



GSDI Global Newsletter

Monthly News from the GSDI Association

Vol. 4, No. 10, 2014

The GSDI Association is an inclusive organization of organizations, agencies, firms, and individuals from around the world. The purpose of the organization is to promote international cooperation and collaboration in support of local, national and international spatial data infrastructure developments that will allow nations to better address social, economic, and environmental issues of pressing importance.

The ***GSDI GLOBAL NEWSLETTER*** is published by the GSDI Association, edited by Roger Longhorn. The Editor may be contacted at rlonghorn@godi.org. Please feel free to submit your news to the Editor, relevant to GSDI Members, GSDI partners or SDI initiatives at any level.



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FROM THE PRESIDENT



Another busy month for GSDI President, **Dr David Coleman**. In October, David chaired the GSDI Board Meeting teleconference, at which the GSDI Strategy and Strategic plan 2015-2020 was approved by the Board, along with some new staff appointments, as reported in the last issue of the Global Newsletter.

David was also a keynote speaker at the **Joint International Conference on Geospatial Theory, Processing, Modelling and Applications** in Toronto, Canada, presenting the paper: "*Paper Title: Challenging Traditional Models, Roles and Responsibilities in Evolving Spatial Data Infrastructures*". The link to his presentation will be in the next issue of the Global Newsletter.

FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL



Since our last newsletter, Secretary-General **Roger Longhorn** has been busy with his usual communications and operations duties, as well as representing the Association at the INFOTÉR 5 Conference on 6 - 7 November 2014, in Balatonfüred, Hungary, where he presented the first 'GSDI Mobile SDI Apps Award' in a competition organised by GSDI Member HUNAGI. While at the conference, he also delivered a keynote presentation titled '*The Spatially Enabled Society – Global Trends and Best Practices*' which can be viewed on the GSDI Slideshare space at this link:

<http://www.slideshare.net/GSDI/roger-longhorn-gsdi-secretary>. **Members are reminded that the Association is more than happy to re-publish their presentations on the GSDI Slideshare account if they will simply notify Roger, which increases exposure of our Members' activities to the wider geo world!**

We continue development of the new GSDI website and implementation of a new Membership Management System which aims to streamline contact with our organisational and individual members from 2015 for administrative, operational and capacity building purposes. Member news and SDI-related news from around the globe continues to be published on the current website and to our LinkedIn and Facebook accounts.

Roger is also re-drafting the Bylaws of the Association for review by legal staff in the USA where GSDI is registered as a non-profit organisation in the state of Virginia, in order to reflect the new GSDI Strategy. As summarised in the Board meeting short report in the last issue, several areas of the Bylaws now need updating.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

GSDI Council Meeting – February 2015

Preparations have already begun for the next GSDI Council meeting, to be held by teleconference in the middle of February 2015. Prior to that meeting, several activities are taking place with the President, Secretary-General, Executive Committee and GSDI Board, especially in relation to the proposed changes to the Association's Bylaws, which must be approved by the Council in order to be officially adopted.

GSDI 15 Conference Proposals

To date, only one full proposal has been received relating to the GSDI 15 Conference, which has arrived from our members based in Chinese Taipei, proposing that the conference be held there at the end of February or first week of March 2016. The proposal is led by GSDI Member Taiwan Geographic Information System Center (TGIC) and co-sponsored by GSDI Member Taiwan Association of Disaster Prevention Industry (TADPI), with several other nationally based organisations involved in support. More news on the Conference in the next issue of the Newsletter and on our website from December. The Conference will be run along the same lines as prior GSDI World Conferences, with calls for presentation and paper abstracts expected to be launched not later than February 2015.

IJSDIR Special Call for Geospatial Dataset Descriptions

The *International Journal of Spatial Data Infrastructures Research (IJSDIR)* is one of the free and open access journals focusing on SDI issues and is one of the journals recommended to members interested in current SDI research. In August, IJSDIR made a pre-announcement of a Special Call for Geospatial Dataset Descriptions.

The IJSDIR would like to support Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDI) research and by inviting researchers and practitioners to submit descriptions of their datasets as short scientific papers for peer-review.

Published papers will illustrate current and potential areas for reuse of the geospatial datasets. Such examples could contribute to ARE3NA's existing evidence base about the cross-cutting nature of geospatial data to support a range of public policies.

Custodians and managers of INSPIRE datasets are encouraged to submit examples for this special call. The



formal call has yet to be announced, however, potential contributors are invited to indicate their interest to the editor, Dr. Sven Schade, at: sven.schade@jrc.ec.europa.eu.

Source:
<http://ijsdir.jrc.ec.europa.eu/index.php/ijsdir/announcement>

ASSOCIATION MEMBER NEWS

Industry Member News

News from Spatial Innovision Ltd

Spatial Innovision 2-Day Workshop at URISA Caribbean Conference



Photo: Roshawn Clarke of Spatial Innovision talking with customers at the URISA Caribbean Conference.

Spatial Innovision ran a two-day workshop at the URISA Caribbean Conference, at the Santa Barbara Beach & Golf Resort in Curacao on 26 and 27 October, titled "Mobile and Server GIS: Field to Finish".

Spatial Innovision were also sponsors of The Caribbean Land Conference 2014, held from 29 September to 1 October in Trinidad.

Member Profile



Spatial Innovision Limited was founded in 1998 and is the Caribbean's leading geospatial solutions centre. SPATIAL is a highly focused company that is deliberate in its choice of customers, partners and employees. SPATIAL is an industry leader with our impressive array of in-house resources and highly trained cadre of personnel with expertise in complex design, development deployment, and integration of GIS and GPS solutions. SPATIAL has been an advocate for the widespread implementation of geospatial solutions throughout the Caribbean region and currently serve

hundreds of clients from government agencies, non-government organizations and private businesses.

SPATIAL's broad network of partners helps you create the GIS solution that specifically meets the needs of your organization. SPATIAL is the regional distributor for Environmental Systems Research Institute (Esri), the global leaders in the development of GIS solutions with over 95% of the Caribbean regional GIS sales and services. For more information, visit: <http://www.spatialvision.com/>

News from Esri

Esri is on GitHub!

Esri is excited about helping developers build and share software and encourage you to browse their open source code and get started with the powerful ArcGIS platform today. Visit the Esri Github website at <http://esri.github.io> and browse through literally scores of open source apps being developed across a wide range of themes and services.

Esri Geodesign Summit – January 2015

The Esri Geodesign Summit will be held 22-23 January 2015 at Esri HQ, Redlands, CA, USA. Urbanization, globalization, extreme weather – these are complex problems that cannot be solved by one person or even one nation. This year the focus is on geodesign as a tool for collaborative planning and design, a method for helping us work across scales and disciplines to find design solutions that improve lives and the environment.

Join Esri for the 2015 Geodesign Summit, January 22-23, to share your ideas, connect, and learn how geodesign is being used to create safe, sustainable, and increasingly more resilient communities. Bring your ideas. Get inspired at Geodesign Summit. Register today here: <http://www.geodesignsummit.com/registration/index.html>

Esri at 2014 GEO-XI Week - 11-14 November

The Eleventh Plenary Session of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO-XI), hosted by Switzerland, will take place in Geneva from 13 to 14 November 2014. The venue is the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), 7bis, avenue de la Paix, 1211 Geneva, Switzerland.

The agenda for the week includes GEO Board and Executive Committee meetings on 11 and 12 November, with the plenary sessions held on 13-14 November.

Among the side events also held on 12 November is a workshop conducted by GSDI Member Esri that is open to all. The workshop is entitled 'Working with the Esri GEO



Community Portal' and will be held on Wednesday, 12 November 2014 between 1045 and 1145 in the Jura Room at WMO.

Workshop Abstract: The GIS community of millions of GIS professionals need GEO data and services and can also contribute their data and services to GEOSS. This session will review a GEOSS Community Portal that helps Esri users to participate in GEO and support the nine societal benefit areas.

For more information, contact: Jeanne Foust, Osamu Ochiai (jfoust@esri.com, oochiai@geosec.org)

Also attending the GEO-XI Plenary on behalf of the GSDI Association will be **Paola DeSalvo**, from Esri's Nonprofit and Global Organizations team.

News from Boundless



Boundless Adds Software Veteran to Leadership Team



Boundless announced the appointment of David Raissipour, a senior business and technical executive with significant expertise in developing enterprise software. As Senior Vice President of Product and Engineering, Raissipour will be responsible for the strategic direction and ongoing development of Boundless products.

"As Boundless brings spatial context to applications across organizations, Raissipour's technical expertise in product development, business management and innovative strategy will be invaluable", said Ann Johnson, CEO of Boundless. "In his prior experience, David has helped transform traditional enterprise software to embrace new technologies and strategic approaches, including the transition to mobile and cloud, along with the development of some of the leading security tools on the market today".

Raissipour is a seasoned development leader with over 25 years of experience across a diverse set of products. He has held multiple leadership roles at RSA, the Security Division of EMC, where he led the Antifraud, Authentication & Mobile Product Portfolio, accounting for nearly half of the company's revenue. He also led all of RSAs SaaS products and operations. Prior to RSA, Raissipour spent 14 years at Microsoft, in various product leadership roles for MSN and Bing Mobile as well as various Business Intelligence and Business Productivity applications.

Boundless has recognized that spatial data is more valuable when harnessed throughout the enterprise, commented Raissipour. We have a remarkable market opportunity and the right vision to transform the industry to a Spatial IT approach that integrates this data to help business leaders solve their most pressing problems.

OpenGeo Suite Workshop at GeoBuzz 2014

GSDI Members Boundless and GeoCat are organizing a workshop on OpenGeo Suite at **GeoBuzz**. You need to register for Geobuzz order to attend the workshop. The workshop is on 25 November, from 1000h to 1130h in the Galloway Room and you will need your laptop. Please register for the workshop at this link:

<https://www.geocat.net/opengeo-suite-workshop-at-geobuzz/>

About GeoBuzz



This is a large two day conference that brings people and organisations together. Sharing knowledge, meet and inspire and above all ambition are key on this conference. GeoBuzz is an independent conference, it offers an open platform with several opportunities to share knowledge and ideas, to learn from each other and to activate each other.

Geo-information adds much to policy, assessment, communication, project implementation, research, motivation, innovation, management, communication and other tasks in organisations. Geo-information has many expected and unexpected benefits. Geo-information helps in many social issues. For this, sharing information, combining information and access to information is essential. Knowledge of the potential of geo-information increases the quality of work in various sectors: health care, space, energy, water, security and other sectors. On GeoBuzz it's all about the possibilities and opportunities in these sectors. There are stories, discussions and workshops of users and geo-experts. They meet and inspire each other here.

The GeoBuzz conference is a Dutch event, so most information and speeches will be in Dutch. There is a special price for students of €30 per day.

