

# Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

## Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

SDI-LAC

September

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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.



Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

# 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

Highlights of this SDI-LAC issue include the following: The **Global and Regional SDI** section comprises notes on the GEOSS Workshop XLIII: Sharing Climate Information and Knowledge to be held this month; Call for Comment on CityGML V1.1 by OGC; Technical Mission in Guatemala for SMIT's Consolidation; an Interagency Cooperation Agreement between Dominican Republic and Brazil for statistical and geographical information production; upcoming UN-SPIDER activities; the FIG International Symposium "Cadastre 2.0"; and the ISPRS2012 Congress. The **IGS section** includes an excerpt of an article on the *Society's Social Networking Strategy for SDIs*. The **National SDI** segment covers activities of Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Venezuela including: the Geomatics Week 2011 recently held in Colombia; Approval of Amendments to SNIEG's Specialized Technical Committees in Mexico; Panama's National Geographic Information System (SIGNAL); the International Workshop-Course on Radar Interferometry to take place in Peru; and the Launching of Venezuela's Interoperability Framework. **Articles and Publications** of the month comprise a revisited paper on *SDI, Knowledge Economy and Millennial Generation* by GSDI's President-elect; an article on *Open Source and Open Standards* published by OGC and OSGeo; the Argentina's *IV IDERA Newsletter*; Free Access Papers of the *IJDE Journal*;

and the *Field Guide to Humanitarian Mapping*, second edition. **Geospatial Research and Applications** contain topics such as the Project for Strengthening the Protected Marine Coastal Areas System of Venezuela; Novel Google Maps Initiatives to Exploring the Amazon; the New GeoConnectPeople Social Network; and the UN-HABITAT Free Software Project "Base Plan". The **Training and Funding Opportunities** section encompasses calls for international and national initiatives, among them: New OAS Scholarships; AAUW International Fellowships 2012-2013; Scholarships for Masters in Geomatics and Navigation at the Cartographic Institute of Catalonia, Spain; CATHALAC's Diploma Course on Climate Change Adaptation; SSSI Metadata and SDI Workshop in Australia; and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy Distance Courses. Finally, several **Events taking place in the Americas** are highlighted in the last section.

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

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### Input to this Issue

Seth Baum	PhD Candidate, ABD, Department of Geography, Pennsylvania State University, USA
Santiago Borrero	Secretary General, Pan-American Institute of Geography and History, PAIGH, Mexico
Jennifer Carter	Associate Professor, Acting Head, School of Social Sciences and Geography, Discipline Leader, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of the Sunshine Coast, Australia
Gregory B. Greenwood	Director, Mountain Research Initiative, Institute of Geography, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
Lorena Montoya	Administrative Assistant, College of Topographical Engineers of Costa Rica, San Jose, Costa Rica
Cliff Ogleby	Congress Director, ISPRS2012 Congress, Melbourne, Australia
Harlan Onsrud	GSDI Executive Director
Murphy Paiz	Dean, Faculty of Engineering, University of San Carlos de Guatemala, Ciudad Universitaria, Guatemala
Gerda Schennach	FIG Commission 7 Delegate / Organiser of Annual Meeting 2011, p.a. BEV-Federal Office of Metrology and Surveying, Innsbruck, Austria
David Stevens	Programme Coordinator, UN-SPIDER, United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs, Vienna - Beijing - Bonn
Nigel Woof	Chief Executive, MapAction, Lime Farm Office, Little Missenden, UK

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### Global and Regional SDI, News, Presentations



CANADIAN  
GEOMATICS  
CONFERENCE



GSDI 13  
WORLD  
CONFERENCE



GEOIDE  
SCIENTIFIC  
CONFERENCE



#### [GSDI 13: Call for Abstracts and Papers](#)

The joint GSDI 13 World Conference, GEOIDE Annual Scientific Conference and Canadian Geomatics Conference offers numerous opportunities for oral presentations and refereed and non-refereed publication outlets. The joint conference invites presentations covering the full range of practice, development and research experiences that advance the practice and theory of spatially enabling government, industry and citizens. Consult the suggested [Conference Topics](#). The submissions accepted through this call for abstracts and papers will be orally presented in the parallel session tracks shown in the [Program Overview](#).

This call supports three primary forms of publication:

1. a normal [conference proceedings](#) with abstracts and full non-refereed and refereed articles published on a CD or USB drive and archived on the web,
2. a [pre-conference published book](#) of fully refereed articles titled "Spatially Enabling Government, Industry and Citizens: Research and Development Perspectives" to be distributed to all conference participants and archived on the web, and
3. a [pre-conference selection of articles](#) for publication in the [International Journal of Spatial Data Infrastructures Research](#) (IJS DIR) to be selected, refereed, revised and published prior to and in affiliation with the conference.

In addition, two separate calls arising from the joint conference are being issued for chapter submissions to two additional books:

1. *The Added Value of Scientific Networking: GEOIDE Network Experiences* (link to call forthcoming) to be distributed to all conference participants, and



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2. *3DGeo Info* (link to call forthcoming) to be mailed after the conference to all 3DGeo Conference participants (a single track on Wednesday and Thursday).

Deadline for submission of abstracts, and full papers for consideration in the Conference Proceedings, the Book, or Journal: **15 November** 2011. Detailed information if found at: <http://www.gsd.org/gsdiconf/gsd13/index.html>

#### [2011-2012 GSDI Small Grants Program Announcement](#)

Source: Harlan Onsrud

The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association is pleased to announce its Small Grants Program for the year 2011-12.

#### *Summary:*

Awards for spatial data infrastructure or Earth Observations Systems (EOS)-related activities in economically disadvantaged nations

Application deadline of 31 October 2011

4,000 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 Web-enabled Spatial Data Infrastructure (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).

#### *Additional information:*

Overview of GSDI - [http://memberservices.gsd.org/files/?artifact\\_id=844](http://memberservices.gsd.org/files/?artifact_id=844) (in MS PowerPoint)

GSDI Strategic Plan - [http://portal.gsd.org/files/?artifact\\_id=544](http://portal.gsd.org/files/?artifact_id=544) (in PDF)

Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) and the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) - <http://www.earthobservations.org/>

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 the following regional SDI initiatives:

Africa: United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Committee on Development Information, Science and Technology (CODIST) – GeoInformation Sub-committee

Americas: Pan-American Institute for Geography and History (PAIGH)

Europe: European Umbrella Organization for Geographic Information (EUROGI)

Please visit the GSDI Association website (<http://gsdi.org>) 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 The Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA), to fund a



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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. The GSDI is also a Participating Organization of the intergovernmental Group on Earth Observation (GEO) and encourages the registration of SDI data and services in their registry system.

*These resources will be used to offer two types of grants this year:*

Cash up to 2,500 USD

Professional Services to be determined

Professional Services will be coordinated by the GISCorps, an international initiative that offers volunteer GIS services ([www.GISCorps.org](http://www.GISCorps.org)). It is possible to request a combination of cash and professional services.

Support may be used for technical or institutional projects, as long as tangible outputs are achieved and several institutions collaborate on the effort. Please clearly indicate the staffing expected to perform the work and whether additional expertise from GISCorps may be useful. If GISCorps assistance is needed indicate the type that is needed. 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 EOS-related training manuals and modules (these materials must not duplicate existing materials)

Establishing metadata and clearinghouse nodes (catalog services)

Establishing standards-based web mapping and data access services

Accomplishing geospatial data 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 cannot be used to 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) Project staff including their responsibilities and skills (Indicate here whether GISCorps assistance may be needed and what staff and skills are needed.)
- 7) Summary of Deliverables
- 8) Period of Performance (time-line for overall project, deadline dates for deliverables, date of final project report to be submitted to [grants@godi.org](mailto:grants@godi.org))
- 9) Indicate your preference for an award of cash or professional services or combination.
- 10) Budget (itemize how the money is to be spent or the predicated extent of services needed for specific tasks)
- 11) Details of additional or in-kind funds to co-finance the activity
- 12) List of Collaborators (with contact information)
- 13) Envisioned Follow-up Activities
- 14) Appendix: May include the Final Reports from any previous GSDI Small Grant Awards

Proposals must be submitted digitally to [grants@godi.org](mailto:grants@godi.org) in English and should be preferably two pages in length but no more than five pages or 2500 words (excluding any appendices). Please submit your proposal as a .pdf file (or alternatively .doc, docx or .rtf file) using 12-point Times Roman or Arial font.

