

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



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

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## Message from the editors

Welcome to the December edition of the newsletter. This is the last issue of volume 7 and for the year. We wish all our readers the compliments of the festive season.

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

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

## Contributions

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

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## GSDI News

### GSDI 12 Proceedings

GSDI 12 Conference proceedings are available at [http://www.gsd.org/gsdconf/gsd12/prog\\_details.html](http://www.gsd.org/gsdconf/gsd12/prog_details.html) and photos from the event may be found at <http://gsdi12.multiply.com/>



The full list of sponsors and exhibitors may be found at

<http://www.gsd.org/gsdconf/gsd12/sponsors.html> and all collaborators are listed at <http://www.gsd.org/gsd12/>.

The GSDI 13 Conference will take place in Quebec City Canada in May 2012.

Source: GSDI

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## SDI News, Links, Papers, Presentations



### [Value of a Map: North Korea - South Korea](#)

This past week saw North Korea launch live ammunition into South Korea. The event has raised tensions in the region. While the original border between these two countries was mapped when the Armistice was signed in 1953, and generally followed the 38th Parallel, that line changes course in the western portion in such a way that it has been interpreted differently by each side  
Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping

### [Spatial Data Infrastructures - More Than Directives \\*New](#)

Summary: Due in large part to the success of the OGC and its members in developing standards and promoting interoperability, it is now much easier from a technology standpoint to share spatial data across and between government entities. But what about the legal aspects of this sharing? Attorney Kevin Pomfret and OGC staffer Steven Ramage examine some of these questions as they relate to successfully implementing national or regional spatial data infrastructures.

Source: Directions Magazine

### [Mt. Merapi - Challenging Spatial Information Technology](#)

Mt. Merapi began erupting October 26 and has pushed volcanic ash into the atmosphere continuously at an alarming rate. This ash has already claimed 200 lives. Furthermore, it has had damaging consequences for not only the native population, but airliners traversing the sky nearby

Tandang Yuliadi Dwi Putra of Bakosurtanal, Indonesia, Trias Aditya of UGM, Indonesia and Walter de Vries of ITC in The Netherlands presented a paper at the recent GSDI 12 in Singapore entitled '[Making Sense of Local Spatial Data Infrastructure in Volcanic Disaster Risk Management](#)'. Their presentation proposed the development of a prototype approach toward mitigation of volcanic events. This work had 4 conclusions:

- 1) Spatial data and its technologies are indispensable for Merapi volcanic risk management
- 2) Functionalities of a local SDI required to support risk management are the ability to provide spatial resources, access to the data, metadata information, and web services

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- 3) Geoportal and Geospatial Web Services can be exploited to facilitate local agencies' demand for collaborative work and coordination in evacuation planning
  - 4) Evaluation of the prototype based on specific scenario got well appreciation from local agencies official
- Source: Asia Surveying and Mapping Magazine

### [FDGC – endorsed External Standards](#)

The US Federal Geographic Data Committee ([FGDC](#)) Steering Committee has officially endorsed a group of OGC standards along with other standards developed externally to FGDC. These standards play an important role in enabling interoperability as part of the Geospatial Platform for GeoOneStop, place-based initiatives, and other potential future programs of the FGDC.

Source: FDGC

### [Korea's U-City Concept Launches Globally](#)

A global U-City effort was recently launched at the U-City World Forum in Seoul. The forum was attended by 15 countries, including the U.S., China and India, and included participation from IBM, Cisco Systems, and the Open Geospatial Consortium. A new global U-City Cooperative Committee was formed at this event for the exchange of information, the creation of policy, the identification of technology and service standards, and the fostering of global talent.

Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping

### [Outstanding paper award at ITS World Congress](#)

[Han Wang](#) and Stephan Winter were the authors of a [paper](#) that won an Outstanding Paper Award at the ITS World Congress in Korea. They described a method to provide short-distance trip pickup and delivery services, which solves some inner-urban mobility problems and opens up a new market for the taxi industry. This paper identified the obstacles of such services, and suggests the empty cruise time of taxis as a feasible solution for this short-distance trip pickup and delivery problem.

### [ABC \(Australia\) Radio National Occam's Razor programme \(7 November, 2010\) discusses Science and the City: innovative cities, smart traffic, and augmented reality](#)

An example is seen in the planning of traffic systems and attempts to avoid the gridlock that plagues urban centres. The development of London's traffic congestion charge, for example, depended on novel data analysis using modelling and simulation technology. Traffic congestion charges in Milan have a scale depending upon the level of pollution emitted by individual vehicles. When a vehicle enters the city, cameras almost instantaneously signal to a database identifying the model and relevant charge band. Stockholm's smart traffic system, which uses cameras and lasers to identify and charge vehicles according to the time of day, has reduced congestion by nearly 25% and emissions by about 12%. Another example is seen in a means for addressing the notorious traffic problems in Chinese cities. Siemens, the electronics and engineering company, is working for Chinese researchers to optimise traffic flow based on positional data provided automatically by drivers' mobile phones.

From the [transcript](#). Also available as [Audio Download](#)

Source: [ABC Occam's Razor](#) (radio broadcast)

see also [Just for Fun!](#) section for **Solar Roadways**

see also [Real-Time Traffic and GNSS](#) (Singapore)

Real-time traffic based upon GNSS and 'smart roads' is poised to transform the traffic management sector in a large way. As roads and traffic become more highly intelligent with onboard GNSS receivers, sensors in roads, digital signage and the use of augmented reality, how roads will be used will also change.

Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping

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## SDI Spotlight

We have held over the *Spotlight* feature for this issue to bring to our subscribers' attention the special report on smart systems in the *Economist*, Vol 397 Number 8707.

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## **[Economist special report on smart systems](#)**

The November 6 issue of the *Economist* has a special report on smart systems. It is composed of several articles. You can read a maximum of five articles online without charge (more requires a subscription). Here is the complete list:

- [It's a smart world](#)
- [A sea of sensors](#)
- [Making every drop count](#)
- [Living on a platform](#)
- [Augmented business](#)
- [The IT paydirt](#)
- [Your own private matrix](#)
- [Sensors and sensibilities](#)
- [Horror worlds](#)

There is also an additional article [Living in in a see-through world](#)

**See also** [Convergence of Technology Trends Leads to the Internet of Things](#) (Asian Surveying & Mapping)

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

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## GIS Tools, Software, Data

### **[A new final version of gvSIG Desktop has been released: gvSIG Desktop 1.10.](#)**

It's available at the [Downloads](#) section of the gvSIG website

### **[Australia Wind Farm Receives Approval](#)**

Wind Prospect CWP (WPCWP) today announced it has received planning permission to build the Boco Rock Wind farm near Nimmitabel, New South Wales, Australia. ... WPCWP used the remote sensing measurement technology developed by U.S.-based Second Wind, Inc. to measure wind speeds at the turbine rotor's hub height and beyond (up to 200 meters).

[The editors are pleased to include this item relating to the charmingly named township of [Nimmitabel](#).]

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#) and PR Newswire

### **[Software takes blindfolds off from robots](#)**

A mechatronics student has developed a software to help self-guiding robots navigate accurately. The software breaks down large maps into small sections and detects any errors that have occurred due to scanning or mapping inaccuracies. It then allows the robot to rapidly recalculate its path to eliminate the errors. It has several advantages for multiple robots operating together.

