretary (Administration and Finance) in the Ministry of Development (MoD) during the launching ceremony, the usage of Internet, especially in the context of governmental matters, made the provision of services to the public more convenient.

Source: [BorneoBulletin](#) and the Brunei Times

[First Heart of Borneo spatial meeting held](#)

Preceded by the recent 7th Heart of Borneo (HoB) Trilateral Meeting in Brunei in September 2013, HoB Geographical Information System (GIS) meeting was organized in October, for the first time since it was initially discussed in 2008. The discussion evolved around the organizational and working modalities of the technical committee on GIS, presentations on national policy on spatial land-use planning, and identification of possible joint activities.

The meeting was considered useful to build a better understanding on each country's land-use management and the underlying principles. It is a reality that each country in the HoB regulates different land use plans and therefore different land-use management. Despite the fact of differences, the three countries demonstrated willingness to cope with the challenge. With distinct land classification or nomenclature, the essential function of land-use planning is understood and has become reference and knowledge for each country to develop better policy and practices on land-use management that considers balance between conservation and development.

Source: Panda.org

[Panono Panoramic Ball Camera Take 360° X 360° Full-Spherical Images](#)

The Panono's ball shape just makes you want to toss it into the air. That's what you're supposed to do. It's playful and fun and so easy to use. You toss it in the air and an accelerometer inside the camera measures the launch acceleration to calculate when the camera is at its highest point and barely moving. At that point, all 36 cameras are triggered and the moment is captured, 360° X 360° of it.

[Eiffel Tower](#), [New York rooftop](#), [Golden Gate bridge](#), [descriptive Video](#)

Source: [GISuser blog](#)



Diameter:	4.33 inches (11 cm)
Weight:	0.66 pounds (300 grams)
Camera body:	Tough clear plastic
Cameras:	36 fixed focus cameras
Total resolution:	72 megapixels
Mobile App:	for iOS6+ and Android4+



['Un-Mappable' Great Barrier Reef Finally Mapped](#)

German and Australian scientists today launched a set of groundbreaking, high resolution, shallow water topography maps for the entire Great Barrier Reef. These world-first digital maps of the coral reefs, using satellite derived depth (bathymetry) techniques, are a critical step towards identifying, managing and essentially preserving and protecting what lies within the waters of this global icon.

[Links, including product and images.](#)

Source: The American Surveyor

[The FOUR laws that define our cities](#)

1. Cities develop so that citizens can meet anybody else in the city
2. Urban mobility is essential ... but it comes at a cost
3. City infrastructure networks growth is incremental and decentralized
4. Human effort is "bounded"

Source: The New Scientist

News from abroad

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

[Three million properties shown to be at risk of flash flooding in England](#)

New maps from Environment Agency reveal level of risk to properties – including No 10 Downing Street. Three million properties in England, including No 10 Downing Street, are at risk of flash flooding, according to new maps published by the Environment Agency on Thursday.

The maps, the first of their kind to be made available to the public, were described by the agency as a "vital service", enabling homeowners to check their level of risk.

Source: The Guardian and UK [Environment Agency](#) and [The Atlantic "Cities": Maps](#)

[Oil Spill Map to Show Where the Oil will Travel in a PacNW Spill](#)

An interesting new story map from the PacNW from the Raincoast Conservation Foundation and the Georgia Strait Alliance reveals sensitive areas and reveals where the oil would travel should a major spill take place in the area now known as the Salish Sea. How is it done? In an innovative project, the groups are dropping over 1000 small drift cards (4" x 6" pieces of bright yellow plywood, each with a unique serial number) at locations of higher risk of incident along the oil tanker route that runs from Burrard Inlet, through the Gulf and San Juan Islands and out into the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

Source: GISuser blog



[Bing Maps Preview Arrives on Windows 8.1](#)

As Microsoft promised during its BUILD developer conference earlier this year, the company today launched a first preview of its new maps app for Windows 8.1. The highlight of this release is the addition of 3D imagery, something Microsoft tried a few years ago with Bing Maps online but then shelved after it moved away from its proprietary Silverlight technology. The new app is now available in the Windows Store.

Microsoft says to create these 3D imagery, it processed over

121 trillion pixels to date to build this 3D environment. And it shows. The imagery is extremely clear and detailed, and after a first look, it feels like it easily rivals and often bests Google's efforts, especially when it comes to trees and smaller objects like cars and kiosks.

Source: Bing blogs and [TechCrunch](#)

[UNITED STATES - House Committee Hearing Finds Federal Government Lacks Geospatial Coordination](#)

Transparency, coordination and accountability for Federal geospatial data and land ownership are lacking, according to Congressional testimony before the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources of the House Committee on Natural Resources on December 5, 2013.

The hearing focused on H.R. 1604, the "Map It Once, Use It Many Times Act" and H.R. 916, the "Federal Land Asset Inventory Reform" or "FLAIR" Act. The proposed legislation is meant to streamline Federal spatial data and utilize modern geospatial products and services to provide accountability and savings to taxpayers.

