

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 issue of the newsletter, the last for the year 2012.

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

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

Contributions

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

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GSDI News

International Geospatial Society (IGS) Free Memberships

At its recent meeting, the GSDI Board of Directors passed a motion that allows individuals in low and very low income nations to join the International Geospatial Society (IGS) by providing specific information of value to the global community in lieu of annual cash dues. To join, simply add your professional profile to the growing interconnected network of geospatial specialists across the globe. Benefits of membership in IGS are listed at <http://www.igeoss.org/benefits>. For further information, contact [Harlan Onsrud](#), Executive Director, GSDI Association.

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SDI News, Links, Papers, Presentations

SDI Cookbook update

The SDI Cookbook, in its wiki version, now has an updated Chapter 10 to reflect the latest slate of standards and popular version numbers. We seek contributing editors for the other Chapters to also bring them up-to-date. About three months prior to the next GSDI Conference we will seek to affix a date and snapshot the Cookbook into a "SDI Cookbook 2013" PDF version. By saving a PDF and giving it a date of publication, it will clarify the reference and citation of the document and provide a time context.

If you are interested in helping update any of the chapters, please contact [Douglas Nebert](#).

AUSTRALIA - New OSP website now live

The new website for the Office of Spatial Policy has just gone live and will be gradually moving required information from the archived OSDM site to the main site as required.

Thanks to Ross Johnson for this item

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SDI Spotlight



This month's "Spotlight" feature is from Katie Potts. Katie has a bachelor's degree in Geomatic Engineering from the University of Melbourne which she completed in 2009. During this time she completed her final year research project in the area of disaster management. The research focused on the roles and opportunities for spatial information in bushfire recovery. As part of the research the 2009 Victorian bushfire disaster was used as a case study. During her time as an undergraduate Katie was employed at a mapping and photogrammetry firm based in Melbourne.

Katie commenced her PhD research in December 2009 at the University of Melbourne in the Centre for Spatial Data Infrastructures and Land Administration. Current projects include research into building a national infrastructure to manage land information in Australia and development of a 3D cadastre to manage and model complex property rights, restrictions and responsibilities.



CSDILA
THE CENTRE FOR SPATIAL
DATA INFRASTRUCTURES
& LAND ADMINISTRATION



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

Title: Spatially Enabled Risk Management

In the last year there have been many natural disasters across the globe. These include large scale events that have caused devastation, disruption, and many deaths, as well as small scale events that create catastrophe and disorder at the local level. Examples of these events include the earthquakes that occurred in Christchurch, New Zealand, the worst of which struck in February 2011 killing 181 people; the 5th largest earthquake on earth in the last 50 years which hit Japan in March 2011 and the tsunami which came after it killing almost 16000 people and leaving a damage bill of US\$235 billion; the floods in the states of Queensland and Victoria, Australia in 2011 which resulted in 38 fatalities and a damage bill of A\$32 billion; Hurricane Irene in the United States in August 2011 which resulted in 56 fatalities and US\$10.1 billion in damage; and other events such as

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droughts, volcanic eruptions, extreme weather, and landslides that affected a number of countries throughout the last year.

In order to manage these disasters spatial information including land and property and risk information was utilized during these events. The ability to understand quickly who lives where, what parcels are located in the disaster area and what the zoning of the area is, is critical in risk management and disaster management (Figure 1).

Land information, which is considered essential base data required for any risk management system for use in all phases of risk management, and in a broader sense disaster management needs to be easily accessible during these activities.



Figure 1: Understanding where a risk exists is key

Currently, in Australia issues arise when implementing risk management and disaster management processes because of the current land information arrangements. The current sharing and aggregation of information inhibits access across organisations and government departments. Accurate and timely information about land and property is required for effective risk management and is critical for all stages of disaster management. An infrastructure to facilitate the coordination, sharing, aggregation and dissemination of consistent information on risk for risk management and disaster management is required.

This research investigates the overarching question of: how can land administration activities be redesigned to support societal risk management. The aim is to develop a model for improved risk management practices within Australia which incorporates land and property information. This model will include tools designed assist in the coordination, aggregation, and dissemination of consistent information on risk between governments at all levels, citizens, and business.

More Information

For more information about this research project please visit: <http://blogs.unimelb.edu.au/nimli/>

A list of publications related to this research are:

- Potts, K. (2012) Supporting Land and Property Risk Management Activities with Land Administration Systems. In A. Rajabifard et al. (eds.), A National Infrastructure for Managing Land Information – Research Snapshot (Ch. 6). pp 67-72.
- Potts, K., Rajabifard, A., Bennett, R. (2012) Spatially Enabled Risk Management: Models, Cases, Validation. In A. Rajabifard et al. (eds.), GSDI 13 World Conference – Spatially Enabling Government, Industry and Citizens.
- Potts, K., Bennett, R., Rajabifard, A., Williamson, I. (2011) Spatially Enabling Risk for Management of Land and Property. Paper presented at the Surveying and Spatial Sciences Biennial Conference 2011, Wellington, New Zealand.

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

GIS Tools, Software, Data



[Citizen science – Crowd sourcing - TrafficTurk](#)

Transportation researchers are asking the public for help this weekend in studying post-Sandy traffic patterns in New York City. Anyone with a smart phone can collect traffic data on Saturday, anywhere in Manhattan, using an application developed at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The researchers will analyze the data to learn about how traffic is affected by major disasters as part of the [TrafficTurk project](#). Researchers are hoping TrafficTurk can provide valuable, real-time information to police, emergency personnel, and the public, with the goal of helping traffic flow more smoothly during major events.

The University of Illinois team and transportation researchers from Columbia are collecting data in Times Square Friday afternoon, November 3. On Saturday, November 4, they will compile and analyze the data provided by volunteer members of the public.

Source: Scientific American

[Aerial Photos of Hurricane Sandy Damage from NOAA's National Geodetic Survey](#)



Emergency responders and members of the public can now get a birds-eye view of some of the destruction caused by Hurricane Sandy.

Through NOAA's National Geodetic Survey website, visitors can [view a map of the region](#) and click on an icon to view a thumbnail or high-definition image of a specific area. Images are now available for some of the Northeast's hardest-hit areas.

Move your mouse back and forth over each image to view the "before and after" comparison. "Before" image captured by Google; "After" image captured by NOAA's National Geodetic Survey.

Source: National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

[New Zealand - New website to promote spatial sciences careers](#)

A new website has been launched which will help people put themselves on a career path in the spatial information industry. The website, www.destinationspatial.org, is the result of extensive research to find out what information students and parents need and how to present it in a way that encourages them to investigate further. It is the public face of the multi-sectoral Destination Spatial movement gathering momentum around Australia and New Zealand.

"Students and parents can now "meet" real people in the various disciplines of the spatial industry, look at real projects from all over the world carried out by Australia and New Zealand trained people, find every spatial or related course in Australia and New Zealand, and participate in real opportunities," said Andrea Herklots, Regional and National Director of the Spatial Industries Business Association (SIBA).

Source: Geospatial World Weekly

[ALSO New Zealand promotes GIS education in schools](#)

Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) has partnered with CORE Education and its LEARNZ project to develop an interactive learning experience for school students focusing on 'How Geospatial Information is supporting the Canterbury Recovery'.

Source: Geospatial World Weekly

[Thailand government opens access to 'DSI map' to prevent forest encroachment](#)

Thailand's Department of Special Investigation (DSI) has recently introduced **DSI Map** for wider use among public agencies and citizens across the country to fight against forest encroachment and avoid land conflict in the country.

Developed by Map and Geo-Informatics Operation Centre under the DSI's Bureau of Consumer Protection and Environment Crime, DSI Map is an online mapping portal created based on data provided by Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.

Anyone with an access to internet can use and benefit from the map data provided on DSI Map. They only need to have GPS location data and search it on the programme.