Source: [Geospatial World Weekly](#) and UNSW News

### **[China denies Map World data theft](#)**

China's State Bureau of Surveying and Mapping (SBSM) answered questions on the originality of [Map World](#), its newly launched online map service website, and confirmed that the online service software has its own independent property rights, the *Beijing News* reported.

Source: [Geospatial World Weekly](#) and *Global Times* (China)

### **[Mapping remote island's wild, lush mountains a 5-decade quest](#)** by Akiko Yoshinaga / Yomiuri Shimbun Staff Writer

Itsuo Ota has been revising and refining a map he made of the Japanese island's mountains for decades, and cares deeply about any changes to the natural environment.

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#) and [Daily Omiuri Online](#)

### **[Supporting development in Bhutan through poverty mapping](#)**

The World Bank team has created poverty maps of Bhutan in collaboration with Bhutan's National Statistics Bureau (NSB) and the Gross National Happiness Commission (GNHC). The team uses a "Small Area

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Estimation" method, utilizing both the 2005 Population Census and the 2007 household living standard survey (BLSS) to produce reliable poverty estimates at lower levels of disaggregation than existing survey data permits. Experts believe they can learn more from the poverty map by comparing it with other maps of locations of public service centres, transport networks, and market access. Using the poverty map can also identify the kind of investments necessary to lift such areas out of poverty.

Thanks to Kate Lance for this item

#### **[Geoinformatics Experts discuss Remote Sensing](#)**

More than 300 space scientists, geoinformatics technologists and infrastructure managers are likely to come together for a national symposium on *Remote sensing and geoinformatics in infrastructure development and management*, organised by the Indian Society of Remote Sensing (ISRS), Pune chapter, at the Sinhagad College of Science, Pune, and the Sinhagad Technical Education Society, Lonavla.

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#) and the Times of India

#### **[Indian state to use satellites to track terrorists](#)**

Tripura, an Indian State, will soon use satellites to track terrorists in the state, director general of police K. Saleem Ali said. Tripura would be the third state in India, after Jammu and Kashmir and Jharkhand, to introduce the geo satellite imagery systems (GSIS) for curbing militancy

Source: [GeoSpatial World Weekly](#) and The Hindustan Times

#### **[Global Map of the Mentawai Islands, Indonesia](#)**

The global map released this time shows the region in Indonesia affected severely by a massive earthquake occurred offshore the Mentawai islands at 9:42pm on October 25 in local time.

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#) and Geospatial Information Authority of Japan

#### **[NREL Geospatial Toolkit \(GsT\) for Nepal and Bangladesh](#)**

The Geospatial Toolkit (GsT) is an NREL-developed map-based software application that integrates resource data and other geographic information systems (GIS) data for integrated resource assessment. The non-resource, country-specific data for each GsT comes from a variety of agencies within each country as well as from global datasets.

Funding for toolkits was provided by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), United States Trade and Development Agency (USTDA), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of State (DOS), and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

NEW - Revised Version

The GsT was completely redesigned and re-released in November 2010 to provide a more modern, easier-to-use interface with considerably faster analytical querying capabilities. The revised version of the Geospatial Toolkit has been released for three countries: Bangladesh, Nepal, and Turkey. A revised version of the GsT will be released for all existing "original version" countries in the coming weeks.

Thanks to Kate Lance for this item

#### **[Digital map of Bangladesh to save Tk 3.74b](#)**

Digital topographic map, which is now under preparation, can save at least Tk 3.74 billion in a year, according to a recent study by Survey of Bangladesh (SoB), the national surveying and mapping agency.

[100 Bangladeshi Taka ≈ 1 US \$ ≈ 0.63 £ sterling ≈ € 0.75]

Source: [GeoSpatial World Weekly](#) and [The Financial Express](#)

#### **[Satellite Tracking Suggests Wild Birds May Spread H5N1 in Asia](#)**

About half of the birds that died in the Qinghai Lake outbreak were bar-headed geese. The FAO said the satellite tracking has shown that most of the bar-headed geese tagged at Qinghai Lake spend their winters in the Lhasa region of Tibet or in India. There, wild birds are exposed to domestic poultry, and since those areas have had H5N1 outbreaks, the virus may spread between domestic and wild birds, according to the FAO. "If this is so, wild waterfowl on the eastern portion of the Central Asian Flyway may in fact be helping spread H5N1 HPAI [highly pathogenic avian influenza] into Mongolia each spring as they cross the Qinghai-Tibetan plateau to the north and east," the article says.

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#) and [CIDRAP](#) Influenza News

### [Australian Solution Keeps Lights on in North America](#)

Indji Watch, developed by Perth-founded Indji Systems, provides real-time analysis of potential hazards that may affect utilities, including fires, earthquakes, lightning strikes and other storm activity, and a range of other issues. Indji Watch automates labour-intensive manual tracking processes by providing convenient, web-based access to timely, consistent and detailed information about external hazards as they change and develop.

Source: V1 Magazine

[Australia's space star is looking brighter](#) opinion piece by Associate Professor Andrew Dempster, Director of the Australian Centre for Space Engineering Research.

As the Victorian bushfire disaster unfolded in February 2009, the best information available to emergency services came via Chinese government satellites.

...

However, the key fact remains that, unlike most developed nations, and an increasing number of emerging Asian countries, Australia does not have its own earth observation satellite. As we head into another bushfire season, Australia is entirely dependent on foreign operators for critical information as disasters unfold. And increasingly such information is being sold commercially.

...

More than 40 years ago Australia was the fourth country in the world to put a satellite into orbit, [WRESAT](#) (Australia's first satellite). However, Australia's "space" star has long since dimmed. Australia has long been without a space program or agency and is now reliant on satellites owned by other countries for all our satellite services.

...

While it is true Australia's co-operation agreements with China and other national and commercial satellite operators are in good shape, that's not the same as being in control ourselves.

When a fire is raging on the ground, we need to be certain we can get the best information technically possible, as fast as possible.

Source: Sydney Morning Herald

### [China to Build a National-Level Geographic Information Industrial Park](#)

China has begun construction on a national Geographic Information Industrial Park that will cover 66.7 hectares in Beijing. An investment of 15 billion yuan (\$2.2 billion) is being made with funds from the State Bureau of Surveying and Mapping and the Beijing municipal government, with the park set to be operational by 2013.

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#)

### [Growing a GIS Garden](#) by Toni Jackson

Anyone with experience will tell you, gardens do not grow - no matter how talented the landscaper - without an effective growth strategy and a rich soil bed. The same can be said for planning, building and maintaining corporate data repositories - isolated databases don't typically provide data-rich business intelligence. It's an analogy that utility company San Antonio Water System (SAWS) understands well.

Source: V1 Magazine

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## News from abroad

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

### [GPS Achieves 20 Years On-orbit](#)

GPS Block IIA-10 (SVN-23), built by Boeing, was launched on 26 November 1990 and operational on 10 December 1990. The satellite was the first in the series of GPS IIA satellites to be launched with a design life of 7.5 years. To-date the satellite has operated longer than any other satellite and is predicted to last another 12-18 months.

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#) and US Air Force Space Command News

### [NASA resumes airborne survey in Antarctic](#)

NASA scientists begun second year of airborne surveys over Antarctica. The mission monitors the region's changing sea ice, ice sheets and glaciers. Researchers made flights from Punta Arenas, Chile, on NASA's DC-

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8, a 157-foot airborne laboratory equipped with a suite of seven instruments. The focus is on re-surveying areas that are undergoing rapid change and embarking on new lines of investigation.