Member Profiles

Boundless develops and supports powerful software for enterprise Spatial IT applications. Designed for bringing spatial information into modern workflows, OpenGeo



Suite provides a complete platform for managing data and building maps and applications. The experts at Boundless reduce the cost and time of deploying and managing spatial software with packaging, support, maintenance, professional services, and expert training. Learn more at <http://boundlessgeo.com>.

GeoCat offer software, services, support and consulting so you can publish geospatial data on the Internet easier and more efficient than ever. International standards are at the heart of our solutions and have been tested in the most demanding circumstances. For more information visit: <http://www.geocat.net>



News from the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)

OGC Announces Location Powers: Smart Cities Summit, December 2nd, Tokyo, Japan

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) invites you to attend the inaugural Location Powers Summit (www.locationpowers.net) on 2nd December 2014 in Tokyo, Japan. The focus for this first event will be understanding the location and place needs for a Smart City. The day's journey will see us test our assumptions of what a Smart City is, explore the role of the citizen, look at how we "see" a Smart City, the fundamental infrastructure and how we understand a Smart City.

To guide us through the day we have enlisted an international team of experts to discuss Smart Cities "location intelligence": These include:

- Carsten Rosendorf, Middle East advisor at Ordnance Survey International and global expert in 3D and City modelling. He will discuss how OGC's CityGML Standard provides an organizing framework for the spatial and semantic understanding of urban structures and their uses.
- Steve Liang, Professor at the University of Calgary in Canada and, the lead in the development of the SensorThings standard. SensorThings builds on the established OGC Sensor Web Enablement standards. Sensors and crowdsourcing of city conditions is a necessary step to smart cities.
- Rich Carne, recently appointed Chief Digital Officer at MetOffice in the United Kingdom looking at ways to work with cities, transport and citizens to collect and deliver smart weather & climate information
- Michi Kohno from Creative City Designers, Tokyo, will share his experience in developing indicators for sustainable cities including city services and quality of life in how we architect the Smart Cities of the future.
- Plus representatives from across Asia's Smart Cities initiatives - announcements to follow.

Two important new OGC standards will be introduced at the Location Powers: Smart Cities Summit. These standards will become indispensable elements of how Smart Cities share their location information:

- Ryosuke Shibasaki of the Center for Spatial Information Science, The University of Tokyo, is the convenor and chair of the OGC Moving Features Standards Working Group. He will conduct the world's first real-time demonstration of the new candidate OGC Moving Features Standard, which gives developers a lightweight and open standard way of tracking moving features.
- Ki-Joune Li of the Pusan National University, convenor and chair of the IndoorGML Standards Working Group, will present the recently approved OGC IndoorGML Encoding Standard, which gives developers an innovative and easy open standard way of encoding indoor spaces for navigation purposes.

The Location Powers Summits are hosted by the OGC, whose members have been making the world's location standards for over 20 years. In addition to informing stakeholders about the power of understanding location, the Summits are also designed to inform future work within the consortium so that we can continue developing relevant and useful standards. This summit is part of our quarterly Technical Meetings for the Asia Pacific region and will be followed by 3 further summits in 2015: Sustainable Development; Location & the Citizen; and Mobile, Sensors & High Velocity. More information and registration details can be found at www.locationpowers.net. Join us and help shape the way cities utilise location information.

OGC seeks comment on working group for representing time series spatial observation data

The OGC seeks comment on the charter for a new OGC Standards Working Group (SWG) being formed to develop an OGC standard – TimeSeriesML 1.0 – for the representation of time series observations data. This work is motivated by requirements in hydrology and meteorology, but the standard will be designed to be useful in any application that involves periodic sampling of spatially referenced data. Time scales could range from the geologic time scales of climate to the nanosecond time scales of radiofrequency spectrum. It is intended that the proposed TimeSeriesML 1.0 standard will be implemented as an application schema of the Geography Markup Language version 3.3 and make use of "OMXML," the OGC XML implementation of the OGC and ISO Observations and Measurements (O&M) conceptual model (OGC Observations and Measurements v2.0 also published as ISO/DIS 19156).

This SWG will develop a TimeSeriesML 1.0 candidate standard submission, coordinate a public comment



period, and process any comments received during this period. The final deliverable of the SWG will be a version of the candidate standard for consideration by the OGC membership for approval as an OGC standard.

The draft charter for the OGC TimeSeriesML Standards Working Group is available at:

<https://portal.opengeospatial.org/files/60856>.

Send comments on the charter to [charter-requests \[at\] opengeospatial.org](mailto:charter-requests[at]opengeospatial.org).

The 30 day public comment period **ends 20 November 2014**. After the ad hoc group seeking to form the new SWG has addressed comments received in response to this Request for Comments (RFC) the draft charter will be submitted to the OGC Technical Committee and Planning Committee for their review and likely approval.

OGC adopts OGC Sensor Observation Service 2.0 Hydrology Profile Best Practice

The OGC membership has adopted the OGC Sensor Observation Service 2.0 Hydrology Profile as an OGC Best Practice.

The OGC Sensor Observation Service (SOS) 2.0 Interface Standard (defines a Web service interface that provides clients with a broad range of capabilities for discovering, gathering, and querying collections of observation data. The new OGC Sensor Observation Service 2.0 Hydrology Profile Best Practice is defined to overcome semantic issues between different SOS instances serving hydrological data and the related client applications. Therefore, this profile focuses on how to specify semantics and structure requests and defines the necessary technical details to implement an interoperable hydrology SOS profile.

The SOS Hydrology Profile was developed and tested in the OGC Hydrology Interoperability Experiments and in the European GEOWOW project (GEOSS interoperability for Weather, Ocean and Water). GEOWOW was co-funded by the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme FP7/2007-2013 under grant agreement in response to call ENV.2011.4.1.3-1 "Interoperable integration of Shared Earth Observations in the Global Context".

SOS 2.0: <http://www.opengeospatial.org/standards/sos>

The following organizations submitted this document to the OGC:

- 52°North Initiative for Geospatial Open Source Software GmbH
- KISTERS AG

OGC Calls for Participation in Major Interoperability Testbed

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC®) has issued a Request for Quotation/Call for Participation (RFP/CFP) in the OGC Testbed 11 Interoperability Testbed.

Testbed 11 sponsors have documented interoperability requirements and objectives for this testbed activity. Organizations selected to participate in Testbed 11 will develop solutions based on the sponsors' use cases, requirements and scenarios, which are described in detail in the CFP. Participants' solutions will implement existing OGC standards as well as new prototype interface and encoding specifications introduced or developed in Testbed 11. Prototype specifications may ultimately become OGC standards, revisions to existing OGC standards, or best practices for using OGC standards.

Testbed 11 Sponsors include:

- European Organization for the Safety of Air Navigation (EUROCONTROL)
- Land Information New Zealand (LINZ)
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA)
- UAE Ministry of Interior Abu Dhabi Police GIS Center for Security (UAE ADP-GIS SC)
- UK Defense Science and Technology Lab (UK-DSTL)
- US Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- US Geological Survey (USGS)

The RFQ/CFP and information about Testbed 11 are available at:

<http://www.opengeospatial.org/standards/requests/126>

Responses are due by 5:00 pm EST on 21 November 2014.

Testbed 11 focuses on spatial communication requirements that emerge when a population is displaced due to coastal inundation. Testbed participants addressing requirements in this scenario will attempt to meet these goals:

- Advance OGC Architecture with respect to REST and SOAP design patterns for synchronization of geodata across data stores, as well as storage and synchronization of geodata in GeoPackages;
- Evaluate approaches to JSON and GeoJSON encodings as well as vector data and image streaming in the OGC standards framework;
- Integration of high-resolution simulation models into geospatial infrastructures
- Advance use of Linked Data and Semantic Enabling of OGC Web Services, with a special focus on Hydrographic Data;



- Advance use of OGC Catalog Services;
- Advance use of spatially enabled Social Media data;
- Advance use of a common symbology that can be used to share common operational pictures in an international environment;
- Advance compliance tests for the OGC Web Feature Service and Catalog 3.0 Service interface standards;
- In Aviation, advance a Digital NOTAM validation service and enrichment service and advance use of Aviation Feature Schema (AFX). Also develop guidance on using geometrical constraints in the Semantics of Business Vocabulary and Rules (SBVR) (an Object Management Group standard).

Those Testbed goals sort into these technology threads:

- Cross-Community Interoperability (CCI) Thread
- Urban-Climate Resilience (UCR) Thread
- Geospatial Enhancements for NIEM (Geo4NIEM)

This cutting edge technology work has enormous potential for testbed stakeholders – both technology users and the technology providers – and for the world at large. The return on the shared investment in spatial standards is extraordinary, much like the return on the original shared investments in http and html. Technology providers who participate in the testbed gain market exposure, market intelligence, and a chance to quickly take advantage of the business opportunities that arise with the introduction of new standards and associated technical capabilities.

If you want to learn more about this opportunity, please contact Lew Leinenweber, Director Interoperability Programs (techdesk@opengeospatial.org). See <http://www.opengeospatial.org/ogc/programs/ip> for more information about the 15 year old OGC Interoperability Program in which OGC testbeds, pilot projects and interoperability experiments are organized, planned and managed.

News from Americas Members

CIESIN

Greg Yetman Rejoins CIESIN as Associate Director for Geospatial Applications



CIESIN is pleased to announce the appointment of **Greg Yetman** as associate director for the Geospatial Applications Division, marking his return to CIESIN after three years with Esri Canada. Yetman takes over leadership of CIESIN's team of geospatial data and information specialists and will play a

key role in advancing CIESIN's geospatial capabilities and infrastructure in support of research and applications.

Yetman originally joined CIESIN in February 1999. He holds a master's degree in geography from McGill University and a certificate in application and software development from Columbia University. See: Greg Yetman's bio here: <http://ciesin.columbia.edu/yetman.html> or in the GIKnet Community Registry here: <http://www.giknet.org/registry/individual.php?id=77>

Development of the SHared Access Research System Focus of Fall Meeting

CIESIN senior digital archivist Robert Downs participated in the 2014 fall meeting of the **SHared Access Research Ecosystem (SHARE)** in Crystal City, Virginia, October 13–14. SHARE is a higher education and research community initiative to ensure the preservation of, access to, and reuse of research outputs, including publications and data. As a member of SHARE's technical working group, Downs contributed to discussions about the planned SHARE Notification Service, the SHARE Registry, and the interoperability of open access repository networks around the world. SHARE is led by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), the Association of American Universities (AAU), and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU).

See: <http://www.arl.org/focus-areas/shared-access-research-ecosystem-share>

CIESIN Shares its Research with Interested Public at Lamont Open House



Photo: CIESIN senior research staff assistant Jane Mills helps visitors answer a population quiz, as part of the CIESIN exhibit at the 2014 Lamont Open House of their recent research and development activities. October 11, Palisades, New York.