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We anticipate funding up to 14 Grants in Cash and up to 4 Grants in Professional Services. Grant funds will be issued as paper checks in US dollars drawn on U.S. Banks or as wire transfers. If the recipient chooses to receive a paper check, up to \$100 U.S. will be deducted from the award amount to cover the delivery charge for the check payment. If the recipient chooses to receive funds by wire transfer, \$50 U.S. 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 upon completion of the project. The GSDI Association may include excerpts of the project reports in GSDI newsletters and/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 **31 October** 2011. Please e-mail them to:*

Societal Impacts Committee  
GSDI Association  
[grants@gsdi.org](mailto:grants@gsdi.org)

For more information about the GSDI or to subscribe to the GSDI News List, please see <http://www.gsdi.org>. For questions about this request for proposals, please contact [grants@gsdi.org](mailto: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 U.S. \$100 or documented in-kind contributions in lieu of dues. Please see <http://www.gsdi.org/joinGSDI>

#### **GEOSS Workshop XLIII: Sharing Climate Information and Knowledge**

Source: OGC Press Release



The GEOSS Workshop XLIII: Sharing Climate Information and Knowledge will be held 23 September 2011 in Boulder, Colorado. At this day long meeting, key representatives from industry, academia, and government will provide invited talks focused on issues, tools and techniques now available to improve interdisciplinary discovery and use of climate data, records and modeling results. The workshop will take place a week after the FOSS4G conference and immediately following the OGC TC meeting. The Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS, <http://www.geoss.org/>) is a complex international system of sensors, communication devices, storage systems,

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computational and other devices used to observe the Earth and to gather the data needed for a better understanding of the Earth's processes. In addition, GEOSS includes models and processes to create information from the observational data. GEOSS is also a forum to promote collaborations across communities of interest and among geophysical scientists from around the world. These interactions allow for leveraging software development and improved interoperability for Earth system monitoring and predictions. See <http://www.ieee-earth.org/event/geoss-workshop-xliiii-climate> for the agenda. Admission is free, however seating is limited. To reserve your seat, please register here: [https://portal.opengeospatial.org/public\\_ogc/register/110923geoss.php](https://portal.opengeospatial.org/public_ogc/register/110923geoss.php).

### The OGC Seeks Comment on City Geography Markup Language (CityGML) V1.1

Source: OGC Press Release

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC®) seeks public comment on Version 1.1 of the OGC City Geography Markup Language (CityGML) Encoding Standard (<http://www.opengeospatial.org/standards/citygml>). CityGML is an open information model and XML-based encoding for the representation, storage, and exchange of virtual 3D city models. It provides a way to describe objects with respect to their geometry, topology, semantics and appearance, and it defines five different levels of detail. CityGML allows users to employ virtual 3D city models for sophisticated analysis and display tasks in different application domains such as pedestrian navigation, environmental simulations, urban data mining, facilities management, real estate appraisal, and location based marketing. CityGML has been implemented in many software solutions and is in use in many projects around the world. Developed for Urban Information Modeling applications, CityGML plays an important role in bridging Urban Information Models with Building Information Models (BIM) to improve interoperability among the information systems used in the many areas of activity that involve design, construction, ownership and operation of buildings and capital projects. CityGML is implemented as an application schema of the OGC Geography Markup Language 3 (GML3) Encoding Standard (<http://www.opengeospatial.org/standards/gml>), an international standard for spatial data exchange and encoding approved by the OGC and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). The candidate CityGML Version 1.1 standard documents are available for review and comment at <http://www.opengeospatial.org/standards/requests/82>. Comments are due by **14 September 2011**.

### CATHALAC's Technical Mission in Guatemala for SMIT's Consolidation

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

The Mesoamerican Territorial Information System (in Spanish SMIT) applies common standards and protocols for natural disaster risk reduction information management improvement. Framed in the "Mesoamerica Project", a joint technical mission of SMIT and the Disaster Reduction National Coordinator (in Spanish CONRED), was held in Guatemala City. This mission aimed to strengthen geospatial metadata management institutional capacity, Web Map Services (WMS) construction and management, and the SMIT's computing infrastructure general administration. Results of this mission were presented at



the 5th SMIT Regional Meeting held on August 31 and September 1 in San Jose, Costa Rica. At this meeting, the Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean (in Spanish CATHALAC) acting as the Central Project Implementation Unit, presented the regional SMIT pilot prior to the XIII Summit of Heads of State and Government Dialogue and Agreement Mechanism of Tuxtla, to be held on October in Mexico. The SMIT is driven by the Mesoamerica Project and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) through the Regional Public Goods Program; and is implemented by CATHALAC in close collaboration with Mesoamerican National Civil Protection Agencies, National Geographic Institutes, and Natural Hazard Monitoring Institutions. SMIT is conceived as a tool aimed at facilitating information sharing based on application of common standards and procedures.

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### [ONE and IBGE Sign Interagency Cooperation Agreement](#)

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



The Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (in Spanish IBGE), and the Dominican Republic National Bureau of Statistics (in Spanish ONE) signed an interagency cooperation agreement last August and discussed a joint working plan. The agreement includes a two-year plan for the development and improvement of various ONE's areas and processes. According to Paul Tactuk, Director General of ONE, the plan includes the organization of statistical production through technical internships, as well as the strengthening of Territorial Offices, its coordination with sector agencies at the local level, and their interaction with the Central Office. ONE's technical personnel will be trained on census and household survey methodologies' systems and applications using electronic data collection devices based on IBGE's implemented processes, said Tactuk. Likewise, ONE's Department of Mapping staff will be trained on Geographic Information Systems (GIS); applied information systems will foster the consolidation of economic, social and demographic statistics. The strategic plan includes the following: structural modernization and management capacity strengthening; reinforcement of information production capacity; national statistical system coordination; technological resources modernization and strengthening; and statistical/geographical information outreach and dissemination capacity building.

### [United Nations International Conference on Space-based Technologies for Disaster Risk Management](#)

Source: David Stevens



There are several UN-SPIDER activities coming up beginning including the International event to be held in Beijing as well as the Second UN-SPIDER International Expert Meeting: Crowdsourcing Mapping for Preparedness and Emergency Response.

1. [United Nations International Conference on Space-based Technologies for Disaster Risk Management](#) to be held in Beijing, China from 22-25 November 2011. Please do visit the Conference webpage and click on the "Apply for this event" button to register for this event <http://www.un-spider.org/conference-beijing-2011>. The deadline for receiving applications is **30 September** 2011. For specific contributions to the proposed themes/sessions, for suggesting a topic for technical presentation and for offering to provide sponsorship to the event, please contact Mr. Shirish Ravan, e-mail: [shirish.ravan@unoosa.org](mailto:shirish.ravan@unoosa.org) and/or Ms. Li Suju, e-mail: [suju.li@unoosa.org](mailto:suju.li@unoosa.org)

2. [Second UN-SPIDER International Expert Meeting: Crowdsourcing Mapping for Preparedness and Emergency Response - Geneva, Switzerland 16th November 2011](#). This Expert Meeting will be held back-to-back with the International Conference on Crisis Mapping (ICCM 2011) (<http://crisismappers.net/page/iccm-geneva-2011>). The meeting will focus on exploring possible ways of contributing to better coordination of the crowdsourcing communities with the space technology community and on overall improvement of its involvement to facilitate the preparation and processing of space-based products used by the disaster risk reduction and emergency response community. The discussions will target opportunities that make space-based information available for disaster risk reduction and emergency response, including their access and use, as well as the further involvement of existing mechanisms to ensure increased coordination and cooperation of all three communities. If you would like to join us in Geneva please do apply on-line by the **30th September** 2011. Please note that funding support is not available for this meeting and number of participants will be strictly limited to 70. <http://www.un-spider.org/crowdsourcing-mapping>

3. [Other events](#): There are several other planned UN-SPIDER regional and national events including the technical advisory missions to Sri Lanka (17-21 October 2011), Chile (17-21 October 2011) and Tonga (January 2012), regional capacity building activities in Burkina Faso (26-30 September 2011) and Mexico (24-28 October 2011), and the Regional Meeting in Russia (Krasnoyarsk) (7-8 September 2011). If you are interested in receiving information about any one of these activities please send an e-mail to [un-spider@unoosa.org](mailto:un-spider@unoosa.org)

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### FIG International Symposium "Cadastra 2.0"