Revealed during testimony was the fact that the Federal government does not have "a complete picture of how much money is being spent on geospatial investments across the federal government because, as noted, what was being reported may not have captured all geospatial spending, and the data had not been reliable," said David Powner, Director, Information Technology Management Issues, Government Accountability Office (GAO). Moreover, GAO noted that collecting such information is "not a priority" for the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Source: LiDAR News

Articles

[Do our brains pay a price for GPS? - How a useful technology interferes with our 'mental mapping' — and what to do about it](#) by Leon Neyfakh

When we use GPS, the research indicates, we remember less about the places we go, and put less work into generating our own internal picture of the world.

Source: The Boston Globe

[EnviroGRIDS Special Issue on "Building a Regional Observation System in the Black Sea catchment"](#)

International Journal of Advanced Computer Science and Applications (IJACSA) (2013)

You can download the full issue (above link) or separate papers at:

<http://thesai.org/Publications/ViewIssue?volume=3&issue=3&code=SpecialIssue>

Editorial

Paper 1: Black Sea Catchment Observation System as a Portal for GEOSS Community

Paper 2: Building Regional Capacities for GEOSS and INSPIRE: a journey in the Black Sea Catchment

Paper 3: Enabling Efficient Discovery of and Access to Spatial Data Services

Paper 4: OGC Compliant Services for Remote Sensing Processing over the Grid Infrastructure

Paper 5: Grid Based Processing of Satellite Images in GreenLand Platform

Paper 6: Mathematical Modeling of Distributed Image Processing Algorithms

Paper 7: Remotely Sensed Data Processing on Grids by Using GreenLand Web Based Platform

Paper 8: Calibration of SWAT Hydrological Models in a Distributed Environment Using the gSWAT Application

Paper 9: An Interoperable, GIS-oriented, Information and Support System for Water Resources Management

Paper 10: Web Based Access to Water Related Data Using OGC WaterML 2.0

Paper 11: OWS4SWAT: Publishing and Sharing SWAT Outputs with OGC standards

Scope of this Special Issue

With 30 partners distributed in 15 countries, the [enviroGRIDS project](#) is contributing to the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) by promoting the use of web-based services to share and process large amounts of key environmental information in the Black Sea catchment (2.2 mio. km², 24 countries, 160 million inhabitants). The main aim of the project is to assess water resource in the past, the present and the future, according to different socio-economic scenarios. The objective is also to develop datasets that are compatible with the European INSPIRE Directive on spatial data sharing across Europe. The data and metadata gathered and produced on the Black Sea catchment will be distributed through the enviroGRIDS geoportal. The challenge is to convince and help regional data holders to make available their data and metadata to a larger audience in order to improve our capacity to assess the sustainability and vulnerability of the environment.

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Books and Journals (including Videos and Web publications)

CALL for PAPERS: [Special Issue "NeoGeography and WikiPlanning 2014"](#)

A special issue of Future Internet

Deadline for manuscript submissions: 15 March 2014

The special issue will examine the creation, diffusion, and use, through the web, of geographic information and focuses particularly on the Web 2.0 phenomenon, so as to understand how the interaction between producers and non-expert users can modify the traditional fundamentals of map making, which is one of the most ancient forms of human expression. Other than IT and spatial experts (or spatially aware professionals or academics), the issue's topic should be attractive for people not directly dealing with such 2.0 spatial issues, but who are active as scholars in spatially related disciplines (*i.e.*, geography, geoscientists, spatial economists, spatial planners, *etc.*). These scholars can contribute with a vision on the role of the "traditional" mainstream subject and their relationship with such new instruments and tools.

The special issue represents an opportunity for provocative debate and reflection on the roles of both traditional disciplines (*e.g.*, geography, economics, planning, *etc.*) and of new ones (*e.g.*, GI sciences, image processing, *etc.*) in comparison with the bottom-up blossoming of uncontrolled, nearly anarchical geographical expressions.

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**CALL for PAPERS: [Earth Science Informatics, Special Issue – Semantic e-Science - Call for papers](#)
Full papers due: **March 15, 2014****

As the volume, complexity, and heterogeneity of data resources grow, scientists increasingly need new capabilities that rely on “semantic” approaches (e.g., in the form of ontologies and vocabularies — machine encodings of terms, concepts, and relations among them) to help understand the meaning of data. The field of semantic e-Science fosters the growth and development of data-intensive scientific applications based on semantic methodologies and technologies, as well as related knowledge-based approaches. In recent years, semantic methodologies and technologies have been gaining momentum in e-Science areas such as solar-terrestrial physics, geology, ecology, oceanography, meteorology, and life sciences, to name a few. The developers of e-Science infrastructures are increasingly in need of semantic-based methodologies, tools, and middleware. This infrastructure will in turn facilitate scientific knowledge modeling, logic-based hypothesis checking, semantic data integration, application composition, integrated knowledge discovery and data analysis for different scientific domains, and building systems for use by scientists, students, and, increasingly, non-experts.

This special issue invites research papers that demonstrate how semantic methodologies and technologies are currently meeting scientific or engineering goals in Earth and space science domains. Papers should highlight the innovative designs, methods or applications associated with the semantic technologies. Review papers presenting state-of-the-art knowledge about a subject in semantic e-Science and methodology and software papers about a new algorithm or software package are also welcome. Authors should prepare their papers following the instructions for authors provided by Earth Science Informatics. Papers should be submitted on-line indicating the special issue “Semantic e- Science”. Authors may contact a guest editor about their intention to submit, including a short description of the intended submission.