Approximately 2700 visitors from the greater New York metropolitan area and beyond braved the cold and rainy weather to attend the annual Lamont-Doherty Open



House, held Saturday, October 11, at the Lamont campus of Columbia University in Palisades, New York. The CIESIN tent sported exhibits focused on uses of its flagship data product, Gridded Population of the World (GPW), including posters of global and U.S. population maps and use-case scenarios showing the latest version of the data set and how it may be integrated with other data for new insights on subjects such as teen pregnancy in Bhutan and teen literacy in Nigeria. Other posters described the Hudson River flood hazards mapping tool, a time series of sulfur dioxide, and an explanation of the CIESIN project Africa Soil Information Service (AFSIS). More than a thousand microfiber cloths displaying a GPW map were given away free to visitors, as part of the upcoming celebration of CIESIN's 25th Anniversary in December.

See: <https://www.ldeo.columbia.edu/news-events/events/open-house>

AFSIS: <http://www.africasoils.net/>

East Africa Workshops Explore Climate Change Adaptation Issues

CIESIN geographic information specialist Malanding Jaiteh and senior research associate Sandra Baptista participated in back-to-back workshops on climate change vulnerability and adaptation in Bujumbura, Burundi, October 7–10. The workshops were organized by the Planning for Resilience in East Africa through Policy, Adaptation, Research, and Economic Development (PREPARED) program funded by the US Agency for International Development East Africa Mission (USAID/East Africa).

The Climate Vulnerability, Impacts, and Adaptation Assessment (VIA) Stakeholders Inception Workshop, held October 7–9, convened experts from the East African Community (EAC) Partner States, representatives from regional institutions, and PREPARED Program partners. The workshop launched the PREPARED VIA process for the Lake Victoria Basin region.

Jaiteh gave a presentation on CIESIN's recent capacity-building training workshops on climate vulnerability mapping conducted in May and August in Nairobi, Kenya. Baptista summarized the results of the PREPARED Climate Information Users and Service Providers Survey. At the Climate Vulnerability Mapping Validation Meeting October 9–10, Jaiteh described the PREPARED climate vulnerability mapping methodology and guided participants in a participatory process to evaluate the preliminary regional climate vulnerability index results and country-level vulnerability maps.

PREPARED:

<http://www.usaid.gov/documents/1860/support-planning-resilience-east-africa-through-policy-adaptation-research-and>



USAID/East Africa: <http://www.usaid.gov/east-africa-regional>

News from University of Laval

Stéphane Roche, GSDI Council Delegate for GSDI Member University of Laval, was guest speaker at the recent ITIS meeting of the Digital Technologies Institute for Information and Society (ITIS), in collaboration with the Canadian Institute of Quebec. The theme was 'Citizensensors to social media: new indicators, new urbanity?'

The digital revolution has transformed the way we imagine and build the city. Ubiquitous geolocation information opens new horizons and new indicators, providing conscious and unconscious traces of citizens, thus promoting the creation of a smart city. The conference was held in the Gerard Martin Hall of the Gabrielle-Roy Library on 11 September.

Stephane also became the Acting Associate Dean for Research and Studies in the Faculty of Forestry, Geography and Geomatics (FFGG) earlier this year.

Faculty Colloquium FFGG at University of Laval

12 and 13 November this year marks the fifth edition of the Faculty Symposium FFGG. These two days will be the perfect opportunity to learn more about the different research current at the Faculty of Forestry, Geography and Geomatics at Laval University.

Several students will present their Masters or PhD projects in oral presentations and scientific posters. The faculty seminar is an excellent opportunity to network with members of various departments of the Faculty, with employers and industry members from forestry, geography and geomatics. November 12 will conclude with a networking wine and cheese evening, while 13 November will conclude with a round table (50 seats available).

Sign up now by filling out the form at the following address: <http://colloqueffgg.wordpress.com/inscription-participer/>

News from Asia-Pacific Members

Chinese Translations of A-P Section of the new Regional Newsletter

Translations into Chinese of the Asia-Pacific section of the new GSDI SDI Regional Newsletter, edited by Kate Lance, are published on the GSDI Newsletter website and can also be downloaded directly from the archive at the links below.

May 2014 - http://portal.gsdii.org/files/?artifact_id=1532

June 2014 - http://portal.gsd.org/files/?artifact_id=1533

July 2014 – http://portal.gsd.org/files/?artifact_id=156

August 2014 -

http://portal.gsd.org/files/?artifact_id=1570

September 2014 -

http://portal.gsd.org/files/?artifact_id=1608

Note: These translations are provided by staff of Mr. Jeremy Shen, vice-Chair, Capacity Building, of the GSDI Societal Impacts Committee, with great thanks from the Association.

News from European Members

EUROGI

EUROGI President Bruce McCormack interviewed at imaGIne Conference 2014



The **imaGIne Conference 2014** was held in the same venue and time as the annual INTERGEO fair. President of EUROGI, **Mr Bruce**

McCormack, was asked to give an interview for "Newstalk", the INTERGEO TV channel. He shared his thoughts about enormous possibilities/opportunities for exploiting geographic information (GI) and geotechnologies (GT). For more details please see video here: http://api.medianac.com/index.php/extwidget/openGraph/wid/0_we26fdhp

More news from the conference in the next issue and the HUNAGI report in the following sections.

EUROGI Extra Members Meeting 2014, 28 November, Brussels

The EUROGI Extra Members Meeting 2014 is being jointly organised with the Final Conference LAPSI 2.0, where EUROGI is member of the partner consortia. Registration is free, but the number of seats is limited. For more information and registration please visit the following link: <http://www.lapsi-project.eu/conference-28-november-2014>

About the LAPSI 2.0 Conference, 28 November 2014, Brussels.

The European Thematic Network on Legal Aspects of Public Sector Information (LAPSI 2.0) is pleased to invite you to its Final LAPSI 2.0 Conference in Brussels - "Untangling the issues surrounding Open Data".

They will present the findings and recommendations concerning the remaining legal barriers and obstacles to access and re-use of public sector information (PSI) on the European content market, and propose measures and tools to stimulate the progress of the European market towards open data.



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Confirmed speakers include experts in the field of open data and public sector information. The panels will address important issues of licensing, access to information, data protection, competition and intellectual property rights

The program will be updated regularly. See the latest version of the program here:

http://www.lapsi-project.eu/sites/lapsi-project.eu/files/program%20draft%2003-1-1_0.pdf

HUNAGI News



'Open Source and Open Data' Session at the imaGIne 2014 Conference



Thanks to Dr. Gabor Remetey-Fulopp, Secretary-General of HUNAGI, who co-organised Session 8C1 at the recent **imaGIne Conference** held in Berlin. Dr. Remetey-Fulopp is former chair of the GSDI Legal & Socioeconomic Committee and also represents the GSDI Association at various GEO and GEOSS related meetings.

You can view Gabor's full report on the GSDI SlideShare space at:

http://www.slideshare.net/slideshow/embed_code/40647978



HUNAGI and GSDI at the INFOTÉR Conference in Balatonfüred, Hungary

The Hungarian IT Pro Society Association and the ICT Association of Hungary held the INFOTÉR 5 Conference (Informatika a Társadalomért Konferencia) at the Anna Grand Hotel in Balatonfüred, Hungary, from 6-7 November 2014. This latest instalment in the conference series was the fifth such event for ICT in the government

and NGO sectors, as well as enterprises with a stake in building an ICT society.

This year's event was special as it took place at the start of a new government term and EU budget period. The introduction of the new Hungarian government's officials and plans, alongside discussions on strategy, programs and project plans, were key features of the conference.

The sectors and issues featured at this year's conference included:

- electronic governance,
- governmental IT solutions
- telecommunications,
- R&D,
- innovation,
- education,
- health care,
- geoinformatics,
- energy strategy,
- business development,
- industry policies and politics, and
- IT security.

The 2014 INFOTÉR Conference featured notable speakers

from the ICT sector as well as an overview of the profession. Among the nearly 1000 attendees were several high ranking Hungarian and international



officials and professionals. Local governments, public procurement, and Big Data were also discussed, as well as development policies, where Hungarian and international presenters introduced methods to promote the successful resolution of major government projects.

In preparation for the conference, HUNAGI suggested a stream on the theme "Spatially Enabled Society" (SES). The proposal was endorsed by GSDI and EUROGI at President's level and the National Council on Communication and Informatics (NHIT - www.nhit.hu) in Budapest provided a grant to implement the proposal. Two afternoon sessions were devoted to SES on 6 November.



The session was introduced by HUNAGI President Dr **Zsolt Barkoczi** and included six presentations that were very well received by the audience.

The GSDI Association was represented by Secretary-General, **Roger Longhorn**, who delivered a keynote presentation at the session on '*The Spatially*

Enabled Society – Global Trends and Best Practices' which can be viewed on the GSDI Slideshare space here: <http://www.slideshare.net/GSDI/roger-longhorn-gsd-secretary>.



During this session, the presentations for HUNAGI's three Mobile Apps Awards were also made, plus Roger presented the new '*GSDI Mobile SDI Apps Award*' to the

developers of the eCamino app (eCamino.eu). Each award winner was given three minutes to present their apps to the audience.



Our grateful thanks are extended to HUNAGI and to the organisers of INFOTÉR 5 for offering us this opportunity to present the

Association and to sponsor this worthwhile and innovative initiative and award. See more about the other competition award winners and the conference on the HUNAGI Blogspot.

NEWS FOR GSDI INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

The **Individual Membership arm of the GSDI Association** (formerly the *International Geospatial Society*) seeks individuals for membership who have geospatial, SDI, GIS or related professional or specialist interests, including professionals working in these topic areas in government, academia or industry, and especially students and young professionals from developed and developing nations.

The new **GSDI Strategy and Strategic Plan 2015-2020** proposed ways to be more inclusive of Individual Members in the services and resources available from the Association. In November, more news is being sent to all current Individual Members as to how this transition will take place, which will involve no additional intervention by Members themselves. The stated goals and workplan of the IGS will not change and we plan to devote even more resources from the Association into benefits for Individual Members, especially those from less developed nations.

The current web site is at <http://www.igeoss.org> and this is being redeveloped as part of the new GSDI website, to be released by year's end.



REMINDERS FOR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Subscriptions to GIM International

Get your free subscription to **GIM International** magazine. GIM International carries GSDI news, including IGS news, in a monthly column. If you want to stay up to date with this column and read up on other developments in Geomatics, please follow this link and subscribe if you are not already receiving a hard copy of the magazine: <http://www.gim-international.com/GSDI>.

Subscriptions to Geospatial World Online Magazine

Geospatial World magazine is now offering free subscriptions to IGS members from developing nations or who are students.

Participation in GIKNet

GSDI Individual members are reminded that SDI information is uploaded in the **GIKnet Spatial Data Depot**, to which they are requested to contribute. Members are invited to actively participate in the member's discussion list and/or on the GSDI LinkedIn Group as a means of sharing news, plus on the other regional and topic-oriented discussion lists of the GSDI Association.

