

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

SDI-LAC

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Spatial Data Infrastructure-Latin America and the Caribbean (SDI-LAC) is a regional, monthly, and free, electronic newsletter from the [Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association](#) (GSDI). It focuses on aspects related with Spatial Data Infrastructure, and on GIS, remote sensing, and data management issues, related with SDI in Latin America and the Caribbean. It aims to raise awareness, provide useful information to strengthen national SDI initiatives, and support synchronization of regional efforts.



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GSDI

[GSDI Definition](#)

The [Pan-American Institute of Geography and History](#) (PAIGH), member organization of GSDI, and the [Permanent Committee on Geospatial Data Infrastructure for the Americas](#) (PC-IDEA), promote SDI development in the region. The newsletter is prepared by PAIGH for GSDI.

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Message from the Editor

Current SDI-LAC issue includes notes on the successfully concluded GSDI-12 Conference held in Singapore, and IGS novel accomplishments. In the Global and regional section are significant the contributions on the released website of the PAIGH's US National Section; the formation of APPA (Pan-American Association of Surveying Professionals); the National Science Foundation (NSF) COCONet grant for developing an integrated geodetic and atmospheric/regional climate observational system in the pan-Caribbean region; the Map of Antarctica developed by China; and the official endorsement of OGC standards by FGDC, among others. The National SDI section includes the novel Communication Platform for the Argentinean SDI Project (IDEAR); National and regional SDI events recently organized by the National Territorial Information System of Chile (SNIT); Publications on the National Policy on Geospatial Information and the Metadata Profile of Ecuador; launching of the groundbreaking interactive map of Jamaica 'iMap Jamaica'; and the official publication of the National Statistics and Geography Program (PNEG) of Mexico. On the Articles/Publications section is worth reading selected papers from the Official GSDI Journals (IJS DIR and JOSIS); this time were included articles by Harlan J. Onsrud/ James Campbell/ Bastiaan van Loenen, and Michael F. Goodchild, respectively. Likewise, the new book *Coastal Informatics: Web Atlas Design and Implementation* has been recently published. Geospatial

research and applications from Cayman Islands, Dominican Republic, and Nicaragua, are included together with most current GeoNetwork Opensource and OpenDragon releases. Finally, topics on geostatistics, disaster reduction, climate change, quality Information in Earth Observation, geoSpatial ontologies and semantics, comprise the current training and funding opportunities.

Due to an increasing volume of information on events, the respective section will be restricted to those events taking place in the Americas. However, for "The Rest of the World: Conferences, SDI Events", please find a link to upcoming events of global or major international interest in GSDI webpage at: <http://www.gsd.org/events/upcnf.asp>

We kindly inform that SDI-LAC Newsletter is taking correspondent members in each country of the LAC region. Next issues will include their contributions. If you would like to become a correspondent for your country please contact Nancy Aguirre cnaguirre@ipgh.org. In principle the only requirement is that you are an active member in the Spatial Data Infrastructure activities of your country.

If you have news or information related to GIS, remote sensing, and Spatial Data Infrastructure that you would like to highlight (e.g., projects, conferences, workshop announcements, publications, reports, websites of interest,

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etc.), kindly send them in. We would be happy to include them in the newsletter. We also encourage you to send to the editor your comments and suggestions for the continuous improvement of SDI-LAC Newsletter. PLEASE share this newsletter with colleagues who may find the information useful, and ideally they will subscribe themselves.

Back issues of the newsletter are at the GSDI website:
<http://www.gsdi.org/newsletters.asp>

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Input to this Issue

Thanks for their contributions to this SDI-LAC Newsletter issue to:

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Dawn Right	Professor, Department of Geosciences, Oregon State University, USA
Miguel E. Ruano	Secretary of the National Geoinformatics Council CONAGE, Ecuador
Fanny Tamay	National Secretariat for Planning and Development (SENPLADES), Ecuador
Jeroen Ticheler	Developer, GeoNetwork Opensource, Italy

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GSDI-12 Conference

12th GSDI Conference a Successful Event

Source: Steven Ramage

The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure - GSDI 12 World Conference took place in Singapore from 19 to 22 October 2010. The partners organizing this conference included the [GSDI Association](#), the [Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia & the Pacific \(PCGIAP\)](#) and the [Singapore Land Authority \(SLA\)](#).

"Governments at all levels in all countries depend on information about location and place," noted Abbas Rajabifard, President of the GSDI Association, "and the rapid advance of technology makes such information much easier to collect, use, and distribute. This creates opportunities and challenges for all countries. Technical innovation creates a need for policy innovation and for collaboration among government, the private sector and academia. GSDI World Conferences provide a unique forum for representatives of all these sectors to network and learn about the technical, societal, legal and policy issues concerning spatial data infrastructures."

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A peer-reviewed book on this topic was launched during the conference. It focuses on research, emerging trends and critical assessment and it showcases examples of spatial enablement serving societal needs. More than 100 countries are actively developing spatial data infrastructures, and with over 650 attendees, GSDI 12 proved to be a very successful event. Participants listened to experts speak on a wide range of topics including technology, standards, and spatial law and policy.

A session at the conference presented by World Bank personnel focused on development of a guide for 'How to get started with SDIs for developing nations.' Participants listened to speakers from around the world, shared knowledge and traded experiences.

The 12th GSDI Conference was conducted jointly with the 16th annual meeting of the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia & the Pacific (PCGIAP), representing 56 nations in the region. There was also an inaugural meeting of the International Geospatial Society, a member arm of the GSDI Association for individuals.

GSDI 12 Conference proceedings are available at www.gsd.org/gsd12.

GSDI-13 and the Canadian Geomatics Conference (CGC) hosted by GEOIDE Network will be held on May 14-17 2012 in Quebec City, Canada at the Centre des Congres de Quebec.

See other photos taken at GSDI 12 by The Singapore Land Authority: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/gsd12/>

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[Official Journals of the Spatial Data Infrastructure Association](#)

Source: http://www.gsdi.org/official_journals



A major goal of the GSDI Association and the International Geospatial Society is to encourage and support geospatial technology transfer to geospatial specialist peers in all nations including those which are economically disadvantaged. As such, affiliating with and supporting open access scientific journals matches well with this public service goal.

[International Journal of Spatial Data Infrastructure Research \(IJSDIR\)](http://ijmdir.jrc.ec.europa.eu/) (<http://ijmdir.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>)

[Journal of Spatial Information Science \(JOSIS\)](http://www.josis.org/index.php/josis) (<http://www.josis.org/index.php/josis>)

Please support our official scientific journals in the following three ways:

1. Please submit your quality scientific articles to these journals whenever they are a viable choice for your subject matter. You benefit yourself by doing so because journal articles published in full text on the web are cited by others 4 to 5 times more often than those that are not.
2. Please contribute your limited reviewing and editing time, when asked, to these open access journals since by supporting open access journals the fruits of your labor may be accessed by all your peers across the globe.
3. Please contribute financially to our Open Access Journal Fund. Open access journals typically follow financial support models that depend heavily on donors. To keep them viable, high quality and open, please contribute to the extent you are able.

United States National Section of the Pan-American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) Releases New Website

Source: Maddy Mengler

The Pan-American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) is a technical and scientific body of the Organization of American States specializing in the areas of cartography, geography, history and geophysics. For 80 years, the organization has promoted collaboration throughout the Americas by sponsoring conferences, publishing journals and organizing workshops. The United States National Section has recently released its new website, <http://www.aag.org/paigh>, hosted by the Association of American Geographers. The website is an excellent resource for information about PAIGH and the U.S. National Section and what the Institute does. It includes biographies and contact information for U.S. National Section members as well as detailed explanations and links for the projects and programs in which the Section is involved. In addition to uniting PAIGH members and educating the public about the Institute and the National Section, the website also serves as a link between other institutions and geospatial databases, such as the Pan-American Professional Network, the World Bank, the U.S. Geological Survey,



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GeoSUR, and many others. It aims to further stimulate an interest and understanding of the disciplines of cartography, geography, history, and geophysics and to proliferate information on an international level.

