

Spatial Data Infrastructure – Asia and the Pacific (SDI-AP) is a free electronic newsletter from the [Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association \(GSDI\)](#). 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 the synchronisation of 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. 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 to, and access archives of, thematic or regional discussion lists [please visit](#).

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Message from the editor

Welcome to the September edition of the newsletter. In this edition the SDI Spotlight feature (contributed by Editor Serryn Eagleson) is a Melbourne study into sustainable development along transport corridors. The study involves integrating and analyzing data from a number of sources in order to assess the opportunity for strategic residential and employment intensification along public transport corridors.

Also it is important to note that The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association has announced its Small Grants Program for the year 2009-10. Further information on the awards program is available from [here](#). The successful proposals for the 2008 awards are listed under "SDI News &c".

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:

Paul Box, Kate Lance, and Baek Wonkug for news feeds, the staff of the Ministry of the Interior, Taiwan for the Chinese translation, and Shivani Lal, *GIS Development, Asia Surveying Mapping Magazine* for directly feeding into the newsletter.

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SDI News, Links, Papers, Presentations**Indonesia's National SDI**

The first moves toward a fully integrated national spatial data infrastructure in Indonesia have been taken. A tender will likely be released in October asking for expressions of interest in building the system. The project is due for completion in 2013.

Speaking on the sidelines of the 2009 South East Asian Survey Congress (SEASC, 3-7 August) in Bali, Areief – the head of the networking development division of the Indonesian land agency, Bakosurtanal – said the project had three elements: data acquisition over Sumatera, an SDI networking system and an applications development system.

Source: [Asia Surveying and Mapping Magazine](#)

OGC Korea Forum Established, First Meeting Announced

The Korea Forum of the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC®) is a Korean organization chartered to provide government, academic, research and industry organizations in Korea with opportunities to learn about and discuss issues related to interoperability of geographic information involving OGC standards. The Forum seeks to promote interoperability and create synergy between the various producers and users of geographic information and geomatics products and services in Korea. The Forum also provides a way for Korean organizations to coordinate their efforts to ensure that Korean requirements are addressed by the international standards of the OGC.

Source: <http://www.opengeospatial.org/pressroom/pressreleases/1079>

The OGC® Announces Learning Resources for Geospatial Standards

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC®) announces an important new set of public resources for learning about, developing and implementing interoperable geospatial capabilities. The OGCNetwork ["Learn" page](#) offers links below

- * Courses, journals, and professional papers
- * Compliance testing information
- * Discussion forums
- * Email discussion lists
- * OGC policy guidance on Lat/Lon axis order
- * OGC standards document catalog
- * OGC Interoperability Days event information
- * Tutorials on developing implementations of OGC standards
- * Articles
- * Conference presentations by OGC staff and members
- * Document motions from OGC meetings
- * Links to videos

The OGC Learn page is interactive. Users are encouraged to post updates using the comment feature.

SOURCE: OGC & Wonkug Baek

Singapore to build up national spatial data

Over the next five years, Singapore will spend 27 million Singapore dollars (18.88 million US dollars) to build the infrastructure and develop the collaborative environment for sharing of national spatial data.

Source: [World Global Times – Asia Pacific](#)

Further information on the project including the kinds of geographical information to be made available is reported in [GIS Development](#) & The Straits Times

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Spatial Infrastructure for a Competitive Economy

This blog outlines the important contribution of spatial information to the major contributors to Australia's GDP: agriculture, mining and construction.

Source: [Martin Nix](#)

Full-Service Delivery of Geospatial Data Gains Steam

This article provides an overview of the user demands for spatial data. As spatial customers have become accustomed to applications such as Google Earth they now expect the same service from local government and other providers of spatial data. They want to be able to view data online, choose the formats they need and download the files. This article discusses further focuses on Safe Software's FME software and provides examples of how it can be used to meet various user demands.

Source: [Government Technology](#)

Advanced 3D modelling tool wins for mitigating enviro risk in China

NGIS China was announced as the winner of the Innovation and Commercialisation category at the West Australian Spatial Excellence awards last week, for creating a 3D environmental assessment tool for leading Chinese engineering company, CISDI. The advanced planning tool integrates environmental modeling with 3D and spatial technologies to assess the potential social and environmental impacts of major construction projects in the densely populated region of Chongqing.

More details of 3DSee can be viewed [here](#).

Source: GIS Lounge

Maps to help manage climate change (Vietnam)

Sets of climate change adaptation maps for three areas in Mekong Delta's Can Tho City are being created by the end of the month. The Can Tho Steering Committee for Climate Change recently made the decision to create the maps in order to identify areas which will be impacted the most by climate change and minimise the consequences of natural disasters.

Source: [GIS News](#) and Vietnam News Agency

2009 ESRI International User Conference Proceedings

One can view the plenary presentations, download most of the technical workshop presentations, view technical keynotes and read papers and presentations from many of the user presentations.

The following papers discussed geospatial research/activity in Africa:

[Electoral Mapping of Polling Stations in Côte d'Ivoire](#)

[Land-Use Planning in the Maringa-Lopori-Wamba Landscape, DRC](#)

[Terrain Analysis Support of Groundwater Assessment for Peacekeeping Camps](#)

[USGS 2008–2018 African Remote Sensing Study Results](#)

[Web-GIS for Managing Agroforestry for Carbon Sequestration in East-Africa](#)

Source: Kate Lance

\$180 million dedicated to the Australian CRCSI-2

Key Australian industries will gain access to new data, technologies and services through the \$40 million funding to the [Cooperative Research Centre for Spatial Information](#) (CRCSI-2)

Source: Kate Lance & Roger Longhorn & GeoConnection

3D topographic lunar map by September

China will complete a 3D topographic map of the moon by the end of September, according to a chief designer with the project, calling the map the "clearest" in the world.

Source: [GIS News](#) & [ChinaView](#)

Indonesia's National SDI: SEASC Report

The first moves toward a fully integrated national spatial data infrastructure in Indonesia have been taken. A tender will likely be released in October asking for expressions of interest in building the system. The project is due for completion in 2013.

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#)

[New technology helps identify right location for trees Peter Matic](#)

The Brisbane City Council has become the first local government in Australia to use satellite technology to target where trees should be planted to shade the city.

The technology allows council to pinpoint the hottest spots of the city down to individual streets.

More than 10,000 street trees will shade the city's hottest streets, parks and bikeways over the next 12 months, based on maps generated from heat and cool-spot technology.

The project is part of Lord Mayor Campbell Newman's 2 Million Trees project, which in turn supports the target to restore 40 per cent of Brisbane to bush cover by 2026.

Source: [Northside Chronicle](#) & [Directions Magazine](#)

[Satellite image analysis points to new graves, shelling, and human displacement in Sri Lanka](#)

A detailed AAAS assessment of high-resolution satellite images seems to confirm descriptions of intense fighting within Sri Lanka's "no-fire zone" revealing a landscape scarred by freshly dug graves and artillery explosions.

Source: Kate Lance

[Karnataka Disaster Management Portal](#)

The Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre in India is building a 'disaster portal' that will provide real-time estimates of drought, rainfall, crop status, earthquake monitors and other parameters. Centre director V. Prakash says it is the first time the centre is using GIS to ingest, model and disseminate disaster-related data.

Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping

[Victorian Bushfires Enquiry – Interim Report](#)

See also [The Age newspaper](#)

Among the report's recommendations are:

The State ensure that a single, multi-agency portal for bushfire information be established that uploads information simultaneously to both CFA and DSE websites.

&

The State ensure that the single multi-agency portal for bushfire information be designed to allow Incident Control Centres to directly post information and warnings.

Source: Rohan Bennett

[See also](#)

[Editorial Comment: Given the widespread "wildfires" in southern Europe, California and Canada in the Northern Hemisphere this report should be of wide interest outside Victoria.]

[Kerry Stokes to lend rare charts to the National Library of Australia](#)

Visitors to the National Library of Australia will have the opportunity to view four rare Dutch navigational charts, thanks to a generous loan from businessman Mr Kerry Stokes, Arts Minister Mr Peter Garrett said today.

The charts, circa 1725–1740, were issued with other charts and instruments to voyages bound for the East Indies. Two of them show part of Western Australia.

Source: [Australian Government press release](#)

[WELCOME to ASEAN Flag](#)

The ASEAN Federation of Land Surveying and Geomatics (ASEAN Flag) published the first issue of its newsletter this month, coinciding with the 10th South East Asia Survey Congress (SEASC 2009, 4-7 August) in Bali. ASEAN Flag has also revamped its interactive website.

Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping

[Comparing Regional CORS: Map Asia Report](#)

Chief surveyors from Malaysia, Singapore and Hong Kong compared their country's regional positioning networks at Map Asia 2009 (18-20 August) in Singapore. SIRENT in Singapore, the Hong Kong Satellite Positioning Station Network and MyRTKnet in Malaysia all consist of continuously operating reference station networks.

Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping

[Celebrate World Space Week 2009 \(this item is also listed under \[Funding opportunities &c\]\(#\)\)](#)

UN-declared World Space Week, October 4-10 annually, is the largest public space event on Earth and the best time each year for teachers to use space to excite students about learning. During World Space Week, you are encouraged to use space-themed activities, such as those from www.worldspaceweek.org/education, NASA,

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and other sources. To show how your classroom is part of this global celebration, please register at www.worldspaceweek.org/new_event.php

To recognize creative use of space to inspire students, World Space Week Association will recognize several participating teachers with \$500 grants this year. For further information, contact: Jim Volp, Director Educational Relations, World Space Week Association, jvolp@worldspaceweek.org

Satellite technology to locate and control weeds

Queensland scientists are using satellite technology to pinpoint the locations of some of the most invasive weeds, including prickly acacia, cactus and rubber vine.

Source: [GIS News](#) & *North Queensland Register*

2008 GSDI SMALL GRANT AWARDS

The GSDI put out a call for proposals resulting in 45 responses of which 32 were deemed responsive. These 32 were distributed to the regions for review and recommendations. The committee of Carmelle Terborgh, Mark Salling (GISCorps), and Alan Stevens then reviewed the regional recommendations and recommended the following as the winning proposals for 2008:

Africa

1. **Africa - Southern and Eastern African Region (7 Nations-7 proposals)**, Convening 2-day national workshops and hands-on training leading to developing of the coastal and marine Spatial Data Infrastructure in 7 nations on data quality assessment, data uploading and metadata development
 - a. **Proposing:** To convene 2-day unified 7 intra-national workshops and hands-on training on development of the coastal and marine Spatial Data Infrastructure for data quality assessment, data uploading and metadata development for the nations or Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Tanzania
2. **Rwanda** – Spatial data inventory and metadata management at the GIS and Remote Sensing Centre of the National University of Rwanda (CGIS-NUR)
 - a. **Proposing:** To inventory metadata representing the spatial data holdings of CGIS-NUR, and establish a sample web mapping service uploading the gathered information to a Geo-portal

Americas

1. **Caribbean** – Caribbean Metadata Profile Workshop
 - a. **Proposing:** To host two workshops on the creation of metadata in the Caribbean. focus on awareness and importance of metadata in GI sharing. The first workshop will target managers supervisors and GI policy makers and the second will deal with hands on training.

Asia/Pacific

1. **Indonesia** - Tailor-Made SDI Workshop & Training: Improved Use of Geospatial Data Infrastructure Portals for Collaborative Efforts in Urban Disaster Reduction in Indonesia
 - a. **Proposing:** To conduct training for staff and decision makers of national agencies dealing with urban disaster reduction projects using the National Geospatial Data concluding with a national workshop on the use of Geospatial Data Infrastructure for Improved and Efficient Urban Disaster Reduction.
2. **Kyrgyz Rep.** – SDI Demonstrator for Kyrgyz Republic
 - a. **Proposing: To set up OGC conformant services and the required technical infrastructure for a demonstrator-level implementation of some key services with a focus on communicating the value of an integrated SDI approach within the country** and the wider region.
3. **Philippines** – Policy and Institutional Requirements for the Development of a National Spatial Data Infrastructure in the Philippines.
 - a. **Proposing:** This study reviews and defines the policy framework and institutional arrangements for NSDI. The objective is to come up with a roadmap that would define the processes and strategies in developing and implementing SDI in the Philippines. This roadmap could serve as an advocacy tool to gain support and buy-in from various stakeholders, particularly the policymakers.

Service Support

In the course of evaluating the proposals, several were worthy proposals, but they fell outside the number that we could award cash grants. We are currently negotiating with the following proposals for possible service support from the URISA GISCorps:

See [Funding Opportunities &c for the current GSDI Small Grants programme for 2009-10](#). **NOTE that proposals are due on October 1, 2009.**



[GlobalFloodMap.org](#) offers an interactive map of areas that would be flooded by changes in sea level. The map illustrates the impact of a six inch increase. According to the site, "Global Flood Map uses NASA satellite data to show the areas of the world under water and at risk for flooding if ocean levels rise. According to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), sea levels have been rising about 3 mm per year since 1993 - totaling a 200 mm increase (7.87 inches) in global averaged sea level since 1870." Source: Directions Magazine

Spatial information adds hundreds of millions to New Zealand's economy

Innovative use of spatial information pumped more than \$1 billion into the New Zealand economy in 2008 – and better access to data could see that figure soar, according to a report into the value of spatial information.

Source: Directions Magazine & LINZ Press Release.

The Report is available [here](#) (thanks to Wonkug Baek).

Australia to Spend \$20 Million on Water Information

More than 100 new projects will share in \$20 million to improve the collection, management and sharing of water information across Australia, Minister for Climate Change and Water, Senator Penny Wong, said. "As we tackle climate change and deal with the effects of drought, the availability of robust and reliable information about our water supplies is hugely important," Senator Wong said. "The \$20 million announced today will support some 115 new projects to modernise and extend water information networks and systems in both urban and rural areas."

Source: [V1 Newsletter](#) & Australian Government [Press Release](#)

SuperWebGIS for Land Management

Taiwan's Ministry of Education is using SuperGeo's SuperWebGIS to build a web GIS management system for its Education Foundation Property project. The Land Database Inquiry and Management System is manages information about the use, condition and distribution of each of the Ministry's 5500 plots of land.

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#)

Spatial Growth Slows to 1%

Geospatial industry worldwide growth is forecast to slow to 1 per cent, down from 11 per cent in 2008 and 17.4 per cent in 2007, according to a study by market research firm Daratech, Inc. The most dramatic slowdown in 2009 was in the private sector, which is forecast to shrink to \$1.4 billion, down 0.7 per cent from 2008.

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#)

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SDI Spotlight

Transforming Australian Cities

This study utilises spatial data to calculate the potential yield that could accrue from the intensification of the urban corridors across Metropolitan Melbourne. This study which was developed by the City of Melbourne and Department of Transport has been described as "A bold plan to transform Australian cities and has recently won the Australian Award for Urban Design."

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This SDI spotlight provides a summary of the project further details on this study and in particular the environmental and economic benefits of using existing land for development are available from the [Built Environment Meets Parliament](#) website as well as recent media report from [the Age](#) outlines the potential impact of the analysis for Melbourne.



More than 80% of Australians and over half of the world's population now live in cities — cities that are responsible, directly or indirectly, for nearly 75% of the world's greenhouse gases. The design and operation of our cities is therefore a critical challenge facing humanity in the 21st century. Our successes or failures to transform cities over the next 20 years will be a key legacy to future generations.

In meeting this challenge, it is important to realise that in 2029 over 90% of the infrastructure of Australian cities would have been built prior to 2010. Transformation by this definition cannot simply be read as rebuilding infrastructure but rather will need to, in the main, involve the rationalisation and better utilization of our existing infrastructure.

Only one thing is certain: if we continue to understand, develop and utilise our infrastructure in the traditional ways of the 20th century we are doomed to perpetuate our current problems.

This study explores the nature of the transformation that needs to occur, and suggests that strategic residential intensification targeted in areas well serviced by existing transport infrastructure is a possible solution that would not only meet the physical demands of a growing population, but has the potential to enhance the liveability and sustainability of our cities.

Focusing on Melbourne's metropolitan area, the study investigates the potential population capacity of sites located along the tram and bus network within metropolitan Melbourne, if residential intensification was to be encouraged according to best practice urban design principles.

The study identifies three categories for Melbourne's residential areas:

1. Urban Corridors ('key development areas')
2. Activity Centres
3. Productive suburbs ('areas of stability')

By combining urban design with geomatics, the study translates the qualitative aspects of good urban spaces into quantifiable assumptions that can be applied to physical spaces via a GIS model to 'test out' the capacity within Melbourne to deliver a fundamental transformation.

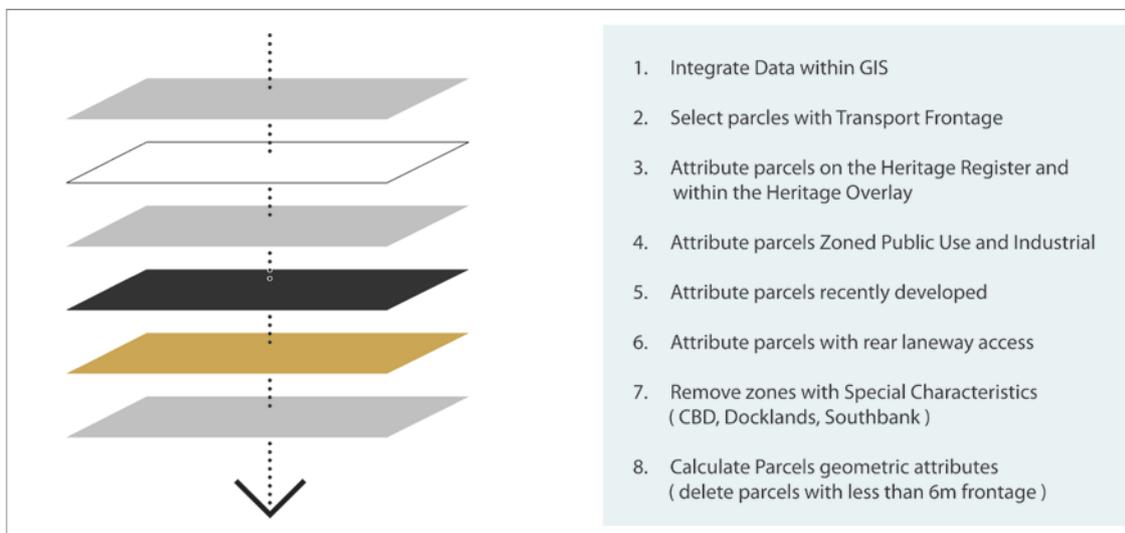
The results show that over 2 million people could be accommodated along Melbourne's urban corridors – providing affordable, well positioned accommodation without the need to subdivide any further land or extend the current growth boundaries. This could all take place using existing commercial delivery modes and saving up to \$110,000,000,000 over 50 years, without compromising on the character and quality of our urban environment.