Source: [Geospatial World Weekly](#) and NASA "Icebridge" Mission

### **US OMB refined Geospatial data management Guidance**

The U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has released on November 10 the new Supplemental [Guidance](#) to OMB Circular A-16, "Coordination of Geographic Information and Related Spatial Data Activities." OMB Circular A-16 provides for improvements in the coordination and use of spatial data, and describes effective and economical use and management of spatial data assets in the digital environment for the benefit of the Federal Government and the Nation. The Supplemental Guidance further defines and clarifies selected elements of Circular A-16 to facilitate a coordinated Federal geospatial asset management capability that will improve support of mission-critical business requirements of the Federal Government and its stakeholders. The Guidance has a primary focus on geospatial data as a capital asset and outlines a portfolio management process to manage geospatial data assets. The Supplemental Guidance is the result of a dedicated effort by many individuals, agencies, and partners within the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) community. Thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item

### **US FGDC seeks Ideas on the Geospatial Platform**

The U.S. Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) is seeking comments and suggestions from interested participants on the proposed [Geospatial Platform initiative](#). The vision for the Platform was described in the President's Fiscal Year 2011 budget: "In 2010 and 2011, Federal data managers for geospatial data will move to a portfolio management approach, creating a Geospatial Platform to support Geospatial One-Stop, place-based initiatives, and other potential future programs. This transformation will be facilitated by improving the governance framework to address the requirements of State, local and tribal agencies, Administration policy, and agency mission objectives. Investments will be prioritized based on business needs. The Geospatial Platform will explore opportunities for increased collaboration with Data.gov, with an emphasis on reuse of architectural standards and technology, ultimately increasing access to geospatial data." The Platform aims to deliver valuable geospatial services that can be easily accessed by government organizations and used to provide place-based products and services to the American public. Over the past several months, the partner agencies of FGDC have developed a draft Modernization Roadmap document that provides a high-level implementation plan for the Platform. The [Roadmap](#) describes a future-state technology architecture that leverages industry standards and best practices, identifies processes and organizational elements needed to help ensure success, and proposes a strategic path forward to implement the Platform vision. The FGDC is accepting feedback through December 10. Input can be submitted in two ways: **1) On-line:** The FGDC has launched an [IdeaScale website](#) providing an online venue where stakeholders can submit ideas and comments related to the Roadmap and the Platform. **2) Via e-mail:** Submit written comments directly to the FGDC through December 2010 using this [Comment Form](#) [Excel]. The FGDC will use these comments and communication threads to improve the Roadmap and refine the Platform. Thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item

### **Obama Visit Heralds Earth Observation Partnerships with India**

U.S. President Barack Obama's visit to India brought with it promises for new levels of high-tech collaboration, including initiatives with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). Obama said in Parliament that Indian organisations would be removed from the so-called 'Entity List', heralding new levels of Indo-US collaboration (including Earth observation, space exploration and scientific education).

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#) and

### **United States launches new global initiative to track changes in land cover and use**

Deputy Secretary of the Interior David J. Hayes, co-leading the U.S. delegation to the 2010 Group on Earth Observations (GEO) summit, announced that the United States is launching a new global initiative aimed at developing the first-ever comprehensive and up-to-date database of 30-meter satellite imagery that will show changes in land cover and land uses worldwide.

Thanks to Kate Lance for this item -> US Dept of the Interior press release and [News Page](#)

### **Predicting earthquake risks around the world**

An international consortium is developing an open-source earthquake model that will help planners map high-risk zones and take preventive measures. When it is complete, the software program will tap into a variety of databases, permitting users to create a variety of models and maps, ranging from national or regional

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assessments of vulnerable areas to street-level studies of individual buildings near fault lines. Such a tool could help at-risk cities and regions institute repairs and construction before succumbing to a Haiti-type disaster. The Global Earthquake Model is a public/private partnership supported by the United Nations, the World Bank, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, individual nations and private firms. GEM grew out of efforts to provide something more dynamic than a mere map of earthquake risk zones, said Josh McKenty, the project's IT manager. Headquartered in Pavia, Italy, the GEM consortium began work in 2009. When it is complete, GEM will provide a scalable software tool that will allow users to calculate earthquake risks worldwide, provide a basis for comparing earthquake risks across regions and borders, permit the estimation of socio-economic impact and cost-benefit analysis of mitigating actions. It is designed to clearly communicate earthquake risks accurately and transparently to allow organizations, institutions and individuals to make decisions about risk mitigation and it will be available to a wide variety of users, from communities to nations. Source: [GCN](#)

Thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item

### [Data.gov sets up open data communities page](#)

The United States administration introduced Data.gov in May 2009 to provide government data free in easily accessible formats. It has grown to offer 305,692 datasets and 236 new applications for the data. The Data.gov website has started an [online Open Data Community](#) page to encourage public discussions about accessing and sharing data. The page, which began Nov. 15, has 10 categories of topics that include balancing security and openness; developing policies for global data sharing; and using geospatial data, semantic technologies and best practices. Visitors to Data.gov are invited to register with the community to participate and comments are posted publicly. The community's goal is to stimulate global innovation and transparency in government by working to access, share and curate data from government sources, according to statements on the site. Source: [Federal Computer Week](#) (Thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item)

### [USDA National Farmers Markets Data Open](#)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced a series of enhancements to the USDA National Farmers Market Directory, including a mapping feature and reformatted data sets. The data sets and widget are also available on Data.gov in support of the USDA's Open Gov efforts.

...

This high-value data set is available on Data.gov at: < <http://www.data.gov/tools/4034> >, and on the AMS web site at: < <http://apps.ams.usda.gov/FarmersMarkets/> >. USDA seeks to contribute to the availability of high-value data to the public and encourage the innovative use of government-collected information in everyday life. Source: [USDA](#)

Thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item

### [European purchasing power map](#)

The updated "GfK Purchasing Power Europe 2010/2011" study reveals the regional distribution of the population's purchasing power in 42 European countries. The company has projected the study through maps. This year's study suggests the beginning of a recovery from the economic and financial crisis.

Source: [GeoSpatial World Weekly](#) and GfK Press release



### [Remote Sensing monitoring of opium growth](#)

Cranfield University has developed remote sensing (RS) survey techniques for monitoring opium poppy. The technique has proved effective in accurately monitoring opium poppy production in Afghanistan – responsible for 90 per cent of the supply of the illegal crop in the world.

Source: [GeoSpatial World Weekly](#) and Cranfield University Press release

### [Digital humanities](#)

Members of a new generation of digitally savvy humanists are digitally mapping civil war battlefields to understand what role topography played in victory, using databases of thousands of jam sessions to track how musical collaborations influenced jazz, searching through large numbers of scientific texts and books to track where concepts first appeared and how they spread, and combining animation, charts and primary documents about Thomas Jefferson's travels to create new ways to teach history.

This alliance of geeks and poets has generated exhilaration and also anxiety. The humanities, after all, deal with elusive questions of aesthetics, existence and meaning, the words that bring tears or the melody that raises goose bumps. Are these elements that can be measured?

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Digital humanities is so new that its practitioners are frequently surprised by the developments, observes an article published in *New York Times*.