Building a Regional Structure for the Surveying Profession in Latin America, Costa Rica

Source: FIG e-Newsletter October 2010



FIG President Stig Enemark and Incoming President CheeHai Teo attended The XI International Congress, San Jose, Costa Rica, 17–19 September 2010. The theme for the congress was "Geomatics: Current Trends in Geodesy, Topography and Cadastre" reflecting the current challenges and opportunities encountered by the profession not only in Costa Rica but also the region. The formation of APPA (Asociación Panamericana de Profesionales en Agrimensura / Pan-American Association of Surveying Professionals) was a highlight and also represented the culmination of efforts by FIG over about ten years to mobilize the surveying profession within Latin America. FIG has pledged to work with this latest regional structure to develop and advance the profession in the Americas. A major opportunity in this regard will be FIG Regional Conference that is likely to be held in Montevideo, Uruguay, by the end of 2012. More information at: http://www.fig.net/news/news_2010/costarica_september_2010.htm

CPCI Members Notice: Deadline for Data Submission is November 26, 2010

Source: <http://www.catastrolatino.org/>



In order to continue the initiative on DATA CATASTRO survey, which aims to assess cadastral management issues in the Latin American region, the Permanent Committee on Cadastre for Ibero-America (in Spanish CPCI) is receiving data updates for years 2008 and 2009. The estimated deadline to complete this reception is **November 26** this year. To complete the updates, you may access the survey by logging in to: http://www2.igac.gov.co/datacatastro/dtc_user/login.jsp and following instructions of the tutorial *Instrucciones para llenar la encuesta* (Instructions for completing the survey). Additionally, we invite you to participate with articles on the cadastral topic of your choice to be published and shared with other Latin American cadastral institutions; you may submit your proposals by email catastrolatino@igac.gov.co. Please remember that success of third edition of DATACATASTRO journal depends on participation of each of the member organizations of the CPCI.

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[WMO South American Regional Association Calls for Better Weather and Climate Services](#)

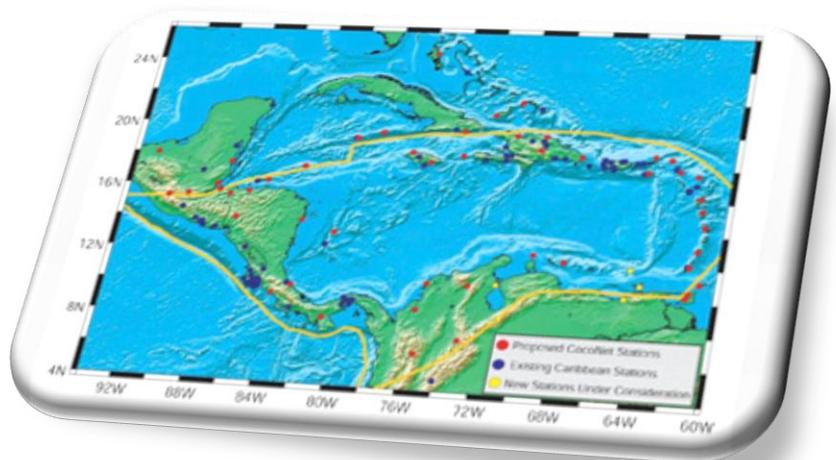
Source: Kate Lance

Meteorologists in South America pledged to improve forecasting and warning capabilities, strengthen observations and telecommunications networks, establish regional climate centres and implement disaster risk management strategies. The decisions were taken at a week-long meeting of the World Meteorological Organization's South American Regional Association in Bogota, Colombia. Delegates from 13 South American countries agreed on the need for coordination as well as for more accurate climate products to better understand and cope with climate variability and climate change. The Regional Association identified several priorities for its future work. These include: Further improvement of the forecasting and warning capabilities of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in the Region; The permanent enhancement and upgrading of the observations and telecommunication networks in the region; The establishment of regional climate centers on a pilot basis, allowing them to evolve based on Member's requirements and in compliance with WMO regulations, as part of the planned Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS); The implementation of a Climate Watch System in Region III enabling NMHSs to issue climate advisories at national level; Encourage the sharing of resources among WMO Members and other organizations and institutions in order to build synergies and to support social and economic development in the Region; and the strengthening of warning dissemination mechanisms, particularly highlighting the link to media, for the disaster risk management and emergency preparedness coordination.

[NSF Awards Grant for Continuously Operating Caribbean GPS Natural Hazards Observational Network](#)

Source: <http://www.nsf.gov/>

How can we better understand and assess seismic and other natural hazards in the Caribbean and Central America? What are the slip rates along active faults that bound the Caribbean tectonic plate? How is stress released at these plate boundaries? To find answers, the National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded a grant for the development of a tectonic plate-scale integrated geodetic and atmospheric/regional climate observational system in the pan-Caribbean region. COCONet, the Continuously Operating Caribbean GPS Observational Network, will add 50 continuously operating Global Positioning System (GPS) stations to those in place in Caribbean and Caribbean-border nations. The COCONet grant is being awarded to UNAVCO, Inc., a national geodetic support facility in Boulder, Colo., funded by NSF's Division of Earth Sciences,



and to the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR), a consortium supported by NSF's Division of Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences and which includes the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in Boulder, Colorado. COCONet data will be freely available through UNAVCO, and will enable observations with immediate relevance for understanding, mitigating and predicting regional geohazards. The data will flow via the EarthScope Plate Boundary Observatory (PBO). From there, the data will be processed into geodetic products. Real-time data from COCONet will be made available to the international scientific community in a region of the globe with few existing real-time data sources. "By establishing a single unified GPS network spanning the entire region, and by providing freely available, high-quality geodetic and meteorological data to researchers in both the U.S. and the Caribbean region, COCONet will be a major step in advancing Earth science research in this area," says Russ Kelz, program director in NSF's Earth Sciences Division. Contact: Cheryl Dybas, NSF cdybas@nsf.gov

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SERVIR Supports Forest Management in Belize

Source: GEO News (Issue #10, 5 October 2010); <http://www.geo-fct.org/>



A recent study conducted in the context of the Mesoamerican Visualization and Monitoring System (SERVIR) demonstrates the utility of Earth Observation Technologies for monitoring the forest resources of Belize "[Forest Cover and Deforestation in Belize: 1980-2010](#)." A note on this study was published in last edition of SDI-LAC Newsletter (Vol. 7, No. 10). The study demonstrates SERVIR's capacities for rapidly converting satellite data into information and holds lessons for the ongoing implementation of the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS). The entire study was completed in just four months, and it is also the first time in Belize's history that such an assessment has been completed in the same year the imagery was acquired. Similar studies conducted in neighboring countries have generally taken over a year to conduct and have not covered as broad a timescale as the 30-year study completed for Belize. The study has many synergies with the ongoing [Forest Carbon Tracking Task](#) (<http://www.geo-fct.org/>) work being coordinated by the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) aimed at developing a Global Forest Observations Initiative. This task has been established to support countries wanting to establish national forest-change, carbon estimation and reporting systems. It will facilitate access to long-term satellite, airborne and in situ data, provide the associated analysis and prediction tools, and create the appropriate framework and technical standards for a global network of national forest carbon tracking systems. The task follows the guidelines set out by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Its outputs will be available to support interested countries in their efforts to implement the Convention. The task is being carried out by a partnership of GEO member governments, key UN bodies, space agencies, the science community and the private sector. The Belize assessment has also had regional implications for GEOSS-related activities. Shortly after the study's completion in early August, it was presented to a meeting of the regional technical committee on biodiversity established in the context of the Central American Integration System (in Spanish SICA) and was well received by the meeting's representatives. Those representatives likewise indicated the need for similar national-level studies to be conducted in their own countries. This work also complements a European Commission-funded study by CATHALAC of land cover change across all of Central America.

[China Draws 1:100,000 Scale Map of Antarctica](#)

Source: <http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/>

Chinese scientific researchers successfully drew a 1:100,000 scale land cover map of all of Antarctica under the support of the National 863 Program. This is the world's first land cover map of Antarctica and the first batch of Chinese-owned important Antarctic scientific data. Currently, there is little research of land cover classification in Antarctic, and there are no such classification systems that can completely, systematically and accurately classify all the land cover in Antarctica, Cheng Xiao, vice president of the College of Global Change and Earth System Science under Beijing Normal University, said during the China Symposium on Polar Science 2010. Research teams fused 1,100 multi-channel satellite images of all of Antarctica from 1999 to 2003 to reconcile the large number of satellite image data with the true state of the surface. Meanwhile, scientific researchers also established a classification system of Antarctic land cover and sent members to Antarctica to launch field measurements during China's 25th and 26th Antarctic expeditions, obtaining a more real and reliable database of Antarctic coastlines, islands and land cover. Cheng said that the land cover map of Antarctica better reflects the differences in Antarctic land cover classifications and is important for China's scientific research in the Polar Regions. It can also supply more accurate surface parameters for scientific researchers engaged in climate system model prediction.