GSDI on LinkedIn and Facebook

If you have not already done so, please join the GSDI Group on the professional networking site **LinkedIn** at www.linkedin.com. This group now serves both the GSDI Association and the International Geospatial Society – and is there for YOU to use to let the geo community know what you are doing – or to seek advice on important issues that you may be facing in your work or studies. You can now also join us on Facebook to share your news at: www.facebook.com/gsdiandigs/

Individual Member News!

GSDI Individual Members – submit your news, so that we can learn more about what our membership is doing! There are now 440 of you out there now, so please communicate with us. News can be sent by e-mail directly to me, Roger Longhorn, Editor GSDI Global Newsletter at: rlonghorn@gsdi.org, or to Dev Raj Paudyal, IGS President-elect, at: [DevRaj.Paudyal\[at\]usq.edu.au](mailto:DevRaj.Paudyal[at]usq.edu.au).

Join GSDI Today!

Remember that individuals in low and very low income nations can apply to join the GSDI Association as Individual Members by providing specific information of value to the global community in lieu of annual cash dues. The listing of low and very-low income nations may be found at <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/DATASTATISTICS/Resources/CLASS.XLS>. To join for free, simply add your professional profile to the growing interconnected network of geospatial specialists across the globe on the Geographic Information Knowledge Network (GIKNet) at



<http://giknet.org> and then apply for membership as an Individual Member at <http://www.igeoss.org/join>.

GSDI COMMITTEE PROJECT NEWS

To keep abreast of what is happening in SDI and related fields around the globe, be sure to check out the various newsletters downloadable from the GSDI website (<http://www.gsdi.org/newsletters>). These include the **GSDI Regional Newsletter** (regional news from around the globe) and the **GSDI Global Newsletter** (GSDI Association news Member activities), **EuroGeographics Messenger**, the **UN-SPIDER** Newsletter, and the newsletters of the organisations with which GSDI has MoUs – **ICA**, **FIG** and **ISPRS**. Historical issues of the **FGDC** Newsletters, **EIS-Africa** (environmental news from Africa), **SALB** Newsletter (Second Administrative Level Boundaries from the UN), and **EUROGI** Newsletters are also available.

As a result of the new GSDI Strategy and Strategic Plan 2015-2020, from 2015 the role of Committees within the Association will be replaced by Projects, each with a named Project Leader and support staff (typically volunteers with some limited financial support). Projects and funding may be proposed by Members and first option to execute a Project will also be available to GSDI Members.

Communications, Outreach & Membership

Outreach and Membership activities are now carried out by Roger Longhorn, as one of his responsibilities as Secretary-General. As part of the GSDI Strategy and Strategic Plan 2015-2020 accepted by the Board on 9 October, work is still underway in regard to a potential new fee structure to be implemented in 2016, via a small internal working group involving representatives from the various member groupings of the Association.

The **Communications Strategy** and **Membership Strategy** presented to the Board on 9 October are being implemented, incrementally, with the main emphasis in October and for the rest of 2014 on development and implementation of the new GSDI website and new Membership Management System.

The Global Newsletter continues to be edited by Roger Longhorn, that role to be taken over by **Karen Levoleger** from January 2015. Regional News Editor, **Kate Lance**, continues to provide news to the various news lists, as well as preparing the monthly Regional Newsletter. Both Roger and Kate also provide near daily updates to discussion lists and online news on the website.



The GSDI Group on LinkedIn, which now has **376 members**. 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 or go direct to: <http://www.linkedin.com/groups/GSDI-Association-3794985>.

Note: you do NOT have to be a member of the GSDI Association or the International Geospatial Society to join the LinkedIn group! However, requests to join the group and/or to post messages are moderated.

Our **Facebook** account has gathered a few more followers and GSDI and IGS members are encouraged to use Facebook to tell us about their activities. Visit us on Facebook at: (www.facebook.com/gsdilandigs).



GSDI O&M has also created a **Slide Share** account so that members can publish their presentations online. Members wishing to take advantage of this, please send your presentation files to Roger Longhorn at: rlonghorn@gsdi.org.

We have also launched an online viewing facility for the Newsletters and certain GSDI publications, via the ISSUU.com e-zine system. With the announcement of each newsletter release, the link is also provided to ISSUU where the newsletters can be viewed online. We hope that this may alleviate some of the Internet bandwidth restrictions that are affecting some members trying to download large PDF files. The online editions are searchable by full text.

We continue to publish news on the Members' Corner of the GSDI website and via **Twitter** @GSDI_IGS.

Capacity Building

One of the main capacity building initiatives of the Association has been the GSDI Small Grants Program, under the remit of the Societal Impacts Committee, chaired by **Carmelle Terborgh** (Esri), supported by vice-Chair, **Brigitta Urban-Mathieux** (FGDC/USGS), assisted by **Jeremy Shen**, who provides support for on-site GIS training activities and **Kate Lance**, who maintains the list of webinars on the GSDI website - see: <http://www.gsdi.org/webinars> .

2014 GSDI Small Grants Program Update

The four projects selected for funding in 2014 are now underway, and initial reports are already arriving, which

will be introduced to the Members in the next issue of the Newsletter.

To see details, including final project reports, from all the proposals funded by GSDI Small Grants since 2003, please visit this web site: <http://www.gsdi.org/sic1>

URISA News

URISA Vanguard Cabinet Google Hangout on 12 November

URISA's **Vanguard Cabinet (VC)** is hosting a Google Hangout on, November 12 at 8:00 PM Eastern in order to give young GIS professionals an opportunity to learn more about the VC and the 2015 application process. See: <http://www.urisa.org/about-us/vanguard-cabinet>

The URISA Vanguard Cabinet debuted in 2011 to engage young GIS practitioners (35 and under), increase their numbers in the organization, and better understand the concerns facing these future leaders of the GIS community. The Cabinet's mission is to collaborate with URISA's Board of Directors and Committees in creating and promoting programs and policies of benefit to young professionals. Comprised entirely of passionate young members selected from different geospatial disciplines, the Cabinet aims to position URISA as the center of opportunities for creative young professionals who are committed to improving URISA and the geospatial profession via innovation, collaboration, networking, and professional development.

Clare Brown, GISP, advisor to the Vanguard Cabinet, notes, "*Young professionals are not only increasing in number within URISA, but they are also leading and initiating important programs. From student outreach to professional practice development, the VC is making its mark and being noticed. I encourage all young GIS professionals to learn more about the Vanguard Cabinet and apply to become a part of this great group of future leaders.*"

Visit the Vanguard Cabinet web page for the 2015 application form (due by November 30) here: <http://www.urisa.org/about-us/vanguard-cabinet/>

Also mark your calendar for:

GIS/CAMA 2015 Technologies Conference - March 2-5, 2015 - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. See: <http://www.urisa.org/gis-cama-technologies-conference/>

GIS-Pro 2015: URISA's 53rd Annual Conference - October 18-22, 2015 - Spokane, Washington. See: <http://www.gis-pro.org/>



The GSDI Association remains extremely grateful to URISA's GISCorps volunteers who have supported many of the GSDI Small Grants projects over the years.

Online Training

Numerous online training opportunities, some for free and others a very modest cost, are available from many of our Members. See the links below for more details:

- **Esri Training:** <http://www.esri.com/training/main>
- **Intergraph Training:** http://www.intergraph.com/ppm/training/virtual_training/default.aspx
- **Boundless Training:** <http://boundlessgeo.com/resources/training/>
- **CAF (GeoSUR) Training** (in Spanish): <http://www.geosur.info/geosur/index.php/en/trainingcorner>
- **UNIGIS u-Lecture Webinars:** <http://www.unigis.net/study-with-UNIGIS/ulectures>

Webinars

Readers should not forget the possibilities for training on specific aspects of geomatics, geoscience and SDI implementation offered by online webinars and more formal training opportunities from some of our members, not least our industry members, such as Esri and Intergraph, or association members, such as EuroGeographics, ICC (Cartographic Institute of Catalonia), UNIGIS, USGS/FGDC, EUROGI, HUNAGI, various national governments, etc.

The latest information and schedule of webinars is maintained on the GSDI web site at this link: <http://www.gsdi.org/webinars>.

This includes webinars from other agencies, not just GSDI members, including US NOAA, NASA, ICA (with whom GSDI has a Memorandum of Understanding on joint promotion), Open Geo Foundation and government agencies from various nations, to name but a few.

Forthcoming Webinar of the Month



NASA Remote Sensing for Land Management Webinar

Monday, November 17, 2014 6:00:00 PM CET - 8:00:00 PM CET

This course focuses on identifying satellite image data products, satellite image access and the use of web-based visualization tools. This course will also provide short demonstrations of how some data products can be incorporated into a GIS.

This webinar course has five one-hour sessions on 3, 10, 17, 24, November and 1 December.

- 3 November: Overview of NASA Remote Sensing and Earth systems modeling data
- 10 November: Land Cover Mapping
- **17 November: Terrain Data**
- 24 November: Change Detection
- 1 December: Web-tools for Data Access and Integration into GIS

Register here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1NJWNEEg4dDoI0472zNymgm2ovn-fHNvIXxRjP3NMw/viewform?c=0&w=1>

FROM OUR MOU PARTNERS

ICA News



International Cartographic Association
Association Cartographique Internationale

The GSDI Association and the International Cartographic Association (ICA) established a Memorandum of Understanding for joint action in 2011.

All issues of the ICA Newsletter since 2001 can be found on the GSDI Newsletter archive site at: <http://www.gsdi.org/newsletters#ICA>

ICC 2015 Update



The 27th International Cartographic Conference and the 16th General Assembly of ICA will take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 23-28 August 2015. Visit the conference website here: <http://www.icc2015.org/>

The call for papers is open and the deadline is 15 October: (see <http://www.icc2015.org/call-for-papers.html>)

Important dates:

- Paper submission deadline (full papers and abstracts) - October 15, 2014
- Registration opening - November 1, 2014
- Papers Acceptance Notification - February 15, 2015
- Final Paper Deadline - April 15, 2015
- Authors Registration Deadline - April 30, 2013

For details please consult the ICC2015 website (<http://www.icc2015.org>)



27th International Cartographic Conference pre-conference workshop (2015) - Call for Abstracts

The call for extended abstracts is open for pre-conference workshops for the 27th International Cartographic Conference: Spatial data infrastructures, standards, open source and open data for geospatial (SDI-Open 2015). Jointly organized by the Commission on Geoinformation Infrastructures and Standards and the Commission on Open Source Geospatial Technologies, the venue is the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on Friday, 21 August 2015.

The discovery, access, exchange and sharing of geographic information and services among stakeholders from different levels in the spatial data community is facilitated through a spatial data infrastructure (SDI). Standards are key for the quality and development of interoperable geographic information and geospatial software.