Source: [GeoSpatial World Weekly](#) and NYTimes.com

#### **ESRI Technology to Enhance Airport Operations and Security**

Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport (BTR) has recently begun a three-year project that will integrate Esri's geographic information system (GIS) technology into its digital airport management system. The project will combine GIS and airport management to enhance many aspects of the airport's operations, such as data, asset, and workflow management. It will also benefit the airport significantly with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) guidelines that regulate the accuracy of spatial data.

Source: [Directions Magazine](#) and ESRI Press release

#### **The Evolution of a Mega City: The Case of Ibadan, Nigeria** by David T. Afolayan

The growth of mega-cities around the world poses unique challenges for managing infrastructure, health, communities and transportation. This expansion is near impossible to understand and plan for appropriately without the assistance of spatial information and geospatial technology. Geographic information systems (GIS) and computer-aided design (CAD) are both helping to address these challenges. Yet, other areas that require attention fall more directly to spatial data infrastructures (SDI) and helping to build capacity within policy bodies.

Source: V1 Magazine

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## Articles

#### **Editorial/Opinion** by [Prof Arup Dasgupta](#) (GeoSpatial World Weekly, 22 November)

##### **Interdisciplinary matters**

It has been demonstrated again and again that geospatial systems are not a panacea but only a means to improve decision making. The skill is in being able to use the systems to arrive at and evaluate decision alternatives to reduce the element of risk in any decision situation. Decision making is the realm of domain experts. It is necessary for them to become geospatially aware and able. Geospatial technology and applications must become pervasive and persistent. Geography has to become like mathematics - a core subject in all professional courses. Domain knowledge strengthened with geography, computer applications and some basic management science is the mix that should take a professional far. As geospatial technology becomes pervasive there is a need to look at regulations and policies governing data and systems. Unfortunately, geospatial systems are the original 'dual use' technologies. Knee jerk reactions like banning data or technology will be self defeating. There is therefore a need for a debate which involves not only geospatial professionals but domain experts and even the general public. These moves will ensure that geospatial applications are well on their way to becoming ubiquitous.

**An integrated approach for monitoring tea plantations** by [Rishiraj Dutta](#), Department of Earth Observation Science, Faculty of Geoinformation Science & Earth Observation, ITC, University of Twente, Enschede, The Netherlands

##### **Abstract**

This study proposes an approach to develop a simple, time efficient and generic approach to assess and monitor tea plantations in Northeast India using time series remote sensing images. The tea industry in India is in a consolidation phase with the plantations suffering from yield decline and quality. Tea is affected by a plethora of factors including age, environment and management. Therefore, monitoring and analysing growth of tea plantations over space and time is a very important aspect. Remote sensing offers an efficient and reliable means of collecting the information required, in order to map tea type and acreage. Through the use of satellite imageries, information on the health of tea plantations can be extracted. The spectral reflectance of a tea field always varies with respect to the phenology, stage type and crop health and these could be well monitored and measured using multispectral sensors. Information from remotely sensed data can be integrated into GIS by combining with ancillary data which can provide insights to the cultural practices being implied into the cropping system. It will also help farmers identify areas within a field which are experiencing difficulties, so that they can apply, for instance, the correct type and amount of fertilizer, pesticide or herbicide. Using this approach, planters will not only improve the productivity of their land, but will also reduce farm input costs and minimise

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environmental impacts. Based on this, a stepwise approach has been designed to assess and monitor tea plantations in Northeast India

Source: GeoSpatial World Weekly

### [Falling Off the Edge of the Map](#) by Jim Keenan

As multiple mapping technologies jostle for dominance in the consumer and enterprise marketplace, this article takes a look at how spatial technologies are bumping up against their limits. Furthermore, they are destined to align (or collide!) with other data visualization technologies and eventually morph into practical business intelligence applications. Jim Keenan of IDV Solutions explains how to use location intelligence to “link the dots” to help mitigate terrorist plots, among other things.

Source: Directions Magazine

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## Books and Journals (including Videos and Web publications)

[Global Positioning Systems Redbook Volume Seven](#) edited by Dr. Maarten Uijt de Haag, Dr. Demoz Gebre-Egziabher, and Dr. Mark Petovello.

The Institute of Navigation has released the [Global Positioning Systems Volume Seven](#) of the Redbook Series.

[MacroWikinomics: Rebooting Business and the World](#) by Don Tapscott and Anthony D. Williams, PENGUIN, ISBN: 978-1591843566, 2010, 432 pages

Reviewed by Matt Ball (V1 magazine)

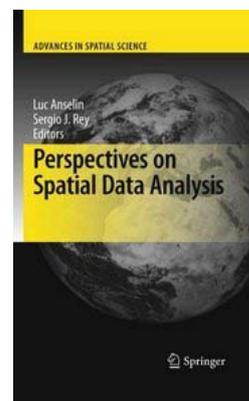
### [A new online Atlas shows how climate change will affect distribution patterns of Iberian forests](#)

Researchers from Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB) and CREAM have developed the *Suitability Atlas of Woody Plants of the Iberian Peninsula*, a series of digital maps available online which for the first time reveal the present and future degree of adaptation to climate conditions of the main plant species found in the forests throughout the Iberian Peninsula. Data shows the tendency of forests to move higher in altitude and migrate towards the north.

### [Perspectives on Spatial Data Analysis](#) by Luc Anselin, Sergio J. Rey

This book takes both a retrospective and prospective view of the field of spatial analysis by combining selected reprints of classic articles by Arthur Getis with current observations by leading experts in the field. Four main aspects are highlighted, dealing with spatial analysis, pattern analysis, local statistics as well as illustrative empirical applications. Researchers and students will gain an appreciation of Getis' methodological contributions to spatial analysis and the broad impact of the methods he has helped pioneer on an impressively broad array of disciplines including spatial epidemiology, demography, economics, and ecology. The volume is a compilation of high impact original contributions, as evidenced by citations, and the latest thinking on the field by leading scholars. This makes the book ideal for advanced seminars and courses in spatial analysis as well as a key resource for researchers seeking a comprehensive overview of recent advances and future directions in the field.

This book is available for download from [here](#)



### [New Esri Book a Practical Guide for GIS in Humanitarian Relief](#)

GIS Tutorial for Humanitarian Assistance uses real-world scenarios as a practical guide for responding to crises, disasters, and relief efforts around the world. New from Esri Press, the tutorial will benefit both professionals and students as they apply geographic information system (GIS) skills and analysis to humanitarian efforts in ways that can help save lives and make the most of limited resources. The book includes a 180-day trial of ArcGIS Desktop 9.3.1 software on DVD. A CD with data for the exercises is also provided. Internet: < [www.esri.com/esripress](http://www.esri.com/esripress)> and < <http://esripress.esri.com/display/index.cfm?fuseaction=display&websiteID=189&moduleID=0>>

Source: [Geoinformatics](#)

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### [Mother Pelican - November 2010](#)

#### Articles:

1. Editorial Opinion ~ The Root Cause of Unsustainable Development
2. The Economics of Natalivity, by Ina Praetorius
3. The Case for Working with our Cultural Values, by Tom Crompton
4. The First Woman Priest, by José Ignacio González Faus
5. Reducing Inequality: The Missing MDG, by Sakiko Fukuda-Parr
6. The Values of Everything, by George Monbiot
7. Reflections on Paying Living Wages, by Rita M. Rodriguez
8. Ecological Perspectives on Business Decision-Making, by Ilia Delio
9. Adam and Eve and the Gender Divide, by John R. Coates

#### Supplements:

1. Advances in Sustainable Development
2. Directory of Sustainable Development Resources
3. Sustainable Development Simulation (SDSIM) Version 1.2

### [SERVIR-Africa community news - October 2010](#)

- Predicting and mapping malaria under climate change scenarios
- Call for abstracts: remote sensing session - WildFire 2011 Conference, South Africa
- GIS and natural resource management in Zambia and more...