Technical elements of the study

To begin, seven datasets were identified as being important to the assessment of development along urban corridors. (3) Heritage Register, (4) Heritage Overlay (5) Public Use, Mixed Use and Industrial Zones, (6) Recently Developed sites and sites Currently in the planning process, (7) Rear laneways and (8) Target Bus Routes (*Note that Target Bus Routes are bus routes identified by the Bus Association of Victoria.*)

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These data sets formed layers which have been incorporated into a Geographical Information System (GIS) Figure 2 is a conceptual model of the integration of data within the GIS. Each of the eight steps and assumptions made in the model development are described in the diagram.



Once the data has been prepared, scenarios can be applied to ascertain the potential capacity of identified sites. In this instance the density scenario chosen is in accordance with the following criteria:

1. No change to Public Use, Industrial or Public Park and Recreation Zones (PPRZ)
2. No residential development on land zoned for industrial use
3. No change to buildings listed on the heritage register
4. Only land parcels with rear or side road access have the potential for development
5. 50% of buildings in the Heritage Overlay have the potential to be developed
6. To avoid situations where sites are located on both tram and target bus routes, the tram routes have been given priority and these sites were removed from the bus routes.
7. A population density factor has been applied. This factor was ascertained by analysing developments along transport corridors from overseas and ongoing research into developments currently under construction and recently completed within Melbourne.

The results of this scenario is the potential for development along urban corridors in Melbourne – that is that there is potential for an increase in population of over 2 million people without extending the urban boundaries.

The editors are actively soliciting contributions to the monthly “SDI Spotlight” feature for the October and subsequent issues.

GIS Tools, Software, Data

[ISRO to launch satellites for US](#)

India will be able to launch smaller satellites for United States into space by indigenously developed rockets at one third of the cost charged by American firms. This is one of the significant features of the space agreement signed with the US during Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's recent visit to Delhi.

Source: [GIS Development](#) and Sakaal Times

[Twitter Geolocation API](#)

Twitter is [going to launch](#) a new feature which will make Twitter location-aware. The new geolocation API will allow developers to add latitude and longitude to any tweet. For example, you could restrict the tweets you see to those that are coming from your immediate vicinity. For users this will be an opt-in feature and will off by default. The first release of the geolocation API will be a developers preview.

Source: [Between the Poles](#) by Geoff



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[The OGC Seeks Participants for Authentication Interoperability Experiment](#)

The Open Geospatial Consortium Inc. (OGC) will launch an Authentication Interoperability Experiment on 2 October, 2009. The initiators of the experiment seek participation by other organizations interested in developing standard ways of implementing authentication and related security capabilities in applications involving OGC Web Services standards.

Source: OGC

[Get Ready for TanDEM-X](#)

Several independent evaluations of TerraSAR-X data have confirmed its outstanding geometric accuracy. In particular, one of its biggest customers, the US National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, describes it as the 'most geometrically accurate commercial imaging system available'.

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#)

[RMSI \(of India\) and AEC \(of Kuwait\) to develop an environmental monitoring system](#)

RMSI along with Al-Arfaj Engineering Company (AEC) of Kuwait have been awarded the Kuwait Environment Public Authority (KEPA) project to develop an Environmental Monitoring Information System for the State of Kuwait.

Source: [GIS News](#) and RMSI Press Release

['Use geospatial technologies to curb non-state actors of terror'](#)

Air Marshal P.K.Barbora, PVSM VM ADC, Vice Chief of Air Staff, Indian Air Force, called on the armed forces to use geospatial technologies to curb the activities of non-state actors who are terrorising the country and the citizens.

Source: [GIS News](#)

[Digital system to predict fishing zones](#)

Digital system for forecasting potential fishing zones will soon be set up all along the Kerala coast, said Fisheries Minister S.Sarma while inaugurating the facility, developed by the Kerala State Remote Sensing and Environment Centre (KSREC) in collaboration with the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), at Mariyanad.

Source: [GIS News](#) & Express Buzz News

[Bahrain launches national project for GIS](#)

The National Project for Geographic Information System was launched several days ago. It is being implemented by the Singapore Cooperation Enterprise, a Singapore government agency formed by the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore to "respond effectively to the many foreign requests to tap on Singapore's development experience." Among other things, it does consulting, sometimes in partnership with private companies.

This project came to work in line with the Bahrain Economic Vision 2030, which required a strong infrastructure to contribute to boosting services offered by the Kingdom's different authorities to citizens and residents.

Therefore, a GIS National Committee assigned SCE to set up an extensive national scheme for the GIS in Bahrain.

Source: Kate Lance

[GIS to keep an eye on govt land, industries \(India\)](#)

About 40,000 acres of government land, 126 industrial areas and thousands of companies -- all these will be brought under the GIS mapping. To keep a tab on effective utilisation of land allotted to industries, all industrial sites in the state will come under GIS ambit. GIS mapping allows the department to keep constant vigil on industries

Source: [GIS News](#) and *Times of India*

[First atlas compiled by Tibet uses GIS mapping](#)

3.3 million yuan has been invested to compile the colorful "Tibet Autonomous Region Atlas", sources from TAR Surveying & Mapping Bureau.

Source: [GIS News](#) and China-Tibet Online

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[Satellite-based mapping of Narmada \(India\) canals proposed](#)

Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi has asked Narmada Department to carry out satellite based mapping of canals for Sardar Sarovar Narmada project, which is aimed to providing irrigation to Saurashtra and North Gujarat.

Source: [GIS News](#) and Samay Live

[Dubai Metro GIS portal launched](#)

The Roads & Transport Authority (RTA) has launched a website to enable the public use the [Geographical Information System of Dubai Metro](#) --

The website provides information about metro lines, stations, runtime and multi-modal interchange points, using features and functions of the GIS technology.

Visitors to the site can find information about the distance and time expected to be taken in traveling between stations, park and ride facilities for metro commuters, integration points with other transport modes such as buses and abras, in addition to detailed images of the metro stations. The system also provides information about business landmarks in proximity of metro stations such as restaurants, malls and places of cultural and heritage significance. One can search these landmarks and select a specific area and scope to refine the search.

Dubai Metro, is one of the biggest projects undertaken in the Middle East. The project aims at eliminating traffic congestion in the emirate of Dubai through providing mobility options, improving the environmental condition through cutting pollution emanating from vehicle exhausts, easing mobility across the city, and reducing the time taken to reach various destinations, as well as contributing to the provision of modern, comfortable and sustained transport modes.

Source: Kate Lance

[ESRI GIS software for risk assessments](#)

ESRI (UK) Ltd has developed a new market for its GIS software, winning a first account in the fire and rescue services sector with the Avon Fire & Rescue Service deploying its software to help it more accurately carry out risk assessments.

Source: [Computer Business Review](#)

[Chinese State Bureau of Surveying & Mapping to control GI industry](#)

Authorities in Guangdong are cracking down on illegal surveying and mapping to better regulate the geographic information industry in the southern province.

Source: [GIS News](#) & [ChinaDaily Website](#)

[India's richest mineral belt to be explored and mapped](#)

The National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) has offered to do free mapping of mineral reserves of Jharkhand through exploration. The announcement said there is a huge area which needs to be explored to find out the exact amount of the mineral reserves, especially iron ores.

Source: [GIS News](#) & [India Economic Times](#)

[Goa state, India- cadastral mapping restarted](#)

The resurvey of the entire state to update cadastral maps and record of rights, which had been temporarily suspended due to technical reasons, has been resumed and work is in progress in Ponda, Mormugao and Quepem talukas. The first survey was conducted in the 1970s.

Source: [GIS News](#) & [Times of India](#)

[Bing Maps Coming Soon: SEASC Report](#)

The first integration of street level imagery with aerial imagery will likely occur before the end of the year on Microsoft's Bing Maps site.

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#)

[Urban water reform report released \(Australia\)](#)

A new report by Global Access Partners Urban Water Forum would make a significant contribution to the debate over how best to secure urban water supplies.