The drive for access to geographic information has led to its publication as open data, i.e. freely available to everyone to use and republish as they wish, without restrictions from copyright, patents or other mechanisms of control. According to a report by the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), the use of open source solutions is likely to increase significantly in the future as a viable alternative to proprietary suppliers. Open source software for geospatial, geographic information standards and open data policies are therefore significant for SDI development and implementation. This workshop aims to record examples of current SDI practice with an aim to identify benefits and challenges to implementing free and open source software for geospatial, geographic information standards and open (spatial) data in an SDI.

SDI researchers and practitioners are invited to submit extended abstracts of 1,000-1,500 words that describe SDI case studies where:

- open source software for geospatial is used in the technical implementation; and/or
- geospatial standards are implemented; and/or
- geographic information is accessible as open data.

The case studies shall include the following:

- Background information about the SDI, including the relevant policies.
- A description of how open source, standards and/or open data are implemented in the SDI.
- An evaluation of the motivators, benefits, barriers and challenges concerning implementation of open source software, standards and/or open data.
- Based on the evaluation, provide recommendations for improvements and/or further work.
- Conclusions.

Extended abstracts have to be written in English. Contributions must be original and previously unpublished. Author guidelines are available at <http://opensourcegeospatial.icaci.org/>. Abstracts have to be submitted through the online submission system, available at: <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=sdiopen2015>.

Abstracts will be reviewed by members of the organizing ICA Commissions. Upon acceptance, a revised abstract has to be submitted for inclusion in the workshop proceedings. At least one of the authors of an accepted abstract must register for the workshop and make an oral presentation at the workshop.

Accepted abstracts will be published in the online workshop proceedings with an ISBN number and will be openly archived on the ICA website under a Creative Commons Attribution License, which allows others to freely access, use, and share the work, with an acknowledgment of the work's authorship and its initial publication in the online workshop proceedings. Authors of a selected number of high quality abstracts may be invited to submit an extended paper to a peer-reviewed journal.

Important dates:

- **Abstract submission: 2 March 2015**
- Notification of acceptance: 1 June 2015
- Submission of revised abstracts: 6 July 2015
- Full workshop registration payment for presenters: 6 July 2015
- Pre-conference workshop: 21 August 2015
- 27th ICC 2015 Conference: 23-28 August 2015

If you have any questions, please contact Antony Cooper acooper@csir.co.za, Serena Coetsee serena.coetsee@up.ac.za, Suchith Anand Suchith.Anand@nottingham.ac.uk, Luciene Delazari luciene@ufpr.br or Silvana Camboim silvanacamboim@gmail.com

ICA Research Scholarships

Are you a young scientist? Is your research topic linkable with the ICA Research Agenda and an ICA Commission? Do you need support?

I would like to point your interest to a new instrument of ICA, the ICA Research Scholarships. With this we would like to reach the following aims:

- to foster academic research in the domain of Cartography and GIScience,
- to establish contact between young scientists and ICA Commissions,



- to support young scientists to be able to actively contribute to ICA activities and events, such as especially International Cartographic Conferences,
- to establish opportunities for young scientists within ICA publications and conferences.

Information about how to apply can be found in the document here:

http://icaci.org/files/documents/reference_docs/2014-2015_research_scholarship.pdf

Source: Georg Gartner, ICA President

ISPRS News



The GSDI Association and ISPRS established a Memorandum of Understanding for joint action in 2011.

ISPRS PIA15+HRIGI15 Event - Call for Papers Reminder

Let me kindly inform you that the conference chairs of PIA15+HRIGI15, to be held in Munich, Germany - March 25-27, 2015, cordially invites you to submit a paper to the joint ISPRS event "PIA15 - Photogrammetric Image Analysis & RIGI15 - High resolution Earth Imaging for Geospatial Information". See <http://www.pia15.tum.de>

Call for Papers

Automated extraction of objects from remotely sensed data is an important topic of research in Computer Vision, Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing, and Geoinformation Science. In order to discuss recent developments and future trends in research in automatic object extraction and their influence on sensors and processing techniques, the two well-known ISPRS workshops "Photogrammetric Image Analysis" (PIA) and "High resolution earth imaging for geospatial information" (HRIGI, also known as the ISPRS-Hannover Workshop) will be held as a common event for the first time. The location of the event will be Munich, Germany.

Scope

While in the past PIA specialised on the automatic exploitation of the image content, the strongest side of HRIGI was the geometric processing of aerial and in particular of space imagery. Realising that both areas - geometry and semantics - can significantly support each other when considered together in photogrammetric image exploitation, the two events will be organised under a common roof held at Technische Universitaet Muenchen (TUM) in March 2015.

At the same time they will keep their identity, as the meeting will be organised as two parallel workshops with common plenary sessions and common proceedings.

The aim of the common event is to seek, exploit and deepen the synergies between geometry and semantics, and to give the two scientific communities the possibility to discuss with and to learn from each other. The joint event addresses experts from research, government, and private industry. It consists of high quality papers, and provides an international forum for discussion of leading research and technological developments as well as applications in the field.

Conference topics

- Small satellites and satellite constellations for mapping
- Exploitation of high resolution space images
- UAVs and other platforms
- High-resolution Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) from air and space
- Hyperspectral imaging
- Sensor and system calibration and integration
- Surface modeling and reconstruction
- 3d object extraction: buildings, roads, vegetation
- Learning and statistical methods for object extraction
- Sensor and data fusion including information from GIS, BIM, or CAD
- Image analysis for geospatial data update and change detection
- Global landcover and landuse mapping
- Rapid mapping for environmental applications and disaster management
- Industrial applications

Further topics relevant for the conference can be found in the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the cooperating ISPRS working groups:

I/2: <http://www2.isprs.org/commissions/comm1/wg2.html>
I/4: <http://www2.isprs.org/commissions/comm1/wg4.html>
III/1: <http://www2.isprs.org/commissions/comm3/wg1.html>
III/4: <http://www2.isprs.org/commissions/comm3/wg4.html>
IV/1: <http://www2.isprs.org/commissions/comm4/wg1.html>
VII/2: <http://www2.isprs.org/commissions/comm7/wg2.html>
III/VII: <http://www2.isprs.org/commissions/comm3/icwg37.html>

Paper Submission

Prospective Authors are encouraged to submit either full papers or abstracts. Full paper of maximum 8 pages will undergo a rigorous double blind peer review process. Accepted papers will be published in "ISPRS Annals of the Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences". The fact that the full papers were peer reviewed will be mentioned on each paper. The series was newly established in 2012.

Alternatively, authors may submit an extended abstract of about 1000 words. In case of acceptance by the program committee, these authors are invited to submit a full paper which will be published in "The International



Archives of the Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences".

The type of presentation (oral or interactive) will be decided by the program committee and will be dependent upon the subject of the paper and the way it fits to the overall program.

The Archives and the Annals will be available as open access papers and will be submitted to Thomson Reuters' for inclusion into the Conference Citation Proceedings Index (CPCI), one of the indices of the Web of Science. They are also listed in SCOPUS.

Conference Venue

The conference will be held in Munich, the capital of Bavaria, and will be hosted by the Chair of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, Technische Universitaet Muenchen (TUM). The workshop site is located at TUM, close to the museum district, and in walking distance to the main station and center of Munich.

Important dates

- Submission of full papers: **November 30, 2014**
- Abstract deadline: **December 15, 2014**
- Notification of authors: January 15, 2015
- Submission of camera ready manuscripts: February 10, 2015
- Author registration deadline: February 10, 2015
- PIA15 + HRIGI15: March 25-27, 2015

Coordination with JURSE 2015

We are coordinating our event with the JURSE 2015 conference held in Lausanne March 30 - April 01, 2015 (<http://jurse2015.org/>)

For authors planning to attend both PIA+HRIGI and JURSE, papers accepted for inclusion in the PIA+HRIGI conference will be offered a poster spotlight during JURSE. The paper will be reviewed only by the PIA+HRIGI program committee and will appear only in the PIA+HRIGI proceedings. This is an opportunity on a voluntary base.

FIG News

The GSDI Association and FIG established a Memorandum of Understanding for joint action in 2010.

FIG Working Week 2015 Call for Papers



The FIG Working Week 2015 will be held from 17 - 21 May 2015. The Working Week is hosted by the International Federation of Surveyors and the Chamber of Graduated Surveyors, Bulgaria as the local host. Our Bulgarian colleagues are experienced professionals and

great hosts as they have had the leadership of FIG and have successfully organized several memorable international events, FIG Commission workshops and the FIG Congress in 1983. The overall theme of the Working Week is "From the Wisdom of the Ages to the Challenges of the Modern World".

The Technical Programme offers both specially invited high profile presentations and papers that are selected through the open call for papers procedure. The Call for Papers is open for both peer review and non-peer review submissions. The deadline for **full papers for peer review** papers is: **20 October 2014** (please also remember to submit your abstract by the deadline).

Deadline for abstract submission for **non-peer review papers: 15 November 2014.**

Call for papers:

http://fig.net/fig2015/downloads/call_for_papers.pdf

Important deadlines:

<http://fig.net/fig2015/downloads/deadlines.pdf>

For updated information about the FIG Working Week 2015 check the conference web site:

www.fig.net/fig2015

Call for Bids to host 2019 FIG Working Week



FIG member associations are invited to consider making a bid to host the FIG Working Week 2019 together with FIG. At its meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria 17-21 May 2015, the FIG General Assembly will select the host and venue for the Working Week 2019. The Council has prepared bidding guidelines for making the bid. These guidelines explain in detail the information that is required for a successful bid. **Deadline: 30 November 2014.** Download the Guidelines for FIG Working Week 2019 here:

http://fig.net/admin/ga/2015/bids/FIG_WW2019_bidding_material.pdf

For more information, see the cover letter here:

http://fig.net/admin/ga/2015/bids/bid_cover_letter.pdf

FIG Monthly Newsletter

The October 2014 FIG Newsletter has been published at: http://fig.net/pub/enews/october_2014.pdf

The Article of the Month in October 2014 is written by Don Grant, Mark Dyer, Anselm Haanen, "New Zealand: A New Zealand Strategy for Cadastre 2034". At the XX FIG Congress 1994 in Melbourne, commission 7 initiated a working group looking at trends and developments in the field of cadastre. It projected the trends and developed visions of what cadastral systems might be in 20 years' time – thus today! Today we look at the visionary date of



2034 which has been proposed for an update of the FIG Cadastre 2014 strategy. This paper was presented at the XXV FIG Congress in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and focuses on the cadastral strategy for New Zealand and proposes a number of significant changes to the cadastre. http://www.fig.net/pub/monthly_articles/october_2014/grant_dyer_haanen.html

More information about Cadastre 2014:
<http://www.fig.net/cadastre2014/index.htm>

All FIG monthly e-Newsletters from 2007 can be downloaded from <http://fig.net/pub/eneews/index.htm> or from the GSDI Newsletter Archive at <http://www.gsdi.org/newsletters#FIG> for those posted since January 2010.