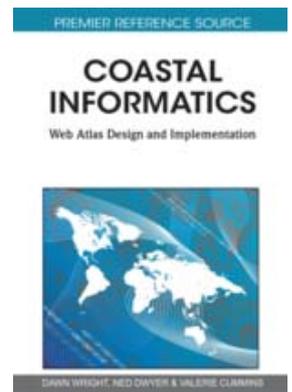
[Coastal Informatics: Web Atlas Design and Implementation](#), IGI-Global, ISBN13: 9781615208159, 350 pp.

Edited by Dawn J. Wright, Edward ("Ned") Dwyer and Valerie Cummins

#### **Mapping Solutions from Sea to Shining Sea**

This publication presents the emerging development of coastal web atlases through a series of case studies which give practical guidance on geographic data management and documentation through standards-based metadata, as well as making underlying geographic databases interoperable. This resource is of practical use in web atlas design, development and implementation for improving spatial thinking in the coastal context, with innovative chapters that bring together key experts from Europe, the United States, the Caribbean, Africa, and Australia.

In addition, the publication is also accompanied by a dedicated website ([International Coastal Atlas Network](#)) to provide further elaboration on advanced themes.



### [UN-SPIDER October 2010 Updates](#)

#### **UN-SPIDER News**

- Fourth United Nations International UN-SPIDER Bonn Workshop
- SpaceAid supporting disaster response in Benin, Thailand, Philippines, and Myanmar
- UN-SPIDER at the 8th International Conference of the African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment (AARSE) and the GARNET-E workshop
- UN-SPIDER and ADRC organize side event at the 4th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction
- UN-SPIDER moderates thematic session at GMES User Forum
- New UN-SPIDER RSO established at the Disaster Risk Reduction Centre of the University of the West Indies

#### **Community News**

- Sentinel Asia covering ten disasters in seven countries
- International Charter Space and Major Disasters: delivering products for six countries
- First call for papers for the GI\_Forum 2011
- GSDI12 World Conference "Realising Spatially Enabled Societies"
- RP supports use of space technology to address climate change
- Sentinel-3: a new pair of glasses to view earth
- Geospatial databases and the evolving role of the surveyor
- DRR Project Portal for Asia and the Pacific

#### **Conferences and Workshops supported by UN-SPIDER**

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- 34th International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment: "The GEOSS Era: Towards Operational Environmental Monitoring", Sydney, 10-15 April 2011
- Gi4DM 2011 – Geoinformation for Disaster Management; Antalya, Turkey, 3-8 May 2011

### [Geospatial Revolution's 2nd episode released](#)

The Geospatial Revolution Project is an integrated public service media and outreach initiative about the world of digital mapping and how it is changing the way we think, behave, and interact. The second episode of the Geospatial Revolution Project has been released. The first episode, debuted in September, covered an overview of the development of mapping and geospatial technologies, activate participation in geographic data creation, and crisis mapping. The second episode is divided into three sections looking at municipal, business, and health applications of geospatial technologies. The first section looks at the many mapping and location-based applications the City of Portland, Oregon uses to manage services in the city. The video profiles the use of logistics software by UPS to optimize their routing and package delivery. The final segment looks at the use of GIS analysis to define where to focus efforts to provide healthier food choices in underserved neighborhoods. The entire second episode can be watched by visiting the Geospatial Revolution Project. The third and the fourth episode will be release March 1 and April 19, 2011.

Source: [GIS Lounge](#) (Thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item)

[OpenStreetMap - Be Your Own Cartographer](#) by Jonathan Bennett, PACKT, ISBN: 9781847197504, 2010, 237 pages

reviewed by Jeff Thurston (V1 Magazine)

[Mapping Forestry](#) by Peter Eredics, editor, Esri Press, ISBN: 9781589482098, 2010, 88 pages

Review by Jeff Thurston (V1 Magazine)

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## Just for Fun!

### [Solar Roads](#)

What if the road outside your house wasn't just a thing to drive on, what if it was also a generator of power - and what if it was made of a product that you wouldn't normally associate with road construction. What if it was made of glass?

ABC radio Transcript and [Audio](#) download available. See also YouTube [video](#)

Source: Radio National (ABC Australi) Future Tense [programme](#) (4 November 2010) & [Inhabitat Green Design](#)

### [Google Maps Blamed for Military Invasion](#)

Bad enough that Google Maps allegedly caused a woman to be hit by a car because [its route told her to walk along a highway and failed to warn her](#) that said highway posed certain risks (namely cars). Now it has been accused of causing, or at least complicating, an international incident after Costa Rica said Nicaraguan troops had used Google Maps to "justify" crossing the border.

Costa Rica's main newspaper quoted the Nicaraguan commander as saying Google Maps proved they were legally in Nicaraguan territory. Roughly translated, he said: "If you see the Google satellite photo, you will see the border [the white line in the picture to the right]. In the last 3,000 meters [*i.e.*, of the river], both sides are Nicaraguan. It's clear that from El Castillo [where the white line hits the river] on, then the border is the right bank." Apparently, the Nicaraguans had crossed the river as shown, and this guy was citing Google Maps to support his claim to the territory under international law.



### **He was wrong.**

... As noted, Google is blaming the feds for the mistake, but as the blog [search engine land](#) pointed out, Microsoft Bing gets it pretty much right (although it is also not perfect):

Source: [Lowering the Bar](#)

### **UPDATE** from Wonkug Baek - [Google Maps dragged into border dispute](#)

A line of pixels drawn by Google Maps between the border of Nicaragua and Costa Rica is being used as an excuse in an old territorial dispute. Google acknowledged the problem, indicating that mapping information from

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the U.S. Department of state used to draw the border in Google Maps was incorrect. Charlie Hale, a geo-policy analyst, wrote in a [Google blog](#) that "we determined that there was indeed an error in the compilation of the source data, by up to 2.7 kilometers. The U.S. Department of State has provided a corrected version and we are now working to update our maps." The dispute concerns the borderline traced along the San Juan River for the most part. The river is considered to be Nicaraguan territory, except for the south bank, which is Costa Rican, according to [a history](#) by blogger Stephan Geens. The dispute flared up after Nicaraguan troops occupied disputed lands along the river. In March, Carlos Rovessi, Costa Rica's deputy foreign minister, told [La Nación](#) that Costa Rica had sent a note to Google to correct the map, which differs from the official documents, he said. Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega told the [Tico Times](#) this month that the river has been drying up and shifting northward and that Costa Rica has been grabbing territory as a consequence. Nicaragua has a dredging operation in place to restore the flow of the river to its original course.