Source: [Australian Government Press Release](#).

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[China to regulate its GI industry](#)

Authorities in Guangdong are cracking down on illegal surveying and mapping to better regulate the geographic information industry in the southern province, a land resources official said.

Foreign organizations, businesses and individuals have been told that they must apply to the central government's surveying and mapping authority for approval to gather geographic information in the southern province. Individuals and companies wanting to use planes, airships or balloons to gather geographical information must have approval first.

The crackdown, which began last month, coincides with a move by the State Bureau of Surveying and Mapping to regulate the geographic information industry. The bureau is the only body in China legally allowed to undertake surveying and mapping, but illegal surveyors have been publishing and selling maps online for several years.

Source : <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn> and GIS Development

[Interactive map of Singapore](#)

The Government of Singapore will invest \$27 million over the next five years to create a super-accurate interactive map of Singapore.

When complete, the SG-Space (Singapore Geospatial Collaborative Environment) project will provide authorised users with all kinds of geographical information, from weather forecasts to the location of underground utility pipes to building layouts, Senior Minister of State for Law and Home Affairs Assoc Prof Ho Peng Kee announced at the Map Asia conference.

Source: [GIS Development](#) & The Straits Times

[Bing Maps updated](#)

Microsoft introduced the second major update to Bing Maps since the Cloud mapping, search and location service was rebranded. The latest refresh to what used to be Live Search Maps (Virtual Earth) brings to the table around forty Terabytes of new imagery and map data. Chris Pendleton, the Virtual Earth technical evangelist for Microsoft, revealed that the update extended the coverage of Bing Maps by almost 190,000 square kilometers, over 10,000 of which are just Bird's Eye imagery.

Source: [Softpedia News](#) & GIS Development

[Discount on high resolution satellite imagery](#)

Geoimage, a privately owned Australian company specialising in satellite imagery, image processing and geospatial services is currently offering a discounted rate on orders placed for Quickbird satellite imagery placed before September 30th this year. The discounts are 50% off Quickbird archive imagery and Select Plus tasking and 25% off the standard Select Tasking.

Source: [GIS Development](#) & [Mineweb.com](#)

[Mac-based Ortelius "Map Illustration" Software Launches](#)

The [MapDiva blog](#) announces the official launch of Ortelius, "map illustration software for Mac OS X." A [free trial](#) is available and there's a [special price](#) until Sept. 30.

Source: Directions Magazine 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.

[Map for culture hotspots](#)

A NEW map highlighting Scarborough's (UK) cultural hotspots is to be created. Called, CHART, the initials stand for culture, heritage and art and the people behind the scheme say the map "will provide a physical and website-based view of the town's current creative and cultural activities and cultural landmarks".

Source: [GIS News](#) and Scarborough Evening News

[UK-DMC2, Deimos-1 Send Back First Photos](#)

One week after the launch of the UK-DMC2 satellite on July 29, it has produced its first full resolution, commercial-grade image, which [Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd.](#) (SSTL) has subsequently processed.

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This first image shows the U.S. states of Texas and Oklahoma. The DMC satellites are specifically designed to image very large areas with rapid response and at regular intervals, as shown in this first multi-state image, according to SSTL. The two new DMC satellites (UK-DMC2 and Deimos-1) can reportedly capture images much larger in area in a single pass than the previous DMC satellites because of advances in on-board storage and high speed satellite downlinks to the Earth.

Source: GPS World

Satellite imagery shows devastation caused by California forest fires

satellite imagery from the recently launched UK-DMC2 satellite shows forest fires in the Los Padres National Forest east of Santa Maria at 11:10 local time on the 12th August.

Source: [Directions Magazine](#)

Africa: The Art of Predicting Rift Valley Fever Outbreaks

Rift Valley Fever is a livestock disease that can be transmitted to humans. And, unfortunately, it's moved far afield of its home valley to the African continent and beyond. NASA is devising remote sensing methods to monitor the environmental conditions that cause Rift Valley Fever to identify possible outbreaks and help prevent them. In particular, researchers are looking for persistent, above-normal levels of rainfall in drought-prone areas, situations which seem to trigger the disease. There's hope such research can be applied to other less well understood and researched diseases on the continent.

Source: Directions Magazine

U.S. Wetlands Mapping Standard Announced

U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced on August 18, 2009 the adoption of a [Wetlands Mapping Standard](#) (PDF) that provides minimum requirements and guidelines for wetlands mapping efforts. The new standard is designed to guide current and future wetlands digital mapping projects and enhance the overall quality and consistency of wetlands data. Quality data on wetlands are considered critical for planning effective conservation strategies to benefit fish and wildlife resources now and in the future. The Standard was developed and formally endorsed by the [Federal Geographic Data Committee](#) (FGDC), an interagency committee that promotes the coordinated development, use, sharing, and dissemination of geospatial data on a national basis, in response to the need for a higher degree of wetlands data. The Standard was developed by a working group under the [FGDC Wetlands Subcommittee](#) (), which includes representatives of federal agencies, states, tribes, environmental organizations, management associations, as well as local government associations. You can learn more about the [National Wetlands Inventory](#) and current digital maps and data are available for [downloading](#).

SOURCE: < <http://www.fgdc.gov/standards/projects/FGDC-standards-projects/wetlands-mapping/wetlands-mapping-standard> > and BK

Free Ordnance Survey maps for schoolchildren

Schoolchildren across Scotland have the chance to get their hands on free Ordnance Survey maps, as the national mapping agency launches the free maps for 11-year-olds scheme today.

The initiative offers every Primary 7 pupil in Scotland a free OS Explorer Map and has been an overwhelming success since its launch in 2002, with the 5 millionth map given away last year.

The scheme not only supports learning about geography and the environment but also helps encourage children and their families to get out and about and explore their local area. It has been praised by teachers, pupils and parents alike.

Source: [GIS News](#) and [Ordnance Survey](#).

Ground receiving station to monitor disaster

Bidding for the construction of two ground receiver stations will be opened soon by Kamal Ewida Earth Observatory, quoted Mail & Guardian.

Kamal Ewida Earth Observatory, currently seeking a site in Egypt, is a joint project by South Africa's Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and Egypt's National Authority for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences.

The project will enable the rapid processing of information received from satellites monitoring Africa, in order to improve disaster relief response times to areas affected by floods, drought, and global warming.

The bulk of the project's funding is being provided by NATO's Science for Peace Programme, with the Egyptian government also providing contributions.

Source: [GIS News](#) & AllAfrica.com

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Articles

[Of road blocks and building blocks](#) by [Olajide Kufoniyi](#), Secretary General, African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment (AARSE)

Uptake of GI in Africa requires concerted efforts to provide enabling environment to ensure that geospatial info permeates every aspect of society

Source: GIS Development

[GIS & Government Role In Public Systems](#) by Dr. Srichand Busi PhD, GIS Officer, Business & Information Branch, Crown Division, Department of Lands, Newcastle

PREFACE:

This paper introduces persons in fields directly linked with country and town planning to the scope, subject another challenge, and opportunities of comprehensive application of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) on public planning only a small part of comprehensive GIS application on public planning theory can be covered in this paper. To be thorough and complete on a subject that is now so extensive that would require many bundles of volumes. In this paper I have compiled the use of GIS and its use and necessity in public planning to and for the intermediate future sustainability.

Source: GIS Development

[Disaster Assessment Of Earthquake Using GIS and Remote Sensing](#) by [Mamoona Saher](#), GIS Center, PUCIT Department, University of Punjab, Lahore.

Abstract

The study is about earthquake occurred on 8th October 2005 in Pakistan. Its epicenter was 34.402⁰ North 73.560⁰ east about 90 km north northeast of Islamabad. The purpose of research is to identify potentially hazardous areas according to landslides after earthquake. In order to identify the hazardous areas and changes after earthquake in these areas with the help of remote sensing and geographical information system, Maps, Satellite Images and Digital Elevation Model have been used as base data. For defining active landslides; Soil map, Aspect map and Slope map have also been used. Overlay Analysis between fault lines and Digital Elevation Model show that numbers of landslides have increased along these fault lines. The analysis between soil map and landslides shows that most of the landslides have been found in Soil types of Rockland, Mani and Kurnol. Combination of Landslides map, Seismic map, Aspect map shows that 80 to 85 percent landslides are found in those areas whose slope angle is greater than and equal to 45⁰. So, it is analyzed that these are highly hazardous areas.

Keywords: Landslides, Hazardous Areas, Fault Lines, Digital Elevation Model.