The previous version of DSI Map was a closed programme used by the DSI only before it decided to further develop the programme into a more user friendly and make it accessible freely over internet for public and local government to use.

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Forest encroachment is a major problem Thailand has been confronting. One of the core causes of the problem derived from unclear boundaries between the conservation forest and private owned area. To prove the right over the area takes long time and complicated process in which this inefficiency has put a lot of injustice to many cases at the court.

This programme together with the basic law on conservative forest will prevent citizen to encroach into the preserved forest as well as preventing illegal commercial activities to happen over prohibited area. At the same time, it will empower people to keep an eye on inappropriate activities conducted by government officers. The DSI planned to promote the wider use of DSI Map to local authorities and citizens in the relevant areas, and has provided series of training to officers in Ministry of Justice, local leaders, and citizens in the North East, and the South.

Source: FutureGov/Asia Pacific, 8 November 2012

[3D Modeling for the Masses Debuts with Autodesk 123D Design](#)

SAN FRANCISCO- Autodesk, Inc. introduced [Autodesk 123D Design](#), a free* 3D modeling tool that allows users to create a digital model and then 3D print or fabricate their idea whether on the iPad, Mac, PC or via their web browser. Autodesk 123D Design uses natural interactions for creation and editing, allowing makers to easily design things without learning complex CAD concepts.

"We believe that everyone is creative, and we intend to put easy to use design software in the hands of millions of people so they can create real objects, have fun doing it and then fabricate the things they want and need, just the way they want them."

"For the first time ever, users can create sophisticated, precise 3D models of real objects on their iPad, Mac, PC or via their web browser. People said this couldn't be done on iPad, and we're happy to prove them wrong," said Samir Hanna, vice president of Consumer Products, Autodesk. "We believe that everyone is creative, and we intend to put easy to use design software in the hands of millions of people so they can create real objects, have fun doing it and then fabricate the things they want and need, just the way they want them."

The Autodesk 123D family of apps provides users with the ability to capture, design and make their ideas, and connect with other makers around the world for support or inspiration. Users can try Autodesk apps, services and communities to experiment and experience the creative process.

The Autodesk 123D Design App is available for free* from the App Store on iPad or at www.itunes.com/appstore. The Mac version of 123D Design is available for free* from the Mac App Store.

Source: [Any Geo blog](#), GISUser, and Autodesk 123D [website](#)

[UK justice ministry saves big with BIM project](#)

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) has expanded its building information modelling (BIM) trial projects programme and revealed its first project will save GBP 800,000 through collaboration with main contractor Interserve.

...

The MoJ is applying BIM it its procurement of new accommodation and regime buildings at HMP Mount; a reception refurbishment at HMP Leeds; a new entry building at HMP Aylesbury; a new kitchen at HMP Winchester; and its replanning scheme at Liverpool court.

Source: Geospatial World Weekly

[Portrait of Global Aerosols](#)

High-resolution global atmospheric modeling run on the Discover supercomputer at the NASA Center for Climate Simulation at Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Md., provides a unique tool to study the role of weather in Earth's climate system. The Goddard Earth Observing System Model, Version 5 (GEOS-5) is capable of simulating

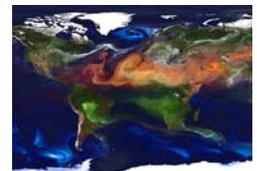
worldwide weather at resolutions of 10 to 3.5 kilometers (km).

This portrait of global aerosols was produced by a GEOS-5 simulation at a 10-kilometer resolution. Dust (red) is lifted from the surface, sea salt (blue) swirls inside cyclones, smoke (green) rises from fires, and sulfate particles (white) stream from volcanoes and fossil fuel emissions.

Image credit: William Putman, NASA/Goddard

Source: www.nasa.gov, Geospatial World Weekly "[Image of the Week](#)". See also [3-D image of the Earth](#)

These images add a new twist to the familiar "Earth from Space" image produced ac decade ago!



[Vietnam to build land data system](#)

The Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) will be collaborating with the Vietnamese Government to set up a multi-purpose land data management system starting next year.

The initiative comes as a response to an increasing demand for land information at all levels of government.

Under the agreement, recently signed in Hanoi, between KOICA and the General Department of Land Administration under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, KOICA will be providing USD 3.5 million in non-refundable aid needed to implement the project.

KOICA will help integrate land data systems across the country from the central to local levels, transfer its land survey technology, and provide capacity building to technical and administrative personnel.

The value of information and the quality of decisions made are directly related to the capacity of the system that produces information. Once the multi-purpose land data management system is in place, authorities will be able to arrive at well-informed decisions and craft better policies on critical matters pertaining to land usage and better resource management.

Source: FutureGov/Asia Pacific, 6 November 2012

[Singapore pushes for greater GIS collaboration](#)

The Singapore Land Authority (SLA) and Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP) have signed an agreement that will push for greater collaboration on geospatial education, training and research and development. The partnership will enable both organisations to tap into each other's expertise and resources in promoting the use of GIS in Singapore. As part of the agreement, SLA will also be awarding a SLA Geospatial Scholarship annually starting next year up to 2015 to deserving final year students in the Geospatial and Mobile Innovation specialization track under the Diploma in Information Technology Programme in NYP's School of Information Technology (SIT). Furthermore, recipients of the scholarship will also have priority placement to complete their polytechnic industrial placement with the Geospatial Division in SLA.

Source: FutureGov/Asia Pacific, 8 November 2012

[Demand for Land Sows Seeds for Growth](#)

A strengthening agricultural economy is one of the biggest reasons why more people are investing in undeveloped land for ranch and farmland, observers say.

Source: The Atlantic

[Australia-wide flood information portal launched](#)

A new online one-stop-shop for flood risk information was made available this week to assist the community, planners and insurers to access important flood information about their local area.

... Over the next two years this service will be developed into a nationwide portal to provide data on flooding which has been observed by satellite across Australia since 1987. Minister Ferguson said the Portal is part of the \$12 million, four-year National Flood Risk Information Project initiated by the Australian Government in response to the Natural Disaster Insurance Review. Geoscience Australia will host the Portal, which will be fully developed over four years, with updates in November each year prior to the summer season.

The [National Flood Risk Information Portal](#).

[Updated Mindanao Map Aids Peace Process](#)

Mindanao will have an updated and higher resolution official map after 50 years. The Mindanao Development Authority (MinDA) is working to finalize the topographic map that will replace the old version. The map is seen as a support document for the peace process.

A joint undertaking of MinDA, National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the project is designed to produce 1:50,000-scale Mindanao topographic maps, replacing the 1:200,000-scale maps developed in 1960s.

Luwalhati Antonino, Minda chair, said the new topographic map of Mindanao, "These updated maps are crucial for our planning and programming of strategic and sustainable peace and development initiatives across the island."

Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping

[Demand for Land Sows Seeds for Growth](#)

A strengthening agricultural economy is one of the biggest reasons why more people are investing in undeveloped land for ranch and farmland, observers say.

Source: The Atlantic

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[What a Little Land Can Do](#)

By partnering with governments to redistribute small plots of land, a nonprofit is helping to bring stability to India's poor.

Source: NY Times

[New survey technique gives detailed picture of landscape change](#)

A new surveying technique developed at the University of Nottingham is giving geologists their first detailed picture of how ground movement associated with historical mining is changing the face of our landscape. The new development by engineers at the University has revealed a more complete map of subsidence and uplift caused by the settlement of old mines in the East Midlands and other areas of the country and has shown that small movements in the landscape are bound by natural fault lines and mining blocks. It appears to support concerns that movement associated with historical mining is continuing far longer than previously anticipated.

The research has been led by Dr Andrew Sowter in the University's Department of Civil Engineering. He said, "This method allows us to measure patterns of slow millimetre-scale movement across large regions of the landscape and, in the UK, almost everywhere we look is dominated by our industrial past. Large tracts of our land, including parts of our cities, towns and infrastructure as well as agricultural and woodland areas, are steadily creeping upwards over mines that were closed decades ago."

