Spatial Data Infrastructure
Asia & the Pacific Newsletter

SDI-AP	February 2011	Vol. 8, No. 2

Spatial Data Infrastructure – Asia and the Pacific (SDI-AP) is a free electronic newsletter from the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association (GSDI) which is available in both English and Chinese language versions. The newsletter is produced for people interested in Spatial Data Infrastructure, GIS, remote sensing and geospatial data issues in Asia and the Pacific. It aims to raise awareness and provide useful information to strengthen SDI initiatives and support synchronising these activities across the region. Support for the newsletter is also provided by the Permanent Committee on Geographic Information for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP), a regional forum to enhance cooperation in the development of a regional geographic information infrastructure. The newsletter is currently being produced for GSDI by the Centre for Spatial Data Infrastructures and Land Administration at the University of Melbourne.

To subscribe to SDI-AP use this link. Back issues of the newsletter are at the GSDI website.
You can also sign up for GSDI News List to receive alerts of special news and announcements as well as notification of new issues of the SDI-AP newsletter. To subscribe and access archives of thematic or regional discussion lists please visit.

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Message from the editors

Welcome to the second issue of the newsletter for the New Year and the second occasion on which we are celebrating the New Year – In this case the Lunar New Year (the Year of the Rabbit).

On a more sombre note we record that this year has begun with natural disasters just as did 2010. This newsletter contains items related to the disastrous Australian floods but only limited reference to the even more disastrous Brazilian floods and mudslides and the Sri Lankan floods. This is because the information does not appear to be available. Also in relation to these natural disasters we note that the spatial industry has performed well in recording such disasters – see, for example, the graphic representation of the Queensland floods with before and after views in the item **Australian Floods devastation mapped by high-res sky cams** below. The real challenge for our industry is the more effective alleviation of the consequences of these disasters by the provision of better early warning AND improved response after the occurrence.

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

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

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Contributions

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

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SDI News, Links, Papers, Presentations

Australian Flood devastation mapped by high-res sky cams
The sheer devastation of the Queensland flood disaster is now visible to anyone with a computer following a flyover of affected areas yesterday by Australian online mapping company Nearmap.
Source: The Melbourne *Age*
Before & After "rollover" images from Nearmap are available from here and here [roll your mouse over the image for high resolution images before and after the floods]
GeoSpatial World's "Image of the week" (10 January) was of the flooded Rockhampton Airport
See also **Radar data tackling floods in NSW, Australia** and **MAPS (Mapping & Planning Support)** website.
Source: GeoSpatial World and the Sydney Morning Herald

Brazilian Mudslide - GeoSpatial World "Image of the Week" (24 January)
More than 800 people are known to have died in south-eastern Brazil that was hit by devastating floods and landslide last week. The slides were triggered by deluges in the mountains just north of Rio de Janeiro and are the deadliest natural disaster to hit Brazil since flooding occurred four decades ago. The government has allocated USD 240m (£150m) in emergency reconstruction money for the area, according to a BBC report.
This half-meter resolution satellite image collected by GeoEye-1 satellite shows numerous landslides in Nova Friburgo, which is located north of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
Source: GeoSpatial World; Image: GeoEye; Info: BBC

Landslide prone areas will be mapped (Sri Lanka)
The National Building Research Institute says a programme is underway to prepare a map which indicates areas in danger of landslides. Under the programme 10 districts will be included in the map. The programme is carried out collaboratively with the Surveys Department. The Building Research Institute says the new programme will help immensely to implement disaster management initiatives.
Source: Directions Magazine and Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation

Does Free Geospatial Data Without Organisation Reach Highest Potential?
This article provides insight into the debate surrounding the good and bad when it comes to whether or not spatial data should be free or handled on a cost-recovery basis. In fact, that debate continues in many places. However, does free data alone mean that the geodata will reach it's maximum potential? Does formal organisational structure contribute benefits to free geodata?
Source: Vector One

Japanese companies contracted to create the National Geo-spatial Data Infrastructure Networking System for the Government of Indonesia
ITOCHU Corporation and NTT DATA Corporation have received a contract for a project to create the National
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Geo-spatial Data Infrastructure Networking System from the Indonesian National Coordination Agency for Surveys and Mapping, known as BAKOSURTANAL.

This system has been developed to enable Indonesian government agencies to manage natural resources, social infrastructure, regional development plans and so on, and will allow multiple government agencies to share spatial data to make administrative work more efficient and more sophisticated. Work on creating the system is scheduled to start in January 2011, with operations commencing in May 2013.

Thanks to Kate Lance for this item

Malaysian Geoportal.

The Malaysia Geoportal is a one stop web application that provides information to numerous geospatial information. MyGeoportal connecting you to various information, geospatial services and application and mapping services. Via MyGeoportal, users are able to search in a real time for image and feature web services, images, geographic dataset, activities,map titles and clearinghouses through MyGDI application.