[Earth Science Informatics is a widely indexed and circulated international journal](#)

CALL for PAPERS: [Special Issue "Earth Observation for Water Resource Management in Africa"](#)

Remote Sensing Journal **Deadline for manuscript submissions: March 31, 2014**

The concept of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) is seen as an opportunity to help manage water variability and the wide spread water scarcity in Africa. One key component missing from IWRM in Africa is the limited knowledge of the available extent and quality of water resources at basin level. Earth Observation (EO) technology can help fill this information gap by assessing and monitoring water resources at adequate temporal and spatial scales. The goal of this Special Issue is to understand and demonstrate the contribution which satellite observations, consistent over space and time, can bring to improve water resource management in Africa. Possible EO products and applications range from catchment characterization, water quality monitoring, soil moisture assessment, water extent and level monitoring, irrigation services, urban and agricultural water demand modeling, evapotranspiration estimation, ground water management, to hydrological modeling and flood mapping/forecasting. Some of these EO applications have already been developed by African scientists within the 10 year lifetime of the TIGER initiative: [Looking after Water in Africa](#), whose contributions are intended to be the starting point of this Special Issue and is only one example of the wide range of activities in the field. Contributions from the entire African and international scientific community dealing with the challenges of water resource management in Africa are the target of the special issue.

In the years to come, an ever increasing number of international EO missions, such as the Landsat, ALOS, CBERS and RESOURCESAT mission suites, the family of Sentinel missions and the SMAP mission, will provide an unprecedented capacity to observe and monitor the different components of the water cycle. This Special Issue aims also at reviewing the latest developments in terms of new missions as well as related EO products and techniques that will be available in the near future to face some of the major challenges for IWRM in Africa.

[Arab Region: Atlas of Our Changing Environment](#)

The first Atlas of its kind in the Arab region was released this past week by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative (AGEDI), supported by the Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD). Over 100 satellite images contained in the publication titled "The Arab Region: Atlas of Our Changing Environment" are used to examine environmental change that has taken place at more than 80 locations across the Arab region, using a combination of on-the-ground photographs, current and historical satellite images, with narrative based on extensive scientific evidence.

Before-and-after studies in the Atlas clearly demonstrate the pace of development in the region, offering compelling examples of wide-ranging environmental change, including land use change, urban growth, degradation of marine and coastal areas, altered hydrology and shrinking water bodies, loss of habitats and

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impacts of climate change. The Atlas images serve to highlight the distinctive environmental circumstances and challenges faced in the Arab region, from limited freshwater resources, rapid urbanization, depletion of natural resources, and the vulnerability of many Arab settlements to environmental risks and natural disasters.

[Link to the Atlas](#)

[Atlas YouTube video](#)

[Press release](#)

[GSDI and IGS Global News, Volume 3 Number 9 for 2013 \(October 2013\) \(PDF\)](#)

[MMA Location Terminology Guide](#)

[World Disasters Report 2013: Focus on technology and the future of humanitarian action](#)

[2013 Tasmanian Bushfires Inquiry Report](#)

[Disaster Risk Management in Asia and the Pacific Issues Paper \(April 2013\)](#)

[D_City: New report on modelling Earth systems for climate and environmental solutions](#)

The world's first comprehensive 'snapshot' report on how science and technology leaders are supporting the 'global Earth observation system of systems' (GEOSS) project. Titled *D_City: Digital Earth | Virtual Nations | Data Cities*, the report has been produced to explain to urban development professionals the emerging 'Google era' of satellite Earth observations and geospatial science and technologies for modelling climate-related environmental solutions.

Co-edited by urbanists and scientists leading the digital cities working party of the International Society for Digital Earth, the book's first printings have been sponsored by the Group on Earth Observations secretariat in Geneva, led by Ms Barbara J. Ryan.

GEO is supporting D_City's proposed 'network concept diagram' for the GEOSS project – which suggests a new stream of 'Virtual Nations' projects and increasing integrations of computer modelling the stocks and flows of nature, buildings and cities.

The GEO news article is at earthobservations.org. The report (with downloadable PDF) is available from dcitynetwork.net/manifesto. Printed copies can be ordered from DCity at info@dcitynetwork.net. The media release is at <http://dcitynetwork.net/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/GEOISDE-Data-Cities-press-release.pdf>. A blogpost with links to press coverage of the report is at http://dcitynetwork.net/2013/09/geo-sponsors-first-printings-of-d_city-report/

[A History of the World in 12 Maps \[Hardcover\]](#) by Jerry Brotton

A fascinating look at twelve maps—from Ancient Greece to Google Earth—and how they changed our world

[NewGeography website](#)

[Mapping London blog](#)

[LandScan: a news update from Land Information New Zealand, Issue 66 \(September 2013\)](#)

In this issue...

- International acclaim for the LINZ Data Service
- Property rights reputation remains high
- LINZ establishes Crown Land Centre of Expertise
- Location-based information to boost Canterbury recovery
- First new nautical paper chart produced in-house
- LINZ takes learners on a geospatial adventure
- Stakeholder survey - thanks for your feedback

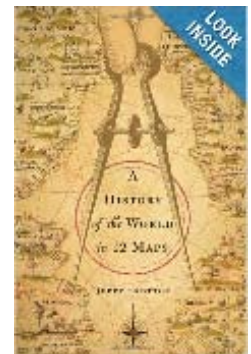
[Borderlines blog from the New York Times](#)

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. His other blog is [Strange Maps](#)

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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.