Source: Gerda Schennach by way of Santiago Borrero



The International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) International Symposium "Cadastra 2.0" will be held in Innsbruck, Austria, from September 25 to October 1, 2011. The topic "Cadastra 2.0" is a long-term forward visionary one and will cause a number of discussions among professionals and will probably start some thinking on how to involve stakeholders such as citizens and shareholders directly into business and maintenance models of cadastral systems as well which role social media can play in future for our profession. Social media are already among our community and outside there has already been built up a "second" world. Do we care enough about this? How should we react, if we do not join this development? You are welcome to join the discussion and to get involved into the topic "Cadastra 2.0" starting with this International Symposium. Go to [website and programme](#) ; Go to [registration](#)

### ISPRS2012 Congress, Melbourne

Source: Cliff Ogleby by way of Santiago Borrero



Please [download](#) the 2nd Announcement and call for Abstracts for the ISPRS Melbourne, Australia Congress. The Congress will run from 25th August to 1st September 2012. All current information regarding the Congress arrangements can be found at [www.isprs2012.org](http://www.isprs2012.org). Important Dates and Information:

Deadline for Abstracts: **24 October** 2011

Deadline for Full Paper: 28 November 2011 (Technical Commissions requiring peer review)

Deadline for Full Paper: 30 April 2011 (Technical Commissions not requiring peer review)

Early Bird Registration Deadline: 24 February 2012

Accommodation Deadline: 20 July 2012

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## IGS News, Links, Publications



International  
Geospatial Society



### [International Geospatial Society: A Social Networking Strategy for SDIs](#)

Contributed by Harlan Onsrud <http://www.gsd.org/node/311/> / By Mabel Álvarez and Lilia Patricia Arias

The International Geospatial Society (IGS) is the individual member arm of the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association (GSDI). The GSDI Association centres its work on large organizations, while IGS allows interested individual professionals and students to become members.

Created in 2009, the IGS's 180 members come from more than 50 countries. With a goal of engaging and enhancing communications internationally, IGS offers valuable opportunities for individuals interested in sharing experiences and knowledge about Spatial Data Infrastructures, geospatial technologies and GIS.



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The GSDI Association supports the portal of the Geographic Information Knowledge Network – GIKNet (<http://www.giknet.org/>) as the fundamental platform of communication within IGS. The GIK Network promotes IGS activities within the framework of knowledge management and the philosophy of virtual social networking.

Following the GSDI 11 Conference in Rotterdam, Holland, IGS members completed an online survey focused on determining the main motivations for participation, the main benefits that IGS is able to offer now, and additional benefits or services that IGS members would like to include.

In an online election held in 2010, members elected Mabel Alvarez, from Argentina, and Lilia-Patricia Arias, from Colombia, as IGS President and Vice-president respectively for two years. Both now become members of the GSDI Association Council, and the President sits on the GSDI Board of Directors.

The inaugural meeting of IGS was held in conjunction with the GSDI12 Conference in Singapore in October 2010, giving members their first opportunity to meet as a group and discuss important early organizational issues face-to-face. A follow-up survey identified the following important early tasks in the Society's Action Plan:

- Support students and young professionals through development of mentor and internship programs
- Develop coordination strategies between SDI and Earth Observation initiatives
- Promote the use of Web 2.0 and other tools for strengthening communication
- Promote the work of IGS members as a network sharing information, knowledge and publications openly
- Build and deliver products and communication in other languages besides English for greater involvement of people
- Promote publications of the IGS community in open access journals and other media
- Develop a visible image through corporate logo, brochures, and the website
- Contribute to the creation of training and education programs of SDIs using E-learning technologies
- Coordinate cooperation and collaboration activities among educational and other IGS-related organizations in order to benefit IGS members
- Contribute to the organization of seminars, conferences and web activities for sharing knowledge
- Promote joint activities with FIG and other international geospatial organizations

Further information related to how GSDI and IGS interact can be found at: [http://memberservices.gsd.org/files/?artifact\\_id=796](http://memberservices.gsd.org/files/?artifact_id=796).

Mabel Álvarez, President of the IGS, is currently Professor and Researcher at the Universidad Nacional de la Patagonia San Juan Bosco in Argentina and also has a Director's position in the Provincial Public Administration.

Lilia Patricia Arias, Vice-President and President-elect of the IGS, is currently Director of Technology Innovation and PhD Candidate in Informatics Engineering, in the field of Knowledge Management for Geospatial Technologies.

References: <http://www.igeoss.org> / <http://www.gsd.org>

An edited version of this article with graphics and/or photos was published in the June 2011 issue of *GIM International*.

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### National SDI, News, Links, Presentations

#### [COLOMBIAN SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE \(ICDE\)](#)

##### [Geomatics Week 2011 Successfully Accomplished](#)

Source: <http://www.cce.gov.co/>

With 2,000 attendees, 24 workshops, and 85 conferences Geomatics Week 2011 in its fourth version was successfully concluded. Technical sessions were intense, while many academic and recreational activities were implemented at facilities of the Geographic Institute "Agustín Codazzi" (in Spanish IGAC), framed within undertakings of the Colombian Commission of Space (CCE). A total of 25 international and 60 Colombian experts were responsible for conducting the presentations of the event. Satellite data for development



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planning: planning and territorial ordering, risk management, and geospatial technology knowledge management, comprised the conceptual framework of the Geomatics Week. The IGAC, in his capacity as Executive Secretary of the CCE, was the epicenter of an international debate about geospatial technology applications and contributions to developing nations. It is also noteworthy that for the first time in the history of Geomatics Week, an educational panel was conducted with participation of academic institutions at the national and international levels. Universities and public schools in Colombia interacted via videoconference, with the German professor Rainer Reuter of the University of Oldenburg. They discussed how to address educational challenges worldwide, though Geomatics' teaching [By Patricia Ordoñez].

### MEXICO, NATIONAL STATISTICAL AND GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (SNI EG)

#### Guideline Amendments to Specialized Technical Committees Approved

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



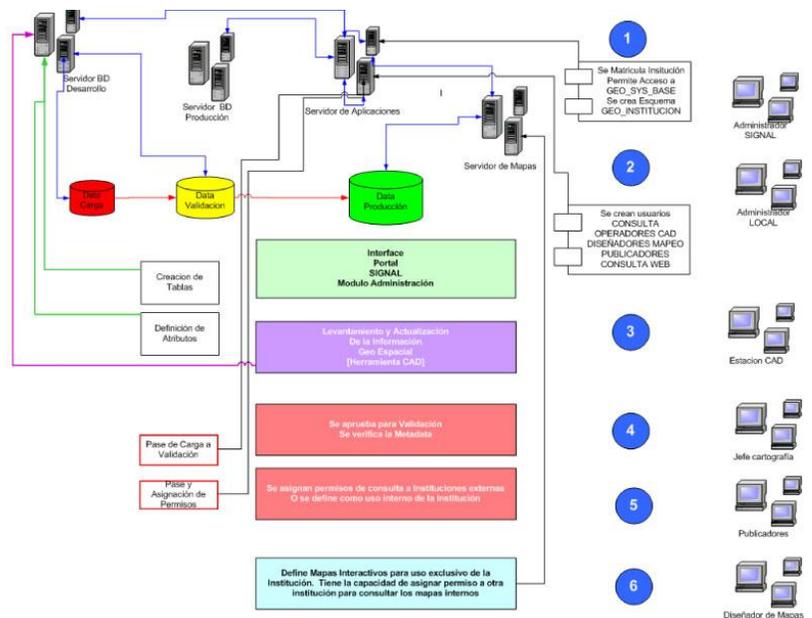
During the Fourth 2011 Meeting of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (in English INEGI) Governing Board, held last August, amendments to guidelines/rules for Integration and Operation of the National Information Subsystems' Specialized Technical Committees were approved. The purpose of these amendments is to point out various activities related to the operation of these Committees as participation and consultation instances towards SNI EG's development. Among the changes included are: more accuracy on these Committees' functions, definition of activities related to the development and monitoring of their work programs, and presentation of reports on their operation results. Guidelines/Rules may be found [here](#).

### **SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE OF PANAMA (IPDE) – UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

#### National Geographic Information System

Source: <http://ignpanama.anati.gob.pa/>

The National Geographic Information System (in Spanish SIGNAL) is defined as the set of policy, legal framework, regulations, technology, infrastructure, human resources, and administration for the collection, management, standardization, distribution and use of State spatial data. Is a centralized initiative for real-time information sharing between all state institutions aimed at supporting decision making at all government levels. The "Tommy Guardia" National Geographic Institute is responsible for deploying and running this project and for making it available to all governmental branches. During the implementation process the Institute seeks to improve each of the country's basic cartographic products, through modernization of processes and methods, and training of technical personnel on state of the art technology. In this regard, efforts have focused primarily on defining processes and methodologies for the staff training on the use and application of basic tools to meet homologation of all information to be stored and distributed using the SIGNAL.