Source: < http://www.mygeoportal.gov.my/en >

MAPPS urges FTC to redefine "precise geolocation data"

MAPPS, the national association of private sector geospatial firms, has submitted comments to the Federal Trade Commission opposing regulatory language that would limit the collection, sharing or use of "precise geolocation data". The association said a draft regulation, proposed in a Federal Trade Commission staff report, threatens data collection, applications and growth in the private geospatial profession. The draft regulation, "Privacy in an Era of Rapid Change," is intended to protect consumers' privacy by requiring that "companies must provide prominent disclosures and obtain affirmative express consent before using consumer data in a materially different manner than claimed when the data was collected..." MAPPS called compliance with requirement "impractical to the point of impossible" for geospatial firms. MAPPS believes the current regulatory language threatens information that is collected by private and government entities to perform E-911 and emergency response management, environmental protection, homeland security, mortgage foreclosure monitoring/early warning systems, master planning, and many other tasks that are conducted by geospatial professionals. "

This is a significant issue and one that we need to address with a unified voice. It is why MAPPS is urging all geospatial professionals to submit comments to the FCC." The MAPPS letter comes on the heels of letters to the FCC and Congress. MAPPS has created a blog to update the geospatial community on the threat. The FTC is accepting public comments through to the 31st of January.

Source: MAPPS [thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item]

Laser Scanning Spatial Data Infrastructure

The European Science Foundation (ESF) is sponsoring an exploratory workshop to bring together researchers in the GIS and laser scanning fields. The conference will take place September 8 -11 in Heidelberg, Germany. The preliminary program and list of participants (it is not open to the public) will be published soon. It would certainly have to include discussions of LiDAR mapping and presumably 3D cities. … The GIS community knows a lot about managing large volumes of geospatial data, but not about laser scanning.

Source: LiDAR News

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GIS Tools, Software, Data

The Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) provides a single online reference point for information about Australian plants, animals and microorganisms. The website, tools and services available through the Atlas provides new ways for users to find and analyse a vast amount of Australian biodiversity data, opening up new possibilities for research, policy and management.

The unprecedented collaboration behind the Atlas project includes the CSIRO, Australian museums, herbaria and other biological collections and the Australian Government, building on Australia?s participation in GBIF since its inception.

According to Donald Hobern, Director of ALA: The Atlas's first public release enables professionals and anyone else to access biodiversity information such as reference lists of species; databases on specimens held in natural history collections; databases of field observations from ecologists, naturalists and others; maps, images

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and other multimedia; published literature; molecular data sets; identification keys; and a wide range of other databases and web sites, as well as contribute observations, data and images to improve Australia's biodiversity knowledge.

Thanks to Kate Lance for this item

Old satellite data to reveal cause of Arctic ice thinning

A team of British researchers, set to embark on a three-year probe of archived ship logs from 1750 to 1850, intends to create a composite picture of Arctic ice cover from the journal entries of polar explorers such as Sir William Parry, whose voyages to northern Canada in the 1820s added new Arctic islands to the world map and significantly furthered the quest to discover the Northwest Passage.

Meanwhile, scientists from NASA and the US National Snow and Ice Data Center have detailed plans for "techno-archeology" experiment to extract previously unfiltered data about Arctic ice extent from some of the first satellite images of the Earth, recorded as early as 1964 by the Nimbus series of orbiting spacecraft.

In both cases, the research teams say their findings will help climatologists better understand the present-day Arctic meltdown and sharpen their forecasts of this century's ice retreat, widely expected to result in open-water summers throughout Canada's North by 2030 or sooner.

Source: GeoSpatial World and the Montreal Gazette

Emergency Information Update – NSW, Australia

The Emergency Information Coordination Unit (EICU) is currently updating their spatial database of information in NSW from local councils and government agencies. This is collected at regular intervals, and stored centrally in Sydney.

The data transfer between EICU and these councils/agencies allows for a consistency in data flow, and improves access and speed to which emergency information about homes, businesses, or public assets can be obtained.

[Thanks to Ross Johnson of the *Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute (SSSI)* NSW Committee for this item]

NREL Geospatial Toolkit (GsT) - Bangladesh, Nepal, China, Bhutan, Sri Lanka

The GsT was completely redesigned and re-released to provide a more modern, easier-to-use interface with considerably faster analytical querying capabilities. The revised version of the Geospatial Toolkit is available for Bangladesh, Nepal, China, Bhutan, and Sri Lanka.

The Geospatial Toolkit (GsT) is an NREL-developed map-based software application that integrates resource data and other geographic information systems (GIS) data for integrated resource assessment. The non-resource, country-specific data for each GsT comes from a variety of agencies within each country as well as from global datasets.

[Thanks to Kate Lance for this item]

Vietnam completes coastal wetland mapping

The National Remote Sensing Centre under the Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment, Vietnam, has completed a set of maps of coastal wetland zones on a scale of 1:1,000,000. According to the Centre, this is the first time Vietnam has made a set of maps that provides comprehensive information of various types of coastal wetland in the country's 29 coastal provinces and cities. The maps will serve as the basis for designing plans to preserve the wetland zones and prevent them from natural disasters as well as to make sustainable use of their ecosystems.