Source: Geospatial World Weekly and University of Nottingham [press release](#)

[Cartography Tip – Color Brewer \(2.0\) Expert Color Advice For Your Maps](#)

Ever had trouble determining an appropriate color scheme for your mapping projects and products? Here is an extremely useful resource for selecting color schemes for your cartographic products. It's a website called [ColorBrewer 2.0](#), developed by Cynthia Brewer, professor of Geography at Penn State.

Source: GISUser blog

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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."

[Preparing for the Inevitable: Digitally Preserving San Francisco's Oldest Building](#)

The *Mission San Francisco de Asís* is in a race against time. Completed in 1791, the parish's Mission Dolores is the oldest building in the city, and the only intact mission established under Father Junipero Serra, the controversial Spanish Franciscan friar. In a city that's already survived two major earthquakes – in 1906 and 1989 – the inevitability of the next Big One has preservationists especially worried about this historic structure.

Source: The Atlantic "Cities"

[ESA's GOCE to deliver improved gravity map](#)

ESA's GOCE gravity satellite has already delivered the most accurate gravity map of Earth, but its orbit is now being lowered in order to obtain even better results.

The Gravity field and steady-state Ocean Circulation Explorer (GOCE) has been orbiting Earth since March 2009, reaching its ambitious objective to map our planet's gravity with unrivalled precision.

Although the planned mission has been completed, the fuel consumption was much lower than anticipated because of the low solar activity over the last two years. This has enabled ESA to extend GOCE's life, improving the quality of the gravity model.

To be able to measure the strength of Earth's gravity, the satellite was flying in an extraordinarily low orbit about 255 km high – about 500 km lower than most Earth observation satellites.

Based on a clear preference from the GOCE user community, ESA's Earth Scientific Advisory Committee recommended lowering the orbit to 235 km starting in August.

Lowering the orbit increases the accuracy and resolution of GOCE's measurements, improving our view of smaller ocean dynamics such as eddy currents.

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



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[LiDAR technology can detect dissolved gases in water](#)

Researchers in Japan are developing a novel Raman LiDAR technique which can provide efficient 3D monitoring for environmental surveys prior to seafloor exploration. Researchers say LiDAR is a promising technique for monitoring the seafloor. It offers a number of advantages over commonly used point sensors and is considered to be one of the best candidates for monitoring gases dissolved in water. Hydrothermal fluids emanating from seafloor vents contain gases such as hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) and hydrogen (H₂), whereas methane hydrate concentrates contain methane (CH₄) and CCS stores CO₂; thus, LiDAR is a suitable technique for monitoring undeveloped seafloor regions.

Carbon Dioxide is usually detected using IR absorption methods. However, water is a strong light absorber and has relatively high transmission in the short-wavelength spectral region (~10–510nm) only. Thus, conventional IR absorption spectroscopy is not suitable for sensing gases dissolved in water. Therefore, the researchers propose using a Raman (inelastic scattering) LiDAR instrument with a green laser that has relatively high transmission in water. This technique involves irradiating the water with a 532nm laser beam and subsequently detecting the elastic (Mie and Rayleigh) scatterings at 532nm, as well as the Raman signals from the water.

Source: [Geospatial World Weekly](#) and SPIE

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Articles

[TECHNOLOGY OF PREPARING RASTER MAPS WITH DESCRIPTIVE DATA OF POINTS OF INTEREST](#)

by [Sebastian Banaszek](#)

Tourist maps are one category of map designed for the mass user. For this reason this product needs to meet several requirements, e.g., it needs to be cheap, simple to use, easily and rapidly updated using a standard computer, navigation software and a mobile phone. The research presented in this paper, including e.g., the classification of points of interest, e-symbols as a tool to save descriptive data on raster maps, map editing software, and a browser for visualizing standard reports, forms the basis for a technology for creating interactive raster maps with descriptive data. Examples of preparing maps and their content show that the technology developed might be used for other thematic maps.

KEY words: SIP, map, raster, data, tourism

Publisher: Archiwum Fotogrametrii, Kartografii i Teledetekcji

Publication Date: 2009

Publication Name: Archiwum Fotogrametrii, Kartografii i Teledetekcji

[PROGRAMS FOR RECORDING SEMANTIC DATA ON A RASTER MAP \(AS EXEMPLIFIED BY TOURIST MAPS\)](#)

by [Sebastian Banaszek](#)

Recording semantic data on a raster map and thus making it amenable to reading through a browser has so far posed an unsolved problem. In numerous cases, such a new cartographic product would be an advantage over traditional cartographic GIS products. The advantage would be augmented by no need for a user to have specialized knowledge and command of GIS. The knowledge of geography at the secondary-school level would be sufficient to create and use such maps.

Long-term research on methods for recording semantic information on raster maps and on the use of other graphic documents in a raster form have resulted in developing methods for generating e-symbols based on the source alphabet.

To implement the method, the authors have developed a software package containing an analyzer, an e-symbol library generator, an editor for placing e-symbols on a raster map, and a graphic browser for reading the semantic information written on a raster map. The paper describes application of the software on a tourist map as an example.

The study is based on a map type that is commonly used by tourists, which contains mostly information on places worth visiting (historical and national monuments of architecture and nature), tourist trails (for pedestrians, bikers, cars), transportation system (bus stops, railway stations, ferry terminals), as well as on tourist infrastructure and entertainment (accommodation, restaurants, cinemas, bars, discos). The software described in the paper makes it possible to extend the information content of such a tourist map by any additional items (e.g., standard, address, phone number, and e-mail address of accommodation, geographical coordinates, etc.) without loss of clarity and without any need to build an extra database.

Flexibility of the method presented makes it possible to supplement the contents of such map by including any

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type of information important for the user.

Keywords: GIS, Raster Map, Semantic Data, Graphic Editor, Maps for Tourists

Publisher: Archiwum Fotogrametrii, Kartografii i Teledetekcji

Publication Date: 2008

Publication Name: Archiwum Fotogrametrii, Kartografii i Teledetekcji

[Method of recording of the semantic data on raster maps](#) by [Sebastian Banaszek](#)

Map reading combines reading text signatures and obtaining information in the process of transition from cartographic model into a message in a language (verbal-numerical form). For GIS-users not only the information from a traditional map is accessible, but also the information gathered and recorded in a semantic database. However, a printed GIS-map contains the same information as a traditional map. All semantic data are stored in a database and cannot be read from a hard-copy. The problem which needs to be solved here is the manner of attaching semantic data to a raster map, in a way which allows putting such data in a raster map and enables its reading from a hard-copy. As a solution to the problem mentioned above, the method of writing semantic data in a raster map using symbols of the GIS-alphabet is described. These symbols guarantee the user the opportunity for reading the complete information included in the GIS. An important stage in the symbol of the GIS-alphabet generation is the choice of the basic alphabet. The methods of alphabet choice optimization are described in this article. The purpose of optimization is the minimization of the area needed for putting a symbol in a map, what results in practically unchanged legibility of the printed GIS-map (hard-copy) in comparison to the legibility of a traditional one.

Keywords: GIS, Raster Map, Semantic Data, GIS-Alphabet, Hard-Copy, Topographical Database."

Publisher: Fatih University. Istanbul, Turcja.