ARTICLE OF THE MONTH

In this issue of the Global Newsletter, we publish an article from the GSDI column that appears monthly in *GIM International* magazine. This month's article is by GSDI Past-President, Dr. Abbas Rajabifard.

Building a Solid Foundation for the Next Generation of Disaster Management and Public Safety

As natural and human-induced disaster events around the world increase in frequency and severity, research in the field of disaster management is evolving and expanding. The emergence of drivers such as climate change, poorly planned developments, poverty, and environmental degradation, along with the predicted increased extreme weather events, are prompting responses from researchers and organisations around the world to envisage the next generation of disaster management.



The Centre for Disaster Management and Public Safety (CDMPS) at the University of Melbourne, supported by GSDI, is one organisation responding to these concerns. CDMPS has established a number of key research priority areas and a research agenda to address these challenges. Building relationships and collaborating is a key goal of the Centre, which will help address the impending challenges the world faces from increased disasters.

A number of initiatives have emerged in response, as well as numerous research programs, technologies, strategies and solutions developed at both local and international levels to tackle such emergency events. There is, however, poor coordination among researchers and governments, including little integration and sharing amongst countries. Without some level of integration, much of the extensive

work carried out in the realm of disaster management is often relevant only to the country in which the research was conducted. What we need to develop is an overarching framework so that when solutions are created that are relevant, better integration can take place across the board.

An approach to cohesive and comprehensive solutions built on a solid foundation requires greater consideration. While it is a reactive response to search for a solution in times of disasters, we cannot trivialise the importance of first developing a strong foundation. Without a base to build on, there will not be the impetus for collective support that underpins disaster management knowledge, and fragmented research will continue with only pockets of the global community benefiting from research and technological advances.

One of the primary overarching challenges to building this framework is *Establishing Principles for Information Sharing*. This challenge relates to the coordination and integration of information. Current systems inhibit both small and large-scale knowledge and expertise sharing. The establishment of Principles for Information Sharing could bring together existing information, thus preventing unnecessary duplication. The aim should be to develop once and, where appropriate, adapt for use multiple times. An open-standards platform for the sharing of ideas and research in the realm of disaster management would facilitate closer ties amongst global communities, which in time will lead to better knowledge sharing and transfer and a more cohesive, collective approach to providing solutions for disaster management.

There is no 'quick fix' for this problem, however through developing a solid foundation to support strategies and research outcomes as we move forward into developing the next generation of disaster management, a resilient future may be achieved.

For more information about the Centre for Disaster Management and Public Safety visit: www.cdmeps.org.au

Learn more about the GSDI Association and how to participate here: <http://www.gsdi.org/joinGSDI>



Prof Abbas Rajabifard is Immediate GSDI Past President, and CDMPS Director, and a member of the GSDI Association Executive Committee.

Learn more about the GSDI Association and how to participate here: <http://www.gsdi.org/joinGSDI>

Readers are reminded that they can subscribe to *GIM International* digital version completely free of charge or the print and digital version for 39 euro per annum. Visit the subscription page online at: <http://www.gim-international.com/subscription/index.php>



ALLIED CONFERENCE NEWS



DGI 2015 Update

The team behind Worldwide Business Research's DGI conference have created an insightful benchmarking report. Download the report here to see the results: <http://dgi.wbresearch.com/defence-geospatial-intelligence-benchmarking-survey-2015-mloc-f-ty-m>

The survey gives geospatial experts the opportunity to capture the latest thinking and identify the current trends in the Geospatial Industry.

The survey was distributed to over 5000 Government & Military Agencies from over 21 countries to find out their opinions on topics such as:

- What are their biggest challenges in the Defence Geospatial Intelligence Industry in 2014/2015?
- Do they plan to invest in new GIS technology or upgrade their current GIS system in the next 3 years?
- Do they use LiDAR as a normal source for your production?
- Is their organization using crowdsourcing and volunteered geographic information?

I thought you might be interested in seeing the report of the results. I hope you will find the report valuable and look forward to seeing you at the DGI 2015 Conference in London, 19th-21st January 2015 at the QEII Conference Centre.

Message from: Neil Thompson, Former Director Geospatial Intelligence Canadian Armed Forces Advisor, Defence Geospatial Intelligence

DGI, Europe's largest conference covering location intelligence, has developed a key agenda that focuses on the challenges brought forward from research over the last 6 months.

19 January at 12.20: Challenge the experts - what are the new requirements, what are the solutions

In this panel with Jim Hill, Marine Corps Intelligence, CDR Kelly Taylor, US National Ice Center, Martin Jeffries, Office of Naval Research and more you will receive new ideas from leading US and Canadian geospatial intelligence experts plus ask questions yourself

19 January at 14.20: How Interoperability Between Geospatial Intelligence And The MAJIC Project will be Achieved During 2015

Learn from NATO and NCIA about how they are breaking down the silos for increased collaboration between forces, in order to tackle threats more efficiently.

20 January at 10.00: 5 Challenges Geospatial Intelligence Leaders Need to Overcome

Spend time with some of the world's most experienced geospatial intelligence leaders to understand how they prioritise activities in response to the biggest challenges today during this unmissable panel!

21 January at 8.40: Geo-Political Changes Shaping the Future for Location Intelligence Professionals

The onset of cross border and home grown terrorists is a new challenge and threat which has multiple implications. Find out what measures have been put in place to reduce these threats from world-renowned expert Robert B. Murrett Deputy Director, Institute for National Security and Counterterrorism (INSCT) Professor of Practice, Public Administration and International Affairs.

GSDI Members at DGI 2015

Three GSDI Members will be speaking at the DGI 2015 Conference on 20 January. First, **Denise McKenzie**, Executive Director, Communications and Outreach, Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC), will make a presentation at 1430h on "**Sensors, Mobile and Big Data – Next steps for Geo-standards**". Later that afternoon, Roundtable 5 – "**Harnessing Innovation Opportunities from Open Data and Big Data**" will be led by **Dr Remetey-Fulopp Gabor**, Secretary General, Hungarian Association for Geoinformation (HUNAGI) and **Roger Longhorn**, Secretary-General, GSDI Association.

Download the full agenda here: <http://wbreasear.ch/gsdiagenda>

International Workshop on Spatial Data and Map Quality – January 2015

The International Workshop on Spatial Data and Map Quality will take place on 20-21 January 2015 at the Old



University Building, Valletta, Malta. Deadline for abstracts closed on 12 September 2014.

A number of international groups and organisations actively involved in spatial data and map quality issues are organizing a two-day international workshop aimed at providing innovative and original contribution to the ongoing debate on spatial data and map quality issues and at improving the process of knowledge transfer by means of the development of new techniques and methods for quality assessment of spatial data sets and the maps produced.

Download workshop announcement here:

http://www.eurogeographics.org/sites/default/files/SDMQ15-Workshop_announcement1_0.pdf

Please direct any queries to Carol Agius. [carol.agius@mepa.org.mt]

- Acceptance for an oral presentation, poster, or software demonstration at the workshop will be announced by **31 October 2014**.
- Deadline for long abstract/full paper is **31 December 2014**.
- Registration for the workshop will open in September 2014.

Registration for the workshop is now open. This event is being sponsored by EuroGeographics and spaces are limited. See details at:

<http://www.eurogeographics.org/event/international-workshop-spatial-data-and-map-quality>

Workshop cancellation and substitution

You may substitute delegates at any time. Cancellations, via email, will be accepted until 10 January 2015. Cancellations after 10 January 2015 or failure to attend the event will incur costs to EuroGeographics; these will be invoiced to your organisation.

Delegates are expected to make their own hotel arrangements and several rooms have been booked for your stay at the Grand Hotel Excelsior, Floriana, but they must be confirmed **before 15 December 2014**. To confirm the accommodation, please use the registration form from the workshop website and send it to reservations@excelsior.com.mt.



The workshop is organised by **GSDI Members EuroGeographics** and the **Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)**, plus EuroSDR, ISO and members of the EU-funded European Location Framework (E.L.F.) project.

GISTAM 2015 - CALL FOR PAPERS

GISTAM 2015 - 1st International Conference on Geographical Information Systems Theory, Applications and Management

GISTAM will be held from 28 to 30 April 2015 in Barcelona, Spain. The conference website is at: www.gistam.org

The International Conference on Geographical Information Systems Theory, Applications and Management aims at creating a meeting point of researchers and practitioners that address new challenges in geo-spatial data sensing, observation, representation, processing, visualization, sharing and managing, in all aspects concerning both information communication and technologies (ICT) as well as management information systems and knowledge-based systems. The conference welcomes original papers of either practical or theoretical nature, presenting research or applications, of specialized or interdisciplinary nature, addressing any aspect of geographic information systems and technologies.

Important Dates

Regular Papers

- Paper Submission: November 19, 2014
- Authors Notification: February 13, 2015
- Camera Ready and Registration: March 2, 2015

Position Papers

- Paper Submission: January 9, 2015
- Authors Notification: February 16, 2015
- Camera Ready and Registration: March 2, 2015

Workshops

- Workshop Proposal: November 26, 2014
- Doctoral Consortium
- Paper Submission: February 18, 2015
- Authors Notification: March 3, 2015
- Camera Ready and Registration: March 11, 2015

Special Sessions

- Special Session Proposal: December 8, 2014

Tutorials, Demos and Panel Proposals

- February 18, 2015

GISTAM 2015 is sponsored by:

- INSTICC – Institute for Systems and Technologies of Information, Control and Communication
- INSTICC is Member of:
- WfMC – Workflow Management Coalition
- OMG – Object Management Group

Logistics Partner:

SCITEVENTS – Science and Technology Events



Keynote speakers include:

- Robert Laurini, INSA, University of Lyon, France
- José Bioucas Dias, Telecommunications Institute, Portugal
- Jordi Corbera, Geological and Cartographic Institute of Catalonia, Spain

All accepted papers will be published in the conference proceedings, under an ISBN reference, on paper and on CD-ROM support. SCITEPRESS is a member of CrossRef (<http://www.crossref.org/>) and every paper is given a DOI (Digital Object Identifier). All papers presented at the conference venue will be available at the SCITEPRESS Digital Library. The proceedings will be submitted for indexation by Thomson Reuters Conference Proceedings Citation Index (ISI), INSPEC, DBLP, EI (Elsevier Index) and Scopus.