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OGC Standards Officially Endorsed by Federal Geographic Data Committee

Source: OGC Press Announcement

The US Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) (<http://www.fgdc.gov>)

Steering Committee has officially endorsed a group of OGC (Open Geospatial Consortium) standards along with other standards developed externally to FGDC. These standards play an important role in enabling interoperability as part of the Geospatial Platform for GeoOneStop, place-based

initiatives, and other potential future programs of the FGDC. The Steering Committee endorsed standards (<http://www.fgdc.gov/standards/fgdc-endorsed-external-standards/index.html>) from the OGC, ISO TC211 and ANSI (INCITS L1) standards development organizations. "OGC's interface and encoding standards are an essential part of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure. They play a key role in providing technical interoperability among geospatial systems used at all levels of government," said Ivan DeLoatch, Executive Director of the FGDC. "We encourage government agencies to include these standards, as well as FGDC's data standards, in the language of software and data procurement documents." The FGDC Standards Working Group will revisit the list every year as part of its standards life-cycle management activities. FGDC is an interagency committee that promotes the coordinated development, use, sharing, and dissemination of geospatial data on a national basis. This nationwide data publishing effort is known as the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) (<http://www.fgdc.gov/nsdi/nsdi.html>). The NSDI is a physical, organizational, and virtual network designed to enable the development and sharing of this nation's digital geographic information resources. FGDC activities are administered through the FGDC Secretariat, hosted by the U.S. Geological Survey.



Information Systems Journal (ISJ): Theorising Development and Technological Change

Source: Gianluca Miscione



This special issue of the Information Systems Journal focuses on technology related change in the context of developing countries, and for developing countries. Our particular concern is to develop theoretically inspired insights and reflections in this domain. Broadly we conceive that this could comprise of at least two approaches. One could be to formulate theoretically informed insights into or derived from specific empirical studies of information technology for development. Such papers should devote part of their discussion and / or conclusion to reflect on the theoretical basis, and offer suggestions for future theoretical development. Alternatively, we encourage papers that strengthen our conceptualization and theorization of development related to technological change. Such a paper can provide reflections on the apparent merits or limitations of different theories to understanding ICT4D (Information and Communication Technologies for Development) or perhaps question the appropriateness of previous theoretical positions that have informed this research area to date. We welcome papers from different epistemological positions and from a wide variety of disciplinary backgrounds who are interested in theorizing development and technology. Deadline for Submitting Papers: **28th February** 2011. Manuscripts should not normally exceed 7000 words and should be submitted electronically as a MS Word document to the attention of ISJ administrator Kathryn Goodwin at isj@brunel.ac.uk. The email subject should be ISJ Special Issue Submission. Detailed instructions for the preparation of manuscripts are provided on the publisher's [website](#) and follow the link to 'authors' guidelines'. Please follow these guidelines before making a submission. Further details of the Information Systems Journal can be found at <http://disc.brunel.ac.uk/isj/>. More detailed information [here](#).

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IGS News, Links, Publications

GSDI 12 World Conference was held in Singapore

Source: Mabel Alvarez



GSDI 12 World Conference was attended by a wide community from 67 countries with a leading organization that was evident in each of the Conference activities. Before the Conference, on Sunday 17th a first workshop intended for PhD students took place; followed by nine more workshops during the morning of Tuesday 19th. The Conference opened on Tuesday 19th and finished on Friday 22nd when the Closing Plenary Session and last GSDI Board meeting took place. The Conference was developed through plenary and parallel sessions in four locations, complemented by a session called "Lightning Presentations" held in the Exhibition area on the 20th, including 17 papers presented during five minutes each. The exhibition comprised significant technology samples and developments from different places. In the exhibition area 26 posters were shown and presented, covering very wide and varied themes.

International Geospatial Society (IGS)

Source: Mabel Alvarez



The International Geospatial Society (IGS) held its inaugural meeting in the frame of GSDI 12 World Conference on Monday October 18th and a round table on Thursday 21st, with attendance of members representing more than 20 countries from the five continents.

In addition to topics considered of relevance as a result of previous work of the IGS, it stood out among others, the motivation of PhD students to receive advice on topics of their interest, both through outstanding teachers who are members of the IGS and through internship programs.

From the professional arena, there were suggestions such as preparing lists on topics of interest aimed at exchanging ideas between IGS members.

Proposals from developing countries focused on the collaboration that IGS may provide as a communication and dissemination space that may contribute to governmental appraisal and strengthening of geospatial issues.

During the poster session it was represented IGS in the context of GSDI together with this society's objectives. Additionally, at GSDI stand located at the Exhibition area, it was distributed to stakeholders an explanatory leaflet on IGS together with hard copies of last GSDI Newsletter issue that included an article on IGS. IGS membership forms were circulated as well in order to help with registration completion at the time (whether by professionals or students) while attending any stakeholders' concerns.

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SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA (IDERA) - UNDER CONSTRUCTION

[New Communication Platform for the Argentinean SDI Project \(in Spanish IDEAR\)](#)

Source: <http://www.idera.gov.ar/>

The Working Platform for Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) of Argentina is an area of agreement among different actors. In many of the state organizations, both government at various levels including academics and research, major efforts both for knowledge production, and technological developments in the field of SDI have been carried out. These must be harnessed and directed towards the creation of an infrastructure to meet the needs of the country. In this sense, the agreement embodied in this platform appears open to the early integration of all actors in the SDI, in particular those who belong to the state and have responsibilities in this area. A key element in building an SDI is communication; we are presenting this website, hoping to see it grow and adapt to the needs of the working platform and the public demands. On October 18 it was conducted a meeting of the IDERA (Spatial Data Infrastructure of the Republic of Argentina) coordination team in the province of Catamarca.



On October 18 it was conducted a meeting of the IDERA (Spatial Data Infrastructure of the Republic of Argentina) coordination team in the province of Catamarca.

[NATIONAL TERRITORIAL INFORMATION SYSTEM OF CHILE \(in Spanish SNIT\)](#)

[National Assets Minister on Official Visit to Canada](#)

Source: <http://www.snit.cl/>

Under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Chile and Canada, in the areas of Geospatial Information and Geomatics, Minister of National Assets of Chile, Ms. Catalina Parot, officially visited the northern country on October 18-22. The agreement under the Canada-Chile cooperation has among its objectives the exchange of scientific-technical personnel and information, including development and management of common standards; in addition, it includes the collaborative research of problems of mutual interest to each country; the liaison and coordination with industry, academic, professional and other organizations; and developing links between industry and academics from both countries. Among the objectives of visiting Canada are, "to learn on: their work on territorial zoning; second, their experience on cadastre and georeferencing national parks; and, third, on their work with indigenous peoples," explained the Minister Parot. Read more at: www.bienes.cl



Read more at: www.bienes.cl

[SNIT Regional Managers Participate in National Coordination Workshop](#)

Source: <http://www.snit.cl/>

The event, organized by the Ministry of National Property, was held on 18 and 19 October in the Auditorium of the Military Geographical Institute, also summoning representatives of ministers comprising the Inter-ministerial Technical Committee, and the coordinators of SNIT's thematic areas. Professionals worked in the workshop on a proposed work plan for 2010-2014, which will be presented on November to the Council of Ministers on Land Information. The Plan strategic goals include: production and publication of information using common standards and technical specifications; technological development strongly focused on data and mapping publication based on Web platform tools for making them available to all users; the institutional strengthening of the system; technical and decision makers-level capacity building; dissemination and promotion of activities carried out under the coordination system and of progresses on these matters at the various levels of the State government; and finally, the country's participation and integration with international collaboration networks allowing exchange of best practices and technology that could strengthen the Geospatial Data Infrastructure of Chile.

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[SNIT Conducts Training to Members of the Mesa Regional de Atacama](#)

Source: <http://www.snit.cl/>

On September 30 and October 1st, outreach and training activities on SNIT tools to professionals of the Atacama Region's Technical Coordination Committee were conducted in the city of Copiapo. This activity is part of the strategic objective of the Ministry of National Assets in order to facilitate equal, timely and quick access to public land information as a tool for decision making, through actions developed by SNIT. Similarly, it was developed a general training on the "Atacama Geonodo" (*Geonode*) administration, especially on including information layers, and the new version of the installed tool in the region.