Publication Date: 2008

Publication Name: 5th International Conference on Geographic Information Systems

[METHOD AND SOFTWARE FOR CREATION OF RASTER INTERACTIVE TOURIST MAPS WITH SEMANTIC INFORMATION ABOUT OBJECTS](#) by [Sebastian Banaszek](#)

Reading map combines reading text signatures-and obtaining information in process of transition from cartographic model into a message in a language (verbal-numerical form). For GIS-user not only the information from traditional map is accessible, but also the information gathered and recorded in a semantic database. However printed GIS-map contains the same information as traditional map. All semantic data are stored in a database and cannot be read from a hard-copy. The problem which needs to be solved here is (he manner of attaching semantic data to raster map, in a way which allows putting such data in raster map and enables its reading from hard-copy. As the solution of problem mentioned above, the method of writing down" of semantic data in a raster map with use of symbols of the E-alphabet is described. These symbols guarantee user an opportunity for reading the complete information included in G1S. The important stage in symbol of the E-alphabet generation is the choice of the basic alphabet. In the article results of research are presented and examples of maps for tourists.

KEYWORDS: GIS, Raster Map, Semantic Data, Graphic Editor, Maps for Tourists

[Revealing Secrets of the Angkor Civilization Using Airborne LiDAR Technology](#) by Chris Cromarty

In the first ever project of its kind in South East Asia, PT McElhanney Indonesia acquired LiDAR and digital aerial photography in order to map Angkor Wat and other ancient features in Cambodia to a degree of accuracy that has never been seen before by Cambodian archaeologists.

Source: LiDAR News

[Enabling g-government in the Gauteng city-region](#) The African Journal of Information and Communication, Issue 12 (2012)

Authors: Chris Wray and Rex van Olst

Abstract:

The term g-government, a subset of e-government, was first introduced in 2000 as the convergence of geographical information systems (GIS) and the Internet to create more effective government interaction with citizens. More recently, it has been revised to describe the combination of GIS and Web 2.0 technologies that can enhance government services and delivery. Most government data is spatially based and can be visualised and interpreted using a Web GIS mapping application, but this data is often not available to other government departments, or the general public, frustratingly so.

In South Africa, problems with accessing spatial data continue to exist. The Gauteng City-Region Observatory (GCRO) recognised that g-government remains a challenge within the Gauteng city-region (GCR), and in 2010

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developed a GIS website for the GCRO and Gauteng Provincial Government. This article is presented in the context of the global shift to fully connected governments through technologies such as Government 2.0 and g-government. It provides a specific focus on the GCRO GIS website and how it enables g-government by providing local and provincial government with the spatial data and tools required to better understand the city-region, and to make informed decisions about future development in the city-region.

The article also reviews Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) scores measured at the launch of the website. Finally, monthly website visits are examined. This confirms that local and provincial government are ready to utilise the g-government website.

Keywords: effective government, g-government, GIS, spatial data

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Books and Journals (including Videos and Web publications)

[ABC Radio National “Going Underground” programme](#)

When we think of underground space many of us think of car parks, subways and storage. Or we think of dark science fiction scenarios – mole people living deep below our cities! But as we move into an increasingly urbanised 21st century – is it time to rethink the way we construct? And start building down as well as up? A growing number of people think we should be making better use of our underground ‘real estate’ as a way to ease some of our future urban pressures.

[MP3 sound file](#) and Transcript available

[V-e-n-u-e.com](#)

Venue — a portable media rig, interview studio, multi-format event platform, and forward-operating landscape research base — will pop up at sites across North America from June 2012 through fall 2013.

Under the direction of Geoff Manaugh of [BLDG BLOG](#) and Nicola Twilley of [Edible Geography](#), Venue officially launches Friday, June 8, with a public event from 6-8pm at the Nevada Museum of Art in downtown Reno, Nevada.

In collaboration with the Center for Art + Environment at the Nevada Museum of Art and with Columbia University’s Studio-X Global Network Initiative, Venue will traverse North America in a series of routes, visiting such sites as New Mexico’s Very Large Array, Arches National Park, the world’s largest living organism in the Blue Mountains of Oregon, and the 2012 Aspen Ideas Festival.

At these and many other locations, Venue will serve as a backdrop — or venue — for original interviews with people from an extraordinary range of disciplines, even as it records and surveys each site through an array of both analog and high-tech instruments.

[PhD: Geographical Information Technologies - Decision Support for Road Maintenance in Uganda](#)

Doctoral student Lydia Mazzi Kayondo Ndandiko will defend her doctoral thesis in Technoscience studies at Blekinge Institute of Technology (Sweden) on November 7, 2012

Abstract: This study set out to develop a framework within which the use of Geographical Information Technologies (GITs) can be enhanced in Road Infrastructure Maintenance (RIM) in Uganda. Specifically it was guided by 3 objectives; 1., to assess the gaps in the use of GITs for RIM in Uganda and the limitations to accessing these technologies, 2., to develop a methodological framework to enhance the use of GITs in RIM and 3., to develop a Geographical Information Systems for Transportation (GIS-T) data model based on the road maintenance data requirements. A participatory approach through a series of interviews, focus group discussions, workshop & conferences, document reviews, field observations & measurements and GIS analysis were employed.

Based on the Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) concept and the principle of Causality, the gaps and limitations were established to mainly be concerned with data and organisational constraints as opposed to technical issues. They were classified to include; inadequate involvement of GITs in organisational activities, inappropriate institutional arrangements, absence of data sharing frameworks, budget constraints, insufficient geospatial capacity, digital divide in the perception, adoption & affordability of GITs among the stakeholders and the absence of a road maintenance Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI).

A methodological framework, comprising of 6 strategic components was developed to enhance the use of GITs in RIM. This included enactment of relevant policy components to guide GIT use, continuous capacity building, establishment of a road maintenance SDI, fostering collaboration and spatial data sharing frameworks, budgetary allocation based on defined activities inclusive of GIT initiatives, and adoption of a dynamic

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segmentation data model.

Conceptual and logical data models were developed and proposed for the Sector. The conceptual model, presented using an entity relationship diagram, relates the road network to the point and line events occurring on it. The logical object relational model developed using the ESRI provided template represents the road and the point and line events in a total of 19 object classes.

The Study concludes that in order to ground GIT benefits in the sector; technical, data and organisational concerns involved in GIT undertakings should be accorded equal emphasis. Institutionalisation and diffusion of GITs as aspects of the component strategies are regarded capacity building mechanisms earmarked to boost success in GIT initiatives. Further research on diffusion and funding models for GIT initiatives is recommended. It is suggested that aspects of the proposed model be considered when establishing GIT standards for the sector. The RIM sector is encouraged to embrace Science and Technology and to participate in Research and Development and particularly to adopt the culture of innovation considering the ready availability of off the shelf equipment, freeware and open source software that can foster informed decision making.

Key Words: Data Model, Dynamic Segmentation, Geographical Information Technologies (GITs), Geographical Information Systems for Transportation (GIS-T), Linear referencing, Methodological Framework, Research and Development, Road maintenance, Road Infrastructure Maintenance (RIM), Science Technology and Innovation, Spatial Data Infrastructure, Uganda.

[Perspectives for a National GI Policy \(including a national GI Policy draft\)](#)

Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India (GOI) sponsored National GI Policy Project Mukund Rao & K R Sridhara Murthi, National Institute of Advanced Studies (September 2012)

The National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) took up the National GI Policy Project and brought out this report – even going ahead to propose a draft National GI Policy. The report is the outcome of the work undertaken by NIAS Project team and also is based on detailed consultations held with many experts. NIAS also organised a National GI Policy Roundtable where experts debated various issues and a set of recommendations were arrived at.

From the Indian context, the immediate goal is to develop National GIS as a system to make nation-wide, seamless, standardized GI easily available, accessible, usable and, thereby, bringing value-benefit to the nation in better governance/development; developing GI commerce activities and serving to citizens g-services (GIS-enabled e-services).

This is a first of its kind report on National GI Policy in India – comprehensively covering imaging, mapping, surveying, GIS and positioning a holistic policy perspective for National GIS. The report has built a foundation for the National GI Policy and many a details may still have gaps to be addressed. The report was submitted to the Department of Science and Technology (DST), which is responsible for taking the next steps to formalize the Policy.