The Conference Chair is Cédric Grueau, Polytechnic Institute of Setúbal/IPS, Portugal, and Program Chair is Jorge Gustavo Rocha, Universidade do Minho, Portugal

Conference Topic Areas

Each of these topic areas is expanded below but the sub-topics list is not exhaustive. Papers may address one or more of the listed sub-topics, although authors should not feel limited by them. Unlisted but related sub-topics are also acceptable, provided they fit in one of the following main topic areas:

1. Data acquisition and processing
2. Remote sensing
3. Modeling, Representation and Visualization
4. Knowledge Extraction and Management
5. Domain Applications

For information on the Program Committee, visit: <http://www.gistam.org/ProgramCommittee.aspx>

Please check further details at the conference website <http://www.gistam.org/CallForPapers.aspx>

INSPIRE and Geospatial World Forum Joint 2015 Conference



The INSPIRE Conference and Geospatial World Forum 2015 will be jointly organised on **25-29 May 2015** in Lisbon, Portugal. The joint conference theme "Convergence: Policies + Practices + Processes via PPP" aims to address the need for greater coordination among policy-makers, technology providers and users to benefit the industry, and to highlight geospatial workflows as an

enabler for successful PPPs by facilitating more informed decision making among the stakeholders.

Call for Abstracts

The Program Advisory Board is pleased to invite abstracts to be presented in thematic sessions, posters and for workshop proposals at the conference. Being the first joint effort between European Commission and Geospatial Media and Communications, the conference promises to be an exciting platform to showcase best practices and interchange of ideas among geospatial community at regional and global level.

See the Proposed Scope of Presentations here:

http://www.geospatialworldforum.org/callforabstract_workshop.htm

The Submission Guidelines are here:

http://www.geospatialworldforum.org/Submission_Guidelines.htm

Important Dates

Abstract Submission Deadline: 1 January 2015

Submit Abstracts at this link:

http://www.geospatialworldforum.org/submit_abstract.asp

Submit Workshop Proposals here:

<http://www.geospatialworldforum.org/submit-abstract-for-workshop.asp>

Proposed scope, technical themes, submission guidelines and important dates are available on conference website at:

http://www.geospatialworldforum.org/callforabstract_workshop.htm

Any further queries can be sent to the conference secretariat at papers@geospatialworldforum.org.

Call for Abstracts

The 2015 INSPIRE-GWF conference offers the opportunity to submit proposals for abstracts of presentations which will be delivered in thematic sessions, workshops and poster presentations. In terms of content, presentations given in sessions or the outcomes of workshops shall contribute to the general scope of the conference. Read more for some of the proposed themes and scope of presentations.

Conference Themes

Policies, technologies and applications are the three key factors affecting growth of geospatial industry. Formulation of policies and its associated implementation



requires strong engagement and propagation of innovations and practices. Public private partnership is one instrumental driver not only in bridging technological gaps, but in integrating stakeholders for maximum impact. The theme CONVERGENCE: Policies + Practices + Processes via PPP aims to address the need for greater coordination among policy-makers, technology providers and users to benefit the industry.

Locate15 Conference 2015 - Call for Presenters

Locate15, to be held 10-12 March 2015 in Brisbane, is Australia & New Zealand's leading Spatial event consolidating the top Australian spatial industry events. A central meeting point for industry, government and academia in one of the fastest growing industries. Locate15 is designed to energise the location industry, inspire both producers and consumers of location information, and drive greater awareness, adoption and innovation. Learn more here: <http://www.locateconference.com/>

Location technologies, services and data are all about inspiring us to reach new levels of understanding - about our organisations, where we live, the planet, or about ourselves. Inspiration comes from making new connections based on location information, solving social, political and economic problems, and sheer innovation and imagination in applying location technologies.

We would like to hear your inspirational stories and your experiences; economic, political, social, environmental or business problems solved; the goal of data, software and hardware; presentations with a focus on the user perspective and needs.

We invite prospective presenters to submit a brief Executive Summary of up to 400 words under any of the themes below - identified by practitioners, industry, researchers and users - as issues of most topical interest.

Visit the call for papers here: <http://www.locateconference.com/abstract/request>

Please submit Executive Summaries online **by midnight Friday 28 November 2014**, using the Word template provided.

Conference Themes:

- Environment
- Sustainable management of our natural resources
- Health
- Innovation, Research and Development
- Managing our investment in infrastructure and utilities
- Securing our Nation, Disaster and Emergency Management



Please download more information on these Theme topics here:

<https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ap-southeast-2.accounts.ivvy.com/account653/events/49155/files/544cc8319a86e.pdf>

Research Paper submissions (separate process and dates)

Research@Locate15 is the academic research stream at Locate and aims to be the premier academic meeting event in the Australasian region. Research@Locate is organised by the Australasian Spatial Information Education and Research Association, ASIERA. Research@Locate will provide a transparent full-paper peer review process, with carefully selected presentations and papers, and with its own annual, open-access proceedings.

The accepted papers will appear in the CEUR Workshop Proceedings Series (CEUR-WS.org), an open-access publication service of Sun SITE Central Europe.

Papers are welcome from researchers in geodesy, mapping, computer science, artificial intelligence, geography, geographic information science and related disciplines contributing to spatial information science. Submissions are to be of original, previously unpublished papers contributing to spatial information science. For information on themes, submission dates and to submit your abstract/paper/poster for review, please go to Research@Locate 15 here: <http://asiera.org.au/r15.html>

PARTICIPATION IN GLOBAL & REGIONAL SDI PROJECTS

European Regional SDI Updates & INSPIRE

EU INSPIRE



Mid-term evaluation report on INSPIRE implementation

Technical report No 17/2014 has been published by the EEA (European Environment Agency), 10 Nov 2014.

The INSPIRE Directive, which came into force in 2007 and is expected to be fully implemented by 2020, aims to establish a European Spatial Data Infrastructure in order to support policy making by providing more and better spatial data. The following report analyses the state of implementation of the Directive at the mid-point of its implementation. The conclusions of the report suggest that INSPIRE implementation is on track, however, certain

actions - especially coordination and data sharing – would benefit from strategic adjustment.

Extract from the **Executive Summary**:

“... costs are offset by benefits from data discovery, documentation and availability, and it is expected that such benefits will outweigh the costs in the long run. Moreover, the INSPIRE objective of supporting environmental policies is addressed in a step-wise manner through an increasing integration into the environmental acquis. However, any investigation into costs should consider that, in many European countries, INSPIRE implementation has taken place in the context of the most testing financial circumstances.”

“With regards to the implementation of INSPIRE across the EU, evidence presented in the evaluation shows that, for many measures, it is inconsistent. For example, the transposition of INSPIRE into national law is not uniform across countries, nor is the work on establishing network services, and coordination and data sharing. However, the processes put in place by INSPIRE are delivering organisational change, so future efforts need to focus on how best to support those countries that are lagging behind with their implementation of the directive.”

“The main obstacles to the implementation of INSPIRE that emerge from the evaluation are the general technical complexity and the communication and coordination of the implementation of the directive. Possible measures suggested to adjust the objectives and actions in view of these issues could include a reduction in the administrative burden through simplified data sharing, awareness raising, capacity building and training for those public sector officials involved and ongoing improvements in coordination and communication amongst and between different countries. In addition, the private sector should be encouraged to participate more. These follow-up actions are addressed in the report.”

Download the report here (PDF, 96 pages, 2.56 Mbytes):
http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/midterm-evaluation-report-on-inspire-implementation/at_download/file

Call for participation: INSPIRE MIG temporary sub-group on registers and registries

A call for participation for the INSPIRE MIG temporary sub-group on registers and registries (addressing MIWP-6 of the maintenance and implementation work programme) is now open. The sub-group should have the following tasks:

- Provide requirements and set priorities for the development of INSPIRE registry and underlying Re3gistry software



- Test new releases of the central INSPIRE registry service and the underlying software and provide feedback
- Develop Technical Guidelines and Best Practices for both registries and registers, including registry federations connecting the central INSPIRE registry and national registries. These guidelines shall at least address the following issues:
 - architecture for a registry federation
 - operational procedures for exchanging information between the central and the national registers
 - exchange formats
 - APIs
 - Metadata for registries and registers
- Participate in a test-bed for connecting national registries to the central INSPIRE registry
- Participate in technical discussions on implementation issues
- Define procedures and decision-making rules for a control body for the INSPIRE Registry (with the possibility to form a separate sub-group if needed)

The main outputs of the sub-group will be:

- a roadmap for INSPIRE Registry development
- updated versions of the central INSPIRE registry
- Technical Guidelines on how to set up registries and registers for INSPIRE (including connecting to the central INSPIRE registry), covering topics such as versioning, http URIs (while interacting with groups working on this topic elsewhere in the MIF)
- a test-bed for connecting national registries to the central INSPIRE registry including test instances of national INSPIRE registries deployed in different participants' organisations

Experts who would like to support the work of these sub-groups should reply to the recently published call for participation and/or contact their national MIG-T representative.

INSPIRE MIG:

<http://inspire.ec.europa.eu/index.cfm/pageid/5160/list/mif>

MIWP-6: <https://ies-svn.jrc.ec.europa.eu/issues/2128>

Call for participation:

<https://ies-svn.jrc.ec.europa.eu/issues/2237>

MIG-T representatives:

<http://inspire.ec.europa.eu/index.cfm/pageid/5160/list/migexperts>

A Reusable INSPIRE Reference Platform (ARE3NA) Update

Version 0.4 of the **Re3gistry** has just been released. Developed under ISA Action 1.1.7, A Reusable INSPIRE Reference Platform (ARE3NA), and the INSPIRE team at the EC Joint Research Centre, the 4th version of the INSPIRE Registry service and v0.4 of the underlying Re3gistry software have just been released in JoinUp [1].

Collaborative Development

The software has been developed with wide reuse in different sectors in mind. As part of a new approach, from mid-July to the 21 September 2014, stakeholders from across Europe were asked to provide feedback on v0.4 of the software through public review and testing which also included the recently proposed RDF format that could make such registers/'reference data' reusable as vocabularies in other sectors [2].

Around 20 participants from different countries actively contributed to the testing and the ARE3NA and INSPIRE teams would like to thank all of them for their interest, support and helpful feedback.

The testing involved both support for the Re3gistry's development (the software), the INSPIRE registry (the service as a release candidate) and the INSPIRE registers (the content). Software testing began with a 'sandbox' instance to test the complete life cycle of the Re3gistry software (i.e. data checking, data import, data export and web service testing). Users could insert their data using the Re3gistry software and could then directly check the outcome of the procedure through the "sandbox" service instance; thus helping to test both the software and its procedures.

Similarly, participants were able to test and provide feedback on the INSPIRE registry service and its contents by using data which was ready for deployment. More information about the testing period and the feedback received can be found on the INSPIRE MIG site [3].