[ECUADORIAN GEOSPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE \(in Spanish IEDG\)](#)

News Highlights

Source: Miguel E. Ruano N. by way of Fanny Tamay

- On September 1st 2010 the National Policy on Geospatial Information were Published in the Official Registry 269 (Registro Oficial 269). This publication was called by Alejandra Calderon, President of CONAGE and certified by Ing. Miguel Ruano, CONAGE's Secretary.

- Inside Official Register 288 of September 28, 2010 it was published the Ecuadorian Metadata Profile (vector-Raster), based on ISO TC/211 19115 and ISO TC/211 19115-2 international standards. This publication was called by CONAGE's President and certified by Miguel Ruano. The document may be found at: http://territorial.sni.gob.ec/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=69&Itemid=134

- On October 6 the National Information System (in Spanish SNI) held a presentation on progresses made with respect to strategic geographic data and information management, in the city of Guayaquil, so that these could be socialized to planning authorities and decision makers. During this presentation it was highlighted the progresses of important projects such as the "Geoinformation Production on Territorial Management and Rural Land Valuation in the Río Guayas Watershed". Likewise, progress on the "Plan for Aerial Photography Collection", and the focal point for Digital Cartography at regional headquarters of the Military Geographic Institute of Ecuador (in Spanish IGM) were presented. On the other hand, participants to the event learned on the Geoport management, use, advantages and contribution to the SNI and to the Ecuadorian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (IEDG). SNI developed the above mentioned tasks based on the principle that quality information access is of basic need for territorial planning.



SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE OF EL SALVADOR – UNDER CONSTRUCTION

[Territorial Systems Management Office of the Geographic and National Cadastre Institute, El Salvador](#)

Source: <http://www.cnr.gob.sv/>

Functions of the Territorial Systems Management Office of the Geographic and National Cadastre Institute of El Salvador (in Spanish CNR-DIGN) include: the creation, maintenance and upgrading of national data underlying the creation of maps, and feeding geographic information systems and other publication types. Conventional mapping produced traditionally, has undergone radical changes in its processes. Modern tools of digital photogrammetry, Global Positioning System (GPS), information collection through satellite and radar images with different resolutions, have changed mapping methods. Likewise, new concepts on open geo-information and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for exchanging information through the Web are changing map production. Accordingly to these new trends, the CNR-DIGN through its Institutional Strategic Plan has begun its modernization process for developing new digital products.

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[NATIONAL SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE OF JAMAICA \(NSDI\)](#)

[NLA Launches iMap Jamaica](#)

Source: <http://www.licj.org.jm/licj/>

The National Land Agency (NLA), in collaboration with Globe Insurance Company Ltd., on last September, launched its groundbreaking interactive map of the island, called 'iMap Jamaica' (<http://www.nla.gov.jm/map.htm>). Persons will be able to access the program via the web base application, eLandJamaica, which allows persons to obtain copies of land related documents, such as certificates of title, valuation roll reports and deposited plans. The new programme will be available to the public free of cost and will allow persons anywhere in the world to spatially identify any parcel of land in Jamaica and access related land information. Speaking at the launch, which was held in New Kingston, Minister with responsibility for Information, Telecommunications and Special Projects, Hon. Daryl Vaz said the initiative is in keeping with the Government's vision of a public sector/private sector partnership in development. The partnership involves the NLA providing Globe Insurance with pertinent land related data for the insurance company's internal monitoring purposes. Globe Insurance, in exchange, financed the design of the map application, and customized it to suit the needs of the NLA customers. Technical resources in the creation of iMap Jamaica were jointly supplied by the two entities. In comparing the product to Google Earth, Mr. Vaz said iMap can empower Jamaicans to access and use land information in ways that were thought impossible not so long ago. The Minister informed that the Spatial Data Management Division of the Office of the Prime Minister is working, in collaboration with the NLA, to commission the Virtual Reference System network, which will assist in the provision of accurate and timely spatial data. "This is a network of 13 GPS (Global Positioning System) stations strategically located across the island that will provide service 24 hours a day, seven days a week," he noted. Chief Executive Officer of the NLA, Elizabeth Stair, said iMap is a work in progress. "In using iMap, you may find, especially in the rural areas, that there may be limited or no information on the property you are searching for, but over time this will change," she informed.



[NATIONAL STATISTICAL AND GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM OF MEXICO \(in Spanish SNIEG\)](#)

[National Statistics and Geography Program \(in Spanish PNEG\) 2010-2012 in the Official Journal of the Federation](#)

Source: <http://www.snieg.mx/>

The National Statistics and Geography Program (in Spanish PNEG) 2010-2012 was published on October 14, 2010 in the Official Journal of the Federation. It aims to guide the National Statistics and Geographic Information System, and information production development required for a better territorial, economic, social and environmental knowledge of the country, in order to support planning, public policy and decision making. It is noteworthy that the 2010-2012 PNEG defines a set of activities and projects to be conducted by State units, in alignment with the Strategic Program of the National Statistics and Geographic Information 2010-2034 published in the Official Journal of the Federation on April 16, 2010, and the National Development Plan 2007-2012. [See National Statistics and Geography Program \(PNEG\) 2010-2012](#). On August 24 INEGI's Board of Governors approved the National Statistics and Geography Program (PNEG) 2010-2012, with which the system may bridge long-term goals embodied in the Strategic Program, and short-term activities to be undertaken by State units for each presidential term, which are being recorded in the Annual of Statistics and Geography. The PNEG is one of three program documents that the Law of National Statistics and Geographic Information establishes for planning and regulating the System activities on the part of integrating members for planning, programming, producing and disseminating national interest information, which have official status and is compulsory for the Federation, states, Federal District and municipalities.

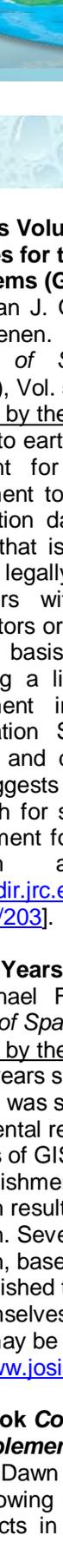


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Articles and Publications of the Month

Towards Voluntary Interoperable Open Access Licenses for the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS)

By Harlan J. Onsrud, James Campbell, and Bastiaan van Loenen. Article published in the *International Journal of Spatial Data Infrastructure Research (IJS DIR)*, Vol. 5 (2010)

Abstract by the authors

Access to earth observation data has become critically important for the wellbeing of society. A major impediment to achieving widespread sharing of earth observation data is lack of an operational web-wide system that is transparent and consistent in allowing users to legally access and use the earth observations of others without seeking permission from data contributors or investigating terms of usage on a case-by-case basis. This article explores approaches to supplying a license-based system to overcome this impediment in the context of the Global Earth Observation System of Systems. It discusses the benefits and drawbacks of the explored approaches and suggests an integrated legal and technological approach for supplying an effective web-wide sharing environment for earth observation data [The complete research article may be found at: <http://ijmdir.jrc.ec.europa.eu/index.php/ijmdir/article/view/File/168/203>].

Twenty Years of Progress: GIScience in 2010

By Michael F. Goodchild. Article published in the *Journal of Spatial Information Science* No. 1 (2010)

Abstract by the author

It is 20 years since the term “geographic information science” was suggested to encompass the set of fundamental research issues that surround GIS. Two decades of GIScience have produced a range of accomplishments, in an expanding literature of research results as well as in the infrastructure of research. Several themes are suggested for future research, based both on gaps in what has been accomplished thus far, and on technology trends that will themselves raise research questions [The complete article may be found at: <http://www.josis.org/index.php/josis/article/view/32/33>].