Source: [GCN](#)

See also [Guardian.co.uk](#)

### [Hard Work, Miserable Conditions—Surveying Tennessee's Cumberland Trail](#)

Land surveyors are often attracted to the trade by the prospect of working outdoors, preferably in the woods. But even so, the surveyors at The RLS Group must have wondered if they were getting too much of a good thing when they spent 90 days surveying a 19-mile section of the soon-to-be-completed Cumberland Trail . . . especially since it snowed or rained nearly every day, with temperatures that dropped to as low as three degrees and rarely got above freezing. And they weren't returning to motels at night. Since travel in the region is only possible with four-wheelers, and since the work took place far from cities or major roads, RLS employees worked and camped in the field. They lived in tents for one to two weeks at a time, working every daylight hour. Terrain was also a challenge; this part of Tennessee is heavily wooded and very hilly, with steep ridge lines extending for miles

Source: The American Surveyor.

### [GPS Gypsies Fill in the Map Gaps in Australia](#)

Armed with five high-tech cameras on their roof and a huge hard-drive named Gypsy in the boot, the Whereis Nissan Patrol is the newest vehicle in a fleet of eight and has the job of providing the most accurate mapping data of Australia's 1.1 million kilometres of roads. Whereis group manager Peter Barclay says the vehicle, with three Hawk-Eye cameras facing forward and two facing back, can survey the landscape with sub-metre accuracy, including road curvature, slopes and lane markings.

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#) and [Stuff.Co.nz](#)



### [Satellite imagery of the earth: "Earth as Art"](#)

US Geological Survey (USGS) unveiled the [Earth as Art 3 collection](#), the latest set of Landsat satellite images selected for their artistic quality. Viewed from the unconventional perspective of space, through this collection, USGS showcased the Earth's geographic attributes.

Previous [Earth as Art](#) and [Earth as Art 2](#) collections & other [Image Galleries](#) also available.

Source: GeoSpatial World Weekly

### [Getting Lost in Buildings: Architecture Can Bias Your Cognitive Map](#)

Some people always know which way is north and how to get out of a building. Others can live in an apartment for years without knowing which side faces the street. Differences among people that include spatial skills, experience, and preferred strategies for wayfinding are part of what determines whether people get lost in buildings—and psychological scientists could help architects understand where and why people might get lost in their buildings, according to the authors of an article published in Current Directions in Psychological Science, a journal of the [Association for Psychological Science](#)

Source: V1 Magazine

### **ALERT – NOT "Just for Fun!":** [GPS Units Cause Memory and Spatial Problems](#)

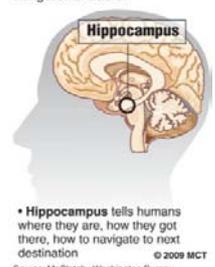
McGill University researchers recently carried out a series of studies to examine the effects GPS systems on human brain, and have found that avid GPS users have a higher risk of suffering from problems with memory and spatial orientation.

Veronique Bohbot, associate professor of psychiatry at the Douglas Mental Health University Institute and McGill University, along with a team of McGill researchers, found that those who use a GPS system to navigate often have a higher chance of damaging a region of the brain that controls memory.

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### The brain's mapping system

The hippocampus contains neurons that form a spatial navigation structure.



• Hippocampus tells humans where they are, how they got there, how to navigate to next destination  
Source: McClatchy Washington Bureau  
© 2009 MCT

Source: [GeoSpatial World Weekly](#) and DailyTech.com

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### Training Opportunities

#### [Call for integration of geography with IT & science courses](#)

There is a need to revamp Geography/GIS and Design courses in India and Geography should be integrated with other IT and science courses, panellist proposed during a panel discussion, *Integrated Design and Education*, in New Delhi, India, hosted by *GIS Development*.

Source: Geospatial World Weekly

#### [3rd Annual Spatial Ontology Community of Practice Workshop](#)

Invitation - 3rd Annual Spatial Ontology Community of Practice (SOCoP) Workshop: Development, Implementation and Use of GeoSpatial Ontologies and Semantics  
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) National Center, reston, Virginia, USA

**Friday December 3, 2010 from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

The purpose of the workshop is to continue the discussion from the previous SOCoP < <http://www.socop.org> > workshops in advancing spatial ontologies and semantic tools in the geospatial data domain. The main theme of this 3rd iteration of the workshop is the current and future state of development, implementation, and use of geospatial semantics and ontologies in meeting organizational mission and program needs.

There is no charge for the workshop.

Proceedings from last year's Workshop complete with presentation slides and audio are available at < [http://ontolog.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?SOCoP/Workshop\\_2009\\_11\\_12](http://ontolog.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?SOCoP/Workshop_2009_11_12) >, thanks to the support of Ontolog.

*Directions Magazine* [Webinars](#) (Web Seminars)

#### [OpenGeo Releases Training Courses Under Creative Commons](#)

At the Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial (FOSS4G) conference in Barcelona this past week, OpenGeo announced the availability of its training materials online, licensed under the Creative Commons Share-Alike With Attribution license. Introductory workshops on the PostGIS spatial database, OpenLayers web mapping library, and the GeoServer map and feature server are all available [online](#).

[Vexcel Imaging Web Events \(Webinars\)](#) - including past webinars

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### Funding Opportunities, Awards, Grants

#### [IBM announces new grant program to create smarter cities](#)

IBM has inaugurated the Smarter Cities Challenge, a competitive grant program through which IBM will award a total of \$50 million worth of technology and services to a hundred municipalities across the globe.

Over the next three years, IBM will send top experts to those cities that have made the strongest case for participating in the Smarter Cities Challenge. IBM consultants will immerse themselves in local issues involving the administration of healthcare, education, safety, social services, transportation, communications, sustainability, budget management, energy, and utilities.

IBM consultants and technology specialists will help participating municipalities analyze and prioritize their needs, review their strengths and weaknesses, and learn from the successful strategies used by other cities. After studying the role that intelligent technology might play in uniting and advancing different aspects of city life, IBM will recommend concrete strategies designed to help make regions healthier, safer, smarter, more prosperous, and attractive to current and prospective residents and businesses.

Cities will also have access to a wide array of IBM resources throughout the grant engagement, potentially including: technological expertise, assistance with strategic planning, workshops on social networking tools, and City Forward, a powerful new tool which allows cities to analyze, compare and visualize data across systems. City Forward applies IBM's expertise in data analysis and visualization to public data sets, enabling citizens and

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policymakers to reveal new insights and relationships in city systems. As part of the grants, cities may also receive assistance in preparing and analyzing data sets with City Forward.

Municipalities will be selected based on a number of criteria, including the ability to clearly articulate between two and four strategic issues that can potentially and reasonably be acted upon. Also considered will be the city's track record of innovative problem solving, commitment to the use of technology and open data, and demonstrated willingness to provide access to and time with city leaders.

The most successful proposals will offer clear, compelling evidence that a particular city is poised to best utilize the resources offered through the competition, that the grant has the potential to substantially enhance a city's capacity to act on key issues, and that the city is ready to match IBM's investment with its own commitment of time and talent.

Municipalities of all sizes are eligible, although IBM believes cities with populations between 100,000 and 700,000 will gain the most from the experience.

The approximate value of each Smarter Cities Challenge grant will be equivalent to \$400,000. Each city's team will comprise top IBM talent who bring their unique expertise to the program. The engagement will be conducted in a collaborative, constructive, and transparent manner, with IBM team members working alongside leaders from the public, private, and volunteer sectors.