Source: en.vietnamplus.vn [Thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item]

Map highlights a new-look Dubai

Dubai released third edition of emirate map - Dubai Map 2010, 10 years after the last edition. The municipality claims that it is the most up-to-date map of the emirate. The third edition of the map by the civic body of Dubai, which earned the title as the fastest growing city in the last decade, provides the latest geographical information about the nook and corner of the emirate, including the major projects that have been planned, completed and those under construction. The 'Dubai Map 2010' printed in three sizes, will be updated every six months in line with the changes in the emirate. The next phase of the project will see the map going digital and being used in the geographic navigation applications. The map shows the growth of Dubai from just two sectors — Deira Dubai and Bur Dubai. "We wanted to show the changes in the city accurately. We are keen to give the right information to the visitors as well as the people living in the city," Director-General of Dubai Municipality Hussain Nasser Lootah said after unveiling a wall map measuring 198cm x 148cm at the municipality headquarters. He said a 60-member team from the municipal departments of planning, survey and GIS worked together with

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private developers and cartography companies for almost two years to bring out the map. "We have even included the projects that are planned, but still on hold. They are marked in grey shades," said Al Hajri adding that the bigger the map, the finer the details are.
Source: KhaleejTimes [Thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item]

PLUS Expressways Expands GIS Use from Maintenance to Analysis.by Matt Ball

PLUS Expressways Group is the largest toll expressway operator in South East Asia, managing 973 km of expressways in Malaysia, including the North-South Expressway (NSE). The organisation began using GIS in the 1980s, completing a project to convert all engineering drawings to digital format and put them in the GIS in 1986. From the early days, the system was mostly used for maintenance, but over the years the system and data have been turned to more frequently for in-depth understanding of the road network.
Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping

Vietnam asks China to remove nine-dotted line from Map World

Vietnam protests China's provision of the online mapping service named Map World, which shows the nine-dotted line in the East Sea, said Vietnamese Foreign Ministry's spokesperson Nguyen Phuong Nga on January 26. Nga said that the Chinese State Bureau of Surveying and Mapping's launch of the Map World service, which maintains the nine-dotted line in the East Sea, seriously infringes upon Vietnamese sovereignty over Hoang Sa (Paracel) and Truong Sa (Spratly) Archipelagos, sovereign rights and national jurisdiction over Vietnam's continental shelf and exclusive economic zones within 200 nautical miles. It also violates the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and goes against the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) signed between ASEAN and China.
Source: VietNamNet Bridge

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News from abroad

"This section has been included to highlight some of the developments happening outside the region which demonstrate SDI in action.

More Protection for Consumer LBS Data via Legislation Planned

Senator Ron Wyden, an Oregon Democrat, said he will soon introduce a bill that would require law enforcement agencies to get court-ordered warrants to get location-based information from smartphones and other mobile devices, instead of simple subpoenas or other methods without court oversight.
Source: Directions Magazine

GS Soil Project – Spatial Data Infrastructure for Soil

The project *"Assessment and strategic development of INSPIRE compliant Geodata-Services for European Soil Data"* (GS Soil) is aiming to reduce interoperability barriers and structural boundaries that prevent soil data from across Europe being used in a seamless manner. This is no easy task, but progress is happening. Funded by the eContentplus program, the outcomes are: Consolidated soil-related theme catalogue / framework standards, INSPIRE compatible metadata profile for spatial soil datasets, dataset series and services, Generic application schemes, Web portal (GS Soil Portal) including a view service, discovery and view of the More information GS SOIL program is here.
Source: Vector One

ESRI launches GovMaps.org

Esri announced the new website GovMaps.org during the plenary session of the Esri Federal User Conference in Washington, D.C. The prototype site offers a customized view into commonly used nationwide layers and maps in ArcGIS for a better understanding of national issues and trends. Quick access to this authoritative geospatial information supports visibility into federal data and better decision making across the country. Site visitors are encouraged to provide suggestions and comments on the prototype.
Source: GISLounge [thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item]

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The Onsite Terrestrial Scanning of Rosslyn Chapel

Rosslyn Chapel is a 15th century medieval stone chapel located in Roslin, Midlothian Scotland. It is internationally renowned for its mixture of ornate pagan and Christian sculpture as well as its links with the Knights Templar, Freemasons and more recently the Holy Grail. Since the 15th century the building has survived vandalism and neglect during the Reformation, been used as a horse stable by Cromwell's troops during the English Civil War, unsympathetically renovated during the 1800's and nearly blown-up by the suffragette movement in 1914.
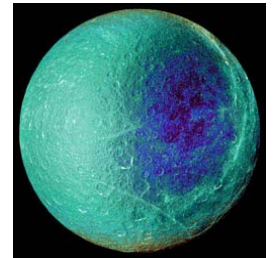
…
In 2009 a combined team from the Glasgow School of Art and Historic Scotland terrestrially laser scanned and digitally photographed the site, exterior and interior as part of the on-going conservation efforts at the Chapel. The acquired information will not only provide an precise dimensional information for engineering drawings, it will also produce an accurate 3D record of the Chapel's current physical condition.
Source: Lidar News

DLR compiles atlas of Saturn's moon Rhea

Researchers at the German Aerospace Center (Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt; DLR) have compiled an atlas of Saturn's second largest moon, Rhea. The atlas has been published by NASA.
Source: GeoSpatial World and DLR [the editors believe this item is properly listed under "News from Abroad"]