Steve Goldman's [Map Fodder](#) website

[Location matters: spatial standards for the Internet of Things](#)

ITU-T's latest Technology Watch report introduces readers to location (spatial) standards and their role in enabling the Internet of Things, describing how communications infrastructure has increased people's associations with the natural and built environment as well as how this can be leveraged to improve governance and service delivery by revealing new insights into how we interact with one another and the services and infrastructures that surround us.

Authored by staff and members of the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC), with support from ITU-T, the report is titled "Location matters: Spatial standards for the Internet of Things" and can be [downloaded](#) free of charge.

The report discusses the technologies and standards emerging in support of location-based services (LBS), analyzing shortfalls in interoperability and highlighting where global standardization can tap the full potential of these fast-maturing technologies and the valuable data they return.

Spatial standards' role in the marketplace is critiqued with a view to uncovering clear trends or market drivers, and readers will discover that location matters in a wide range of sectors, with examples being made of emergency and disaster management and response; smart infrastructure; smart water management; and, of course, transportation.

The report goes on to describe the spatial standards landscape, looking at the activities of the involved standardization bodies and concluding with an analysis of the greatest obstacles to be overcome in the spatial standards arena.



[David Rumsay Map Collection](#)

[International Society for Digital Earth](#) - August, 2012 [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](#)

[Technology & More](#) (July 2013)

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

The November 2013 issue has been published

[LiDAR News, Vol 3, No 16](#) ([Vol 3, No 19, 18 December, 2013](#)) ([Vol 3, No 20; 19 December, 2013](#))

[LiDAR News magazine](#) (December, Vol 3, No 6, 2013)

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

[Coordinates](#) monthly magazine - [PDF](#) (February 2013)

[SERVIR-Africa community news](#)

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

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[National Geographic website](#)

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

[Professional Surveyor](#) magazine

[The American Surveyor](#) newsletter (October 30), [The American Surveyor](#) newsletter (November 13)
[The American Surveyor](#) newsletter (November 27)

[The American Surveyor Vol.10 No.9](#) (September 2013)

[My Co-ordinates e-zine](#) – October 2013 issue (PDF)

[UN-SPIDER Newsletter](#) June 2013

[UN SPIDER Updates](#) November 2013

[Thematic Mapping blog](#) Terrain mapping with Mapnik

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Just for Fun!

[Yahoo! Autocomplete to Insult Your City](#)

Who knew Yahoo! had such an attitude? Type the name of a city into the search bar, and the autocomplete function will invariably spit out an insult: "Philadelphia is ugly," "Detroit is crap," "Memphis is a hellhole," "Washington is Hollywood for ugly people."

AND "Japan is weird", "New Zealand is in which continent?", and "Laos is the capital of which country?"

Source: The Atlantic "Cities": Maps

[Time & Navigation: the untold story of getting from here to there – Exhibition at the Smithsonian](#)

[Delaware Students Build Tallest Structure - Guinness World Record verified by total station technology](#)

It stands at 112 feet and 11¾-inches tall, establishing a new world record for a tower constructed with interlocking plastic bricks, aka Legos.

Brick by small plastic brick, the students of Delaware's Red Clay School Consolidated District diligently snapped together each Lego section of the new Guinness World Record setter, toppling the previous tower's record of 106 feet. The prior record-holding Lego tower was built in Prague in 2012.

Source: The American Surveyor newsletter (November 27)

[The Atlantic "Cities" Favorite Maps of 2013](#)

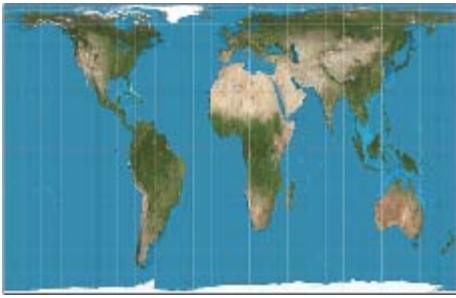
[A Satellite Map Capable of Erasing All the World's Clouds](#)

[Awesome Maps and Data Visualizations from 2013 - Part 1](#)

Source: GISuser

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[12 Maps That Changed the World](#)

"All cultures have always believed that the map they valorize is real and true and objective and transparent," Jerry Brotton, a professor of Renaissance studies at Queen Mary University of London, says. "All maps are always subjective.... Even today's online geospatial applications on all your mobile devices and tablets, be they produced by Google or Apple or whoever, are still to some extent subjective maps."

There are, in other words, no perfect maps—just maps that (more-or-less) perfectly capture our understanding of the world at discrete

moments in time. In his new book, *A History of the World in 12 Maps*, Brotton masterfully catalogs the maps that tell us most about pivotal periods in human history.

Source: The Atlantic

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Training Opportunities

[3D Printing Summer School - ADVANCE NOTICE - University of Melbourne](#)

We are still awaiting details of the 3-D Printing Summer School to be conducted in late January/February 2014 at the University of Melbourne's School of Engineering. An Application Form (& Scholarship application) and further information is available [here](#).