New Features

On a technical level, v0.4 of the Re3gistry has seen notable developments both for the way registries are created and for the functionalities they can have, these include:

- new module-based development allowing easier extension/customization;
- incremental data import added (supporting new data import, saving and editing previous imports);
- ISO 19135-1 functionalities added: addition, clarification, supersession, invalidation and retirement;
- simplified data files (no more XML descriptor);

- complete data consistency check included in the data procedure;
- multilingual support allows others to reuse the software in their own language;
- new edits/changes can be exported separately (using an incremental static-file approach);
- simpler customization of the exported file using the XSLT files);
- (bug fixing)

Next Steps

ARE3NA plans to develop the next version of the Re3gistry in the next couple of months following a similar public review approach. For more on ARE3NA see:

<https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/community/are3na/home>

[1]

https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/software/re3gistry/asset_release/re3gistry-04

[2] see https://ies-svn.jrc.ec.europa.eu/projects/registry-development/wiki/RDF_format

[3] <https://ies-svn.jrc.ec.europa.eu/projects/registry-development/wiki>

Copernicus Earth Observation (formerly GMES)

Copernicus Operations Secured until 2021



In a landmark agreement for Europe's **Copernicus Earth Observation** programme, the European Commission and ESA have signed an Agreement of over Euro3 billion to manage and implement the Copernicus 'space component' between 2014 and 2021. The Multiannual Financial Framework is a seven-year plan for the EU's budget that includes the provision of about Euro4.3 billion for the Copernicus environment monitoring programme for the period 2014-20.

Copernicus is set to make a step change in the way we care for the planet by providing reliable, timely and accurate services to manage the environment, understand and mitigate the effects of climate change and help respond to crises. The success of the programme relies on the provision of robust data, predominately from a fleet of Earth observation satellites called Sentinel, and supplemented by data from Member States' satellites.

Under the Agreement signed today, about Euro3.15 billion of the money for Copernicus within the Framework will be delegated to ESA as coordinator of the 'space component', including the operation of the Sentinel satellites until mid-2021 and the building of follow-on units, which should last at least until 2028-30. ESA will also act as the research and development agency for the next generation of Copernicus, a model relationship between the EU and ESA.



"The Copernicus programme is an excellent example of innovation and cooperation in Europe and the signature today marks a milestone in the cooperation between ESA and the EU," said Jean-Jacques Dordain, ESA's Director General. "This Agreement has been negotiated in a constructive and cooperative spirit. It is proof of mutual understanding and trust, and will contribute to making Copernicus a success story."

Today's signature also marks the transfer of ownership of Sentinel-1A to the EU. Signing on behalf of the European Commission was Daniel Calleja Crespo, Director General of the EC's Directorate General Enterprise and Industry.

"With the signing of the Copernicus Agreement, the Copernicus Programme reached another key milestone this year. ESA's technical competence will provide a solid and complementary partnership to build a sustainable space infrastructure," remarked Mr Calleja. "The European Union can be proud to own the dedicated Sentinel satellites. They will generate a wealth of data which will serve society in many different ways including by timely environmental monitoring as well as creating a thriving downstream sector."

The Agreement comes just weeks after the first Copernicus satellite, Sentinel-1A, became operational following intense data quality testing and calibration during its commissioning phase. The satellite was launched on 3 April from Kourou, French Guiana, and provides radar data for an array of services related to, for example, natural hazards, land and ice monitoring, as well as for scientific research. These data are available through the free and open data policy, providing economic benefits to many scientists and also to value-added companies. More than 4000 users have already registered.

Find out more about Copernicus:

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/space/copernicus/index_en.htm

See the launch Video:

http://www.esa.int/spaceinvideos/Videos/2014/04/Sentinel-1A_launch_full_replay

Learn more about ESA at www.esa.int

GEO News

GEO-XI Week - AfriGEOSS Side Event

One of the side events during GEO-XI week in Geneva, that is open to all, is the AfriGEOSS & Capacity Building Side Event: Interconnecting needs, capabilities and resources for Africa to be held on Wednesday, **12 November 2014**, from 0830 to 1745 in Salle B of the WMO building.

Organizers include:



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- Univ. of Geneva (ID-02 Institutional Development),
- AfriGEOSS,
- CEOS WGCapD,
- SB-02-C4 Working Group on Land Cover for Africa,
- ID-04 User Engagement,
- GMES & Africa, MESA, (EC, US, Gabon (AGEOS), South Africa (SANSa), ITC, CEOS, Eumetsat, African Union)

Event Abstract

The ultimate objective of this facilitated side event is to multiply the current opportunities for collaborations amongst African and with international institutions and to identify the conditions to initiate new strategic partnerships and initiatives. The side event will therefore address all the "enabling" factors for such a strengthened cooperation framework, including a deeper understanding and a better appreciation of:

- the capacity which already exists in the African context, and its resilience,
- the contexts in which participants and countries can collaborate, and
- the strength and value of African diversity and collaboration, both at regional and continental level.

GEO, through AfriGEOSS, is expected to provide the necessary cooperation framework. Further, it will also contribute to the strengthening of linkages among all the key actors for a better exploitation of synergies and a broader access to best practices, both constituting key elements for the consolidation of an effective framework for coordinated capacity building actions in the next GEO decade. Finally, the side event will strongly support the ongoing development of an inventory of needs, resources, institutional capabilities and initiatives, as the proper basis for an effective AfriGEOSS Implementation.

Event documents and links

AfriGEOSS & Capacity Building Side Event: Interconnecting Institutional Capabilities, Needs and Resources:

http://www.earthobservations.org/documents/se/192_afriGEOSS_cb_info.pdf

Contact: Gregory Giuliani, Andiswa Mlisa
(gregory.giuliani@unige.ch, amlisa@geosec.org)

AfriGEOSS was officially launched at the joint GSDI 2014 World Conference and AfricaGIS 2013 Conference, held at the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UN ECA) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in November 2013. EIS-Africa, organisers of the AfricaGIS conference series, and UN ECA are both long-time and valued members of the GSDI Association.

UN-SPIDER Monthly Updates



The UN-SPIDER monthly updates are compiled at the end of each month and sent out by e-mail to all subscribers. The aim is to update subscribers on the latest UN-SPIDER and community news, and about upcoming events organized or supported by UNOOSA/UN-SPIDER. The updates present the reader with an overview or summary of the news and provides him/her with a link to the full online version. Subscribe to the Updates here: <http://www.un-spider.org/mailling-list-subscribe>

The Updates are also available from the GSDI Newsletter Archive at: <http://www.gsd.org/newsletters#UNSPIDER>.

The October UN-SPIDER Newsletter can be accessed here: <http://www.un-spider.org/news-and-events/updates/un-spider-updates-october-2014>

From the October Newsletter

UN-SPIDER participates in 3rd High Level Forum of UN Committee of Experts on Geospatial Information UN-Spider participated in the 3rd High Level Forum of the United Nations committee of experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM). The forum took place in Beijing, china, from 22 to 24 october 2014 and focused on "Sustainable development with Geospatial Information". The event was held in collaboration with the Government of china through its National administration of Surveying, Mapping and Geoinformation (NaSG). Mr Shirish Ravan, Head of UN-Spider Beijing office, was a panellist in a session on tools and methods for climate change and disaster mitigation. He presented on the topic "Challenges in using Space-based Information - climate change and disaster risk reduction perspective". Bringing all stakeholders together, the third High Level Forum addressed the role of geospatial information in the post-2015 development agenda, and current critical sustainable development matters.

UN-SPIDER Featured Application of the month

Measuring soil moisture assessing and monitoring soil moisture provides important input for both drought and flood risk reduction. Soil moisture is measured by active microwave scatterometers, such as ERS1&2/AMI and MetOp/ASCAT, as well as by passive microwave radiometers, such as Aqua/AMSR-E, Coriolis/WindSat, DMSP 5D-2,- 3/SSMI, GCOM-W1/AMSR2, Nimbus-7/SMMR, TRMM/ TMI, and SMOS/MIRAS. These active and passive microwave sensors are weather-independent, i.e. they can look through clouds, and they can take

images at day and night. Satellite imagery for soil moisture estimation is partly available free of charge, for example data of Sentinel-1 (published in October 2014) and Landsat-8. Others have to be purchased. The good news is: You do not have to start from scratch and process raw data to derive soil moisture information. Many soil moisture datasets elaborated by different institutions are listed and linked to in the UN-Spider database on data sources.

The GSDI Association acquired Special Consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on 1 May 2014, permitting GSDI to engage with ECOSOC, the United Nations Secretariat, programmes, funds and agencies on activities related to GSDI's area of expertise.

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION KNOWLEDGE NETWORK (GIKNET)

The aim of **GIKNet** is to enhance communication and freely share knowledge among professionals in the global geospatial information and SDI community. Visit and contribute to GIKnet, including registering your own details or those of your organisation in the **Community Registry**.

The GIKNet **Community Registry** permits individuals, government agencies, NGOs, companies and other institutions to record details about themselves in a central, searchable database. They can also submit documents to the searchable **Spatial Documents Depot** archive. The Community Registry currently holds profiles of nearly 700 individuals, 27 companies, 28 NGO/Non-Profits and Academic institutions, and 165 government agencies.

Participating in GIKNet

All members of the GSDI Association are encouraged to sign up for GIKnet, enter their personal or agency profile information in the Community Registry, and then submit documents relevant to any aspect of SDI development and deployment, globally.

GLOBAL AND INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES

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

- Eye on Earth – www.eyearth.org.
- Group on Earth Observations (GEO) / Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) – www.earthobservations.org.



- EuroGEOSS – GEOSS Project funded by the European Union – see www.eurogeoss.eu.
- EU INSPIRE – Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community – inspire.jrc.ec.europa.eu.
- International Cartographic Association (ICA) – www.icaci.org.
- International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) – www.fig.net
- International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO) – Marine SDI Working Group – www.iho.int.
- International Society for Digital Earth (ISDE) – www.digitalearth-isde.org.
- International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM) – www.iscgm.org
- UNESCO IOC – Marine/Coastal Spatial Data Infrastructure development – www.iode.org.
- UNSD (Statistics Division) – UN-GGIM (UN Global Geospatial Information Management) – ggim.un.org.
- UNSDI – UNGIWG (UN GI Working Group) – www.ungiwg.org.

GSDI ONLINE CALENDAR

GSDI's calendar of upcoming international events at <http://www.gsd.org/upcnf> is a unique summary of global and regional conferences, symposiums, workshops, and other related gatherings that pertain to spatial data infrastructure, such as spatial data handling, data visualization, open data policy, research cyberinfrastructure, and RS/GIS applications. GSDI is always on the lookout to include appropriate events, so if you know about one which is not already included, feel free to submit it.

GSDI DISCUSSION FORUMS

To see the latest news from the different e-mail forums maintained by the GSDI Committees (4) and the regional SDI Newsletters (5), visit the web site at <http://www.gsd.org/discussionlists>, choose the forum of interest and select the 'Archives' option. All discussion lists are open to anyone who is interested in participating, and joining instructions are at the web site above.

For more information on any of these items, visit the **GSDI Association** web site at <http://www.gsd.org>.

The GSDI Association

Our Vision ... is of a world where everyone can readily discover, access and apply geographic information to improve their daily lives.

Our Purpose ... is to encourage international cooperation that stimulates the implementation and development of national, regional and local spatial data infrastructures.

Our Mission ... is to advance geo-information best practices, knowledge sharing and capacity building for the improved sharing and application of geographic information.