New Book *Coastal Informatics: Web Atlas Design and Implementation*

Source: Dawn Right

The following new book includes case study chapters of projects in Africa and the Caribbean, and Pacific

coast of the US: *Coastal Informatics: Web Atlas Design and Implementation*, Hershey, PA, IGI-Global, DOI: 10.4018/978-1-61520-815-9, ISBN13: 9781615208159, 350 pp. <http://icoastalatlant.net/handbook>. Edited by Dawn J. Wright (Oregon State University, USA), Edward ("Ned") Dwyer and Valerie Cummins (Coastal & Marine Resources Centre, Ireland, now at the Maritime and Energy Research Campus and Commercial Cluster) Mapping Solutions from Sea to Shining Sea Hershey, PA –May 18, 2010– In the wake of the recent oil spill off the Gulf coast of the United States, oil companies, environmental organizations, and the federal government continue to work together to solve the imminent and life-threatening slick conditions. As plumes of oil lurk beneath the surface, the ocean's future, and way of life for many in the area come into question. One way to head-off such issues in the future is through the use and development of Coastal Web Atlases (CWAs). "CWAs deal with a variety of thematic priorities (e.g., oil spills or recreational uses) and can be tailored to address the needs of a particular user group (e.g., coastal managers or education)." Over the years a noticeable trend has been observed in the growing interest of decision makers, scientists and the general public in the coast. According to the International Coastal Atlas Network (ICAN), "A key aspect of this trend has been the development of the Coastal Web Atlas (CWA), based on web-enabled Geographic Information Systems (GIS). A CWA is defined as a collection of digital maps and datasets with supplementary tables, illustrations and information that systematically illustrate the coast, oftentimes with cartographic and decision-support tools, all of which are accessible via the Internet." This revolutionary publication presents the emerging development of coastal web atlases through a series of case studies which give practical guidance on geographic data management and documentation through standards-based metadata, as well as making underlying geographic databases interoperable. This resource is of practical use in web atlas design, development and implementation for improving spatial thinking in the coastal context, with innovative chapters that bring together key experts from Europe, the United States, Canada Africa, and Australia. The publication is also accompanied by a dedicated website (International Coastal Atlas Network, <http://icoastalatlant.net>) to provide further elaboration on advanced themes. For more information on this title, please visit: <http://icoastalatlant.net/handbook>

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Research on the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal as a Human-Technology Network

Source: UN-SPIDER Septiembre 2010 Updates

Mr. Florian Neisser, Geographer at the University of Bonn, has finalized his research on the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal as "An Interactive Platform to Foster Space Technology Utilization in Disaster Management". The [abstract is available online](#) on the [Knowledge Portal](#) and the complete thesis can be obtained upon request.

Abstract by the author

Disaster Management is an issue of global importance which requires timely and accurate information as well as clear and suitable communication technology to guarantee coordinated efforts to save lives and property. Thus, technology for gathering, retaining, managing and transferring information and the ability of linking experts plays an eminent role. This study is an observation of the setting of the web-based UN-SPIDER (United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response) Knowledge Portal based on the Actor-Network Theory to examine such a human-technology network. The Actor-Network Theory treats the Knowledge Portal as an assemblage of technical (non-human), social (human) and mental (supra-human) entities. The observation is focused on the configuration and the processes which form this actor-network with the aim to bring together the space technology and the disaster management community to support and nurture virtual Communities of Practice and enable knowledge transfer. The thesis addresses the problem of a communication gap between the space technology and the disaster management community by applying the Actor-Network Theory and analyzing this network of human and technological actors.

Government of Scotland publishes SDI Cookbook

Source: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/>

[One Scotland, One Geography, One Information Network, Creating Scotland's Spatial Data Infrastructure, Cookbook 1 - How to serve a Scottish SDI and INSPIRE conformant Web Map Service?](#)

This Cookbook is the first of a series of guidance manuals/toolkits which will define the appropriate standards for delivery of spatial data as web services, and provide guidance on the technology options that are currently available to deliver these services. These guidance manuals are being developed by Scottish Government in partnership with the British Geological Survey. PDF file [here](#)

OSGeo Journal Vol. 6 Released

Source: <https://www.osgeo.org/>

Most recent issue of *OSGeo Journal* is now released ([Volume 6 - September 28, 2010](#)).

You can access the index of the past and current issues at: <http://www.osgeo.org/ojs/index.php/journal>.

The *OSGeo Journal* is the official Journal of the Open Source Geospatial Foundation; is a digital publication containing case studies, news, tutorials, project updates and more. With a general aim at promoting, highlighting and educating readers about open source geospatial applications in general, but also provides updates on OSGeo projects.

New FIG Publication

Source: FIG e-Newsletter October 2010

Sydney Declaration - Final version of the declaration adopted as outcome of the XXIV International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) Congress held in Sydney, Australia, 11-16 April 2010: http://www.fig.net/pub/figpub/sydney_decl/sydney_declaration.pdf

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Geospatial Research, Applications, Software, Data

[Boundary Plans / Prescribed Composite Maps Now Online, Cayman Islands](#)

Source: Arturo Brun-Martinez

Lands & Survey Department is pleased to announce a new section of the Cayman Land Info website, which provides practitioners with a single source of information on published road schemes. Going forward, all Boundary Plan (BP) and Prescribed Composite Map (PCM) plans and notices will be available online, reducing the need for paper distribution, and providing quicker and easier access to these public documents. To view these plans and notices please visit the [Road Schemes page](#).

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[ONE held XIX Meeting on the National Statistical System, Dominican Republic](http://www.one.gob.do/)

Source: <http://www.one.gob.do/>



The National Statistics Office (in Spanish ONE) held on October the XIX Interagency Meeting on the National Statistical System on the occasion of the celebration of the World Statistics Day. The event included two panels: the first dealt with the topic "Importance of statistical data in the construction of key indicators for economic and social development of the country: national accounts, human development, and poverty"; The second panel addressed the topic "The National Population and Housing Census and the process of reform and modernization of the National Statistics Office (in Spanish ONE)". The inter-agency meetings of the National Statistical System have been conducted continuously since 2004, framed within the modernization and openness process of the ONE with participation of state agencies and the private sector, seeking to strengthen the National Statistical System.

[Governments of Chinese Taiwan and Nicaragua signed cooperation agreement for an Information System](http://www.geoinstitutos.com/)

Source: <http://www.geoinstitutos.com/>

Taiwan Chinese Government and the Government of Nicaragua signed cooperation agreement on the establishment of a system of high-tech information. With the goal of improving government efficiency in the management of environmental sustainability and disaster management, facilitating the monitoring and protection of the environment and promoting sustainable development of the nation, the Government of the Republic of China Taiwan and the Government of Reconciliation and National Unity, support bonds of cooperation in establishing a system of high-tech information focused on protecting the environment. This support is given through the Nicaraguan Institute of Territorial Studies (in Spanish INETER), and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (in Spanish MARENA). The agreement establishes a basic cooperation framework in the fields of Remote Sensing - FORMOSAT 2 and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in order to achieve these objectives. As part of the cooperation agreements a regular monitoring system in protected areas will be provided: RS images will be analyzed and data from soil surface change monitoring and of protected areas; emergency monitoring in relevant areas providing satellite images in areas of the country affected by disasters; and training will be provided to improve quality of human resources. The cooperation agreement will last one year with possible extensions and it is expected to have more support for future projects.

Release of GeoNetwork Opensource v2.6.0-1

Source: Jeroen Ticheler by way of Santiago Borrero

This is a major release for the project that provides great new functionality, helping all those that need to publish their geographic data and services with standardized metadata. You can find the software at <https://sourceforge.net/projects/geonetwork/>

This release includes the following new or improved functionality:

- Performance improvements on search and indexing
- INSPIRE Search panel and metadata view
- New embedded Web Map Viewer based on OpenLayers
- Multilingual metadata display and editing support for the ISO19115/19119/19110 metadata standards (encoding based on ISO19139)
- Keywords and Coordinate Reference System selection panels
- Advanced data and metadata export
- Metadata relations management (Parent/child metadata, related service metadata, related feature catalogues)
- Advanced schema and schematron validation of metadata with reporting improvements
- Visual warnings in the metadata editor and many more...

GeoNetwork Opensource (<http://geonetwork-opensource.org/>) is a standards based geospatial catalog application that helps people and organizations to organize and publish their geospatial data through the web.