Source: GIS Development

[GIS goes vertical, with integration across state, local, federal lines](#)

[GIS applications and data are increasingly being linked thanks to informal information-sharing efforts](#)

by Patrick Marshall, Technology Ed, Government Computer News

The power of geographic information systems is obvious. Just compare a long table of crime statistics to an interactive map that graphically displays crime patterns, neatly color-coded according to the type or time of the crimes. [Read more.](#)

Source: [GIS Lounge](#), GIS News, & Government Computer News

[“Spatial Analysis of Ujjain Tehsil Grassland status by using remote sensing and GIS techniques.”](#)

By [Dr. Prithwiraj Sahu](#), Environmental Scientist, Integrated Research and Development (IRADe), India

In order to improve the economic condition of the area without further deterioration of the natural grassland cover and bio environment, it requires meaningful utilization of the land cover in a rational way. This requires the present and the past land use /land cover data of the area (Chaurasia et al., 1996). Temporal changes in land cover have become possible in less time, at lower cost and with better accuracy through remote sensing technology (Kachhwaha, 1985).

...

The present study was carried out to evaluate the effectiveness of data in and around the Ujjain Tehsil on 1:50000 scale by using satellite data of IRS 1A, 1D and base information from Survey of India Toposheet.

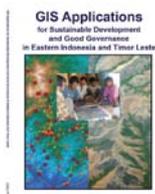
Source: GIS Development

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[Leading Singapore on growth path](#) by Vincent Hoong, Chief Executive, Singapore Land Authority
Source: GIS Development (August 2009)

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Books and Journals



[New Book – GIS for Development in Indonesia](#)

Charles Darwin University Press has published a new book called *GIS Applications for Sustainable Development and Good Governance in Eastern Indonesia and Timor Leste*. It is edited by Rohan Fisher, Bronwyn Myers, Max Sanam and Vincent Tarus. The university's current work in eastern Indonesia is focused on using open source software for public health mapping at the local or district level.

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#)

[Proceedings from the 1st session of the Committee on Development Information Science and Technology \(CODIST- I\)](#) are available online [scroll down page to Resources, and further down to Presentations using the link in the heading]. The theme for CODIST-I was 'Scientific Development, Innovation and the Knowledge Economy.'

The [second edition of the Pacific GIS&RS Newsletter](#) is now ready for download:

If there are articles related to any GIS application in the Pacific, please submit it to the listed contact. These will go into the next edition of the newsletter.

[Advances in Spatial and Temporal Databases: 11th International Symposium, SSTD 2009](#)

This volume constitutes the refereed proceedings of the 11th International Symposium on Spatial and Temporal Databases, SSTD 2009, held in Aalborg, Denmark, in July 2009. The 20 revised full papers presented together with three keynotes, seven short papers, and 10 demonstration papers, were thoroughly reviewed and selected from a total of 62 research submissions and 11 demonstration submissions. The papers are organized in topical sections on spatial and flow networks, integrity and security, uncertain data and new technologies, indexing and monitoring moving objects, advanced queries, as well as on models and languages. From Springer, 2009.

[Research Trends in Geographic Information Science](#)

In June/July 2008 the Institute for Geoinformation and Cartography at the Vienna University of Technology organized a scientific colloquium in this city, where 15 well-known scientists presented their ideas on research for the upcoming decade. This book contains papers prepared by the participants as well as by other researchers. The 18 papers in this book reflect the opinion of a core group of geoinformation scientists about future research topics. Dealing with these topics poses multiple research questions for the coming years. Springer, 2009.

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Just for Fun !

Yet ANOTHER Google product !!!!!!!



[The Times correspondent saddles up with Google, which is bringing Britain's monuments to Street View. On a tricycle](#)

"... As you'd expect from one of the world's most technologically farsighted companies, this three-wheeler is no child's plaything. The Google Tricycle weighs 18st and is difficult for an adult to ride, as I discover when I'm invited to road test it in the grounds of Warwick Castle."

Source: the *London Times*

See also [Google Street View gets on its bike and heads off-road](#)

See also [Google maps Paris using tricycle](#)

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The goofy-looking tricycle equipped with loads of high-tech equipment roaming the streets is not some mad scientist's invention on the rampage. The three-wheeler is quite a sight with its long pole holding nine cameras, a GPS, a computer and a generator. But the contraption tooling around the French capital needs all that gear to do its job — adding three-dimensional images to Google's Street View Maps.

Source: [GIS Development](#) and AAP

[U-tube video: Politician draws freehand map of USA](#)

... and who said politicians are worthless ...? One-time comedian turned politician is a mean cartographer !

[Men and Women Navigate Differently, even with PNDs](#)

Men and women look at a lot of things differently -- navigation is one of them. Navteq has analyzed research from several proprietary studies that point to key differences between the male versus female audience for personal navigation devices (PNDs). The results offer important insights into each group's interest and interaction with navigation across different types of devices, Navteq said. The female audience is equally aware of and attracted to the use of navigation, but they get their information in advance of a purchase from different sources than men.

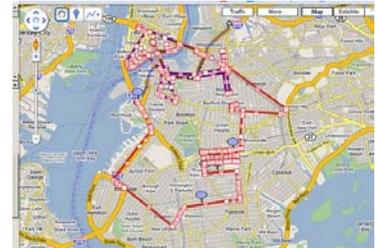
Source: GPS World

[GPS as artist's brush ?](#)



THREE years after moving to Brooklyn from Poland, Tomasz Berezinski awoke after a night of inebriety with a headache and decided his life must change. He started running, bought a GPS device and turned his body into a brush and the city into his canvas.

Since that morning almost a year ago,



Mr. Berezinski, 40, has run three marathons, lost 16 pounds and taken to creating huge drawings by following routes through city streets in the shape of faces, dogs and anything else that strikes his fancy. After planning a route, he traces it on foot or bicycle carrying his GPS device to record his progress. Then he uploads the "drawing" he has made to a map-sharing site called [everytrail.com](#).

Source: [New York Times](#)

[Google to correct wrongly depicted international border](#)

Google has admitted that it committed a mistake by wrongly depicting certain parts of north-east India's Arunachal Pradesh as Chinese territory, and promised to correct the maps soon.

According to a statement by a Google spokesperson, "Earlier this week, as part of routine update to Google Earth, we published new data for the Arunachal Pradesh region that changed the depiction of certain place names in the product. The change was a result of a mistake in our processing of new map data."

Google Earth had earlier been in the center of another controversy when Indian security agencies had complained that Google Earth exposed Indian defense and other sensitive installations.

Source : <http://www.techtree.com> and GIS Development

Zachary Forest developed the [World Freedom Atlas](#), which he refers to as a "geovisualization tool." He combined a variety of government and non-government data to "measure human rights, freedom, democracy and all that good stuff" in an interactive dashboard. He's the first to admit the atlas is far from scientific, but it is an interesting view of the world.

Source: [Directions Magazine](#)

[Has the advent of GPS devices made paper-based maps obsolete](#)

Source: The (Melbourne) Age newspaper

[The Intelligent Coffee Mug](#)

German scientists have come up with the [Intelligent Coffee Mug](#) - a specialised mug that addresses a very important need, namely how to keep *Glühwein* (a German alcohol drink served warm at Christmas, which I've learned can vary in alcohol content from place to place) the right temperature.

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A material called PCM will change into a liquid state at a certain temperature. Once liquid it surrounds the drink, extending the temperature evenly. Different types of PCM material change properties at different temperatures. Now this is no ordinary research project, some major research institutes are involved in this type of research. So where do you think this will lead? How about houses that change properties depending on temperature?

Source: [V1 Newsletter](#)

[Kidlandia](#) maps are customizable maps of imaginary places. While the concept may look like pure whimsy, it seems possible that getting a customized Kidlandia map at an impressionable age could turn a kid into a life-long cartophile!

Source: [Directions Magazine](#)



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Training Opportunities

[SLA First Scholarship](#)

Singapore Land Authority, the island's national mapping authority, plans to give scholarships to undergraduates who want to pursue geospatial science and technology-related disciplines. The scholarships will be available for study in both Singapore or overseas. SLA is also working with secondary school students to make them more aware of geospatial technology.

Source: Asia Surveying & Mapping Magazine

[MacArthur Foundation to Support Sustainable Development Master's Programs Around the World](#)

Supporting rigorous professional training for future leaders in the field of sustainable development, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation announced today grants totaling \$7.6 million to nine universities in seven countries to establish new Master's in Development Practice (MDP) programs.

Source: [V1 Magazine](#)

[Forestry GIS User Group Opens for Membership](#)

ESRI has launched a new user group specifically for its forestry and timberland management customers. The newly formed ESRI Forestry Group (EFG) will build opportunities for foresters to learn about business solutions, network with like-minded professionals, and develop professional growth.

Source: Vector1Media

[UNIGIS MSc now in Australia](#)

The international UNIGIS MSc postgraduate degree is now offered in Australia through the UNIGIS study centre at the University of Canberra, ACT. Students are invited to enrol in a joint programme combining the capacities from the University of Canberra and University of Salzburg, Austria.

This new UNIGIS study centre is led by Prof. George Cho at the Institute of Applied Ecology, University of Canberra. It offers in-service distance education for professionals interested in GIS and Geoinformatics. Courses towards the MSc will be launched with an on-site workshop in later in 2009 and lead students to recognized international academic degrees.