Cunning, Care And Sheer Luck Save Rare Map

In May 2010, a tattered and brittle map was discovered in storage at the Brooklyn Historical Society. Experts identified it as a rare item, a Bernard Ratzer "Plan of the City of New York" map in its 1770 state. Until then, only three copies were thought to exist. After a painstaking restoration to remove layers of shellac and grime and repair dozens of breaks, the map is now behind plexiglass and ready to be displayed to the public.
One of them belonged to King George III and remains in the British Library in London, where it is displayed occasionally. The other two — one legible, the other tanned and dark with shellac — are at the New-York Historical Society on the Upper West Side and remain in storage but for two or three times a year, when they are pulled out for students.
Source: New York Times

USGS holds National Map Users Conference

The U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) National Geospatial Program (NGP) and the Office of Enterprise Information announced The National Map (TNM) Users Conference, and the Geographic Information Science Workshop to be held May 10-13, 2011 in Lakewood, Colo. According to the announcement, this inaugural event will assemble a wide range of participants including scientists, managers and geospatial professionals from government, industry, academia and other organizations. A goal of TNM UC is to share accomplishments and progress, **acknowledge** best practices, and exchange innovative ideas concerning The National Map in supporting science initiatives. The role of the GIS Workshop will be learning specific techniques for using GIS in support of science. Interactive dialog will be encouraged through panel and lightning sessions, poster presentations, workshops, and demonstrations. More information and abstract submission.
[thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item]

Europe: Wind and Solar Potential Mapping

ESPON project has published a map of 'Wind Power and Photovoltaic Potential' for Europe. The initiative investigates energy potential against supply and efficiency within the wider grid network. Performing spatial analysis for the wider European demographic indicates several outcome potentials including 1) integrated proximity approaches could yield combined potential, 2) direct use without involving a grid network has advantages, 3) planning that involves specialized tools could help to support decisions and 4) increased climate related planning.
Source: Vector ONE

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Mapping Freight CO2 from Mexico City to Montreal
The North American Environmental Atlas publishes information and a map that describes the CO2 emissions arising from freight transport (rail, truck) moving between Mexico City and Montreal.
Source: Vector ONE

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Articles

GIS for Planning and Community Development: Solving Global Challenges
Summary: GIS helps us better understand our world so we can meet global challenges. By applying what we know of science and GIS to what we do not know, we can get to what we really need to know - how to enhance quality of life and achieve a better future. These issues are spatial in nature and require spatial tools and spatial thinking. Esri's Ahmed Abukhater argues that GIS is a key tool for planners as they plan for and with people.
Source: Directions Magazine

Free and Open Source GIS: Will there ever be a Geo-Linux? in: Erwan Bocher (ed), *Proceedings of Open Source Geospatial Research Conference* (OGRS 2009). Lecture Notes in Geoinformation and Cartography (2010). Berlin, Springer, 2010.
Abstract. This paper examines the constraints that limit the large-scale adoption of open source GIS. Although the open source GIS community has already achieved relevant results, their products have a small market share. There is equivalent to Linux and Apache in the open source GIS scene. We try to explain why this happens, by considering some factors that control the evolution and adoption of open source software. The authors' view is that the community effort is split in many different systems, not allowing a dominant solution to come forth. Thus, none of the current open source GIS has the potential to be a disruptive technology.
Then, the authors consider a future scenario where most public geospatial data will be available as open access policy. This scenario is becoming more probable given recent data policy decision in Europe, USA and other countries. In this scenario, there is a major chance for a disruptive open source GIS to appear.

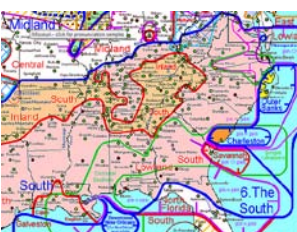**Mapping as a Foundation for Economic Development** by Matt Ball
The exploding growth that is evident throughout Asia is a major change in all aspects of infrastructure creation and management. The rapid improvements evident across the region often have started with the creation of an accurate base map, to assess the viability and impact of a project, as well as to understand the broader context.
Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping

Old Maps for Spatial Applications by Tomaž Podobnikar
Getting Information from the Old Maps
Source V1 Magazine

Where Does the [American] South Begin? by Patrick Ottenhoff
The *Washington Post* had an interesting article last weekend about how the Washington, D.C. region has lost most of its southern identity in recent decades as northerners move in and the federal capital's culture, food, and dialect became more standardized. The article raised the inevitable question: Was D.C. ever a *southern* city? And if so, where does the South begin?
Source: the *Atlantic* magazine

Cartography, Power and Utopia by Tamara Bellone, Francesco Fiermonte and Luigi Mussio
Nikola Tesla (1856-1943), possibly the first scientist who devised a wireless world, looked at Science as a common service, a way to improve the lot of mankind, not just a means for enhancing wealth (less than ever, the wealth of the few), or to bend to compulsions of market economy. Geomatics and Geoinformation can give very important contributions to many human activities; on the contrary, they can terribly support, in very sophisticated