[Next Generation Digital Earth](#)

A paper entitled “Next-Generation Digital Earth” was published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America (PNAS) on 21 June 2012. The paper, meant to be an update of the Digital Earth vision given by Al Gore over ten years ago, reviews progress in Digital Earth scientific discovery, analyses current work, and forecasts future developments.

[SDI Cookbook update](#)

The SDI Cookbook, in its wiki version, now has an updated Chapter 10 to reflect the latest slate of standards and popular version numbers. We seek contributing editors for the other Chapters to also bring them up-to-date. About three months prior to the next GSDI Conference we will seek to affix a date and snapshot the Cookbook into a "SDI Cookbook 2013" PDF version. By saving a PDF and giving it a date of publication, it will clarify the reference and citation of the document and provide a time context.

If you are interested in helping update any of the chapters, please contact [Douglas Nebert](#).

[NewGeography website](#)

[Mapping London blog](#)

[Call for Papers: A special issue on geospatial analysis of volunteered geographic information with Computers, Environment and Urban Systems](#)

Volunteered geographic information (VGI)

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Submission

Original papers with a length of 6000-7000 words are welcome. To submit your paper, please follow the [journal's](#) Guide for Authors. We encourage authors to consider the option of supplementary data including raw data, derived data and source codes; we particularly encourage authors to pack your supplementary data in such a manner that interested readers can easily replicate your results. Authors must select "Special Issue" while they reach the "Article Type" step in the submission process, and identify the "geospatial analysis of VGI" special issue in their cover letter. First-time users must register themselves as Author.

Important dates:

Paper submission due: 30 December 2012

Acceptance notification: 30 May 2013

Publication: 30 August 2013

Editors for the special issue:

[Bin Jiang](#), Department of Technology and Built Environment, Division of Geomatics, University of Gävle, Sweden

[Jean-Claude Thill](#), Department of Geography and Earth Sciences, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, USA

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

Countries are defined by the lines that divide them. But how are those lines decided — and why are some of them so strange? Borderlines explores the stories behind the global map, one line at a time.

by Frank Jacobs

Frank Jacobs is a London-based author and blogger. He writes about cartography, but only the interesting bits. His other blog is [Strange Maps](#)

[Thematic Mapping blog](#)

Terrain mapping with Mapnik

Blog of [Ragnvald Larsen, geographer](#)

Geographer working with maps at the Norwegian Directorate for Nature Management. Part of his job is to contribute to development aid projects.

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

[Thoughts on the Geospatial industry, Open Standards and Open Source](#) Cameron Shorter's blog

[New Zealand - SDI Cookbook Chapter 6 – Government and Industry, moving forward.](#)

[Carnival Of The Geospatialists #3 - Musings and Down-Right Cool Things Shared by the Geo Faithful](#)

[Open Planet 5, the magazine published for the International gvSIG Conference is now available in electronic format](#)

[SDI Magazine](#)

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

The December 2012 issue has been published

[LiDAR News, Vol 2, No 19](#) (September 2012 Newsletter)

[LiDAR News magazine](#) (Vol 2, No 5, Fall 2012)

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

[Coordinates](#) monthly magazine - **PDF** (June 2012)

[SERVIR-Africa community news](#)

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

[National Geographic website](#)

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

[Professional Surveyor](#) magazine

[The American Surveyor](#) newsletter (November 28)

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

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Just for Fun!



[‘Curiosity’ takes own self-portrait – sends it home](#)

One of the latest Curiosity images posted by NASA is a stunning self-portrait made up of 55 high-res images taken by the rover's Mars Hand Lens Imager. The base of Mount Sharp serves as a dramatic backdrop, swooping up toward the right, and in front of the rover, you can see four hand-size holes in the ground where Curiosity gathered scoops of martian dirt for analysis. "Self-portraits like this one document the state of the rover and allow mission engineers to track changes over time, such as dust accumulation and wheel wear," NASA says on its Web site. Source: Scientific American

[The Geography of Scientific Funding – United States](#)

Scientific funding (in the form of grant money) is both a measure of input as well as a measure of research success: successful research begets more funding. But the data are both rare and incomplete.

Recently, we attempted to make a small dent in this problem. The National Science Foundation compiles federal R&D spending from all governmental agencies, but unfortunately they only have data at the state-level, which is not granular enough for our purposes. And looking at many other individual agencies proves just as ineffectual for determining metropolitan spending.

Fortunately, the National Institutes of Health bucks this trend; the NIH in fact keeps incredibly detailed records of their grant-making. This is especially useful because, of the approximately \$130 billion spent by the federal government on R&D every year, the NIH accounts for approximately \$34 billion (a percentage of the total topped only by the Department of Defense, which keeps the least informative, least specific, and least reliable numbers of any agency). So, while we can't get a complete picture of federal R&D spending at the sub-state level, we believe that the NIH data represents the best portrait currently available.

Source: The Atlantic "Cities"



[Stiltsville: a Curious Collection of 7 Houses a Mile Off the Florida Coast](#)



Biscayne Bay is home to the cities of Miami and Miami Beach, the Port of Miami (from which one in every seven cruise passengers in the world departs), a 172,000 acre National Park that includes the NPS's only underwater archaeological trail, and more than a dozen islands, many of which are artificial.

It is also the site of a curious collection of stilt houses, perched on sand flats a mile offshore from the Cape Florida lighthouse.

Source: [Venue.com](#) and [The Atlantic](#)

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BENEATH THE STREETS: WHEELS

Every day and night, beneath the streets of San Francisco, huge wheels turn, pulling cable cars to their far-flung destinations and back again, as if weaving them across the city in loops.

Source: Venue.com

South Pacific Sandy Island 'proven not to exist'



A South Pacific island, shown on marine charts and world maps as well as on Google Earth and Google Maps, does not exist, Australian scientists say.

The supposedly sizeable strip of land, named Sandy Island on Google maps, was positioned midway between Australia and French-governed New Caledonia.

But when scientists from the University of Sydney went to the area, they found only the blue ocean of the Coral Sea.

The phantom island has featured in publications for at least a decade.

... A spokesman from the service told Australian newspapers that while some map makers intentionally include phantom streets to prevent copyright infringements, that was not usually the case with nautical charts because it would reduce confidence in them.

... The BBC's Duncan Kennedy in Sydney says that while most explorers dream of discovering uncharted territory, the Australian team appears to have done the opposite - and cartographers everywhere are now rushing to undiscover Sandy Island forever.

Source: BBC News

Theatre of the ABSURD: Pakistan outlaws civilian mapping

The Ministry of Defence is about to declare mapping illegal in Pakistan. The federal cabinet, Pakistan's foremost civilian authority, is willingly giving up a civic task to agencies that report to Pakistan's Armed Forces.

The proposed Land Surveying and Mapping Bill 2012 will entrust all mapping responsibilities in Pakistan to the Survey of Pakistan (SoP), which supposedly reports to the Ministry of Defence (MoD), but effectively takes its orders and cues from the General Head Quarters.

... The proposed Bill will require all government or private agencies involved in surveying and mapping to register themselves with the SoP. Failing to do so will result in one-year imprisonment and a fine of up to one million rupees. The Bill further threatens imprisonment and fines up to five million rupees to office bearers of firms who do not comply with the directives of the SoP. The Bill will restrict mapping responsibilities to the SoP in the public sector, thus eroding decades of development work in geo-spatial analytics by several provincial government and municipal authorities.

Source: Dawn.com blog

Free Topo Map Gift Wrap from the USGS

A fun, green solution from the USGS lets you wrap up your holiday goodies in a map! To promote the reuse of the colorful but space-consuming outdated topographic maps, the USGS-CGS maps office is giving them away for use as gift wrap. With their shades of green for forests, cities etched in red, and blue waterways, many of the maps are arrayed in holiday colors, and their large size, 24" by 30" offers a generous wrap for most holiday packages. The free maps will be available for pickup in person only, in limited quantities, through December 24th. Holiday shoppers can pick up free gift wrap now from the U.S. Geological Survey and California Geological Survey's Maps and Publications Sales Office at our new location on the Menlo Park campus.