Source: <http://www.unigis.net>

[Cours International - Navigation et Services Basés sur le Positionnement par Satellite](#)

Rabat, Maroc, du 28 septembre au 24 Octobre 2009

[International Training Course, Satellite Navigation and Location Based Services, hosted by African Regional Centre of Space Sciences and Technologies, in collaboration with International Committee (ICG) and United Nations of Office of Outer Space Affairs]

[Télécharger Bulletin d'inscription](#)

[Télécharger le programme](#)

L'objectif global de ce cours de formation est de sensibiliser les participants au potentiel de la technologie de navigation par satellite et à ses applications, en mettant un accent particulier sur les services basés sur le positionnement.

Les participants seront initiés aux fondements technologiques de la navigation globale par satellites, ainsi qu'à l'exploitation opérationnelle de ces systèmes, dans différentes configurations possibles d'utilisation de ces systèmes.

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Au terme de la formation, les participants disposeront des qualifications nécessaires pour l'exploitation des connaissances acquises dans leurs propres organismes, autant dans les applications de base des systèmes de navigation par satellite que pour le développement de services à valeur ajoutée.

Contacte: [Abderrahmane TOUZANI](#), Director, CRASTE-LF.

[3^{ème} session de Formation Post-Graduée en Météorologie par Satellite et Climat Mondial](#), Rabat, Maroc
Centre Régional Africain des Sciences et Technologies de l'Espace en Langue Française ([CRASTE-LF](#))

Date limite date de réception des candidatures: 1er octobre 2009

Début des cours: 15 novembre 2009

Le programme de formation, d'une durée globale de 9 mois, comporte une introduction aux concepts de base dans les disciplines telles la météorologie, la climatologie, l'océanographie, la physique de l'atmosphère, les mathématiques etc. Il aborde dans une seconde partie le traitement d'images et les Systèmes d'information géographique ainsi que la collecte des données spatiales et leurs applications. La troisième partie est dédiée aux modèles numériques incluant l'assimilation de données satellitaires ainsi que les questions relatives au climat global (Climatologie basée sur les données spatiales, le changement climatique et ses impacts). Les questions environnementales telles la chimie de l'atmosphère, les protocoles environnementaux et la gestion des catastrophes sont également abordées. Il intègre de nombreux travaux dirigés et pratiques, permettant aux participants d'acquérir l'expérience nécessaire dans l'utilisation des données satellitaires pour les études météorologiques et climatiques. Cette expérience se matérialisera à travers la réalisation d'un projet-pilote.

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Funding Opportunities, Awards, Grants

[Visualisation Competition](#)

Entries for the 2009 International Science and Engineering Visualisation Challenge are now open. Awards categories include photographs/pictures, illustrations/drawings, informational/explanatory graphics, interactive media and non-interactive media. Winning entries will be published in the journal *Science*, on *Science Online* and on the National Science Foundation's website. One winning entry will appear on the journal's front cover. Entries close 15 September 2009.

[The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association is pleased to announce its Small Grants Program for the year 2009-10.](#)

Summary:

- * Awards for spatial data infrastructure or EOS-related activities in economically disadvantaged nations,
- * Application deadline of 1 October 2009,
- * 4000 words maximum,
- * Awards of \$2500 USD in cash and/or contributed volunteer professional services for the project

Background

The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure (GSDI) Association is dedicated to international cooperation and collaboration in support of local, national, and international spatial data infrastructure developments that would allow nations to better address social, economic, and environmental issues of pressing importance. We are committed to bringing about an infrastructure that will allow users globally to access spatial data at a variety of scales from multiple sources that ultimately will appear seamless to all users. The GSDI Association supports the work of organizations to develop their own SDI initiatives, nationally and regionally, and collaborates with local, national, and international organizations to ensure that spatial data, services, and metadata are accessible through interoperable standards-based services, systems, software, and products that operate in a web-enabled environment. The success of the GSDI Association depends on the quality of its partnerships with public, private, academic, and non-governmental organizations. Through adoption of common, international standards, key architecture principles, and approaches for capacity building in developing countries, the GSDI initiatives also link national SDI efforts with the vision and goals of the Group on Earth Observation (GEO) and its Global Earth Observations System of Systems (GEOSS).

Description

The GSDI is being advanced through the leadership of many nations and organizations represented by a GSDI Association Council and Board of Directors. The multi-national Board includes representatives from all continents and all sectors: government, academia, and the private sector as well as regional SDI initiatives

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referred to as permanent committees:

Please visit the [GSDI Association website](#) to familiarize yourself with the mission, goals, programs, accomplishments and priorities of the organization.

The GSDI Association, along with partners and participants, has allocated resources from the U.S. Federal Geographic Data Committee and the GISCorps of URISA, to fund a small grants program to support national or sub-national activities that foster partnerships, develop in-country technical capacity, improve data compatibility and access, and increase political support for spatial data infrastructure and earth observations application development. These resources will be used to offer two types of grants this year:

- * Cash up to 2,500 USD to be used on your project, and/or
- * Professional Services applied to your project

Professional Services will be coordinated by the GISCorps, an international initiative that offers GIS services by qualified economies. Support may focus on technical or institutional projects, as long as tangible outputs and several institutions collaborate on the effort. A list of typical projects follows but this list is not exhaustive:

- * Convening of national or sub-national seminars or workshops related to SDI
- * Producing SDI- and EO-related training manuals and modules (these materials must not duplicate existing materials)
- * Establishing metadata and clearinghouse nodes
- * Establishing web mapping services and applications
- * Accomplishing Geodata and/or SDI surveys or inventories
- * Producing and disseminating newsletters and awareness-raising materials about SDI
- * Drafting policy and legislation related to SDI

Priority will be given to projects in developing nations and countries with economies in transition. Grants can be awarded to SDI coordinating bodies (councils, committees) and GIS user groups, but the GSDI Association asks that one institution take responsibility for receiving/depositing the funds. Grants will not cover organization overhead expenses.

Proposals should include information under the following headings:

1. Title of Project/Activity
2. Focal Point Institution
3. Contact Person (business street address, phone/fax, email, and website)
4. Introduction and Background (include a description of the national or local institutional framework and what has been achieved thus far)
5. Project Description
6. Summary of Deliverables
7. Period of Performance (time-line for overall project, deadline dates for deliverables, date of final project report to be submitted to < grants@godi.org >)
8. Indicate your preference for an award of cash or professional services.
9. Budget (itemize how the money is to be spent or the predicated extent of services needed for specific tasks)
 - a. If one or more GISCorps volunteers are requested please indicate that in your GSDI application and also provide a description of tasks requested of volunteer professional(s) and other information at < <http://www.giscorps.org/> >. Use the "New Project" link on this page to complete the request for GISCorps volunteer assistance.
10. Details of additional or in-kind funds to co-finance the activity
11. List of Collaborators (with contact information)
12. Envisioned Follow-up Activities
13. Appendix: May include the Final Reports from any previous GSDI Small Grant Awards

Proposals must be submitted digitally to < grants@godi.org > in English and should be preferably two pages in length but no more than three pages or 4000 words (excluding any appendices). Please submit your proposal as a .pdf file (or alternatively .doc or .rtf file) using 12-point Times Roman or Arial font.

We anticipate funding up to 12 Grants in Cash and up to 4 Grants in Professional Services. Grant funds will be issued as paper checks in US dollars drawn on US Banks or as wire transfers. If the recipient chooses to receive funds by wire transfer, \$50 US will be deducted from the award amount to cover the processing costs for the wire transfer. The recipient institution will be required to provide a project report and an expense report

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upon completion of the project. The GSDI Association may include excerpts of the project reports in GSDI newsletters or on its website. Awardees are encouraged to publish a local press release highlighting the award from the GSDI Association as well as the proposed activities, and to send copies of these to the GSDI Association.

Proposals are due on 1 October 2009. Please e-mail them to:

Societal Impacts Committee, GSDI Association, < grants@gsdi.org >

For more information about the GSDI or to subscribe to the GSDI News List, please see < <http://gsdi.org> >. For questions about this request for proposals, please contact < grants@gsdi.org >

Note: The Small Grants Program is intended as a benefit of "full membership" in the GSDI Association.

Because the GSDI Association is fairly young, we are making this opportunity available currently to non-members as well. However, full members may obtain favored treatment in the instance in which two grant applications have been ranked similarly in the peer review process. Note that the annual GSDI Association membership fee for national organizations in low and very low per capita income nations may be as little as US\$100 or documented in-kind contributions in lieu of dues.

Please see < <http://www.gsdi.org/documents/OrgnMemberApp.pdf> >

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund - open call for proposals

Grant recipients range from small farming cooperatives and community associations to international organizations. See [grant eligibility](#).

REGION: INDO-BURMA Deadline: Sept. 11, 2009

More information: - [Call for proposals, English \(PDF - 47 KB\)](#),

- [Indo-Burma ecosystem profile English \(PDF - 2.5 MB\)](#) ,

* A summary of the ecosystem profile is available in English, Khmer and Lao and soon also will be available in Thai. All documents can be downloaded from the [BirdLife International in Indochina Web site](#). BirdLife International in Indochina is the CEPF implementation team for this region.