OpenDragon Geoinformatics Software now Open Source and Free Worldwide

Source: Sally Goldin,

The Global Software Institute (GSI) has announced that, effective immediately, OpenDragon is available for free download by users anywhere in the world. OpenDragon offers a full suite of image analysis and raster GIS capabilities including image enhancement, supervised and unsupervised classification, geometric correction, measurement and statistics, vector capture and display, slope, aspect and buffer calculations and multi-criterion decision making. OpenDragon also includes the OpenDragon Toolkit, which allows users who can program in C to extend the software functionality. GSI will also make the source code for OpenDragon available for non-commercial use under an Open Source license during the next six to nine months. "Schools, colleges and universities need robust, high quality software for geoinformatics teaching and research," said Dr. Sally E. Goldin, President of GSI. OpenDragon fills the gap by providing a

wide range of core geoinformatics functions in an integrated, easy-to-use package. The Toolkit is especially useful for faculty and graduate students who need to develop and evaluate their own algorithms." OpenDragon is a free offshoot of the commercial Dragon/ips(r) system from Goldin-Rudahl Systems, Inc. OpenDragon is fully internationalized. The current system provides Thai, Czech, French, Russian, Bahasa Indonesian and Brazilian Portuguese interfaces. GSI will gladly cooperate with any organization wishing to translate the software into other languages. Users interested in downloading OpenDragon should visit <http://www.open-dragon.org> for details. The Global Software Institute was founded to apply computer technology to global needs. For more information on GSI visit <http://www.global-soft.org>. For information on the more powerful commercial version of Dragon, visit <http://www.dragon-ips.com>. For more information please contact Sally Goldin, seg@global-soft.org



GEO Carbon Strategy Report now available

Source: GEO News (Issue #10, 5 October 2010)

The GEO Carbon Community of Practice has finalized the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) Carbon Strategy Report (http://www.earthobservations.org/documents/sbas/cl/201006_geo_carbon_strategy_report.pdf). The Report describes the implementation of the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) global carbon observation and analysis system, which will address the three components of the carbon cycle (atmosphere, land and ocean) integrating both in-situ and space-based observations. The report follows on from the Carbon theme report of the Integrated Global Observing Strategy Partnership (IGOS-P), which has since been fully integrated into the GEO Carbon Community of Practice.

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Training and Funding Opportunities, Awards

[Course on "Geostatistics in the field of Earth Sciences"](#)

Source: <http://snitchile.blogspot.com/>

The Metropolitan Technological University of Chile (UTEM) will hold in December the Course "Geostatistics in the field of Earth Sciences." The course will be taught by Dr. Alonso Condal, professor at the University of Laval, Canada. Course objectives include:

- Understanding geostatistical methods used in the analysis of geographic data in the field of natural resources and the environment.
- Understanding interpolation methods and evaluation of interpolated surfaces quality.
- Recognizing the usefulness of geostatistical methods in analyzing data in forestry, agriculture, soil quality, oceanography, meteorology, and topography, among others.

The course will be held between 6 and 18 December from 18:00 to 22:00. More information and applications: voice (56 2) 787 77 58 - (56 2) 787 75 92 or e-mail: sie@utem.cl

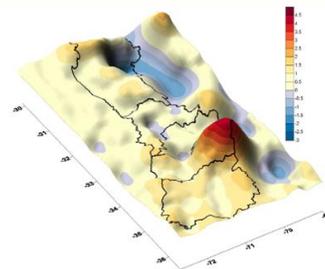


Facultad de Humanidades y Tecnologías de la Comunicación Social

Departamento de Cartografía

CURSO

GEOESTADISTICA EN EL AMBITO DE LAS CIENCIAS DE LA TIERRA



Crisis and Mass Disaster Management, Galilee Institute -

Source: Silvina Berkovitch by way of Santiago Borrero



The program has been developed under the idea that best defense line against disaster is the knowledge that local community may have about disaster prevention. The program focuses on the discussion of strategies and methods to reduce disaster risk. Decision makers-professionals are introduced to current knowledge about crises and disasters, improving their technical skills and innovative capacity in developing and managing national and regional policies, as well as in the implementation and administration of plans to follow during crisis and disaster. Through interactive seminars, experiences, group discussions and informal conversations, participants will

have the opportunity to learn and understand how to successfully deal with disaster and how to plan and formulate national policy plans. The program will be conducted in Spanish and in case of need it will have the presence of an interpreter. It will take place at our Galilee Studies Center Institute located within the Mizra kibbutz, near the sacred city of Nazareth and 5 km from the city of Afula, Israel. The program lasts two weeks of intensive studies; study visits are conducted during the week (Sunday to Friday) and excursions to sacred sites, historical and archaeological sites over the weekend. (Saturday). Our institution offers the possibility to access a scholarship covering tuition fees for the program, being in charge of the participants or organizations the accommodation costs of Fellows. The management of a sponsor to finance the costs of lodging and tickets are the responsibility of the person concerned. A limited number of scholarships covering tuition fees (≈ 10,500) are available for candidates who are citizens of developing countries. Contact Person: Ms. Silvina Berkovitch, Program Director of the Spanish Department, Galilee Institute, E-mail: sberkovitch@galilcol.ac.il. More information about the program [here](#). [Registration Form](#).

2011 Sasakawa Award for Disaster Reduction – call for nominees

Source: Preventionweb list

The Sasakawa Award for Disaster Reduction has helped fund innovative disaster reduction work by a range of professionals from geologists to engineers for the past 23 years. Nominations are now open for the 2011 Sasakawa Award to be given to an individual or organization for outstanding and internationally recognized action that contributes to building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters. "We hope the award will stimulate wider application of the Hyogo Framework and integrating disaster risk reduction into the work of many disciplines," said Margareta Wahlström, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Disaster Reduction, who heads the United Nations secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) which administers the award. The \$50,000

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prize is typically shared among the Sasakawa Laureate and recipients of the Certificate of Distinction and Certificate of Merit, selected by an independent jury. "This year for the first time, candidates are recommended to demonstrate how their achievements are linked to the Ten Essentials that we promote as part of the disaster risk reduction campaign, 'Making Cities Resilient – My City is Getting Ready'," said Helena Molin Valdés, Deputy Director of UNISDR. "The award is a great way to gauge work already being done and to encourage more of it. We're eager to see what comes in." The award was established in 1986 by the Nippon Foundation of Japan. For further information, please see the UNISDR website: <http://www.unisdr.org/eng/sasakawa/>. The full story is available on iseek: http://iseek.un.org/webpgdept1913_56.asp

Sasakawa Award: <http://www.unisdr.org/eng/sasakawa/2010/Sasakawa-eng-web.pdf>

Prix Sasakawa: <http://www.unisdr.org/eng/sasakawa/2010/Sasakawa-fr-web.pdf>

Premio Sasakawa: <http://www.unisdr.org/eng/sasakawa/2010/Sasakawa-esp-web.pdf>

Candidates should send the completed cover form to the UNISDR Secretariat by **28 February** 2011, together with the requested detailed information in support of their nomination.



[QA4EO workshop announced for 5-7 April 2011](#)

Source: GEO News (Issue #10, 5 October 2010)

The QA4EO Workshop on Providing Quality Information in Harmonised Earth Observation Data will be held from 5-7 April 2011 at Rutherford Appleton Laboratory (RAL) near Oxford, UK. In particular, the workshop will explore how quality information is derived, maintained and presented following the QA4EO principle that "all data and derived products must have associated with them a Quality Indicator (QI) based on documented quantitative assessment of its traceability to community agreed absolute reference standards". This event will establish a roadmap of key objectives by 2015 that will cover technical, coordination and governance aspects of QA4EO. Your active participation to this very important workshop is critical to moving forwards with the Group on Earth Observation (GEO)'s vision for a Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS). More detailed logistical information about the workshop will follow shortly. If you have a contribution to make to this event by way of a presentation or poster, please do not hesitate to contact the workshop local organizer Dave Smith (dave.smith@stfc.ac.uk) to register your interest.