Source: GISUser blog

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Training Opportunities

free GNSS Remote Sensing workshop, Sydney

At the UNSW Australian Centre for Space Engineering Research and the School of Surveying and Geospatial Engineering we are interested in positioning for all sorts of applications; traditionally to locate and re-locate historical land boundaries, for large engineering infrastructure development, to control mining operations, for

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undersea floor location and oil and gas exploration. In the last 20 years, satellite positioning has revolutionised the way surveyors and spatial information professionals provide position.

Hear about where remote sensing is going at this free Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) Remote Sensing (RS) workshop.

When: Wednesday, 5th December 2012

Where: M17 Lecture Theatre, UNSW Kensington, Sydney, Australia

Costs: Free to attend

Thanks to Ross Johnson for bringing this to our attention

[Course Spotlight: Master of Spatial Information Science](#)

The University of Melbourne [Course Spotlight: Master of Spatial Information Science](#)

Spatial information is an essential and indispensable part of any economy's infrastructure. It is needed in all walks of life and on many scales, with applications in land tenure systems, environmental modelling, food production, disaster management, climate change modelling, engineering, architecture and urban planning. Current industry shortfalls in spatial information practitioners combined with a growing demand in Australia and internationally, ensure graduates a range of well-paid job opportunities.

Find out more about the [Master of Spatial Information Science](#), as well as our [scholarship opportunities](#).

[Learn to Use HTML5 with Esri ArcGIS](#)

Get a brief introduction to HTML5 and learn how to use HTML5 technologies with the ArcGIS API for JavaScript and ArcGIS Online.

Source: GIS User and [ESRI](#)

[Large-Scale 3D Laser Scanning: The Complete Process](#)

Don't worry if you missed the live webinar, "Large-Scale 3D Laser Scanning: The Complete Process". It's now available online for you to watch any time!

[e-Learning for the Open Geospatial Community](#)

We are pleased to inform that the course repository for the ELOGeo (An e-Learning Framework for Using Geospatial Open Data, Open Source and Open Standards) project is ready.

ELOGeo is a JISC-funded project based at the Centre for Geospatial Science, the University of Nottingham in partnership with the Mimas Centre of Excellence at the University of Manchester. ELOGeo main collaborators are Open Source Geospatial Foundation, Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC), Ordnance Survey, Open Nottingham, International Cartographic Association (ICA) and gvSIG Association.

[More details of ELOGeo](#).

[gvSIG Training platform opens with a first course for gvSIG users](#)

The gvSIG Association tries to increase its learning offer through online courses, publishing a new learning platform: gvSIG Training. In parallel, the gvSIG Association launches its official certification program.

It's a step forward in the training processes in free geomatic, creating an online training centre, that contributes to the spreading as well as to the sustainability of the gvSIG project. Training without geographic barriers, and with the best professionals.

In this platform, you will find courses in several languages to learn to use the different applications of the gvSIG project, in a user level as well as in a developer one. The courses list will be extended gradually with different gvSIG and free geomatic specialization courses (databases, map servers...), with the objective of covering the different needs of the Community.

The courses offered by gvSIG Training are part of the training routes that are required to obtain the gvSIG official certification.

For further information:

- gvSIG Training: <<http://gvSIG-training.com/>>

- gvSIG Certifications: <<http://www.gvsig.com/services/certification>>

[GIS Courses by Distance Education](#)

[NSW Riverina Tafe](#)

The courses listed below are all full Geographic Information Systems courses which can be studied over a number of semesters by distance study pathways.

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[Certificate III in Spatial Information Services \(GIS\)](#)

[Certificate IV in Spatial Information Services \(GIS\)](#)

[Diploma of Spatial Information Services \(GIS\)](#)

Source: [NSW River](#)

[Participatory Spatial Information Management and Communication Training Kit now available on-line](#)

Co-published by CTA and IFAD in English and Spanish, the Training Kit is a unique product that can be tailored to meet user needs, ensuring that employees get the best training available on Participatory Spatial Information Management and Communication.

The online version was launched at the beginning of March 2011. The DVD version was launched in December 2010. The Training Kit contains 15 Modules, each presented through a series of Units. Modules cover the entire spectrum of good developmental practice – from mobilising communities to developing a communication strategy based on the outcome of participatory mapping activities. The Modules touch on topics such as the fundamentals of training, ethics and community groundwork and processes as well as the more technical low-, mid- and high-tech participatory mapping methods.

Users decide what they want to cover and when. The product has been developed using the Multimedia Training Kit (MMTK) approach – which allows you to pick and choose those Modules, Units and components that best suit your particular requirements and develop a curriculum to suit your specific needs.

Publishers: Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Co-operation ACP-EU (CTA), Wageningen, The Netherlands and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Rome, Italy

Source: [The Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation](#)

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Funding Opportunities, Awards, Grants

[Ideas Challenge](#)

The Ideas Challenge is at the core of the GMES Masters competition. It invites students, entrepreneurs, start-up companies and SMEs to submit their ideas for an innovative commercial use of GMES to a secure online database on the GMES Masters website. The best idea for a commercially viable business idea using GMES data will be rewarded. The winner will be rewarded with a cash prize of EUR 10,000 as well as the chance to get his idea further developed in one of the six ESA Business Incubation Centres (BICs). The incubation package has a value of up to EUR 60,000.

[ESA App Challenge](#)

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

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

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

[DLR Environmental Challenge](#)

DLR is looking for new applications in Earth observation, especially proposals addressing the mapping of the environment and climate. Ideas for using Earth observation to manage sustainable supplies of energy are also welcome. In addition to any kind of non-satellite geoinformation, proposals should be based on existing or imminent Earth observation satellite data that is available either for free or under commercial terms. The product or service generated from the idea should support either professionals from organisations and companies in environmental assessment, or the general public and consumer-oriented markets. Both regional and global

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applications and services are possible. Innovative ways to link the service with users are especially encouraged. The ideas should also describe a realistic scenario for their implementation involving either the general public or commercial benefits. The winner(s) will receive a voucher for a workshop or initial coaching according to what further realisation of the idea requires.

[Best Service Challenge](#)

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

[T-Systems Cloud Computing Challenge](#)

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

[Challenge to spur the geospatial industry](#)

The Singapore Land Authority has launched OneMap Challenge that seeks to promote the development of innovative map-based desktop and mobile applications by businesses and the community.

The OneMap Challenge provides a platform for application developers to showcase their creativity through the apps they develop to an increasingly tech-savvy population and enterprises, including those represented by the Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (ASME) which is one of the competition promotion partners. The Challenge also aims to facilitate collaborations between potential business partners for creating location-based apps that are useful for business enterprises and the general community.

With two top prizes of \$20,000 cash each and other attractive prizes up for grabs, the OneMap Challenge is divided into two categories – Web Applications for applications that run on web browsers and Mobile Applications for those that run on smart phones, tablets and other portable devices.

Visit <http://www.sla.gov.sg/OneMapChallenge> to learn more about OneMap Challenge and check out the OneMap Facebook page at www.facebook.com/OneMap.

Source: Geospatial World and [SLA press release](#)

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Employment Opportunities



[THE Dream Job! Lego Needs a Master Builder](#)

Do you have mad engineering and building skills? Do you like sitting around and building Lego creations all day? Well, this just might be your shot at a dream job as Lego Florida is looking for a master builder! Essential job responsibilities include envisioning, designing and building stuff. Final Candidates will be invited to the park December 1 and 2 to participate in a series of skills tests. The new Master Model Builder will be expected

to report for duty January 1 – [See details of the job posting HERE](#) – good luck!