With regard to spatial information, procedures and standards for the implementation of Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) are being documented for information compliance to current standards with regard to Geographic Information Systems. SIGNAL aims at geospatial information harmonization and integration within a standards framework that will facilitate government decision making. SIGNAL is in operation today in the Telecarrier IDC (Data Center) at the City of Knowledge in Clayton, Panama.

## Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

### Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

#### [PERMANENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON THE SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE OF PERU \(CCIDEP\)](#)

##### [International Workshop-Course on Radar Interferometry](#)

Source: <http://www.conida.gob.pe/>



It will be held on October 24-28, 2011 in Lima, Peru, at headquarters of the Aerospace Research and Development Commission of Peru (in Spanish CONIDA). Application deadline is **September 19**, 2011. The course has no cost; however, participants are responsible for their own expenses. The maximum number of participants will be 30. The course is jointly organized by CONIDA, the European Space Agency (ESA), and the University of San Marcos. Detailed information at: [http://www.conida.gob.pe/esa\\_en/](http://www.conida.gob.pe/esa_en/). Contact: Carmen Villón [cvillon@conida.gob.pe](mailto:cvillon@conida.gob.pe)

#### [SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE OF VENEZUELA](#)

##### [Venezuela Launches Interoperability Framework](#)

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



On August 17 it was approved the Interoperability Framework for the Venezuelan State (in Spanish MIO), which will guide the creation, development and implementation of electronic data exchange between computer platforms. The event took place during the Second Conference on Free Information Technology Public Administration Directors, held at the Venezuelan Ministry of Popular Power for Science, Technology and Intermediate Industry (in Spanish MCTI). Interoperability is the ability of the State to allow its agencies and other entities to exchange data with each other through the use of Information Technology. This interaction means that organizations may share information and knowledge that are involved in their processes through electronic data exchange between their platforms. Elizabeth Sierraaalta, State Service Manager of the National Center for Information Technology (CNTI) has indicated that in the last two years several institutions have worked collaboratively in the definition of the Interoperability Framework for the Venezuelan State, published in March 2011. "The Interoperability Framework includes a set of guidelines, policies and standards that provide a theoretical and practical basis for managing electronic data exchange through the publication of information services by public administration bodies."

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# Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

## Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

### Articles and Publications of the Month

#### [SDI, Knowledge Economy and Millennial Generation Revisited](#)

Contributed by Harlan Onsrud / By Prof. David J. Coleman, President-elect, Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association



“In a conference presentation in mid-2005, I described the contributions of SDI and geospatial information to the knowledge economy and then speculated on the potential contributions of the ‘millennial generation’ to the future of SDI. After six years, how have some of those predictions played out?”

Called the “Millennial Generation” by researchers Neil Howe and William Strauss, this group represented those (predominantly but not exclusively) North Americans born between 1982 and 2001. More generally speaking, this is the “under-30’s” generation. Millennials have been characterized as being more affluent, better educated, and more ethnically diverse than members of any previous generation. Raised by “Baby Boomers”, Millennials have been made to feel they could accomplish anything in their lives and careers and have calibrated their job expectations accordingly. Involved in organized activities (competitive sports and daycare, for example) since the age of 3, most have enjoyed a very structured upbringing.

In part because of this, Howe and Strauss suggested that Millennials displayed strong teamwork skills, are more respectful of authority, collaborative, achievement-oriented, and sensitive to multiple cultures. Raised on home computers and the Internet, they are far more locally and globally connected than any previous generation. Raised on a diet of television and video games, critics accuse Millennials of requiring constant stimulation. Even Howe and Strauss suggest that this generation displays a “drive-through” mentality: things must be quick, easy to access, and anonymous. Think “drive-thru fast food” rather than restaurant dining, and using ATMs rather than speaking to a bank teller.

While still outmatched by an aging “Baby Boom” generation in terms of sheer numbers and buying power, it is Millennials who are now the most influential in terms of driving the market. Considering the above, it should be no surprise that they want reliable and authoritative products and services that are quick and easy to access, that can be used anonymously, and that make it easy to share information and experiences with friends and colleagues.

In 2005, I wondered with conference participants whether the “look and feel” of SDI services would change as Millennials begin to dominate the market. I’m delighted that my question has been answered with such speed and variety. Some great personal positioning and way-finding smartphone apps have already been built atop Google and Bing platforms, and more are being developed every month. At the same time, I certainly underestimated the degree to which more general applications like Facebook™ and services like Flickr™ would add a geospatial dimension to their services. I also underestimated the degree to which Millennials would be prepared to share their personal location information with a widening circle of acquaintances. It has been left largely to the “Boomers” to raise concerns over the extent to which personal location data from smartphones may be collected and subsequently shared with third parties for commercial purposes.

Are the indicators and success factors we have developed for SDIs appropriate for a market being increasingly dominated by the tastes of this Millennial Generation? If not, how should we be measuring success and what new questions should we be posing? We need more good examples of how SDI programs are explicitly engaging this generation of young, sophisticated and demanding users.

Learn more about the GSDI Association and how to participate at: <http://www.gsd.org/joinGSDI>

Dr. David Coleman, President-elect of the GSDI Association, he is currently a professor of geomatics engineering and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at the University of New Brunswick in Canada.

An edited version of this article with graphics and/or photos was published in the July 2011 issue of *GIM International*.

# Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

## Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

### [Open Source and Open Standards](#)

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



This article is a White Paper jointly published OGC and OSGeo. The text was collaboratively edited, reviewed and finalized by more than a dozen active OSGeo and OGC members. Thanks especially to Gavin Fleming, Lance McKee, Markus Neteler, Athina Trakas, Michael Gerlek, Adrian Custer, Jeff McKenna, Cameron Shorter, Carl Reed, Frank Warmerdam, Steven Ramage, Daniel Morissette, Arnulf Christl and others for their contributions. People who don't work in the software industry (and many who do!) often confuse the terms "Open Standards" and "Open Source". This White Paper has been created collaboratively by the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) and the Open Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGeo) to look at what these terms mean in the context of the OGC and OSGeo and how they relate and where they are different [the complete paper may be found at: [http://www.multibriefs.com/briefs/gita/TLS\\_Open\\_Source\\_Open\\_Standards\\_Aug\\_2011.pdf](http://www.multibriefs.com/briefs/gita/TLS_Open_Source_Open_Standards_Aug_2011.pdf)]

### [IV IDERA Newsletter, Argentina](#)

Source: <http://estadistica.tucuman.gov.ar/>

The recently published newsletter includes articles on the IDERA Project Progress; SDI, GIS and Cartography News; Presentation of the Historical Atlas of Catamarca; an Introduction to GIS - Part II; and an Agenda of GIS related events in 2011; among other interesting issues. The IV IDERA Bulletin is now available for download at: <http://estadistica.tucuman.gov.ar/idetucuman/documentos/Boletin4.pdf>.