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ways, the escalation of armies, wars and destruction, producing negative effects, both in high intensity and large extension.
Source: V1 Magazine
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Books and Journals (including Videos and Web publications)

Call for Papers – Information Systems Journal, "Theorising Development and Technological Change" special issue
Extended submission deadline: **2nd of May 2011**

Podcast: Predictions for the Geospatial Marketplace 2011

The Coral Triangle Atlas (CT Atlas) is an online GIS database, providing governments, NGOs and researchers with a view of spatial data at the regional scale. Data on fisheries, biodiversity, natural resources, and socioeconomics have been collected for decades by scientists and managers working in different parts of the Coral Triangle region. However, to date, little of this information has been aggregated into region-wide layers to provide an overview and support management planning and decision-making at a regional level.
http://ctatlas.reefbase.org/ctatlas.aspx

Call for Papers – *Computers & Geosciences* journal
A Call for Papers has been issued for a Special Issue of the journal *Computers & Geosciences*, with the title "towards a geoprocessing web". This special issue is to collect the current representative research in the area of Geoprocessing Web. To this aim, the Editors seek a number of high-quality research and application papers that discuss the state-of-the-art research on theoretic framework and practical implementations, and identify challenges and open issues in Geoprocessing Web. Topics of interests include, but are not limited to:
Service-Oriented Architecture for the Geoprocessing Web
Geoprocessing in the Grid and in the Cloud computing
Geoprocessing and Linked data
Standards and Metadata for Geoprocessing
Discovery in the Geoprocessing Web
Quality of Service and Service Level Agreement in the Geoprocessing Web
Geoprocessing Web and the Model Web
Important Dates:
Paper submission deadline: March 15, 2011
Publication: 4th quarter of 2011
Submission Guidelines are available here

Mother Pelican ~ January 2011

LiDAR News online Volume 1, Number 2 (2011) available here

Machine Control online

SERVIR-Africa community news - entries posted in December 2010

Why 'Where' Matters: Understanding and Profiting from GPS, GIS and Remote Sensing
Practical Advice for Individuals, Communities, Companies and Countries by Dr. Bob Ryerson and Dr. Stan Aronoff, KIM Geomatics Corporation, ISBN: 9780986637605 2010, 379 pages [Reviewed by Jeff Thurston (of Vector ONE)]
It has been estimated that around 80% of everything that occurs will have a location tied to it. This has been known by the geospatial community (and many others) for a long time. The
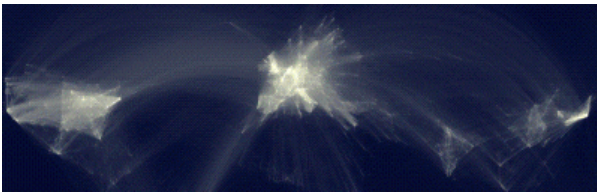Back to contents

importance of location is the heart and foundation of location-based services - many of which are more fully being recognised by the general community only recently. However, the 'why' part of the equation, and understanding the rationale behind their use is less well understood - and exploited. The authors of this book attempt to explain some of the mystery surrounding that importance, and to explain how the pieces link together from technologies to applications.

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Just for Fun!

Map of Scientific Collaboration

Olivier H. Beauchesne has produced the 'Map of Scientific Collaboration'. The map connects researchers who have worked together and published from 2005-09. It raises a few questions.
Interestingly, the lightest including Europe could signify and support the idea that 'closeness' contributes a great deal toward these kinds of connections. On the other hand, the European Union tends to support the notion that major FP research calls ought to include researchers from many places – increasing trans-boundary connections.
Source: Vector ONE

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Training Opportunities

ESRI offering technical certification
ESRI offers a technical certification program for their software. The ESRI Technical Certification Program will recognize people skilled in desktop, developer, and enterprise use of ESRI technology. Earning a certification will mean an individual possesses a high level of technical expertise using ESRI software. Starting in January of 2011, certification will be offered for the following: ArcGIS Desktop Associate, ArcGIS Desktop Professional, Web Application Developer Associate, Enterprise Geodatabase Management Associate, and Enterprise Administration Associate. Eight more certifications will be offered later next year and in 2012. Certification will be accomplished by taking a two-hour exam consisting of 90-95 multiple choice questions and will be offered in English only. The test will be available at 5,000 locations in 165 countries.
Registration opens January 17, 2011.
More about ESRI's Technical Certification Program
Source: GISLounge

Directions Magazine Webinars (Web Seminars)

Upcoming MashUps Event – NSW Australia
SSSI NSW committee will be hosting a professional evening in early 2011 for those wishing to learn more about spatial "mash ups". The structure will be similiar to the twilight evening ISNSW series which you may already be familiar with. The event will be chaired by committe member Jose Diacono so all enquries should be directed to her. The event is currently being planned with several speakers from a range of government, private and university sectors already on board.
The date will be advertised on the SSSI events calender website.
[Thanks to Ross Johnson of the *Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute (SSSI)* NSW Committee for this item]

OpenGeo Releases Training Courses Under Creative Commons
At the Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial (FOSS4G) conference in Barcelona this past week, OpenGeo announced the availability of its training materials online, licensed under the Creative Commons Share-Alike With Attribution license. Introductory workshops on the PostGIS spatial database, OpenLayers web mapping library, and the GeoServer map and feature server are all available online.

