



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE INTERNATIONAL CARTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION (ICA)
AND
THE GLOBAL SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE ASSOCIATION (GSDI)

1. Parties

This document constitutes an agreement between the International Cartographic Association (ICA) and the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association (GSDI).

2. Background

ICA and GSDI each recognise that the other is an international organisation with many complementary activities serving similar professional constituencies.

The ICA is the world authoritative body for cartography, the discipline dealing with the conception, production, dissemination and study of maps. The activities of the ICA are important for promoting and advancing the theory and praxis of cartography. The mission of the International Cartographic Association is to promote the discipline and profession of Cartography and GIScience in an international context.

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.

3. Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to provide a framework for a continuing liaison between the two organisations. This will be achieved by maintaining and increasing the opportunities of scientific, technical and professional as well as academic and educational exchange between their members, through a continuing programme of cooperation leading to mutual sharing of knowledge and expertise to the advantage of both organisations.

4. Programme of Activities

In accordance with the background and purpose described above, both organisations agree to endeavour to intensify their co-operation for mutual benefit. The following steps will be taken, among others:

1. Regular contact is to be established between the two organisations in order to institute and maintain a continuing liaison to address matters of common interest;
2. Each organisation will inform the other of all Commissions, Working groups, etc. that it has established and invite representation from the other where it is agreed that it would be appropriate.
3. Each organisation will inform the other of its programme of proposed seminars, workshops, etc. to enable joint participation should it be of mutual benefit and inform its members of these events as appropriate.
4. Both organisations will identify opportunities to organise joint sessions at conferences and specialised seminars or workshops under joint sponsorship.
5. Each organisation will invite a representative from the other organisation to attend respective Congresses/Conferences and offer complimentary registration.

6. Financial Commitment

It is understood that neither organisation can commit the other to any expenditure, save that from administering this agreement, without the specific written agreement of both organisations.

6. Legal Status

This Memorandum does not create a legal link between the two organisations who will maintain their mutual independence.

This Memorandum of Understanding is valid until ICA or GSDI proposes changes to it. Each organisation has the right to propose changes to this Memorandum at any time. Any changes shall be subject to the agreement of both organisations.

Date: July 2011 Paris, France

On behalf of ICA

On behalf of GSDI

Professor William Cartwright
President of ICA

Professor Abbas Rajabifard
President of GSDI