### **Free Access to Invited Papers - International Journal of Digital Earth**

Source: Editorial Office, *International Journal of Digital Earth*

Three selected papers of the International Journal of Digital Earth (IJDE) Volume 4, Issue 4, 2011, below are now available for free access:

#### [A European perspective on Digital Earth](#)

Alessandro Annoni, Max Craglia, M. Ehlers, Y. Georgiadou, A. Giacomelli, M. Konecny, N. Ostlaender, G. Remetej-Fülöpp, D. Rhind, P. Smits, and S. Schade

#### [Sensors, empowerment, and accountability: a Digital Earth view from East Africa](#)

Yola Georgiadou, Benson Bana, Robert Becht, Robert Hoppe, Justinian Ikingura, Menno-Jan Kraak, Kate Lance, Rob Lemmens, Juma Hemed Lungo, Michael McCall, Gianluca Miscione, and Jeroen Verplanke

#### [Spatial cloud computing: how can the geospatial sciences use and help shape cloud computing?](#)

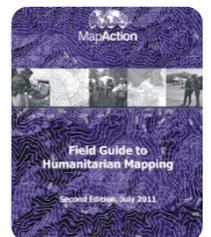
Chaowei Yang, Michael Goodchild, Qunying Huang, Doug Nebert, Robert Raskin, Yan Xu, Myra Bambacus, and Daniel Fay

IJDE has been indexed by SCI-E in 2009 and received an impact factor of 1.453 for the year of 2010. These three papers were invited by the Editor-in-Chief. You are strongly encouraged to download and cite them in your research papers. Please click the links of each paper to access. IJDE Website: [www.informaworld.com/ijde](http://www.informaworld.com/ijde). IJDE Paper Online Submission: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ijde>

### **Field Guide to Humanitarian Mapping - second edition published**

Source: Nigel Woof by way of carib-gis-users list

MapAction's updated Field Guide to Humanitarian Mapping has just been published. It's aimed particularly at aid people working off-net in the field, so it majors in offline methods (now including a step-by-step on using QGIS FOSS). However there is relevant stuff on making use of online/crowds, for example how to grab OpenStreetMap data. It has added a lot of new content about data sources generally, which was what users said they wanted. Available as a free download (160 pages, 13 MB) from <http://www.mapaction.org/more-news/270-humanitarian-field-guide.html>



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# Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

## Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

### Geospatial Research, Applications, Software, Data

#### Marine Coastal Areas Will Strengthen in Venezuela

Source: <http://www.igvsb.gov.ve/>

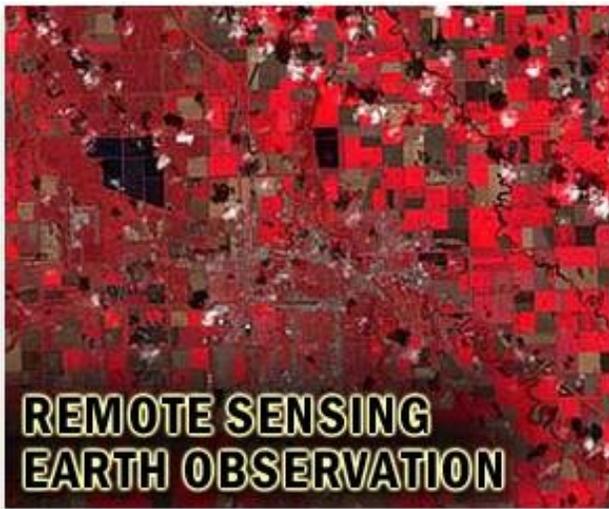
On August, the Ministry of Popular Power for the Environment (MINAMB) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed an agreement for co-financing the Project for Strengthening the Protected Marine Coastal Areas System of Venezuela, where the Geographic Institute Simon Bolivar of Venezuela (IGVSB) provides the country's updated tide gauge network. The Project's funding leverages comprehensive and integrated development of maritime and coastal areas, involving an estimated 20 national institutions in its development and conduction, while increasing knowledge on the marine areas in order to demarcate the environmental baseline, and ensure protected areas and marine surface management. In this sense the representative of the United Nations in the country, Alfredo Missair, said that "it is a building project which will help Venezuela to grow and improve in the use of its technological resources, and is the type of cooperation initiative that will allow not only the country's growth, but also that of Latin America"



"El IGVSB al Servicio del Desarrollo Integral del País"

#### Google Maps Taking Armchair Explorers to the Amazon

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

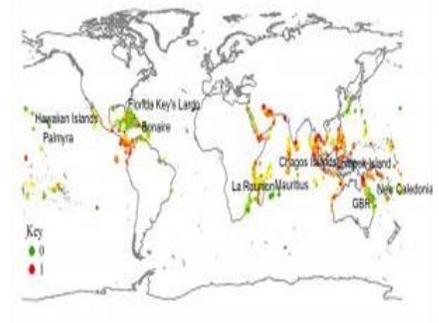


A trike typically used to capture street scenes for Google's free online mapping service launched on August from the village of Tumbira in a first-ever project to let Internet users virtually explore the world's largest river, its wildlife and its communities. The project was the brainchild of Amazonas Sustainable Foundation (in Spanish FAS) which two years ago went to Google Earth with an ambitious vision of turning "Street View" into a river view in the lush and precious Amazon Basin. Trikes have cameras that continuously snap images in every direction. The pictures are woven into Google Maps and Earth services so people can virtually peer about as if they were there. Satellite positioning equipment on trikes pinpoints where images are gathered. "When I saw this I thought of the first probe they sent to Mars," Jose Castro Caldas said as he took refuge in the shade next to a Street View trike in Tumbira. "There must be masterminds at Google working on this," he continued. "But it is funny to see how rustic it is, too - it is a bike with spoke tires."

#### Worldwide Map Identifies Important Coral Reefs Exposed to Stress

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

Marine researchers from the Wildlife Conservation Society and other groups have created a map of the world's corals and their exposure to stress factors, including high temperatures, ultra-violet radiation, weather systems, sedimentation, as well as stress-reducing factors such as temperature variability and tidal dynamics. The paper appears online in journal *PLoS One*. "The key to effectively identifying where conservation efforts are most likely to succeed is finding reefs where high biodiversity and low stress intersect. The study provides marine park and ecosystem managers with a plan for spatially managing the effectiveness of conservation and sustainability," said Dr. Caleb McClennen, Director of the Wildlife Conservation Society's Marine Program.



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### GeoConnectPeople, New Social Network and Platform to Bringing Together People Involved in Geoinformation

Source: MundoGEO



satellite images geoweb geoprocessing compass  
geoweb gnss glonass topography augmented reality  
gis interoperability lbs gps mobile gis digital cartography  
laser aerial photogrammetry 3d images geomatics radar  
sdi open source land surveying webmapping webgis

[GeoConnectPeople](#), a social network open to all geoinformation users and producers wanting to find colleagues and creating groups to share experiences, ask questions, and discuss relevant topics, has just been launched. The GeoConnectPeople network aims to connect professionals around the world so that they may contact, develop projects, build partnerships, and seek innovative solutions. The platform was designed for the English language, but topics may be posted in any language. This is a non-profit social project, created and maintained by MundoGEO.

### UN-HABITAT Free Software Project "Base Plan"

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



The [United Nations Habitat Program](#) has agreed to adopt the Free Software project "Base Plan" at the [University of Lleida](#), Spain (UDL) in order to facilitate urban planning of intermediate cities, with less than one million inhabitants, located in developing countries. With this consideration is given the internationalization of this program that allows a

very visual and orderly manner to lay the groundwork for growing cities' planning. The director of the department of the University of Lleida, Josep Maria Llop, explained that the working methodology is based on common urban design standards that are necessary for the human race. In this sense, and to start promoting this project internationally, Llop said they want to contact the [International Union of Architects](#) so that all architects in the world could present their design proposals on expansion plans.

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## Training and Funding Opportunities, Awards

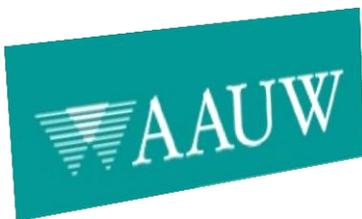
### OEA - New OAS Scholarships

Source: OAS Scholarships list

The Organization of American States through its Department of Human Development, Education and Culture is currently offering an abundance of Scholarships for Master's Degrees and Professional Development Training in a variety of fields. The deadlines to apply for the partial and full scholarships listed are fast approaching, interested candidates must apply soon. Detailed information at: [www.oas.org/en/scholarships](http://www.oas.org/en/scholarships)  
<http://www.educalum.org/link.asp?ymlink=592759>

### [AAUW International Fellowships](#)

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



The American Association of University Women (AAUW) International Fellowships are awarded for full-time study or research in the United States to women who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents. However, several fellowships are available for study outside of the U.S. Fellowships support graduate or postgraduate studies at accredited institutions. Recipients are selected for academic achievement and demonstrated commitment to women and girls. The overwhelming majority return to their home countries to become leaders in government, academia, community activism, the arts, and science.