[Singapore Cooperation Programme: Training course - Developing e-Government Strategies](#)

24 February - 7 March 2014

Closing data for nominations: 13 January 2014

The Singapore Cooperation Programme (SCP) was established in 1992 to serve as the primary platform through which Singapore offers technical assistance to other countries. Given limited resources, SCP shares Singapore's experience and expertise – in particular, in human resource development and economic development – with other countries in lieu of providing direct financial assistance. To date, the SCP has trained over 80,000 government officials from 170 countries in the Asia Pacific, Africa, Middle East, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Each year, SCP conducts some 300 courses and trains close to 7,000 government officials. SCP offers training courses to ASEAN member states in a diverse range of subjects such as public governance and administration, trade and economic development, environment and urban planning, civil aviation, land transport, port management, education, healthcare, and information and communication technology (ICT). The courses are conducted both in-country and in Singapore.

The course shares with participants e-Government strategies which can be implemented by public sector organisations for strategic planning and transformational purposes.

The course aims to:

- Provide an understanding of e-Government and its evolution
- Introduce frameworks for e-Government: governance, infrastructure and access technology, and business process re-engineering
- Reinforce learning of e-Government best practices through workshops and site visits
- Provide an opportunity for participants to share their respective countries' experiences in e-Government and to develop an e-Government action plan

Applicants should be:

- Senior government officials and policy-makers who are responsible for planning and implementing e-Government programmes
- Nominated by their respective Governments
- Proficient in spoken and written English
- In good health

Closing data for nominations: 13 January 2014

[Subject: Course: Animal movement and remote sensing for conservation USA](#) March 31-April 11, 2014

Animal movements are critical for maintaining ecosystems services and biodiversity. Technological advances have greatly increased our ability to track animal movements, but analyzing and contextualizing vast amounts

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of tracking data can present scientific, computational, and technical challenges.

This two-week course focuses on interdisciplinary approaches linking animal movement with environmental factors to address theoretical and applied questions in conservation biology. To achieve this, participants will acquire significant skills in computational ecology, modeling, remote sensing and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Course uses only open source software (R, GRASS, QGIS), and mostly open-access environmental datasets.

Week 1: Learn new skills through lectures and hands-on exercises in data collection, management, analysis and modeling approaches.

Week 2: Work in small groups on conservation projects. Datasets and related research questions are provided by course participants or instructors.

Evening lectures by noted conservation scientists, movement ecologists, and remote sensing experts supplement instruction, providing the broader context of animal movement and remote sensing analysis.

Course Dates: March 31-April 11, 2014. Course Location: [Smithsonian-Mason School of Conservation](#) (SMSC ()) at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute (SCBI), Front Royal, Virginia, USA

Apply by: January 20, 2014

To learn more and to apply to the 2014 AniMove: Animal Movement Analysis for Conservation training course, go to smconservation.gmu.edu course page: <http://smconservation.gmu.edu/programs/graduate-and-professional/professional-training-courses/animove-animal-movement-analysis-for-conservation/> or www.animove.org/2014

"Open Geospatial Science & Applications" webinar series launched

The "Open Geospatial Science & Applications" webinar series commenced on 18th October. The first webinar will be on "OSGeo Live for Education" by Jeremy Morley (University of Nottingham). This first webinar will address the theme "OSGeo Live for Education". With free registration, this event is appropriate for all who are interested in knowing more about the ICA-OSGeo Lab Network and its education activities. In addition to giving an overview of OSGeo Live, Jeremy will be sharing his experiences of using the OSGeo Live system for his MSc teaching in GIS at the University of Nottingham.

OSGeo Live 7.0 features more than fifty open source, standards compliant geospatial desktop applications, web applications and frameworks. A complete installation kit and high-quality sample data in multiple industry standard formats are included. It is composed entirely of free software, allowing it to be freely distributed, duplicated and passed around. Details at <http://live.osgeo.org/en/index.html>

Attendees will be able to interact with the speakers by sending their comments and questions through chat. All attendees of this web seminar will receive certificates for their participation.

Webinar: OSGeo Live for Education, Date: Friday, October 18, 2013, Time: 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM GMT

The schedule of webinars for this year are:

- Oct 18th, 2013 - OSGeo Live for Education (Jeremy Morley, University of Nottingham)
- Nov 7th, 2013 - Open Geo Science (Patrick Bell et al, British Geological Survey)
- Dec 10th, 2013 - Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial Applications (FOSS4G): A mature alternative in the geospatial technologies arena (Maria Brovelli and Rafael Moreno)

The webinars will also be recorded for the benefit of the wider community and made available at MundoGeo website and our new "Geo for All" website that the University of Southampton are now building (to be launched next week).

For those of you who are new to OSGeo Live and our ICA-OSGeo Education initiative Dr. Tuong Thuy Vu did an excellent presentation on ["Open Source Geospatial Software, Education and Research"](#) at the Asia Geospatial Forum in Kuala Lumpur last month.

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Webinar.