Source: AnyGEO blog

['Surveyors are getting lucrative offers in Vietnam'](#)

Viet Nam government is investing approximately USD 60 million in cadastral mapping. Prof. Dr. Dang Hung Vo explains what it means for surveyors.

Source: Geospatial Wworld

[GIS Job Board Launches New Website: \[www.gisjobboard.com\]\(http://www.gisjobboard.com\)](#)

New Site Provides Employers and Job Seekers Tools to Post and Search Jobs and Resumes in the GIS and Geospatial Disciplines

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GIS Job Board has launched a new website specifically dedicated to GIS and other geospatial disciplines. The new site makes it simple for employers and job seekers to post and search for jobs and resumes. The site was created to serve the growing needs of the GIS community and help with recruiting and job seeking efforts. Visitors also have the option to view the site in a different language if they choose, making it easier for them to have access to the content

Registered users can receive jobs or resumes by email. They can also flag jobs and resumes as well as save searches, setup resume alerts, and save resumes and jobs. Users have the capability of private messaging other users in case they ever want to communicate with someone.

For more information about GIS Job Board, please visit their website at www.gisjobboard.com

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Conference Proceedings

[GISSA Ukubuzana 2012 Conference Proceedings](#)

Almost 600 delegates and 66 exhibitors attended the Geo-Information Society of South Africa ([GISSA](#)) Ukubuzana 2012 conference which was held at Emperors Palace from 2 to 4 October 2012 in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Some 60 peer-reviewed academic papers, general papers, short papers and poster papers were presented at GISSA Ukubuzana 2012. A particular hit with the delegates were the local government, demographic and mobile streams.

[Documentation: 19th United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific](#)

The 19th United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (UNRCC-AP) was held in Bangkok, Thailand from 29 October to 1 November 2012. Documentation from the event is available online. The Permanent Committee on GIS for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP) decided to rename itself UNGGIM-AP.

[The 4th Digital Earth Summit Concludes in Wellington, New Zealand](#)

The fourth bi-annual Digital Earth Summit was held in Wellington, New Zealand from Sept. 2-4, as one in a series of summits organized by the International Society for Digital Earth (ISDE). The summit with the theme "Digital Earth and Technology" was co-hosted by Wellington City Council and Land Information New Zealand. There were three streams that included the digital environment, resilient cities, and growing up digital. There were 15 keynote speeches and 75 presentations, attracting around 200 delegates from more than 20 countries.

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Conferences, Events

For upcoming events of global or major international interest, please visit the [upcoming conference list](#) on the GSDI website – as this conference list will be reserved for conferences within or with specific interest to the Asia Pacific Region.

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

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

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

Date	Location	Event
December 2012		
2 - 7 December "NEW"	Hobart, Australia	Tasmania - Joint ASSSI and NZSSS Soil Science Conference Contact : http://www.soilscience2012.com/
4 - 5 December	Salzburg, Austria	Austria - European LiDAR Mapping Forum

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“NEW”		Contact : http://www.lidarmap.org/ELMF/
8-12 December	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	<p>ISOTC211 Plenary and Working Group meeting 2012 Last date for abstract submission: <u>14 October 2012</u> ISO/Technical Committee 211 Geographic information/Geomatics is responsible for the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) geographic information series of standards. These standards may specify, for geographic information, methods, tools and services for data management (including definition and description), acquiring, processing, analyzing, accessing, presenting and transferring such data in digital/electronic form between different users, systems and locations.</p> <p>The ISOTC211 Plenary and WG meeting will include a workshop for three days (8-10 December 2012). This workshop will give opportunities for geospatial users, policy-makers, technology providers, researchers, academicians and students, to present their case studies, research work and technical papers to wider audience in the region. To draw maximum benefit out of this opportunity, the organizers invite you to participate actively in this conference and submit abstracts on the following themes:</p> <p>First Day Topics: Challenges in creating a unified national framework data sets Geospatial framework for the coastal zone Geospatial data modeling specifications Geo Portals and registries for geospatial data Geospatial data management and sharing policies Data acquisition sensors (LiDAR, Digital cameras, GPS and INS)</p> <p>Second Day Topics: Open Source GI application use cases: Government, Participatory GIS, Location based services, Health, Energy, Water, Climate change etc... NSDI (NCGIS) Implementation: Legislative measures, coordination and organizational models, data policy and the currency of the data eGovernment initiatives - Integration of geospatial services into e-services Capacity building and skill requirements for geospatial environment Education and awareness raising Universities participation on innovation and research</p> <p>Third Day Topics: (Standards in Action). The third day will be devoted for standards in action, which will include the following subjects: Geospatial data producers Geospatial Data Users NSDI (National Spatial Data Infrastructure) Towards sustain SDI strategy</p>
9-10 December	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	<p>Asia Oceania Regional Workshop on GNSS</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Contact</p>
11-14 December	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	<p>19th Session of the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSF-19) Theme: Enriching the quality of life through innovative space programs. Contact: aprsaf19@aprsaf.org...or FAX:+81-3-6266-6908</p>
January 2013		
22-24 January	Hyderabad, India	<p>India Geospatial Forum 2013 Highlighting the growing economic power like India and its significant plans impacting within and even globally, India Geospatial Forum – one of the premier geospatial events, represents an arena of Indian technological and economical</p>
“NEW”		

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		<p>advancements. Designed quite in line with the upcoming 12th five year plan along with distinct focus on mission mode projects and upcoming technological advancements, the forum shall present a sound structure demonstrating the potential of geospatial technologies to achieve a progressive and sustained economical growth. India Geospatial Forum 2013, shall bring the spectrum of visionaries of geospatial community along with technology providers, array of users, policy makers and academicians, to a single platform and benefit them by providing opportunities for discussion, deliberation and knowledge sharing. Revolving around the theme “Towards Geospatial Enabled Economy”, the programme is structured and to cater to the decision makers, policy makers from various agencies that are involved in national development plans.</p>
February 2013		
11-3 February	Denver, USA	<p>International LiDAR Mapping Forum (ILMF) Call for Papers and invites any interested parties to submit their abstracts by September 28, 2012 online. Contact</p>
March 2013		
18-9 March	Singapore	<p>1st Annual International Conference on ACE: Call For Papers 2013 IMPORTANT DATES Full Paper Submission Deadline:23rd November 2012 Author Notification:7th December 2012 Final Paper (Camera-Ready) Submission Deadline:31st December 2012 Early Bird Registration Deadline:18th January 2013 Late Registration Deadline:13th February Contact</p>
25-7 March	Amman, Jordan	<p>Spatial Data infrastructures Middle East, 2013 In the Middle East the development of geographic information systems and their function has been rapid. Governments have over the past decade realised the need to be able to access and use the vast amounts of data collected on a daily basis. Whilst individual departments or agencies possess the tools to analyse, utilise and disseminate information this can leave gaps at a governmental or even national level. Benefits of attending the Spatial Data Infrastructure Middle East Conference, organized with the support of Royal Jordanian Geographic Center: - Explore Geographic Information Systems and how your specific organisation can benefit from a unified and achievable plan - Discuss future SDI development plans with senior Government decision makers - Discover end-users GIS and geospatial requirements and solutions being considered - Find out the challenges faced in building an SDI and how to overcome them - Hear about how government department interoperability can be improved through the development of an SDI - Learn about the latest technologies available and which is the best fit for your SDI plans</p>
April 2013		
15-9 April	Canberra, Australia	<p>Surveying & Spatial Sciences Conference 2013 <i>Call for Papers extended to 6 October 2012</i></p> 
22-26 April	Beijing, China	<p>35th International Symposium on Remote Sensing of</p>