Funding for the 2012-2013 academic year include: Master's/Professional Fellowship, US\$18,000; Doctoral Fellowship, US\$20,000; and Postdoctoral Fellowship, US\$30,000. The Fellowship year is from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013. The

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application and all supporting documents must be received by **December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011**. Questions about applications must be directed to the Iowa City office. Please do not contact the AAUW office in Washington, D.C., or local branches for application information. Please e-mail [aauw@act.org](mailto:aauw@act.org)

### Scholarships for Masters on Geomatics and Navigation

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

The Cartographic Institute of Catalonia, Spain, offers a total of 8 scholarships for a Master Program on Geomatics and Navigation. These cover 50 percent of the fees. Registration is opened from **September 12 through 21** in the following link:

[http://mastersuniversitaris.upc.edu/preinscripcio\\_blank](http://mastersuniversitaris.upc.edu/preinscripcio_blank)



UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA  
DE CATALUNYA  
BARCELONATECH

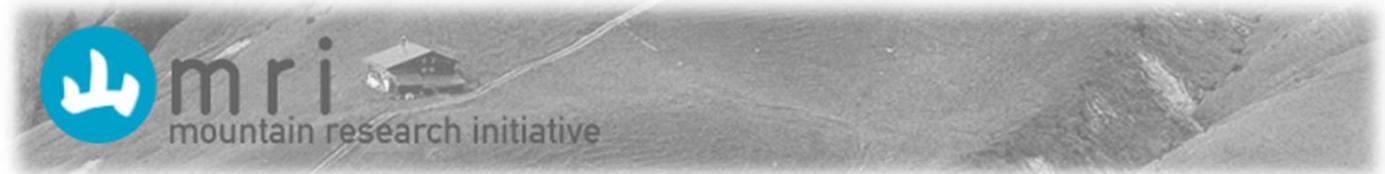
### Diploma Course on Climate Change Adaptation

Source: CATHALAC Education

The Diploma Course on Climate Change Adaptation is a response to the needs of Latin America to addressing climate variability and having professionals able to develop measures, strategies and policies for adapting to climate change, both domestically and internationally, not only to reduce the negative impacts of phenomena associated with this change, but also to take advantage of potential opportunities that arise from these changes and international cooperation. Register online at the following address: [www.cathalac.org/educacion/registro](http://www.cathalac.org/educacion/registro). For more information contact the CATHALAC Education Division at: [educacion@cathalac.org](mailto:educacion@cathalac.org). The course lasts five months, from October 3, 2011 to March 30, 2012

### CFP: Sustainable Development, Water Resources, and Climate Change

Source: Gregory B. Greenwood by way of Patricia Solis and Santiago Borrero



As part of the run up to the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development, several donors are looking for small- to medium-sized development projects in mountain regions that address issues related to water resources and/or adaptation to climate change. Donors are looking for development projects, not research projects. However, the line between development and research is often blurred. Development projects may contain within them certain research activities, and some research projects have close operational ties to development projects. What seems important to donors is not so much the distinction between development and research as such, but rather the certainty that their investment in a project will lead to measurable increases in human well-being in mountain regions. The Mountain Research Initiative (MRI) is composed largely of researchers studying global change in mountains who are concerned about the fate of these regions. MRI community members may be very aware of development needs, some of which require further specific research that could be addressed via this call. MRI therefore invites you to submit pre-proposals by **15 September 2011** for projects that are:

- Likely to lead to measurable increases in well-being in mountain regions
- Oriented toward water resources and adaptation to climate change, and
- On the order of US\$10,000 to \$500,000

MRI will package the responses in a suitable format and present them to the donors who will determine which of these pre-proposals are worthy of further development. MRI cannot guarantee that ANY of these pre-proposals will be selected by donors. However, MRI does ensure that it will use its good offices to get these proposals in front of potential donors. The overall length of your pre-proposal should not exceed 500 words. Please use the [form](#) as a Word doc and post it to [green@giub.unibe.ch](mailto:green@giub.unibe.ch). (If you need the form in a different format, please write to Chris Ritter at [ritter@giub.unibe.ch](mailto:ritter@giub.unibe.ch).) URL <http://mri.scnatweb.ch>

# Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

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### SSSI Metadata and Spatial Data Infrastructure Workshop

Source: <http://www.sssi.org.au/>

The Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute (SSSI) is holding a free workshop in Sydney, Australia on September 23 that will focus on metadata and SDI standards and management; and the implementation of metadata and data catalogues in various organizations. Register online and visit the events calendar at <http://www.sssi.org.au/Events/2/calenderview.html>. Contact: Ross Johnson [rjohnson@ryde.nsw.gov.au](mailto:rjohnson@ryde.nsw.gov.au)



### Lincoln Institute of Land Policy: Distance Courses - September to December, 2011

Source: Program for Latin America and the Caribbean

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy carries out various educational activities in Latin America, including (free) online courses through Internet. This time we call for upcoming courses to be offered from September 24 to November 27, 2011. Application deadline closes on **September 9, 2011**. For more information, please visit the links listed below:

1. [Application of Multipurpose Cadastres in Defining Urban Land Policies](#)
2. [Geographic Information Systems \(GIS\) Applications for Urban Studies](#)
3. [Property Taxation and Urban Financing](#)
4. [Financing Cities with Urban Land](#)
5. [Legal Dimensions of Land Policy](#)
6. [Urban Land Valuation Techniques](#)
7. [Urban Land Market Analysis Techniques](#)
8. [Management of Urban Land Markets](#)
9. [Land Policy Definition in Small Cities](#)

The selection results will be available from September 19, 2011 at the link: [Pick List - Fall FY12 \(Sep-Dec, 2011\)](#).

For inquiries and further information, please contact: Miguel Aguila [laonline@lincolnst.edu](mailto:laonline@lincolnst.edu) EAD Course Supervisor, Program for Latin America and the Caribbean

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## Employment Opportunities

### USVI Coral Reef Fishery Biologist - Position Announcement

Source: Carib-coral-reffs list

MRAG Americas, in collaboration with OAK Management, seeks to fill an opening for a marine resources biologist to provide coral reef fishery biology support in the US Virgin Islands: providing technical planning assistance, reviewing water development projects, coordinating with other jurisdictions for Coral Reef Conservation Program activities, outreach and education, and regional coordination. This is a 12 month temporary placement with potential for longer term employment. Position Title: US Virgin Islands Coral Reef Fishery Biologist – NOAA Ocean Service. Agency / Location: Contract position for MRAG Americas, Inc. with NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program, St. Croix, USVI. For more information, go to: <http://www.mragamericas.com/employment-opportunities/>

### Up to 20 Research Fellow Positions at USC (Post-doctoral Fellows to Full Professors)

Source: Jennifer Carter



On August 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011, there were/will be advertisements in The Higher Education Supplement of The Australian for up to 20 Research Fellowships as part of the USC Research Futures project funded under the auspices of the Government's Collaborative Research Networks (CRN) scheme. The job advertisement, position descriptions and URLs linking to USC's and its partner Universities' research focus areas can be found at the following URL:

<http://www.usc.edu.au/university/employment/jobs/usc-research-futures-project/usc-research-futures-project.htm>

Contact with Assoc. Prof. Jennifer Carter, Acting Head, School of Social Sciences and Geography, and Discipline Leader, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of the Sunshine Coast, Australia [jcarter@usc.edu.au](mailto:jcarter@usc.edu.au)

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### RIHN Visiting Research Fellowship

Source: Seth Baum by way of AAG HDGC specialty group list



Inter-University Research Institute Corporation, National Institutes for the Humanities, Japan

## Research Institute for Humanity and Nature

Research Institute for Humanity and Nature

RIHN is Research Institute for Humanity and Nature, a federal-level Japanese nature-society research institute based in Kyoto, Japan. The position would be for three to twelve months beginning April 2012. The application is due **September 20**, 2011. More information on the position at: [http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/rihn\\_e/koubo/index.html](http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/rihn_e/koubo/index.html)

### [Senior Lecturer / Lecturer - The University of Cape Town, South Africa](#)

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

The Division of Geomatics in the School of Architecture, Planning and Geomatics enjoys an international reputation for its activities in the fields of Geodesy, Photogrammetry, Land Tenure/Cadastral Systems, Geo-Information, and Engineering Surveying and is one of the leading Geomatics divisions on the African continent. The Division is seeking to appoint a dynamic and motivated academic to join their team. Deadline: until position is filled. [More information about the position \(pdf\)](#)

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### Other

### [Climate Change Affects Indigenous Wisdom](#)

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

Traditional knowledge of nature held since ancient times by Colombia's indigenous peoples is being challenged by global climate change, a researcher says. Brigitte Baptiste, director of Colombia's Alexander von Humboldt Biological Resources Research Institute, says the phenomenon is deeply troubling to the keepers of this knowledge, known as *sabedores*, literally "those who know." "The indigenous system of monitoring is based on people's memory, fed by all of their ancestral knowledge, but it is very local. When certain plants stop flowering for three or four years, they say, we have no memory of this ever happening before. When this happens, they say, they need to 'converse' to see if anyone remembers this ever happening anywhere else." Baptiste, says her observations are based on personal contacts with indigenous elders since the government "has no concrete policy to promote traditional knowledge or to recognize its importance."