System Requirements:

PC-based attendees: Required: Windows® 8, 7, Vista, XP or 2003 Server

Mac®-based attendees: Required: Mac OS® X 10.6 or newer

Mobile attendees: Required: iPhone®, iPad®, Android™ phone or Android tablet

[Reserve your Webinar seat.](#)

PennState EDU Introduces Maps and the Geospatial Revolution Online Training

An amazing new effort from Penn State (PSU) kicks off this week in the form of a massive, online EDU offering – enter Maps and the Geospatial Revolution. In just 6-9 hours a week, students can enjoy this online offering and learn how advances in geospatial technology and analytical methods have changed how we do everything, and discover how to make maps and analyze geographic patterns using the latest tools. The course is led by

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PSU instructor, Anthony Robinson. Geospatial Gurus may find the course a little simple but anyone else is encouraged to take part. [See the course program.](#)

Thanks to GISUser blog AND [Meet the Man Who Wants to Teach the World to Make Maps](#) above

[Arizona State University GIS Lab](#)

A good place to get a sense of where the geographic information system (GIS) field is headed is Lattie F. Coor Hall at Arizona State University in Tempe, Ariz. That's the home of the 30-credit-hour Masters of Advanced Study in GIS (MAS-GIS) Program within ASU's School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning. Here, students are exposed to not only the latest GIS concepts but also ever-evolving technologies.

Source: The American Surveyor

[Free Webinars on Solving Data Challenges](#)

Sign up for future webinars and view past recorded webinars

[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](#).

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Funding Opportunities, Awards, Grants

[ASEAN-US Science & Technology Fellows Pilot Program - call for applications](#)

Application deadline: January 6, 2014. [PDF](#)

This one-year fellowship will embed PhD scientists from ASEAN countries in home country ministries to promote the use of the best available science to inform the national and ASEAN regional policy process; advance ASEAN regional cooperation on science and technology; build institutional capacity within ASEAN and between ASEAN and the United States to study regional and transboundary issues; and, deepen people-to-people interaction between ASEAN and U.S. scientists. Thematic focus areas for the program include: Health, Climate Change, Food Security, Early warning systems for disaster risk reduction, Water Management, and Biodiversity. (Specific focus areas vary for the six participating countries, which are Thailand, Vietnam, Myanmar, Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia)

This is a unique opportunity for participating scientists to learn new skills, apply their knowledge to national and regional priorities, see how their governments work from the inside, and forge connections with S&T Fellows in other ASEAN countries, as well as with U.S. scientists.

[More information on the activity, eligibility, participating countries & ministries, and how to apply.](#)

[Singapore government introduces geospatial scholarship](#)

The Singapore government has introduced the government on Friday introduced the Singapore Geospatial Scholarship, the first of its kind in the island nation. Senior Minister of State for Law and Education, Indranee Rajah, made the announcement on Friday last week. Rajah said the scholarship would be jointly conferred by several public agencies, and will meet the increasing demand for geospatial professionals for the industry. The scholarship is for undergraduate and postgraduate studies. More information is expected to be release later in the year. Ms Indranee noted that Geospatial Information Systems and Technology (GIST) touches many aspects of daily life, such as getting road directions on the smart phone, and providing live traffic condition updates. It is also used in monitoring dengue clusters, and managing issues such as climate change and disaster response

Channel NewsAsia

[Ideas Challenge](#)

The Ideas Challenge is at the core of the GMES Masters competition. It invites students, entrepreneurs, start-up companies and SMEs to submit their ideas for an innovative commercial use of GMES to a secure online

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database on the GMES Masters website. The best idea for a commercially viable business idea using GMES data will be rewarded. The winner will be rewarded with a cash prize of EUR 10,000 as well as the chance to get his idea further developed in one of the six ESA Business Incubation Centres (BICs). The incubation package has a value of up to EUR 60,000.

[ESA App Challenge](#)

The European Space Agency (ESA) will award the ESA App Challenge to the best application idea for the usage of GMES on mobile phones. Proposals shall address one or more GMES main thematic areas (land, marine environment, atmosphere, climate change, emergency management). ESA is looking for ideas that can be implemented quickly into a profitable business. The application should consist of a base app containing info and news on GMES, as well as one or more specific content modules that provide relevant location-based data to users in real time. The winner will be considered for support by one of the six European Space Agency's Business Incubation Centres (ESA BICs) across Europe (value up to EUR 60,000).

[European Space Imaging High-Res Challenge](#)

European Space Imaging (EUSI) is Europe's leading provider of Very High-Resolution (VHR) satellite data. EUSI will award the best application idea using the most advanced VHR satellite data. Application ideas which are easily implementable, sustainable, cut costs and create efficiencies are of high interest. Participants are required to submit detailed application ideas including business concepts. The winner will be awarded a data package of EUSI satellite data worth up to EUR 20,000 for use in further developing the winning application.

[DLR Environmental Challenge](#)

DLR is looking for new applications in Earth observation, especially proposals addressing the mapping of the environment and climate. Ideas for using Earth observation to manage sustainable supplies of energy are also welcome. In addition to any kind of non-satellite geoinformation, proposals should be based on existing or imminent Earth observation satellite data that is available either for free or under commercial terms. The product or service generated from the idea should support either professionals from organisations and companies in environmental assessment, or the general public and consumer-oriented markets. Both regional and global applications and services are possible. Innovative ways to link the service with users are especially encouraged. The ideas should also describe a realistic scenario for their implementation involving either the general public or commercial benefits. The winner(s) will receive a voucher for a workshop or initial coaching according to what further realisation of the idea requires.