Following the November 2010 program launch, applications will be accepted annually, with **the first cycle closing December 31, 2010.**

Thanks to Kate Lance for this item

### **CALL FOR POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS: CAPE URBAN OBSERVATORY RESEARCH PROJECT**

Scholarships are available for 1 x MSc project, for full-time study. Prospective scholars should seek the PDF brochure from Assoc Prof Julian Smit (email address below)

Applicants should submit the following documentation:

1. Letter of motivation,
2. Curriculum vitae (with contactable academic references),
3. Full academic transcript, and
4. Short research proposal (500-1000 words).

Please send your applications to [Assoc. Prof. Dr. Julian Smit](mailto:Julian.Smit@uct.ac.za) ([Julian.Smit@uct.ac.za](mailto:Julian.Smit@uct.ac.za)) by **15 December 2010.**

The Centre aims to confirm the scholarship by end December and the candidate can commence with the research as soon as possible in 2011. **Please Note that Prof Smit has other scholarships in similar fields**

### **Exceptional work in Geospatial domain recognised**

The United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation (USGIF) announced the recipients of its 2010 USGIF Awards Program. Recipients were acknowledged during the general session of the annual GEOINT Symposium.

Source: [GeoSpatial World Weekly](#)

### **Best Student Paper Awards** Nanjing, China – May 26-9, 2011 see under "[Conferences, Events](#)"

A Student Paper Prize Competition will be held during **LIDAR & RADAR 2011**. It is a great opportunity for young researchers to expose their work in this event and be recognized for their scientific value. Any student willing to be considered for this competition is required:

- ▶ to submit an abstract before 30 November 2010, indicating that he/she is willing to participate to the student competition. The abstract must have the name of the student as the first author.
- ▶ to submit the full paper and an electronic copy of a certificate showing his/her student status by e-mail to [lidar2011@gmail.com](mailto:lidar2011@gmail.com) no later than 30 January 2011.
- ▶ to present the paper at the conference, if the paper is accepted and included in this session.

The **Best Student Paper Award** with a value of \$100 will recognize the best paper submitted by a student. Only papers submitted on or before the Proceedings submission deadline will be considered for these awards.

### **Bentley's 2011 Student Design Competition Call for Submissions Now Open**

The Bentley Student Design Competition is now accepting nominations for 2011. Students or teams (not to exceed 3 team members) may nominate their project in one of the categories, at their scholastic level, listed on the Bentley [website](#).

**The deadline is March 18, 2011.**

## Employment Opportunities

### [Network Manager, NEPAD Southern Africa Network of Water Centres of Excellence, South Africa](#)

**Deadline: December 9, 2010.**

The NEPAD Southern Africa Network of Water Centres of Excellence (SANWATCE) has a vacancy for its Network Manager. This individual should be able to contribute to the Network's success by providing technical backstopping to joint research projects in the region's Water Sectors and leading the Network's support services with management & administrative responsibilities.

The position will be in the Secretariat of SANWATCE hub, which is currently being hosted at the University of Stellenbosch, Faculty of Science offices, Stellenbosch, South Africa.

**Spatial Jobs Online (Australia) Because of tight application closing dates the editors provide these websites for employment seekers to access directly:** < <http://www.spatialjobs.com.au/> > and < <http://www.GISjobs.com.au> >

### [Looking for a GIS - Geomatics Job in Canada?](#)

Here are some links: 1) [Geomatics Canada Job Site](#); 2) [GeographyJobs.ca](#); 3) [GoGeomatics Canada](#); 4) [Geomatics Employment Center](#)

Source: V1 Magazine

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## Conference Proceedings

### [Map Africa stresses g-readiness for sustainable development](#)

Map Africa 2010, organised by GIS Development, successfully concluded in Cape Town, South Africa on November 25, 2010. The three-day event explored status of "Geospatial Readiness for Building Africa" and its importance for the continent as it emerges a global investment hotspot.

Source: [Geospatial Milieu](#)



### [GeoExpo takes Center Stage](#)

The two-day Geospatial Expo 2010 was held in Dubai recently. Around 16 exhibitors participated in the event that was attended by around 400 people.

Source: [Geospatial Milieu](#)



### [The first Latin American Remote Sensing Week \(LARS\) at Santiago de Chile](#)

### [Xth International Scientific and Technical Conference "From Imagery to Map: Digital Photogrammetric Technologies"](#)

### [United Nations Regional Seminar on Census Data Dissemination and Spatial Analysis,](#)

Bangkok, Thailand, 5-8 October 2010

The United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), in cooperation with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), organized the Regional Seminar on Census Data Dissemination and Spatial Analysis in the context of the 2010 World Programme for Population and Housing Censuses.

The purpose of the Seminar was to provide a forum for sharing national practices and experiences in the dissemination and use of census data. The Seminar reviewed emerging trends, innovative approaches and technological tools employed in the dissemination of census data. The Seminar was expected to provide a basis for assessing existing national dissemination strategies as well as technologies used by national statistical offices. It also was meant to aid in taking stock of national capacities and challenges for meeting the increasing requirements of census data users. Furthermore, the Seminar was expected to help in identifying good practices and lessons learned in the dissemination and analysis of census data. The ideas generated by the discussion and the recommendations made by participants will contribute towards the drafting of an

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international guideline for effective dissemination and utilization of census data.

Contact: Margaret Mbogoni, Tel. +1 212 963 7845, e-mail: [Mbogoni@un.org](mailto:Mbogoni@un.org)

Source: Kate Lance

### [Hindu Kush-Himalayan region: bridging the data gap for adaptation to climate change](#)

The recently held International Symposium "Benefiting from Earth Observation: Bridging the Data Gap for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region", (Kathmandu, Nepal, 1-7 October 2010) provided the region with a key opportunity to advance in sustainable development and international cooperation. The full proceedings of the symposium will be available soon.

If you have any queries, contact [symposium2010@icimod.org](mailto:symposium2010@icimod.org)

Symposium [blog](#) and Symposium [twitter](#).

The Symposium also marked the launch of [SERVIR-Himalaya](#). In 2010, in a move that is furthering GEOSS in action, the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) partnered with ICIMOD to establish SERVIR-Himalaya--the third regional SERVIR node. Source: Kate Lance

### [The United Nations Regional Seminar on Census Data Dissemination and Spatial Analysis,](#)

Nairobi 14-17 September 2010.

The purpose of the Seminar was to provide a forum for sharing national practices and experiences in the dissemination and use of census data. The Seminar reviewed emerging trends, innovative approaches and technological tools employed in the dissemination of census data. The Seminar was expected to provide a basis for assessing existing national dissemination strategies as well as technologies used by national statistical offices. It also was meant to aid in taking stock of national capacities and challenges for meeting the increasing requirements of census data users. Furthermore, the Seminar was expected to help in identifying good practices and lessons learned in the dissemination and analysis of census data. The ideas generated by the discussion and the recommendations made by participants will contribute towards the drafting of an international guideline for effective dissemination and utilization of census data.

Contact: Yacob Zewoldi, Tel. +1 212 963 0445, e-mail: [zewoldi@un.org](mailto:zewoldi@un.org)

Source: Kate Lance

**United Nations [workshops](#)** - Demographic and social statistics

### [GeoViz 2009 \(Hamburg, March 2 -5, 2009\)](#)

### [The Australian and New Zealand Map Society Conference 2010](#)

[Map Asia 2010](#) and [Conference Report](#)

[\(GITA\) Australia-New Zealand](#) - Brisbane, Australia from 2-4 August 2010

[15th Australasian Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry Conference](#) (Alice Springs, September 13 -17)

[The Sydney Declaration from XXIV Fig Conference, April 2010](#)

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## Conferences, Events

For upcoming events of global or major international interest, please visit the [upcoming conference list](#) on the GSDI website.