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### Americas: Conferences, SDI Events

#### [FOSS4G 2011 in Denver](#)

Source: <http://2011.foss4g.org/>



FOSS4G is the global conference focused on Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial, organized by OSGeo. In 2011, FOSS4G will be held in Denver, U.S.A., after

being held in Barcelona, Sydney and Cape Town the past three years. The last North American FOSS4G event was in Victoria, BC, in 2007. With the growth in interest in open source solutions, combined with the

fact that FOSS4G has not been in North America since 2007, we anticipate a great audience for FOSS4G 2011, around 1000 people. You can view the program details [here](#). Check the full list to see all the [plenary speakers](#). More information at the Conference website: <http://2011.foss4g.org/>

#### [1st Argentinean gvSIG Conference](#)

Source: <http://estadistica.tucuman.gov.ar/>



On September 10, 2011 will be held the 1st Argentinean gvSIG Conference in the City of Buenos

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Aires, Argentina under the theme "Integrating Wills and Strengthening the Community." Registration is free (limited capacity). [Information and registration](#). Contact Information: [jornadas.argentina@gvsig.org](mailto:jornadas.argentina@gvsig.org).

### [International Seminar on Geographic Information Quality Evaluation](#)

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

Aimed at supporting compliance with the National Geospatial Information Policy, the PAIGH's National Section of Ecuador jointly with Ecuadorian Government Agencies, organize the "International Seminar on Geographic Information Quality Evaluation." The Seminar will be held on September 22-23 in Quito, Ecuador. Registration deadline is **September 15** through [info@ipgh.gob.ec](mailto:info@ipgh.gob.ec). More information at: [www.ipgh.gob.ec](http://www.ipgh.gob.ec).



provide a discussion forum for the Latin American and Caribbean Community, to share success stories, ideas and projects in the field of geographic information and in the ground of free technologies, thereby supporting the shared development model, and scientific and technical knowledge exchange.

### [First International Congress of Geodesy, Topography and Cadastre and General Assembly of the APPA](#)

Source: Lorena Montoya by way of Santiago Borrero



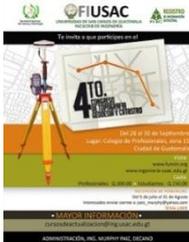
On behalf of Mr. Guadamuz Chavarria Mainor, President of the American Association of Professional Land Surveying (APPA), we are pleased to call for participation to the First International Congress of Geodesy, Topography and Cadastre, to be held on October 27-29, 2011 at Panama City, Panama, and the

General Assembly of the APPA, to be held back to back, on October 27-28, 2011. Please visit the APPA blog, where we welcome your comments and observations: <http://appaenlace.blogspot.com/>

### [Fourth National Congress of Surveying, Geodesy and Cadastre](#)

Source: Murphy Paiz by way of Santiago Borrero

The Fourth National Congress of Topography, Geodesy and Surveying, will be held on September 28-30 in Guatemala City, Guatemala. It will include participation of many experts from different countries, and will comprise a short course of one to two weeks on the proposed themes. Contact: [paiz\\_murphy@yahoo.com](mailto:paiz_murphy@yahoo.com)



### [1st Geomatics Meeting](#)

Source: Organizing Committee of the National Meeting of Students in Surveying

The First Local Meeting of Geomatics and Surveying will be held on October 28, 2011 at the Universidad del Valle in Cali, Colombia.

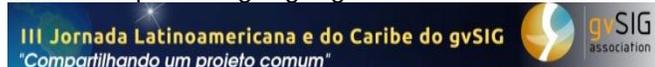


There are available different thematic forums on Geomatics to participate and at the end of the day will be held the respective conclusions en: [www.wix.com/1encuentrogeomatica/paginaweb](http://www.wix.com/1encuentrogeomatica/paginaweb).

The event is offered as an arena to meet and discuss the development of geomatics in Colombia and worldwide through related spatial information knowledge of students and alumni. The two themes of the event are GIS and remote sensing.

### [3rd Latin America and Caribbean \(LAC\) and 2nd Brazilian gvSIG Working Days](#)

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



On October 12-14, 2011 will be held the 3rd Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) and 2nd Brazilian gvSIG Working Days, in Foz do Iguaçu - PR (Brazil) under the slogan "We Share the Project". From August 17, 2011 began the open enrollment period, you may register using the respective [form](#). Registration is free (limited capacity). The overall objective of the event is to

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### SEPTEMBER 2011

7-9 <b>NEW</b>	Toronto, Ontario, Canada	<a href="#">Showcase Ontario 2011</a>
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# Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

## Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

7-9	Mexico City, Mexico	<a href="#">SIGSA-ESRI Users National Meeting 2011</a>
7-9	Washington DC, USA	<a href="#">ESRI Health GIS Conference</a>
9-11	Denver CO, USA	<a href="#">State of the Map (SotM)</a>
<b>*NEW*</b> 10	Buenos Aires, Argentina	<a href="#">First gvSIG Argentinean Working Days "Integrating Wills and Consolidating the Community"</a> / Contact Information: <a href="mailto:jornadas.argentina@gvsig.org">jornadas.argentina@gvsig.org</a>
11-13	Rancho Las Palmas CA, USA	<a href="#">IMTA (Americas) Conference and Member Showcase 2011</a>
11-14	Santa Fe NM, USA	<a href="#">WG VIII/2 Symposium on "Advances in Geospatial Technologies for Health"</a>
12-14	São Paulo SP, Brazil	<a href="#">Futurcom</a>
12-14	Washington DC, USA	<a href="#">Indoor Location Symposium</a>
12-16	Denver CO, USA	<a href="#">FOSS4G 2011</a>
13-15	Herndon VA, USA	<a href="#">FOSE Institute Geospatial Summit</a>
13-15	St. Petersburg FL, USA	<a href="#">GIS in Public Transportation Conference</a>
15-16	Washington DC, USA	<a href="#">MAPublisher Training</a>
16	Belfast ME, USA	<a href="#">Call for Papers: 10th International Conference on Spatial Information Theory COSIT'11</a> Deadline: <b>September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011</b>
17-20	Daytona Beach FL, USA	<a href="#">5th Annual Central Florida GIS Workshop</a>
17-27	Chantilly VA, USA	<a href="#">2011 GXP User Conference Discover. Learn. Advance</a>
19	Boulder CO, USA	<a href="#">GML 4 Workshop</a>
<b>*NEW*</b> 19-22	Orlando FL, USA	<a href="#">ASIS International 2011</a>
<b>*NEW*</b> 19-23	Boulder CO, USA	<a href="#">OGC Technical and Planning Committee Meeting</a>
20	Boulder CO, USA	<a href="#">3D Summit 2011</a>
<b>*NEW*</b> 20-21	Brasília DF, Brazil	<a href="#">IDC LA Infrastructure and Virtualization Roadshow</a>
21	Boulder CO, USA	<a href="#">Oceans/Meteorology/Hydrology Water Cycle Summit</a>
<b>*NEW*</b> 22-23	Santa Fe, Argentina	<a href="#">15th National Congress on Photogrammetry and Related Sciences</a>
22-23	Quito, Ecuador	<a href="#">International Seminar on Geographic Information Quality Evaluation</a> Contact: <a href="mailto:info@ipgh.gob.ec">info@ipgh.gob.ec</a>
<b>*NEW*</b> 23	Boulder CO, USA	<a href="#">GEOSS Workshop XLIII - Sharing Climate Information and Knowledge</a>
<b>*UPDATED*</b> 25-28	Washington DC, USA	<a href="#">Autovation 2011</a>
<b>*NEW*</b> 25-29	Chicago IL, USA	<a href="#">Smallworld Americas User Conference</a>
<b>*NEW*</b> 26-30	Mexico D.F., Mexico	<a href="#">Seminar on "Comparative History of Women in the Americas"</a>
27-29	Rio de Janeiro RJ, Brazil	<a href="#">Rio Info 2011</a>
28-30	San José, Costa Rica	<a href="#">18th ESRI's Latin-American Users Conference 2011</a>
28-30	Guatemala City, Guatemala	<a href="#">Fourth National Congress of Surveying, Geodesy and Cadastre</a> Contact: <a href="mailto:paiz_murphy@yahoo.com">paiz_murphy@yahoo.com</a>
<b>*NEW*</b> 29-30	Columbus OH, USA	<a href="#">The Ohio GIS Conference</a>

