



2016 GSDI Annual Report Summary

GSDI has 38 Organizational Members from national and regional associations, government agencies, academia and private industry, from 20 countries, including 4 regional (transnational) organizations and the UN ECA. The 400+ former members of the International Geospatial Society (IGS) that was the individual member division of the Association are being renewed as GSDI Individual Members throughout the year, under provisions of new Bylaws adopted in 2015.

GSDI has representation on the UN GI Working Group (UNGIWG) and Special Consultative status with the UN ECOSOC Office for Support and Coordination since 1 May 2014. GSDI promotes the open data principles of GEO/GEOSS, and is involved in SDI capacity building activities in many developing nations via the GSDI Small Grants Program and training activities. The Association continues working with the International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO) Marine SDI Working Group, in capacity building activities. GSDI is also represented at, and makes contributions, to both global and regional UN Global Geospatial Information Management (GGIM) meetings since 2014.

GSDI were represented at, and made formal presentations at, the CEOS Working Group on Information Systems and Services (WGISS) meeting held in Canberra on 14-18 March 2016 and the GEO Work Programme Symposium and GEOSS Common Infrastructure Workshop at WMO in Geneva, 2-5 May 2016. Past-president Abbas Rajabifard represented GSDI at the 4th UN Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), UNECA Headquarter, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia April 19-22, 2016. GSDI members were also in force at the GIM International Summit meeting in Amsterdam in February, 2016, and the Common Vision Conference 2016 in Amsterdam in June 2016. Members also regularly attend national and regional meetings relating to geomatics affairs and SDI throughout the year. Details are posted on the Association's website at gsdiassociation.org.

GSDI are members of the Joint Board of Geospatial Information Societies (JBGIS) and have MoUs with the International Cartographic Association (ICA), the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) and the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS), the International Society for Digital Earth (ISDE), and the Centre for Disaster Management and Public Safety (CDMPS) at the Univ. of Melbourne for joint promotion of activities.

Work continues on two GSDI Projects, one updating the earlier Geoinformation Legal Interoperability Map of the World (GLIM), which started in 2014 and another focusing on Marine SDE Best Practice, led by members KU Leuven and our newest member, LETG-BREST GEOMER, which started in November 2015. GSDI supported a Marine SDI Best Practice workshop at the CoastGIS 2015 Conference held in Cape Town, South Africa, in April 2015, and a special one-day workshop in Kathmandu, Nepal, in November 2015 – “Sharing SDI Research on Disaster Risk Reduction”.

Four GSDI Small Grants Program projects concluded in 2016, gratefully supported with funding from GSDI member Natural Resources Canada through 31 March 2016. These SDI-related projects were conducted in Ecuador (Galapagos Islands), Jamaica, Indonesia and South Africa. Further funding is now being sought to advance the programme through 2016-2017, continuing the excellent results obtained since the program started in 2003, since which more than 110 awards have been granted.

The GSDI 15 World Conference is being held in Taipei, Taiwan, from 29 November to 2 December 2016 under the theme “Spatial Enablement in the Smart Homeland” hosted by GSDI member Taiwan Association for Disaster Prevention Industry (TADPI). As of 10 June, more than 140 abstracts had been submitted for the conference, which will produce both a digital Proceedings and a post-conference book of selected and extended peer-reviewed papers. Visit the website at gsdi15.org.tw.

For further information on GSDI, please visit the official website at gsdiassociation.org.