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Vexcel Imaging Web Events (Webinars) - including past webinars

Seven Day Training Workshop On Geographic Information Science and Technology by Jiwan Rawat
The Geographic Information Science, also known as GI Science, is a newly emerging discipline of applied sciences. GI Science is concerned with the collection or capture of spatial data by such methods as satellite remotely sensed images, aerial photographs, Global Positioning System (GPS), Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) maps and surveys of people. GI Science is advanced version of Information Technology (IT) and Information Communication Technology (ICT) which provide quick data with digital maps.
Source: Asian Surveying and Mapping

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Funding Opportunities, Awards, Grants

Master's and Doctoral opportunities in remote sensing - CSIR NRE and Meraka Institute – Pretoria

2011 Technology in Government in Africa (TIGA) Awards
Deadline for Applications: 28 February 2011

African Research Grants programme issues first call for proposals
The African Union (AU) Research Grants programme, a project under the Africa–EU partnership has announced its first call for proposals. The AU is seeking proposals that focus on post-harvest and agriculture, renewable and sustainable energy, and water and sanitation in Africa. It is expected that the move will foster the implementation of Africa's Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action, and ensure more involvement from African scientists in solving the continent's problems.
Deadline: 30 April 2011.

FELLOWSHIPS IN AFRICAN CLIMATE SCIENCE: CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
The DFID-Hadley Centre Climate Science Research Partnership (CSRP) is pleased to announce a Call for Applications for fellowships in African climate science. Please see the link at:
http://hadobs.metoffice.com/csrp/Documents/Fellowships/Call_for_Applications.pdf, which provides full details of the fellowships, grant awards available, eligibility criteria and information on how to apply.
Applicants must be resident nationals of an African country and the fellowship must be hosted at an African Institute. The deadline for applications is 4 February 2011.
All required application forms may be downloaded from: http://hadobs.metoffice.com/csrp/fellowships.html
For further enquires, contact: Richard Graham, CSRP Fellowship Coordinator, Met Office, FitzRoy Road Exeter Devon EX1 3PB United Kingdom -.
Website: http://hadobs.metoffice.com/csrp/index.html and http://www.metoffice.gov.uk

IBM annnounces new grant program to create smarter cities
IBM has inaugurated the Smarter Cities Challenge, a competitive grant program through which IBM will award a total of $50 million worth of technology and services to a hundred municipalities across the globe.
Over the next three years, IBM will send top experts to those cities that have made the strongest case for participating in the Smarter Cities Challenge. IBM consultants will immerse themselves in local issues involving the administration of healthcare, education, safety, social services, transportation, communications, sustainability, budget management, energy, and utilities.
Following the November 2010 program launch, applications will be accepted annually, with **the first cycle closing December 31, 2010.**
Thanks to Kate Lance for this item

Best Student Paper Awards Nanjing, China – May 26-9, 2011 see under "Conferences, Events"
A Student Paper Prize Competition will be held during **LIDAR & RADAR 2011**. It is a great opportunity for young researchers to expose their work in this event and be recognized for their scientific value. Any student willing to be considered for this competition is required:
►to submit an abstract before 30 November 2010, indicating that he/she is willing to participate to the student competition. The abstract must have the name of the student as the first author.

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►to submit the full paper and an electronic copy of a certificate showing his/her student status by e-mail to lidar2011@gmail.com no later than 30 January 2011.
►to present the paper at the conference, if the paper is accepted and included in this session.
The **Best Student Paper Award** with a value of $100 will recognize the best paper submitted by a student. Only papers submitted on or before the Proceedings submission deadline will be considered for these awards.

Bentley's 2011 Student Design Competition Call for Submissions Now Open
The Bentley Student Design Competition is now accepting nominations for 2011. Students or teams (not to exceed 3 team members) may nominate their project in one of the categories, at their scholastic level, listed on the Bentley website.
The deadline is March 18, 2011.

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Employment Opportunities

Spatial Jobs Online (Australia) **Because of tight application closing dates the editors provide these websites for employment seekers to access directly:** < http://www.spatialjobs.com.au/ > and < http://www.GISjobs.com.au >

Looking for a GIS - Geomatics Job in Canada?
Here are some links: 1) Geomatics Canada Job Site; 2) GeographyJobs.ca; 3) GoGeomatics Canada; 4) Geomatics Employment Center
Source: V1 Magazine

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Conference Proceedings

Live webcasting of Geospatial World Forum 2011

GeoSpatial World Weekly, vol 7, issue 4 (January 24) special **Geospatial World Forum 2011** issue.

Knowledge Cities World Summit (Melbourne, 16-9 November 2010) KCWS 2010 Conference (36 mB)
Individual papers may be accessed here.