- The 34th International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment: "The GEOSS Era: Towards Operational Environmental Monitoring," will take place in Sydney, Australia on April 10-15, 2011. For more information and registration please log on to: <http://isrse34.org/default.asp>

3rd Annual Spatial Ontology Community of Practice Workshop: Development, Implementation and Use of GeoSpatial Ontologies and Semantics

Source: USGS

The Spatial Ontology Community of Practice (SOCoP) is hosting a workshop on spatial semantics and ontologies at the U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) National Center 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, VA 20192 on December 3, 2010 from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM. This workshop is organized by SocoP with support from the USGS, Ontolog, and others. The purpose of the workshop is to continue the discussion from the previous SocoP workshops in advancing spatial ontologies and semantic tools in the geospatial data domain. The main theme of this 3rd iteration of the workshop is the current and future state of development, implementation, and use of geospatial semantics and ontologies in meeting organizational mission and program needs. In addressing this theme, as at last year's workshop, we anticipate having a morning of talks and an afternoon of small group roundtable discussions. Expected this year will be presentations on GeoSPARQL, a geo SameAs Demonstration, Open Geospatial Consortium GeoSemantics, USGS Ontology for The National Map, and National Geospatial Intelligence Agency activities. There is no charge for the workshop and more information about SocoP and the workshop will be available at www.socop.org as it is developed. Even though there will be no charge for the Workshop, we will ask attendees to register with SocoP to facilitate logistics and entry into the USGS Building. Any questions regarding the 3rd Annual SocoP Workshop can be addressed to Dr. Gary Berg-Cross via email: gbergcross@gmail.com. A final program, meeting location directions and registration information should be available soon. Proceedings from last



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year's Workshop complete with presentation slides and audio are available at http://ontolog.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?SOCoP/Workshop_2009_11_12 , thanks to the support of Ontolog.

gvSIG: Use Cases

Source: Communication gvSIG

gvSIG Case Studies

Home Categories About Contact



gvSIG launched a new website [1] where we want to show the variety of use cases of gvSIG. Use cases in the most diverse sectors and geographies. Use cases of both official products - gvSIG Desktop, Mobile gvSIG - and custom development from these products. You may search by country, sector, software or keywords [2]. We encourage all gvSIG users to tell us about your experience with gvSIG and share it with the rest of the community. To do this, you need to fill in the information available on the web [3] and send it to email address: press@gvsig.com.

[1] <http://gvsigusecases.drupalgardens.com>

[2] <http://gvsigusecases.drupalgardens.com/content/categories>

[3] http://gvsig-desktop.forge.osor.eu/downloads/pub/documents/usecases/gvSIG_Successful_cases_en.odt

ESRI Video

Source: <http://gislounge.com/>

ESRI has launched a new section of its web site that is focused on showcasing presentations on various topics relating to the geospatial technology field. The videos are mostly ESRI software centric but feature presentations from some very prominent individuals: Presenters include thought leaders such as Harvard University landscape architecture professor Carl Steinitz, GIS pioneer Roger Tomlinson, and Technology/Entertainment/Design (TED) conferences founder Richard Saul Wurman. There's even a [video introducing the Esri Video site](#). Very helpful is the interactive transcript that runs on the right hand side of each video. Visit: [Esri Video](http://video.esri.com/) (<http://video.esri.com/>)

Esri Video

Autodesk Launches Free online Resource for Engineering Faculty and Students

Source: <http://www.mundogeo.com.br/>

Autodesk has announced the launch of [Autodesk Sustainability Workshop](http://students.autodesk.com/?nd=sustainable_home) (http://students.autodesk.com/?nd=sustainable_home), an educational content portal aimed at teachers and students of engineering. Through online lessons at the Web page you may learn principles of sustainable design, such as Whole Systems Design techniques and lightweighting. Portal tools can be used free of charge and are available for anyone interested in learning more about sustainable projects. The site contains videos, presentations, tips, tools and tutorials, and applies the principles of sustainability to current challenges in the engineering sector, as the optimization of projects to maximize energy, water and materials.



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Employment Opportunities

Researcher Professor at Cuauhtemoc City

Source: Rolando Díaz C. by way of Santiago Borrero

Request for a Doctor of Science, who focuses on Territorial Studies (risk management, environmental impact, other), with experience on Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing. The applicant must be widely interested to engage in interdisciplinary work. The applicant's CV will be assessed. Should be hired as full-time research professor. Signed contract for two years, after which, based on results, may opt for tenure. The post is offered by the Autonomous University of Ciudad Juarez, but the teacher does not have their place of work in that city. She/he will work for the Multidisciplinary Unit of the University in Ciudad Cuauhtemoc, six hours away. Interested parties please communicate

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as soon as possible with Dr. Rolando Díaz Caravantes, Coordinador de la Licenciatura en Geoinformática, Unidad Multidisciplinaria de la UACJ en Ciudad Cuauhtémoc. Telephones 01 625 112 1717 and 19 / 045 6251069412, rolando.diaz@uacj.mx or with Dr. Luis Carlos Bravo luis.bravo@uacj.mx

Assistant Professor Position at the University of Washington

Source: Rinku Roy Chowdhury

The Department of Geography in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Washington invites applications for a full-time, tenure track position as Assistant Professor in environmental geography or nature-society relations. The successful candidate will also possess a strong background in GIS (Geographic Information Science) and geovisualization, and will augment existing departmental strengths in critical development studies and/or geographies of food and agriculture. The successful candidate will lead us into important new areas in political ecology and environmental science, including questions of energy resources and climate change. University of Washington Faculty engage in teaching, research and service. The normal teaching load in the Department of Geography is four courses per year. Other professional duties include an active research program, and service to the department and wider community.. A PhD is required at the time of appointment in September, 2011. Preference will be given to applicants already holding a PhD. Apply: Send a letter of application and CV, including the names and contact information of three references, to Lucy Jarosz, Search Committee Chair, Department of Geography, Box 353550, Seattle, WA 98195. Review of applications will begin on **January 15, 2011**. For status of opening please contact Information: Katharyne Mitchell, kmitch@uw.edu, 206-543-1494.

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Other

[WWF Launched the 2010 Edition of the Living Planet Report](#)

Source: WWF News



The report is published every 2 years and is considered to be the world's leading, science-based analysis about the impact of human activity on the health of our planet. It's key finding: humanity's demands exceed our planet's capacity to sustain us. That is, we ask for more than what we have. You may download the 2010 Living Planet Report (PDF, 24 MB) at <http://assets.panda.org/downloads/lpr2010.pdf>

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Americas: Conferences, SDI Events

Now Available the Most Comprehensive online Map of Geotechnology Sector Events

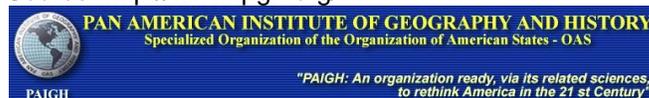
Source: <http://www.mundogeo.com.br/>

The Portal MundoGEO just published an online map with major world Geotechnology events. These are congresses, seminars, conferences and workshops on diverse topics such as GIS, remote sensing, surveying and GNSS. To see the map, click on [this link](#) and enter the Google Maps with an indication of the 2010 events in the area of geoinformation. If your institution or company wants to organize an event in 2010 or 2011,

you may send the information to editorial@mundogeo.com, for inclusion in the geo events map.

[42 Meeting of the Directing Council of PAIGH and SIRGAS](#)

Source: <http://www.ipgh.org/>



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The 42nd Meeting of the Directing Council of PAIGH will take place in Lima, Peru, between 10 and 12 November 2010. Information on Registration, Accommodation, a Draft Agenda and Meeting Documents, may be found at <http://www.ipgh.org/>. Within the 42 Session of the Directing Council of PAIGH the International Congress on "Disasters and Territorial Ordering in the Americas" will be held on November 8-9, and the SIRGAS Meeting 2010 (<http://www.sirgas.org/>) will take place on November 11-12, 2010. On this occasion, the National Geographic Institute of Peru (IGN) has also provided logistical and organizational support for the successful completion of these meetings.

URISA's Caribbean GIS Conference

Source: <http://www.urisa.org/>
The Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) has presented four conferences focused on the effective application of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and other information technologies within the Caribbean. Previous conferences have taken place in Jamaica (2001), Barbados (2004), the Bahamas (2006) and the Cayman Islands (2008). The URISA's 5th Caribbean GIS Conference: "Geospatial Technologies: Connecting our Industries in Meeting the Region's Challenges", will take place on December 6-10, 2010 in Trinidad and Tobago. URISA is pleased to note that CARILEC, the Caribbean Electric Utility Service Corporation, an association of electric utilities, suppliers, manufacturers and other stakeholders operating in the electricity industry in the Caribbean, will be a partner in the 2010 conference. More information at: http://www.urisa.org/2010caribbean_info



GeoChange

Source: <http://www.dsr.inpe.br/>



(A pre-conference workshop of GeoInfo2010)
The GeoChange Research Symposium is the second cooperative workshop organized by the National Institute for Space Research (in Portuguese INPE) and the Institute for Geoinformatics (IFGI), University of Münster. The goals of the GeoChange symposium are

to discuss and initiate solutions to modeling environmental change. The symposium on GIScience for Environmental Change is supported by the Brazilian-German Scientific Year (<http://www.dbwti.de>) and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Germany (<http://www.bmbf.de>). It will be held on November 27, 2010 at Campos do Jordão (São Paulo), Brazil. Read more about the objectives and the symposium program or download the symposium flyer at <http://www.dsr.inpe.br/GeoChange/>