[Best Service Challenge](#)

The Best Service Challenge invites service providers to upload profiles of their existing services within the main thematic areas of GMES to the GMES Masters competition website. The Best Service Challenge aims at increasing the awareness of existing Earth Monitoring Services and their benefits to European citizens. The winner of the Best Service Challenge will benefit from a substantial satellite data quota made available with financial support by the European Commission.

[T-Systems Cloud Computing Challenge](#)

T-Systems will award the prize for its Cloud Computing Challenge to the best GMES application or service idea that will make use of the cloud computing model Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) to provide Earth observation data on demand via user-oriented web portal or mobile devices. T-Systems will assist the winner in getting the awarded project off the ground. They will support the winner to realise an innovation project, which could lead to a long-term partnership.

[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.

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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

Funded Ph.D. or postdoc position in remote sensing

We are seeking a highly motivated Ph.D. student or postdoc fellow who will work on calibrating a physics-based model to map the drought code of the Canadian Fire Weather Index from SAR images. The work will use data acquired over Canadian/South African natural grasslands, Alaska boreal forests and Canadian tundra. The Ph.D. work will be supervised by Prof. Brigitte Leblon, (University of New Brunswick, Canada), Prof. Joseph Buckley (Royal Military College, Canada), Dr. Thomas Jagdhuber (DLR, Germany), Dr. Laura Bourgeau-Chavez (Michigan Tech Research Institute, USA) and Dr. R. Mathieu (CSIR, South Africa). Thereby, the hired person will be invited to travel among the various laboratories during his Ph.D. thesis. The study is a part of research project recently funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC).

Eligible Candidates:

- Preference will be given to Canadian, US or European students because the candidate will be invited to do some work at DLR (Germany) and MTRI (USA), **but international students are encouraged to apply.**
- Applicants should have successfully completed an MSc (a Ph.D. for the postdoc) and have a strong background in remote sensing, strong interest in computer coding, with interest in fire sciences.

It is critical the applicant has some ability to program computer code to facilitate data analysis, model development and implementation, as well as good writing and oral skills. The position is fully funded. Interested applicants should send a cover letter, CV, a copy of academic transcripts (including TOEFL score if international student) and the names/contact information for three references by email. Uncompleted applications will not be considered.

Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled. The anticipated starting date will be starting January 1st 2014 or as soon as possible.

For more information and application, please contact [Prof. Brigitte Leblon](#)

Professor/Professeure,

Director, Canada-Europe *TRANSFOR-M* dual-degree Master program

Faculty of Forestry and Environmental Management, University of New Brunswick, PO Box 4400,

Fredericton, NB

Canada, E3B 5A3



Good luck!

New career resource at [GeoJobsBIZ](#). There's been about 200 opportunities listed and the growth has been steady in visits and users. If you need to recruit Geo/Tech talent hopefully you'll give it a shot and those of you simply browsing for a new gig so you can tell the boss to go take a hike perhaps there's something here for you.

GIS Job Board Launches New Website: 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

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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

Proceedings from International Conference on Marine Data and Information Systems (IMDIS), held in Lucca, Italy, September 23-25, 2013

Session 1: Marine information and data management

Session 2 - Marine environmental data bases: infrastructures and data access systems

Session 3 - Data Services in ocean science

Session 4 - Services for Users and Education

[Presentations](#) and [Posters](#)

The IMDIS cycle of conferences has the aim of providing an overview of the existing information systems to serve different users in ocean science. It also shows the progresses on development of efficient: infrastructures for managing large and diverse data sets, standards, interoperable information systems, services and tools for education.

The Conference presented different systems for on-line access to data, meta-data and products, communication standards and adapted technology to ensure platforms interoperability. Sessions focused on infrastructures, technologies and services for different users: environmental authorities, research, schools, universities, etc. The conference was organized by ENEA (Italian National agency for new technologies, Energy and sustainable economic development), jointly with SeaDataNet, IFREMER and IOC/IODE.

[37th ISO/TC 211 meeting successfully held](#) November 11 - 15

During the week of November 11-15, 2013, the [Technical Committee 211 Geographic information/Geomatics](#) (TC 211) of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) had its 37th plenary meeting and associated meetings at the Esri campus in Redlands, California. All the WGs met, as well as all the maintenance groups and other groups. Delegates and experts from 20 nations participated. [The resolutions from the plenary meeting have been published online.](#)

Presentations from [Standards in Action Workshop](#), 13 November 2013, Redlands, CA USA

The 38th ISO/TC 211 meeting will be held in [Berlin, Germany, June 2-4, 2014](#)

[First Heart of Borneo spatial meeting held](#) October, 2013

Preceded by the recent 7th Heart of Borneo (HoB) Trilateral Meeting in Brunei in September 2013, HoB Geographical Information System (GIS) meeting was organized in October, for the first time since it was initially discussed in 2008. The discussion evolved around the organizational and working modalities of the technical committee on GIS, presentations on national policy on spatial land-use planning, and identification of possible joint activities.

The meeting was considered useful to build a better understanding on each country's land-use management and the underlying principles. It is a reality that each country in the HoB regulates different land use plans and therefore different land-use management. Despite the fact of differences, the three countries demonstrated willingness to cope with the challenge. With distinct land classification or nomenclature, the essential function of land-use planning is understood and has become reference and knowledge for each country to develop better policy and practices on land-use management that considers balance between conservation and development.