Proceedings of the **International Symposium on GeoInformatics for Spatial-Infrastructure Development in Earth and Allied Sciences (GIS-IDEAS 2010)**, 9-11 December 2010, Hanoi, Vietnam
According to the Organizing Secretary of GIS-IDEAS 2010, Prof. Venkatesh Raghavan, Osaka City University. "the conference attracted 120 participants -- 33 from overseas (Japan, Germany,USA, Switerzland, Taiwan). and 87 from Vietnam.
The conference program is available (some last minutes changes are not reflected in the schedule)
Proceedings of full-papers and abstracts are available online.
Thanks to Kate Lance for this item

6th gvSIG Conference - **Reports, posters and articles**
Presentations, posters and articles presented during the 6th gvSIG Conference attended by ~ 500 persons taking in the "Knowledge for change" theme.
The magazine ***Open Planet 4***, the Live-DVD given during the Conference, and videos of presentations and workshops will be published soon.

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GSDI

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Conferences, Events

For upcoming events of global or major international interest, please visit the <u>upcoming conference list</u> on the GSDI website – as this conference list will be reserved for conferences within or with specific interest to the Asia Pacific Region.

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

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

Date	Location	Event
February 2011		
2-4 February	Alice Springs, Australia	**Northern Territory Spatial 2011**
4-6 February "NEW"	Miami, USA	**Eighteenth Annual Miami International Map Fair**
7 – 9 February	New Orleans, USA	**11th International LiDAR Mapping Forum 2011**
16-18 February "NEW"	Melbourne, Australia	**Sustainable Urbanisation : a resilient future**
21-25 February	Anchorage, Alaska	**The 45 Annual Alaska Surveying and Mapping Conference - "Meridians and Parallels"**
March 2011		
7 – 9 March	Valencia, SPAIN	**5th International Technology, Education and Development Conference (INTED2011)** Contact
15 – 18 March	Moscow, Russia	**Geoform+ 2011 / Cartography, Geodesy, Navigation, and Geospatial technology**
21 – 24 March	Houston, USA	**SPAR International 2011** Contact: Linda McLaughlin, Program Manager
23 – 25 March	Enschede, The Netherlands	**1st Conference on Spatial Statistics 2011**
25 – 27 March "AMENDED"	Bilbao, Spain	**7th International Conference on Technology, Knowledge and Society** Contact The deadline for the call for papers (a title and short abstract) is 15 February 2011. Alternative website
28 – 29 March	Canberra, Australia	**100 Years of National Topographic Mapping**
April 2011		
10 – 15 April	Sydney, Australia	**34th International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment** (ISRSE)
11 – 13 April	Munich, Germany	**Joint urban remote sensing event**
12-16 April "NEW"	Seattle, USA	**AAG Annual Meeting**
13-15 April "NEW"	Moscow, Russia	**V Anniversary International Conference "Remote Sensing – the Synergy of High Technologies"**
19 – 21 April	Santa Clara, California	**Where 2.0**
24-26 April "NEW"	Khobar, Eastern Province, Saudi Arabia.	**The Sixth National GIS Symposium in Saudi Arabia**

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May 2011		
3 – 8 May	Antalya, Turkey	**Gi4DM 2011 – GeoInformation for Disaster Management**. Contact Full papers for Proceedings are required by **March 31, 2011**
10-13 May **"NEW"**	Lakewood, Colo., USA	**USGS holds National Map Users Conference** The U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) National Geospatial Program (NGP) and the Office of Enterprise Information announced The National Map (TNM) Users Conference, and the Geographic Information Science Workshop to be held May 10-13, 2011 in Lakewood, Colo. According to the announcement, this inaugural event will assemble a wide range of participants including scientists, managers and geospatial professionals from government, industry, academia and other organizations. A goal of TNM UC is to share accomplishments and progress, acknowledge best practices, and exchange innovative ideas concerning The National Map in supporting science initiatives. The role of the GIS Workshop will be learning specific techniques for using GIS in support of science. Interactive dialog will be encouraged through panel and lightning sessions, poster presentations, workshops, and demonstrations.
12-13 May **"NEW"**	Isle of Capri, Italy	**Workshop on Global Scientific Data Infrastructures: the big data challenges** This Workshop will be held at the "Hotel La Palma" in the island of Capri, Italy. **Registration** The participation is free and the organizers will be able to offer the coffee-breaks, working lunches, and a social dinner. The participants have to cover their own travel and lodging expenses. To register to the Workshop, fill in the online form. Upon registration, you will receive an email confirmation message. Registration for the workshop is limited by the venue capacity. Early registration is strongly recommended. **Deadline** for receiving the registration form: 12 March 2011. Organizing Committee - Costantino Thanos, CNR--ISTI, Italy and Yannis Ioannidis, University of Athens, Greece Secretariat support - Catherine Bosio, CNR---ISTI, Italy
26 – 29 May	Nanjing, CHINA,	**LIDAR and Radar Mapping: Technologies and Applications** Full paper submission deadline - January 30, 2011 Contact
31 May – 2 June	Cape Town, South Africa	**AfricaGEO 2011**
June 2011		
14 June	Washington, D.C	**Forum On Earth Observations V**
15 – 17 JUNE	Munster, Germany	**GEOINFORMATIK 2011**
20 – 23 JUNE	University of Cantabria, Santander, Spain.	**"Cities, Technologies and Planning" CTP 11** in conjunction with **The 2011 International Conference on Computational Science and its Applications (ICCSA 2011)**
21 – 22 JUNE	University of Nottingham, UK	**Third Open Source GIS UK Conference - OSGIS 2011**
21 – 23 JUNE **"NEW"**	Dijon, France	**The International Conference on Digital Information and Communication Technology and its Applications (DICTAP2011)** Université de Bourgogne For inquires, please send email to di@sdiwc.net All the papers will be reviewed and the accepted papers in the conference will be published in the "Communications in Computer