First Brazilian gvSIG Conference: Lectures and Seminars

Source: press At gvSIG
Now available presentations and seminars presented at the First Brazilian gvSIG Conference held from 22 to 24 September that were attended by over 170 people from nearly 100 different institutions: <http://www.gvsig.org/web/community/events/jornadas-brasileiras/2010/apresentacoes>

GeoSUR 2010, International Geological Congress on the Southern Hemisphere

Source: <http://www.geoinstitutos.com/>
GeoSUR 2010 will be held on November 22-23 in Mar del Plata, Argentina. GeoSUR 2004 was held in Buenos Aires and Ushuaia, Argentina and GeoSUR 2007 was held in Santiago de Chile and Puerto Natales. The event will provide a forum for geoscientists from all countries to present and discuss recent progress in the broad field of geology and geophysics of the Southern Hemisphere. This Symposium is organized by Argentinean and Italian Earth Sciences Institutions which are involved in joint researches for the study of the Antarctic and Sub-Antarctic regions. Researches from all countries and institutions interested in regional geology, geodynamic and structural evolution, magmatic processes, earthquake seismology, marine geology and geophysics, geomorphology, sedimentary environments and processes, landform and ice-sheet dynamics, paleoclimatic reconstructions, remote-sensing, pure and applied geophysics, and related topics are welcome.

More information at: www.geosur.org/scope.php;
Email: fundacion@bl.fcen.uba.ar



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YEAR 2010

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NOVEMBER 2010

1-4	Nashville TN, USA	GEOINT 2010
1-5	Vancouver BC, Canada	4th International Workshop on Semantic and Conceptual Issues in GIS (SeCoGIS 2010)
2	San Jose CA, USA	1st International Workshop on GeoStreaming (IWGS2010)
2-3	Vancouver BC, Canada	ESRI Regional User Conference
2-5	San Jose CA, USA	ACM SIG SPATIAL GIS 2010
4	Oakville ON, Canada	GITA Ontario Chapter Fall Forum 2010
4-5	Denver CO, USA	MAPublisher Training
8-9	Lima, Peru	International Congress on "Disaster and Land Management in the Americas" Contact: desastres@ign.gob.pe
8-10	Las Vegas NV, USA	Trimble Dimensions 2010
8-12	Nayarit, Mexico	National Convention of Geography and the Environment 2010 Contact: convencion.geografia@inegi.org.mx
8-12	Guanajuato, Mexico	XIV International SELPER Symposium "Observation & Monitoring of the Earth Related to Climate Change" (An ISPRS Regional Conference) E-mail: silvia.casas757@gmail.com
8-12	Lima, Perú	Joint Meeting of PAIGH Directing Council, Americas Geocentric Reference System (in Spanish SIRGAS) and II School of "References System - SIRGAS"
8-12	Huaraz, Perú	International Symposium on climate change and the Latin-American protected natural areas
NEW 9-11	Rio de Janeiro RJ, Brazil	III Geomatics Meeting: UERJ – Faculty of Engineering
NEW 10-12	Lima, Perú	42 Meeting of Directing Council of the PAIGH
NEW 11-12	Lima, Perú	SIRGAS Meeting 2010
NEW 14-20	Kingston, Jamaica	Geography Awareness Week 2010
15-21	Bahía Blanca, Argentina	1st Working Days on New Southern Argentina Geographic Information Technologies Further information: Jornadasinfogeo@gmail.com
15-19	Orlando FL, USA	AutoCarto 2010
15-19	Orlando FL, USA	ASPRS/CaGIS 2010 Fall Specialty Conference
15-19	Ciudad de México, Mexico	VI Spatial Conference of the Americas
16-17	Huntsville AL, USA	Rocket City Geospatial 2010
16-18	Orlando FL, USA	Commission IV Symposium "Geodatabases & Digital Mapping" / Marguerite Madden (President Commission IV) / mmadden@uga.edu
16-19	Havana, Cuba	IV Conference of the Latin American Population Association "Cultural Conditions and Transformations, Economic Factors, and Demographic Trends in Latin America"
16-19	Orlando FL, USA	ISPRS Commission IV - Geodatabases and Digital Mapping
NEW 17	Kingston, Jamaica	2010 GISday
17-18	St. John's NL, Canada	ESRI Regional User Conference
17-18	Tallahassee FL, USA	Seven Hills Regional User Group for GIS (SHRUG)
22-23	Mar del Plata - Argentina	Geosur 2010 - International Geological Congress on the Southern Hemisphere
NEW 22-26	San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina	First Latin-American Congress (IV Argentinean) on Biodiversity and Conservation 2010 , Information: info@biodiversidad.com.ar
25-27	Brasília, Brazil	IV PostgreSQL National Conference
NEW 27	Campos do Jordão, São Paulo, Brazil	GeoChange
NEW Nov. 28-Dec 1	Campos do Jordão, São Paulo, Brazil	GeoINFO 2010
NEW Nov. 30-Dec 2	Las Vegas NV, USA	Autodesk University 2010 Conference and Exhibition

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DECEMBER 2010

1	Salvador (BA), Brazil	National Seminar - Documentation of Architectural Heritage with the Use of Digital Technologies
1-4 *NEW*	São Paulo SP, Brazil	II International Symposium New Paths to Cartography within Geography
5-12	Florianópolis, SC, Brazil	15th International Biometric Conference
6-10	Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago	URISA's 5th Caribbean GIS Conference
14-17	Foz de Iguaçu, Brazil	Third Symposium on Spatial Statistics and Modeling Pictures III - SEEM 2010

YEAR 2011

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JANUARY 2011

19-21	Washington DC, USA	ESRI Federal User Conference (FedUC)
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FEBRUARY 2011

2-4	Washington DC, USA	ESRI Federal User Conference (FedUC)
7-9	New Orleans LA, USA	International LiDAR Mapping Forum
7-11	La Havana, Cuba	VII International Congress GEOMATICS 2011
23-24	Redlands CA, USA	2011 ESRI California/Hawaii/Nevada Regional User Group Conference
23-28	Gosier Guadeloupe	GEOProcessing 2011: The Third International Conference on Advanced Geographic Information Systems, Applications, and Services

MARCH 2011

6-8	Palm Springs CA, USA	2011 ESRI Worldwide Business Partner Conference (BPC)
7-10	Palm Springs CA, USA	2011 ESRI Developer Summit
21-24	Myrtle Beach SC, USA	Coastal GeoTools 2011
28-31	Fresno CA, USA	17th Annual California GIS Conference - Meeting California's Challenges

APRIL 2011

14-15	Resistencia, Chaco, Argentina	First National Congress of Geographic Information Technologies and Fourth Meeting of Members of Geographic Information Technologies of the NEA Contact: lbtig@hum.unne.edu.ar
Apr.30 - May 5	Curitiba, PR, Brazil	XV Brazilian Symposium on Remote Sensing (SBSR) Deadline for paper submission: November 10, 2010

MAY 2011

1-5	Milwaukee WI, USA	ASPRS 2011 Annual Conference "Ride On The Geospatial Revolution"
2-4	Jacksonville FL, USA	2011 ESRI Southeast Regional User Group
11-14 *NEW*	Paraty, Brazil	I Brazilian Symposium of Historical Cartography
14-18	Victoria BC, Canada	International Marine Conservation Congress
19	Botucatu SP, Brazil	II Symposium on Geostatistics Applied to Agrarian Sciences
25-27	Toluca, Mexico	XIII Latin American Conference on Geographic Information Systems (CONFIBSIG) E-mail: confibsigXIII@uaemex.mx

JUNE 2011

27-30	Atlanta GA, USA	2011 URISA GIS in Public Health Conference Contact: IMCCprogram@gmail.com
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JULY 2011

4-8 *NEW*	La Havana, Cuba	VIII International Convention on Environment and Development
7-12 *NEW*	San Diego CA, USA	The Survey Summit arranged by ESRI and the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (ACSM)



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NOVEMBER 2011

14-18

Santiago, Chile

[UGI 2011 Regional Geographic Conference](#)

YEAR 2012

May 2012

14-17

NEW

Quebec City, Canada

[GSDI-13](#)

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