REGION: EASTERN HIMALAYAS Deadline:?

[Open call for proposals](#)

More information: - [Eastern Himalayas ecosystem profile](#)

EO for Climate Change: Call for Projects

Planet Action is calling for projects that investigate and assess climate change issues such as human impacts, drought and desertification, water resources, forestry, biodiversity, oceans, ice, and awareness. Planet Action will donate satellite imagery, geographic information and image processing solutions to selected projects in return for feedback. **Submissions close 30 September.**

New India Region for Navteq LBS Challenge

Navteq is expanding its Global LBS Challenge to include India and South America as dedicated competition regions. With these additional tracks, the Challenge has expanded to cover five regions, including Europe/Middle East/Africa, North America and the Asia Pacific.

Registration for all five regions is now open. Details for India, the Asia Pacific and South America are yet to be released.

The competition, now in its 7th year, invites developers to build innovative applications for navigation devices that use Navteq maps.

Navteq says the addition of the India and South America tracks 'reflects the global interest in location-based services', and the company's desire to tap into the innovation of these communities and support emerging markets.

The 2010 challenge also introduces new features to encourage wider participation and provide greater industry exposure for contestants. One such feature is new 'Best Of...' recognitions to individual applications, for example Best Use of User Generated Content, Best Use of Location-Based Advertising, and Best Use of Pedestrian Content (see regional rules for details).

Another new feature is that the Challenge will now accept applications for any platform and device, provided they use Navteq map data.

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#)

Celebrate World Space Week 2009

UN-declared World Space Week, October 4-10 annually, is the largest public space event on Earth and the best time each year for teachers to use space to excite students about learning. During World Space Week, you are encouraged to use space-themed activities, such as those from < www.worldspaceweek.org/education > ,

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NASA, and other sources. To show how your classroom is part of this global celebration, [please register](#). To recognize creative use of space to inspire students, World Space Week Association will recognize several participating teachers with \$500 grants this year. For further information, [contact: Jim Volp](#), Director Educational Relations, World Space Week Association.

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Employment Opportunities

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? (from V1 Magazine)

Here are some links:

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

Positions at Singapore Earth Observatory

The Earth Observatory of Singapore (EOS) is a Research Centre of Excellence, funded by Singapore's National Research Foundation, Ministry of Education, and Nanyang Technological University. Research at EOS focuses on understanding Southeast Asia's dynamic oceans, atmosphere and tectonic plates and characterizing the tectonic, volcanic and climatic processes responsible for these hazards. These scientific characterizations will promote forecasts of natural processes that will aid governments, communities and businesses to anticipate and adapt creatively to these environmental challenges, as well as develop and implement visionary policies. Dynamic and competent individuals are invited to fill the following positions:

Research:

- Research Fellow / Research Associate in Tsunami Evacuation Simulation
- Research Fellow in Regional Climate Modeling
- PhD student in Regional Climate of Southeast Asia
- Research Fellows in Computational Seismology and Site-Response Analysis (3 positions)

Technical:

GPS Analyst

Education & Outreach:

Curriculum Development Specialist

More information about the Observatory and job opportunities can be found at www.earthobservatory.sg .

Interested applicants are invited to submit a full CV, including academic qualifications, research records and names and contact details of two referees, to: eos_humanresources@ntu.edu.sg .

Selection will commence immediately.

Thanks to Kate Lance for bringing these positions to our attention.

Project Manager, Congo Basin Forests and Climate

The People & Ecosystems Program at the World Resources Institute (WRI) seeks a results-oriented project manager to lead WRI activities at the nexus of forests and climate in the Congo Basin. To begin, the successful candidate will lead a three-year project to improve detection (via remote sensing) and quantification of deforestation, forest degradation, and the associated carbon emissions in the forests of Cameroon and the Republic of Congo. In addition, the project will build the capacity of local institutions and government agencies to conduct this measurement and monitoring on an ongoing, consistent basis.

Candidates should have an advanced degree (Masters or Doctorate) in geography, remote sensing, GIS, forestry or other relevant field, ideally with a focus on tropical forests; minimum seven years relevant work experience in remote sensing, GIS, and monitoring of tropical forests or in sustainable forest management. Experience with monitoring and measuring forest-related carbon emissions (and sinks) or related forest/climate experience is a plus; familiarity with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) mechanism for Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing countries (REDD).

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The position will be based in Washington, DC but will involve extended stays in Central Africa (particularly Kinshasa, Brazzaville, and Yaoundé). Alternative arrangements (e.g., position being based in Kinshasa) may be considered.

Contact: sthompson@wri.org

Deadline: 11 September 2009.

Thanks to Kate Lance

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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.

[FIG 2010 Pre-Congress Program](#)

Online registration is now open for the FIG surveying congress to be held in Sydney, 11-16 April 2010. A local surveyor, John Brock, has arranged a history seminar on the two days leading up to the congress (9-10 April). Technical tours have also been organised, including a boat trip to historic Fort Denison.

Source: [Asia Surveying and Mapping Magazine](#)

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

Date	Location	Event
September 2009		
2 - 4 September	Nottingham, UK LBS 2009	6th International Symposium on LBS & TeleCartography Contact or Mrs Stella Fuller , Centre for Geospatial Science, Sir Clive Granger Building, University of Nottingham, Nottingham. NG7 2RD Tel: 0115 95 15445
2 - 5 September	Baška, Krk Island, Croatia	The Royal Institute of Navigation, London, UK, and the Institute of Engineering Surveying and Space Geodesy, University of Nottingham, UK have a pleasure in inviting you to participate to the 2nd GNSS Vulnerabilities and Solutions Conference to be held on 2 - 5 September 2009 in Baška, Krk Island, Croatia.
7-11 September	Windhoek Namibia	SADC Regional Conference on Sustainable Land Management Sustainable Land Management in the Dry lands of Southern Africa: the Practicalities Contact: Ms. Birga Ndombo , and cc Ms Linda Fillemon , & Mr. Chris Tjitjahura .
8 September	Jena, Germany	The workshop "Performance Evaluation of Pattern Recognition in Remote Sensing" of the ISPRS Intercommission Working Group III/VII "Pattern Recognition in Remote Sensing" will be held in Jena, Germany, on 08th September 2009 in conjunction with the DAGM Symposium 2009 . Author notification – 20 July Camera ready manuscript – 3 August Workshop – 8 September
8-10 September	Tsukuba, Japan	International Workshop on the Revision of Specifications for Global Map Version 2 The details will be informed on the ISCGM Website as soon as determined.
September 9 to 11 "NEW"	KINTEX, Goyang, Korea	NSDI KOREA 2009 The Korea Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs will hold 'National Spatial Data Infrastructure KOREA 2009'. NSDI KOREA 2009, which integrates all events relating to national spatial data such as GIS, land register, measurement, and u-City, is the newest

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		technology competition site and is recognized as the optimal opportunity to discover spatial data industry. The events include several seminars, international conferences, workshops for spatial data industry, and more.
9-12 September	Beijing, China	6th International Symposium on Digital Earth E-mail Email for ISDE ISDE WEBSITE
14-16 September	Beijing	Emergency Management Conference The international conference on Geospatial Solutions for Emergency Management (GSEM 2009) is being held in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the Chinese Academy of Surveying and Mapping.
16-18 September	Johannesburg, South Africa	Map Africa Email
21-25 September	Venice, Italy	OceanObs '09
22 – 24 September “NEW”	Karlsruhe, Germany	Intergeo 2009 INTERGEO is the world's largest event and communication platform for geodesy, geoinformation and land management. The trade fair and conference cover all the key trends that crop up along the entire value-added chain – from geo-based information surveys and data processing to integrated applications.
22 – 24 September	Stratford-upon-Avon, UK	GeoCommunity 2009 is the annual conference (Sept. 22-24) of the AGI (Association for Geographic Information), the UK's principal membership organization for individuals, companies and government working with GI. Now in its third year, GeoCommunity is a residential conference (a conference where people stay in the conference hotel so that they are wrapped in conference activity and fervor), which replaced the conference and exhibition format the AGI had successfully run for many years. Delegates and sponsors felt that the old model was becoming stale, and the size and cost of central London venues for the event had become a limiting factor.
24-25 September	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	4th ESRI Eastern Africa User Conference
September 28 to October 2, 2009 “NEW”	Anaheim, California, USA	47th URISA International Conference Since 2003, GISCorps has been holding several events at the URISA (Urban and Regional Information Systems Association) International Conference. The events are: Wednesday September 30, 4 to 5 PM – Joe Forrest, a GISCorps volunteer who recently traveled to Thailand, will talk about his experience. GISCorps Core Committee members will also give an overview on 2008-2009 projects and activities. GISCorps business meeting is held on Wednesday September 30th from 12:15 to 1:15 pm. Thursday October 1st, 8:30 to 10 AM – GISCorps volunteers are recognized for their service at URISA's Annual Breakfast Award Ceremony.
30 September -2 October, 2009 “NEW”	Buenos Aires, Argentina	1st Latin American and Caribbean gvSIG users conference: “Cooperation is Growth” (comunicacion_gvsig@gva.es) organized by the National Geographic Institute of the Republic of Argentina and the gvSIG Association. This conference will serve as a meeting point to an increasing number of experts and stakeholders in free geomatics, to share experiences and exchange ideas. It will be a turning point towards consolidating the Latin American gvSIG community. During the conference the latest advances in the gvSIG project will