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		<p><u>Environment (ISRSE35)</u> <i>The papers included in the 35th International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment proceedings will be published by IOP Publishing Ltd., UK. The proceedings are available through the IOP Conference Series: Earth and Environmental Science. All published papers will be indexed by EI Compendex. Authors interested in the themes and topics of ISRSE35 are welcome to submit their original manuscripts. Submissions to ISRSE35 will be peer-reviewed to ensure high-quality scientific content and well-written English, in accordance with the Peer Review Policy for the IOP Conference Series.</i></p> <p>ABSTRACT SUBMISSION Interested contributors should submit a summary of the paper they propose for presentation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All submissions should be in English. • Abstracts should reach the Technical Programme Committee no later than 30 September 2012. • Notification of paper acceptance will be made by 10 December 2012. • Each presenting author will be required to register and pay by the author registration deadline on Monday, 25 February 2013, to ensure their abstract is included in the final programme. • Please submit abstracts through the Abstract Submission link at http://www.isrse35.org • All abstracts must be submitted online. <p>IMPORTANT DATES: Registration Opens: Monday, 10 September 2012 Abstract Submission Deadline: Sunday, 30 September 2012 Workshop Submission Deadline: Tuesday, 30 October 2012 Acceptance Notification Monday, 10 December 2012 Early-bird Registration Deadline: Friday, 25 January 2013 Final Paper Deadline: Friday, 15 February 2013 Author Registration Deadline: Monday, 25 February 2013 Standard Registration Deadline Monday, 15 April 2013 Contact detail: ISRSE35 Secretariat E-Mail: isrse35@ceode.ac.cn Tel: +86 10 8217 8969 Fax: +86 10 8217 8968 Website: www.isrse35.org Address: Center for Earth Observation and Digital Earth, CAS No. 9 Dengzhuang South Road, Haidian District, Beijing 100094, P.R. China</p>
24 - 26 April “NEW”	Novosibirsk, Russia	<p><u>Siberia - Interexpo GEO-Siberia 2013</u> IX International exhibition and scientific congress “Interexpo GEO-Siberia-2013” -“Advanced Geospatial and Surveying Technologies for Environmental Management and Sustainable Development” Contact : http://www.ssga.ru/main/news/view/428/1/5555.html</p>
25 - 26 April “NEW”	Singapore	<p><u>First Asia Pacific 3D Documentation Conference</u> Connecting 3D Communities</p>
May 2013		
1 – 3 May “NEW”	Tainan, Taiwan	<p><u>8th International Symposium on Mobile Mapping Technology (MMT 2013)</u> MMT is an academic conference officially recognized by International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing MMT 2013 Symposium: 1st May-3rd May, 2013 MMT 2013 Summer School: 29th-30th April, 2013 Contact : http://conf.ncku.edu.tw/mmt2013/index.htm</p>

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6-10 May	Abuja, Nigeria	<p>The FIG Working Week</p> <p>The Working Week will bring surveyors and land professionals from all over the world together to meet while specific focus will be given to Africa. The conference is organised jointly by FIG and the Nigerian Institution of Surveyors, NIS, one of the three FIG member associations in Nigeria.</p>						
13-6 May	Rotterdam, The Netherlands	<p>Geospatial World Forum is a conference cum exhibition which has always invoked the geospatial community with its relevant and thought-provoking themes. This year, the conference which is scheduled from 13-16 May 2013 at Beurs World Trade Center, Rotterdam, The Netherlands aims at increasing our understanding of the concept of Monetising the value added by geospatial industry so far with its theme "Monetising Geospatial Value and Practices".</p> <p>Please submit your abstracts. For queries.</p> <p>Important Dates -</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="639 797 1414 958"> <tr> <td>Abstract Submission</td> <td>15 October 2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Abstract Acceptance/Non Acceptance Notification</td> <td>04 November 2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Speaker Registration</td> <td>15 December 2012</td> </tr> </table>	Abstract Submission	15 October 2012	Abstract Acceptance/Non Acceptance Notification	04 November 2012	Speaker Registration	15 December 2012
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June 2013								
24 – 27 June "NEW"	Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam	<p>Eighth International Conference on "Geographical Analysis, Urban Modeling, Spatial Statistics" GEOG-AND-MOD 13</p> <p>in conjunction with</p> <p>The 2013 International Conference on Computational Science and its Applications (ICCSA 2013)</p> <p>Submission - papers should be submitted at: http://ess.iccsa.org/ [please don't forget to select "Geographical Analysis, Urban Modeling, Spatial Statistics GEOG-AND-MOD 13" workshop from the drop-down list of all workshops.]</p> <p>Important dates</p> <p>31 January 2013: Deadline for full paper submission 10 March 2013: Notification of acceptance 6 April 2013: Deadline for Camera Ready Papers June 24-27, 2013: ICCSA 2013 Conference</p>						
July 2013								
2 – 5 July "NEW"	Salzburg, Austria	<p>GI Forum 2013 – Creating the GISociety</p> <p>The international GI Forum attracts an interdisciplinary audience interested in discussing progress and new ideas in GIScience. The GI_Forum communicates innovative research and learning in Geographic Information Science with focus on hardware, software, orgware and brainware for the GISociety, and their inter-relationships. Young researchers are especially invited to contribute and discuss their research. Together with recognized scientists they will find a vibrant community from academia, business, and education ready to embrace new ideas and explore new research directions. GI Forum runs concurrently with the highly regarded German language conference on Applied Geoinformatics – AGIT. The two symposia share some 1200 participants, the innovative AGIT EXPO exhibit and stimulating social events.</p> <p>Submission deadline February 1, 2013. Contact.</p>						
16 – 18 July "NEW"	Gold Coast, Australia	<p>IGNSS 2013</p> <p>The International Global Navigation Satellite Systems (IGNSS) Society Inc. is pleased to announce IGNSS 2013</p>						

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		<p>Closing Date for Submission of Abstracts: Monday 4th February, 2013: Information regarding on line submission of abstracts and abstract templates will be updated in due course on the IGNSS Society website .</p> <p>Submission of Peer Reviewed and Non Peer Reviewed Papers: Information regarding On Line Submission of Peer Reviewed and Non Peer Reviewed Papers will be updated in due course on the IGNSS Society website (Click here).</p> <p>IGNSS Free Membership: There is no fee to register for Membership of the IGNSS Society. Complete the On Line Membership Form . Benefits of Membership include reduced Symposium Registration Fees.</p> <p>Contact : http://www.ignss.org/</p>
21 – 26 July "NEW"	Melbourne, Australia	<p>IEEE International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium (IGARSS) On behalf of the IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society and the IGARSS 2013 Local Organising Committee, we are delighted to invite you to Melbourne, Australia for IGARSS 2013. We are looking forward to welcoming leading scientists, engineers and educators from the diverse disciplines that make up the Geoscience and Remote Sensing community. We also hope to attract new delegates from the Asia-Pacific and Oceania regions. We will be offering a world class technical program encompassing traditional IGARSS topics and new topics reflecting the theme of the 2013 Conference, "Building a Sustainable Earth through Remote Sensing". This theme was selected to emphasize the issues that most affect the Earth's environment, and the human impact on the planet. We welcome both seasoned and new delegates to Melbourne in July 2013.</p>
August 2013		
26-29 August	Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia	<p>The 8th International Symposium on Digital Earth (ISDE8) with the theme of "Transforming Knowledge into Sustainable Practice" will be held in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia. Abstract Guidelines for authors. DEADLINE: 2 February 2013</p>
September 2013		
24-26 September "NEW"	Kuala Lumpur	<p>Asia Geospatial Forum 2013 Contact</p>
November 2013		
4-8 November	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	<p>GSDI 14 and AfricaGIS 2013: The GSDI Association, EIS-Africa, the International Geospatial Society, and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) are pleased to announce a close partnership in offering the joint GSDI 14 World Conference and AfricaGIS 2013 Conference. The theme of the conference is Spatially Enabling Africa in Support of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction.</p>
2014		
	Malaysia	<p>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.</p>

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