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

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

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

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Date	Location	Event
<b>November - Dec 2010</b>		
<b>28 November – 3 December</b>	Sydney Australia	<a href="#">OGC's Meeting on Business Value of Geospatial Standards</a> The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) has announced the event, Deriving business value from geospatial standards to be held on June 17, 2010 at the NOAA Silver Spring offices in Maryland. OGC invites government officials, policy makers, senior managers, as well as sales and marketing professionals from across the industry to attend a series of business meetings during the event. The event is part of the OGC's quarterly Technical Committee and Planning Committee meetings. Steven Ramage, OGC's Executive Director, Marketing and Communications said, "I would like to invite professionals to attend a one-day business session at a TC/PC meeting. This invitation is open to OGC members and non-OGC members who want to learn more about the business value of geospatial technology. Silver Spring is the first such meeting and more one-day business sessions are planned for the OGC meetings in Toulouse, France in September and in <b>Sydney, Australia in November-December 2010.</b> "
<b>29 November – 3 December</b>	Tunisia	<a href="#">Fifth Session of the International Conference Geotunis 2010</a>
<b>30 November – 1 December</b>	The Hague, Netherlands	<a href="#">European LiDAR Mapping Forum Conference and Exhibition</a>
<b>December 2010</b>		
<b>1 – 3 December</b> <b>"UPDATED"</b>	Valencia, Spain	<a href="#">6th gvSIG Conference: Knowledge for change</a> The call for papers is now open. As of today communication proposals can be sent to the <a href="#">email address</a> where they will be evaluated by the scientific committee as to their inclusion in the conference program. There are two types of communication: paper or poster. Information regarding to regulations on communication presentations can be found in the <a href="#">reports section</a> . Provisional programme now <a href="#">available</a> Registrations are free of cost (limited capacity) and must be done through the application form on the Conference <a href="#">web page</a> .
<b>22 December</b>	Kyoto, Japan	<a href="#">Japan - Topic Maps Japan 2010</a>
<b>January 2011</b>		
<b>5 – 7 January</b>	University of Waikato, New Zealand	<a href="#">SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL, CULTURAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY</a> <a href="#">Contact</a>
<b>18-21 January</b>	Hyderabad, India	<a href="#">MapWorld Forum 2011</a> <a href="#">Contact</a> <b>NOTE NAME CHANGE TO:</b> <a href="#">GEOSPATIAL WORLD FORUM 2011</a> Last date for <a href="#">abstract submission</a> has been extended to 30th September, 2010
<b>February 2011</b>		
<b>7 – 9 February</b>	New Orleans, USA	<a href="#">11th International LiDAR Mapping Forum 2011</a>
<b>March 2011</b>		
<b>7 – 9 March</b>	Valencia, SPAIN	<a href="#">5th International Technology, Education and Development Conference (INTED2011)</a> <b>Abstract submission: CLOSED</b> - 25th November 2010 <b>Acceptance notification:</b> 16th December 2010 <b>Final Paper submission:</b> 26th January 2011 <a href="#">Contact</a>

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<b>21 – 4 March</b>	Houston, USA	<a href="#">SPAR International 2011</a> Contact: <a href="#">Linda McLaughlin</a> , Program Manager <a href="#">Call for Presenters</a> , <b>ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE</b> November 3, 2010
<b>25 – 7 March</b>	Bilbao, Vizcaya, Spain	<a href="#">7th International Conference on Technology, Knowledge and Society</a> The deadline for the current round in the <i>Call for Papers</i> is <b>9 November 2010</b> <a href="#">Contact</a>
<b>April 2011</b>		
<b>10 – 15 April</b>	Sydney, Australia	<a href="#">34th International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment</a> (ISRSE) <b>Abstract submissions closed on 1 October</b>
<b>May 2011</b>		
<b>3 – 8 May</b>	Antalya, Turkey	<a href="#">Gi4DM 2011 – GeoInformation for Disaster Management</a> . <a href="#">Contact</a> Deadline for Abstracts is <b>December 15, 2010</b> <a href="#">Online Abstract Submission</a> Full papers for Proceedings are required by <b>March 31, 2011</b>
<b>26 – 29 May</b>	Nanjing, CHINA,	<a href="#">LIDAR and Radar Mapping: Technologies and Applications</a> Abstract submission deadline October 15, 2010 Authors notified on November 30, 2010 Full paper submission deadline January 30, 2011 <a href="#">Contact</a>
<b>June 2011</b>		
<b>28 June - 7 July</b>	Melbourne, Australia	<a href="#">XXV IUGG General Assembly</a> <b>Earth on the Edge: Science for a sustainable Planet</b> The IUGG 2011 Scientific Program Committee invites the submission of abstracts on original work to be considered for oral or poster presentation at the IUGG 2011 General Assembly. The deadline for submission of abstracts is <b>Monday 17 January 2011</b> . <b>Call for Abstracts Close FOR IAHS PREPUBLISHED EVENTS</b> JH01, JH02, H01, H02, H03 and H04 <b>8 November, 2010</b> <a href="#">Contact</a> <a href="#">Download Brochure</a>
<b>28 June - 7 July</b>	Melbourne, Australia	<a href="#">IAG General Assembly</a>  <a href="#">Download Brochure</a>
<b>July 2011</b>		
<b>3 - 8 July</b>	Paris	<a href="#">25th International Cartographic Conference</a> . <b>15th General Assembly of the International Cartographic Association (ICA)</b> Abstracts were due 4th October, 2010. <a href="#">Second call for papers</a> Contact: <a href="mailto:regist-icc2011@europa-organisation.com">regist-icc2011@europa-organisation.com</a>
<b>9 – 12 July</b>	San Diego	<a href="#">Esri and ACSM - Event for Surveyors and Mapping Professionals</a> <b>Abstract submission deadline is December 6, 2010.</b>
<b>9 – 12 July</b>	San Diego	<a href="#">ESRI International USER CONFERENCE</a>
<b>August 2011</b>		
<b>23 – 25 August</b>	Perth, Australia	<a href="#">7th International Symposium on Digital Earth</a> (ISDE7) Held in conjunction with <a href="#">WALIS Forum 2011</a> and the <b>2011 NRM Conference</b>
<b>November 2011</b>		
<b>14 – 18 November</b>	Santiago, Chile	<a href="#">UGI 2001 International Geographic Union “Regional Geographic Conference”</a> <a href="#">Contact</a> <a href="#">Brochure &amp; Call for Papers</a>
<b>21 – 23</b>	Wellington,	<a href="#">Surveying &amp; Spatial Sciences Conference 2011</a>

<b>November</b>	New Zealand	
<b>August 2012</b>		
<b>25 August – 1 September</b>	Melbourne, Australia	<a href="#">XXII International Society for Photogrammetry &amp; Remote Sensing Congress</a> Email: <a href="mailto:isprs2012@icms.com.au">isprs2012@icms.com.au</a>
<b>October 2012</b>		
<b>“NEW” 2014</b>	Morocco	<b>10th biennial International Conference of the African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment (AARSE)</b>
	Malaysia	Malaysia will be hosting the (International Federation of Surveyors) FIG Congress in 2014. The decision was taken at the recently concluded FIG Congress 2010 in Sydney, Australia.

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