### OCTOBER 2011

3-4	Whistler BC, Canada	<a href="#">2011 GITA Pacific Northwest Chapter's 11th Annual Fall Conference</a>
3-7	Morelia, Mexico	<a href="#">XIX National Meeting SELPER-Mexico</a> / Contact: <a href="mailto:selper2011@ciga.unam.mx">selper2011@ciga.unam.mx</a>
5-7	Santiago, Chile	<a href="#">2011 GEOSS in the Americas Symposium</a>
<b>*NEW*</b> 6-7	West Palm Beach FL, USA	<a href="#">18th Annual South Florida GIS EXPO</a>
6-27	New Brunswick NJ, USA	<a href="#">ArcGIS: Introduction Series</a>
7-10	City of Mar del Plata, Argentina	<a href="#">National Congress of Geography and Geography Week #72</a> Contact: <a href="mailto:informes@gaea.org.ar">informes@gaea.org.ar</a>
9-11	San Francisco CA, USA	<a href="#">Android Open Conference</a>
9-12	Columbia SC, USA	<a href="#">ESRI Electric and Gas User Conference</a>
10-13	Buenos Aires, Argentina	<a href="#">Argentina Oil and Gas Expo 2011</a>
11-13	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">CTIA Enterprise and Applications</a>
12-13	Montreal, Canada	<a href="#">Geomatics 2011</a>
12-14	Foz do Iguaçu PR, Brazil	<a href="#">3rd gvSIG Latin America and the Caribbean Conference: "We Share the Project"</a>
12-14	Madison WI, USA	<a href="#">NACIS2011: Cartography and Information Design</a>

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## Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

13-14	San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina	<a href="#">VI IDERA Conference</a> Email: <a href="mailto:contacto@idera.gob.ar">contacto@idera.gob.ar</a>
16-20	San Antonio TX, USA	<a href="#">GEOINT 2011</a>
17-20	Ottawa, Ontario, Canada	<a href="#">GTEC - Ottawa - Canada's Government Technology Event</a>
18-19	San Jose CA, USA	<a href="#">The 3<sup>rd</sup> Location Business Summit</a>
18-19	Naperville IL, USA	<a href="#">Illinois GIS Association Fall Conference</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
18-20	Dallas TX, USA	<a href="#">Field Service Interactive</a>
23-26	New Orleans LA, USA	<a href="#">Pictometry FutureView 2011</a>
24-27	Houston TX, USA	<a href="#">GITA's GIS for Oil and Gas Pipeline Conference</a>
24-28	Pasto, Colombia	<a href="#">II National Gathering of Geography Students</a> contact <a href="mailto:pastoeneg2011@gmail.com">pastoeneg2011@gmail.com</a>
24-28	Denver CO, USA	<a href="#">WCRP OSC Climate Research in Service to Society</a>
26-27	Caracas, Venezuela	<a href="#">4th Geomatics National Working Days</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
26-28	Miami FL, USA	<a href="#">The New American Mainstream Business Summit</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
27-29	Panama City, Panama	<a href="#">First International Congress of Geodesy, Topography and Cadastre and General Assembly of the APPA</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
28	Cali, Colombia	<a href="#">1st Geomatics Meeting</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		

### NOVEMBER 2011

1	San Francisco CA, USA	<a href="#">Locations and Beyond Summit</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
1-4	Chicago IL, USA	<a href="#">ACM SIGSPATIAL GIS 2011</a>
1-4	Indianapolis IN, USA	<a href="#">GIS-Pro 2011: URISA's 49th Annual Conference for GIS Professionals</a>
2-4	Providenciales, Islas Turcas y Caicos	<a href="#">Simposio SIG 2011 de CARILEC / Contacto: <a href="mailto:slprimus@carilec.org">slprimus@carilec.org</a></a>
3-4	Seattle WA, USA	<a href="#">MAPublisher Training</a>
7-12	Pará - Belém PA, Brazil	<a href="#">V International Symposium on Agricultural Geography and VI National Symposium on Agricultural Geography</a>
8-9	Monterey CA, USA	<a href="#">ENVI Classified User Symposium (ENVIUS West)</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
8-11	Mar del Plata, Argentina	<a href="#">VIII Congress on Hydrocarbon Exploration and Development</a>
8-11	Rio de Janeiro RJ, Brazil	<a href="#">1<sup>st</sup> Latin American Seminar of Geography and Gender: Space, Gender and Power / Pre-meeting of UGI Regional Conference</a>
8-10	Atlanta GA, USA	<a href="#">11th Annual Outage Response and Restoration Management Conference</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
9-11	Villa de Merlo, Provincia de San Luis, Argentina	<a href="#">1st National Workshop on Digital Mapping</a>
Nov. 10 – Dec. 8	New Brunswick NJ, USA	<a href="#">ArcGIS: Editing and Data Development Series</a>
13-16	Alta Gracia, Córdoba, Argentina	<a href="#">8th Conference on Remote Sensing Education in the Mercosur Area</a>
14-17	Herndon VA, USA	<a href="#">Pecora18 - ASPRS Fall Conference</a>
14-18	Santiago, Chile	<a href="#">UGI 2011 Regional Geographic Conference</a>
15-16	Huntsville AL, USA	<a href="#">Rocket City Geospatial and Alabama GIS Conference 2011</a>
16	World wide	<a href="#">GIS Day 2011</a> Discovering the World through GIS
16-17	New York City NY, USA	<a href="#">New York City GeoSymposium: 2001-2011-2021</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
17-18	Rio de Janeiro, Brasil	<a href="#">CONIP 2011 - 17<sup>th</sup> Information Technology and Innovation in Public Management Congress</a>
Nov. 28 – Dec. 10	La Havana, Cuba	<a href="#">Course: Psychosocial Attention in Disasters</a>

### DECEMBER 2011

5-9	Washington DC, USA	<a href="#">National BIM Conference</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
Nov. 10 – Dec. 8	New Brunswick NJ, USA	<a href="#">ArcGIS: Editing and Data Development Series</a>



# Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

## Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

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#### JANUARY 2012

16-18	Los Angeles CA, USA	<a href="#">Eighth International Conference on Technology, Knowledge and Society</a>
23-25	Denver CO, USA	<a href="#">International LiDAR Mapping Forum (ILMF)</a>

#### MARCH 2012

<b>*NEW*</b> 14-17	Paraná, Argentina	<a href="#">6th Latin American Geographic Colloquium "The New Latin American Regional Settings from a Geographic Perspective"</a> Contact: <a href="mailto:infomesvicoloquio@uader.edu.ar">infomesvicoloquio@uader.edu.ar</a>
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#### APRIL 2012

<b>*NEW*</b> 16-18	Loveland CO, USA	<a href="#">GIS-T 2012: GIS for Transportation</a>
<b>*NEW*</b> 16-20	Mar del Plata, Argentina	<a href="#">XIX Latin American Congress and XXIII Argentine Congress the Science of Soil</a>
19-21	Bahia Blanca, Argentina	<a href="#">IX National Conference on Physical Geography</a> / Contact: <a href="mailto:geografafisica@uns.edu.ar">geografafisica@uns.edu.ar</a>
22-26	Kansas City MO, USA	<a href="#">MAGIC - 2012: Mid-America GIS Symposium</a>
<b>*NEW*</b> 25-28	Cordoba, Argentina	<a href="#">XI National and VIII Latin American Congress on Surveying</a> Contact: <a href="mailto:seceventos@agrimcba.org.ar">seceventos@agrimcba.org.ar</a>

#### MAY 2012

7-9	Rio de Janeiro RJ, Brazil	<a href="#">GEOBIA 2012: Geographic Object-Based Image Analysis</a> E-mail: <a href="mailto:geobia2012@dpi.inpe.br">geobia2012@dpi.inpe.br</a>
8-10	New Orleans LA, USA	<a href="#">CTIA Wireless 2012</a>
<b>*UPDATED*</b> 14-17	Quebec City, Canada	<a href="#">GSDI-13: Spatially Enabling Government, Industry and Citizens</a> Deadline for submission of abstracts: <b>15 November 2011</b>
<b>TO BE DETERMINED</b>	Rio de Janeiro RJ, Brazil	<a href="#">UN Conference on Sustainable Development (commonly called Earth Summit 2012) or 'Rio+20'</a>

#### JULY 2012

7-12	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">The Survey Summit</a>
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