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		<p>be presented such as the uses and solutions based on gvSIG that are being carried out in diverse Latin American countries; projects that closely follow the international interoperability standards and which are also more sustainable.</p> <p>Participation in this conference will be open to any person or organization interested in providing a communication and proposals can be sent for evaluation by the Scientific Committee.</p> <p>The call for communications proposals is open until July 27, 2009. Information regarding regulations on communication presentations can be found in the communications section on the conference's webpage.</p> <p>[1] http://www.gvsig.org/web/community/events/jornadas-lac/2009/ [2] http://www.gvsig.org/web/community/events/jornadas-lac/2009/Comunicaciones</p>
October 2009		
4-8 October,	Cleveland, Ohio, USA	NSGIC(National States Geographic Information Council) 2009 Annual Conference
5-7 October	Westminster, Colorado	Location Intelligence Conference 2009 . Westin Westminster Hotel in Westminster, Colorado.
October. 6-8	Manchester, UK	Registration for the Fourth Annual International Airport GIS Conference is open announced IAAE and AAAE. Drawing airport GIS, government officials, consultants and vendors from around the world.
7 - 9 October 2009	Taipei, Taiwan	GIS in the Humanities and Social Sciences 2009 International Conference. Alternative URL
12-16 October	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	FIG Commission 7 Annual Meeting and one-day International Symposium
15 October 2009	Taichung, Taiwan	2009 Urban Geographical Information System Forum Contact
15-16 Oct 2009 * NEW*	Taichung, Taiwan	Annual Conference of Taiwan Geographic Information Society Online registration deadline: Sep 25, 2009.
19-22 October	Hanoi, Vietnam	<p>7th FIG Regional Conference <i>awaiting Timeline for registration and submission of abstracts, papers, and presentations</i> Conference Website FIG Regional Conference FAO Workshop Friday, 17 Jul 2009 05:29 AM 7th FIG Regional Conference (19-22 October, Hanoi) will include a 2-day regional consultation meeting on the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for responsible governance of tenure of land and other natural resources. The conference will also include a special workshop on Asia Pacific Reference Frame.</p>
20-23 October	Sydney, Australia	<p>FOSS4G 2009 Call for Abstracts Email The Organising Committee would like to welcome all interested participants to submit abstracts for presentations for the Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial conference (FOSS4G), being held in Sydney, Australia October 20-23. FOSS4G Email2 Latest Press Release For more information or to keep informed from the FOSS4G Organising Committee, join the email list or twitter feed at: http://2009.foss4g.org/contacts/ >.</p>
25 October	Bangkok, Thailand	16th Meeting of ISCGM (International Steering Committee for Global Mapping)
26-30 October "UPDATED"	Bangkok, Thailand	18th UNRCC AP/15th PCGIAP Meeting (18th UN Regional Cartographical Conference for Asia and the Pacific)

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		<p>NOTE: the 16th Meeting of the International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM), 25 October 2009, Bangkok, Thailand, will be held in conjunction with UNRCCAP.</p> <p>Call for papers</p> <p>The Conference theme is "Spatial Enablement and the Response to Climate Change and the Millennium Development Goals?. You are encouraged to submit technical papers on achievements and developments in geographical information in addressing national, regional and global issues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Strategy, policy, economic and institutional issues; (ii) Spatial data infrastructure and spatially enabled Government; (iii) Geospatial data collection, management and dissemination; (iv) Best practices and applications; and (v) Disaster management. <p>Papers are required to be e-mailed, in Microsoft Word or PDF format, to the United Nations Secretariat at < zewoldi@un.org > no later than 21 August 2009.</p>
26-29 October	Kampala Uganda	AFRICAGIS 2009; International Conference
November 2009		
10-12 November	St Petersburg, Florida, USA	Fifth National GIS in Transit Conference Website: http://www.urisa.org/gis_transit
15-22 November	Santiago, Chile	XXIV International Cartographic Conference
16 – 19 November	San Antonio, Texas, USA	ASPRS / MAPPS 2009 Fall Conference
17-20 November	Denver, USA	7th William T. Pecora Memorial Remote Sensing Symposium E-mail
25-27 November	Hyderabad, India	ISPRS Workshop on Geospatial Data Cyber Infrastructure The ISPRS is inviting abstracts for an international workshop on Geospatial Data Cyber Infrastructure and Real-time Services, with an emphasis on Disaster Management (25-27 November, Hyderabad). Themes include web-based geospatial services, data management, predictive modelling for disaster management, decision support systems and participatory mapping using high resolution imagery.
30 November - 2 December	Sydney, Australia (Univ NSW)	GeoComputation 2009 The 10th International Conference on GeoComputation
December 2009		
1 – 4 December	Suva, Fiji	Pacific GIS and RS User Conference University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji Website Since the first Pacific GIS & RS Conference in 1999, this annual event has attracted many participants, from near and far. Each year the range of GIS & RS technologies presented cover an array of applications including the management of resources of the small island Pacific nations. Shallow water bathymetry derived from satellite imagery, forest function maps to identify areas for to be protected, areas identified for developments in flood zones are some of the applications where the development of GIS & RS in the region have been applied in various sectors. As with previous conferences, there are no fees levied for those wishing to attend.
1 – 3 December	Gold Coast, Australia	International Global Navigation Satellite Systems Society's (IGNSS) 2009 symposium and exhibition
1 – 3 December	Moscow, Russia	Scanex 4th International Conference "Earth from Digital Space – the most effective solutions" Email

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2 – 4 December	Feria Valencia, Spain	<p>The 5th Edition of the gvSIG Conference organized by the Regional Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport (CIT), will be held at the Feria Valencia Convention and Exhibition Center, and will once again host the eclipseDay.</p> <p>The call for papers for the Fifth Edition of the gvSIG conference is now open. As of today communication proposals can be sent to the email address to 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 report's section . Abstracts will be accepted until September 21st . See also < http://jornadas.gvsig.org/how-to-collaborate > email to .</p>
17 – 18 December	Ahmedabad, India	ISPRS International Workshop on "Impact of Climate Change on Agriculture"
February 2010		
2-4 February	Torino, Italy	<p>Gi4DM 2010 Call for Papers</p> <p>Organisers of the International Symposium on Geo-information for Disaster Management (Gi4DM 2010) have issued a call for papers related to the conference theme, 'Remote Sensing and Geo-Information for Environmental Emergencies'. Invitation is also open for contributions covering crisis management in any phase.</p>
March 2010		
3 – 5 March "NEW"	Gold Coast, Australia	<p>ESRI Asia Pacific User Conference and OZRI 2010</p> <p>The theme for the conference is GIS: extending the reach. ESRI Australia clients, ESRI users and distributors from around the Asia Pacific region are invited to share their knowledge and experience by submitting an abstract based on the conference theme. The event incorporates OZRI 2010, ESRI Australia's national client conference.</p> <p>Abstract deadline: 16 October 2009.</p>
April 2010		
11-16 April	Sydney, Australia	<p>International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) Congress 2010 Contact email The deadline for submission of abstracts is 22 September 2009. Alternative URL: FIG 2010 Pre-Congress Program</p> <p>Online registration is now open for the FIG surveying congress to be held in Sydney, 11-16 April 2010. A local surveyor, John Brock, has arranged a history seminar on the two days leading up to the congress (9-10 April). Technical tours have also been organised, including a boat trip to historic Fort Denison.</p>
25-29 April	Phoenix, Arizona	<p>2010 GITA Submit your abstract for the 2010 Geospatial Infrastructure Solutions Conference! The deadline is August 31, 2009.</p>
Date to be announced	Taipei	ASIA GIS 2010 Conference further details to be announced
May 2010		
26-28 May	Hong Kong	<p>The 14th International Symposium on Spatial Data Handling</p> <p>Organisers are inviting abstracts related to the theme Theory, Modelling and Concepts in Geospatial Information Science. The event will explore topics such as digital cartography, data modelling for social science and interoperability. The deadline for abstracts is 31 August. Pdf flyer available at International Symposium Announcement</p>
July 2010		

5 – 7 July	Vienna	100 Years ISPRS: Call for Papers Organisers of the ISPRS Commission VII Symposium (5-7 July 2010, Vienna) are inviting papers relating to the theme, 100 Years ISPRS – Advancing Remote Sensing Science. They are particularly seeking contributions that critically review major research areas in remote sensing. The deadline for full-paper review is 28 November 2009. The deadline for abstract-only review is 28 February 2010.
October 2010		
18 – 22 October	Singapore	GSDI 12 World Conference – Realising Spatially Enabled Societies In conjunction with the 16th PCGIAP Annual Meeting .

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