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		and Information Science" (CCIS) of Springer Lecture Notes Series < www.springer.com/series/7899 >, and will be indexed in many global databases including ISI Proceedings and Scopus. In addition, selected papers after complete modification and revision will be published in the special issues journals. Researchers are encouraged to submit their work electronically. Submitted paper should not exceed 15 pages, including illustrations. Papers should be submitted electronically. All papers will be fully refereed by a minimum of two specialized referees. Before final acceptance, all referees comments must be considered. **Important Dates** ============== Submission Date : Feb 20, 2011 Notification of acceptance: April 1, 2011 Camera Ready submission : April 10, 2011 Registration : April 10, 2011
22 – 24 JUNE **"NEW"**	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysai	**SEASC and ISC 2011** The 11th South East Asian Survey Congress and the 13th International Surveyors' Congress. The theme "Innovation towards Sustainability", in conjunction with the Institution of Surveyors Malaysia's 50th year celebrations.
27 – 29 JUNE	Universiti Malaysia Pahang, Malaysia	**ICSECS 2011 (Malaysia)** The Second International Conference on Software Engineering and Computer Systems (ICSECS2011)
28 June - 7 July	Melbourne, Australia	**XXV IUGG General Assembly** **Earth on the Edge: Science for a sustainable Planet** The IUGG 2011 Scientific Program Committee invites the submission of abstracts on original work to be considered for oral or poster presentation at the IUGG 2011 General Assembly Contact Download Brochure
28 June - 7 July	Melbourne, Australia	**IAG General Assembly** Download Brochure
29 June - 1 July	Fuzhou, China	**ICSDM 2011 & BJ-IWGIS 2011** **IEEE International Conference on Spatial Data Mining and Geographical Knowledge Services (ICSDM 2011)** – AND - **Beijing International Workshop on Geographical Information System (BJ-IWGIS 2011)** The conference theme is "Bridging the Gap Between Spatial Information Technology and Geoscience Research". One of the keynote addresses is titled "SDI and Digital Asia as Information Commons."
July 2011		
3 - 8 July	Paris	**25th International Cartographic Conference.** **15th General Assembly of the International Cartographic Association (ICA)** Abstracts were due 4th October, 2010. Contact: regist-icc2011@europa-organisation.com
5 – 8 July	Salzburg, Austria	**GI Forum 2011**
9 – 12 July	San Diego	**Esri and ACSM - Event for Surveyors and Mapping Professionals**
11 – 15 July	San Diego	**ESRI International USER CONFERENCE**
11 – 13 July	Macau	**3rd International Conference on Networked Digital Technologies (NDT 2011)**
21 – 22 July	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	**THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE: IMPACTS AND RESPONSES**

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August 2011		
5 - 7 August	Washington, DC USA	**THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE IN SOCIETY**
8 - 10 August	Taipei	**AOGS 2011 Geosciences World Community Exhibition** The Geosciences World Community Exhibition will be held in conjunction with the **8th Annual Meeting of the Asia Oceania Geosciences Society** (AOGS)
15 - 19 August **"AMENDED"**	Nairobi, Kenya	**AGSE 2011** Important dates: Author registration closes February 16, 2011 Call for Papers posted December 18, 2010 Submissions accepted December 18, 2010 Submissions closed February 16, 2011
23 – 25 AugustI	Perth, Australia	**7th International Symposium on Digital Earth**(ISDE7) Held in conjunction with **WALIS Forum 2011** and the **2011 NRM Conference** **Call for Papers closes 28 February**
September 2011		
9 – 11 September	Denver, Colorado	**State of the Map (SotM)**
12 – 16 September	Denver, Colorado	**FOSS4G 2011**
28 – 30 September	The Delft, Netherlands	**UDMS 2011**
November 2011		
14 – 18 November	Santiago, Chile	**UGI 2001** International Geographic Union "Regional Geographic Conference" **Contact** **Brochure & Call for Papers**
15 – 17 November	Canberra, Australia	**Spatial@Gov2011**
21 – 25 November	Wellington, New Zealand	**Surveying & Spatial Sciences Conference 2011**
August 2012		
25 August – 1 September	Melbourne, Australia	**XXII International Society for Photogrammetry & Remote Sensing Congress** Email: isprs2012@icms.com.au
October 2012		
	Morocco	**10th biennial International Conference of the African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment (AARSE)**
2014		
	Malaysia	Malaysia will be hosting the (International Federation of Surveyors) FIG Congress in 2014. The decision was taken at the recently concluded FIG Congress 2010 in Sydney, Australia.

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Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association.

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