



**GSDI**  
Global Spatial Data  
Infrastructure Association



# GLOBAL CITIZEN AWARD

## Professor IAN MASSER

The GSDI Global Citizen Award recognizes individuals who have provided exemplary thought leadership and substantive contributions in promoting informed and responsible use of geospatial information and technologies for the benefit of humanity and for fostering Spatial Data Infrastructure developments that support sustainable social, economic, and environmental systems integrated from local to global scales.

**Professor Emeritus Ian Masser** has served the national, regional and global geospatial communities for more than 30 years, as both a distinguished academic in UK and Dutch universities and as a global thought leader during development of Spatial Data Infrastructure concepts globally.

- At national level, Ian was appointed to the UK Economic and Social Research Council early in his career, to coordinate the Council's Regional Research Laboratory Initiative, where he played a major role in establishing GIS-based research across the United Kingdom.
- At the European level, Ian was Co-Director of the European Science Foundation's GISDATA scientific programme, which helped to establish a European GIS research community, and was Founder President of the Association of GI Laboratories in Europe (AGILE). He was also a key contributor to early development work that led to the pan-European SDI known as INSPIRE (Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community), an initiative with which he was to remain involved for more than two decades. Ian was also an early President of the European Organisation for Geographic Information (EUROGI), which represented national GI Associations across Europe, especially in relations with the European Commission and other European institutions regarding geo information policy developments in Europe.
- At global level, in 2002 Prof Masser became President of the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure initiative which had started in 1996, two years prior to formation of the GSDI Association in 2004, and provided significant support and guidance in development of what was to become one of the premier global organisations focusing on SDI.

For exemplary service to the geospatial community,

**the GSDI Association recognizes Professor Ian Masser as an exemplary Global Citizen.**

Dr David Coleman, President, GSDI Association

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