See link above for full article.

[The Heart of Borneo](#) (HoB) refers to the main part of the island where forests remain intact. Covering an area the size of Utah in the US, Victoria in Australia or the whole of England and Scotland put together and extending into the territory of the countries of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia and Malaysia, it is one of the largest transboundary rainforests remaining in the world. But the Heart of Borneo is not just a treasure trove of biodiversity - it is also a source of life and livelihood for people, providing ecological services for at least 11 million Borneans, including a million forest-dwelling indigenous Dayaks.

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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

[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.

Date	Location	Event						
February 2014								
9-11 February “NEW”	Bangkok, Thailand	10th Asia GIS Conference Contact						
17-19 February “NEW”	Denver, USA	International LiDAR Mapping Forum 2014 The International LiDAR Mapping Forum [ILMF] is a three-day technical conference and exhibition focused on airborne, terrestrial and bathymetric LiDAR, with a particular emphasis on mobile mapping systems.						
March 2014								
11-12 March “NEW”	Kota Kinabalu, Sabah	Malaysia Geospatial Forum 2014 Incorporating SABAH International Surveyors’ Congress 2014 <table border="1" data-bbox="625 1077 1321 1200"> <tr> <td>Abstract Submission Deadline</td> <td>15 January 2014</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Abstract Acceptance Notification</td> <td>20 January 2014</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Author Registration Deadline</td> <td>31 January 2014</td> </tr> </table> Contact	Abstract Submission Deadline	15 January 2014	Abstract Acceptance Notification	20 January 2014	Author Registration Deadline	31 January 2014
Abstract Submission Deadline	15 January 2014							
Abstract Acceptance Notification	20 January 2014							
Author Registration Deadline	31 January 2014							
23-27 March “NEW”	Louisville, Kentucky, USA	American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) 2014 Annual Conference & <i>co-located</i> Joint Agency Commercial Imagery Evaluation (JACIE) Workshop						
April 2014								
30 March-2 April	San Diego, California	17th Annual AAAG Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Conference and Exhibition Speaking, sponsorship, exhibitor and Poster Session information: greg.mamary@aaag.org Registration and hotel information: brian.snyder@aaag.org						
7-9 April	Canberra, Australia	Research@Locate’14 Held in conjunction with LOCATE 14						
7-9 April “UPDATED”	Canberra, Australia	LOCATE 14 - Conference and Exhibition Locate14 is the new premier national spatial information conference and exhibition in Australia and New Zealand. Locate14 consolidates the top industry events including spatial@gov Conference and Exhibition (managed by the Office of Spatial Policy), the Surveying & Spatial Sciences Conference and the Asia-Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards. The annual Locate conferences will become the central meeting point of industry, government and academia in one of the fastest growing industries in Australia. Registrations are now open.						
12-13 April “NEW”	Washington, DC	State of the Map - US State of the Map US is the annual United States conference for all OpenStreetMap users						

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14-17 April "NEW"	Colorado, USA	SPAR International 2014 Call for Abstracts Deadline: 31 January, 2014 Maximum Word Count: 250 words
May 2014		
5-9 May	Geneva, Switzerland	Geospatial World Forum 2014 CALL for ABSTRACTS – to be submitted by November 1, 2013 Notification of Acceptance: November 15, 2013 Contact: info@geospatialworldforum.org
21-23 May	Thessaloniki, Greece	5th International Conference on Geographic Object-Based Image Analysis (GEOBIA 2014).
June 2014		
2-6 June "NEW"	Berlin, Germany	The 38th ISO/TC 211 PDF brochure/flyer only available at this date. Website expected on-line shortly
15–21 June	Riviera, Bulgaria	5th International Conference on CARTOGRAPHY & GIS January 10, 2014: Abstract submission February 25: Full paper submission for publication in Springer Book May 1: Full paper submission for Conference Proceedings Please be aware of the first deadline – 10 January 2014 . You are kindly asked to submit: - abstract for conference proceedings OR - full paper in case you would like to propose a paper for publishing in a Springer book titled "Thematic Cartography for the Society"
16–21 June	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	XXV FIG Congress: Engaging the Challenges – Enhancing the Relevance IMPORTANT DATES Peer Reviewed Papers Deadline for authors to submit full papers : November 1, 2013 First notification to authors of acceptance: December 19 Non Peer Reviewed Papers Deadline for authors to submit abstracts : December 1 Confirmation to authors of acceptance of abstracts : January 31 Call for Papers
July 2014		
1-4 July	Salzburg, Austria	GI Forum 2014: Geospatial Innovation for Society Feb 1, 2014 : deadline for submission of full papers / extended abstracts / extended abstracts for poster presentation March 16, 2014: notification of acceptance April 20, 2014 : final paper versions June 6, 2014: late deadline for submission of extended abstracts for poster presentation
November 2014		
9–11 November "NEW"	Dubai, UAE	4th International FIG 3D Cadastre Workshop Tentative timetable : 30 June 2014 - Extended abstract (500-1000 words) submission 7 September 2014 - Author notification 9 October 2014 - final version of full paper

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[Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association](#).

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