

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 the 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 June edition of the newsletter. We note the recent major oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. In the near future we expect to be able to follow up with the role played by SDI in ameliorating the effects of the oil slick and perhaps the devising of newer uses to which SDI may be applied.

Please note that the GSDI organisation is currently planning for the GSDI conference and calling for Workshop and Tutorials — further information is available from [the GSDI website](#) and the Conference, Events section of the Contents of this newsletter.

Congratulations to SDI-Africa newsletter The SDI-Africa newsletter, published since May 2002, surpassed the 100th issue mark last month, quietly, without fanfare.

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.

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

Contributions

Thank you to the following people and organisations for their contributions to this issue: Paul Box, Kate Lance, and Baek Wonkug for news feeds, Jeremy Shen and Jeremy Huang for the Chinese translation as well as Shivani Lal, GIS Development, Asia Surveying Mapping Magazine for directly contributing to the newsletter.

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SDI News, Links, Papers, Presentations

[China's Internet Map Licenses to be Distributed in June](#)

A representative from the State Bureau of Surveying and Mapping of China has revealed that the bureau will issue the first batch of licenses to Chinese Internet map service providers in June 2010. The representative also said that by the end of 2010, companies still operating Internet map services without the license will be prosecuted in China.

On May 17, 2010, the Bureau published the latest revised Internet Map Service Professional Standards, which clarify regulations in various sectors, including qualification examinations, service ranges, quality management, security, and copyright protection. In addition, the standards include maps designed for mobile Internet devices such as mobile phones and PDAs in the management range of Internet maps for the first time.

Source: [China Tech News](#)

[Second Preparatory Meeting of the Proposed United Nations Committee on Global Geographic Information Management, 10 - 11 May 2010, UNHQ, New York.](#)

Following the first Preparatory Meeting on Global Geographic Information Management in Bangkok, on Sunday 25 October 2009, prior to the 18th UNRCC-AP, the United Nations Statistics Division/DESA (UNSD), jointly with the UN Cartographic Section (UNCS), has organised the 2nd meeting to discuss the terms of reference and the modalities of work for the global forum and the Committee of Experts, the proposal of a global inter-governmental mechanism to coordinate the various activities on global geographic information management. GSDI President (Associate Prof Abbas Rajabifard) has attended this meeting on behalf of GSDI and on the request from UN, Associate Prof Rajabifard has also presented a scoping paper on the topic of data integration and interoperability of data and systems.

[A study on the Design of Spatial Data Infrastructure \(SDI\) using Activity-based Domain Analysis \(ADA\).](#)

By Tsuneki Sakakibara, Ryosuke Shibusaki

In this study, we aim to develop a methodology to design a data architecture of SDI, effectively and efficiently. To archive this goal, we divide the method into steps. The first is "development of ACTIVITY-based Domain Analysis (ADA)". We consider ADA as a methodology to analyze needs for (spatial) information. In this paper, we will discuss ADA. The second is "development of an information use model". Using this model, we want to simulate the change of activities by the changing of provided information. The last is "development of cost-effectiveness model". By this model, we aim to estimate the effectiveness of each data item or attribute.

Source: [GIS Development](#)

[Critical issued in global information management with a detailed focus on Data Integration and Interoperability of Systems and Data](#)

Scoping Paper for the 2nd Preparatory Meeting of the Proposed UN Committee on Global Geographic Information Management, New York, USA 10-11 May 2010

The GSDI Association continues its support for the United Nations for taking the initiative on this critical global geographic information issue; and is willing to contribute to new arrangements to improve global geographic information management.

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This paper presents some views related to the “critical issues in global geographic information management” and in particular a response to the following issues:

Source: [United Nations](#)

Memorandum of Understanding: FIG & GSDI

At the recent 24th FIG International Congress 2010 a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by Stig Enemark (FIG), Abbas Rajibifard (GSDI), and Santiago Borrero (PAIGH). The purpose of the Memorandum is to provide for continuing liason between the three organizations to foster and maintain the opportunities for scientific, technical, professional, academic, and education exchange between the members.

Key Elements of the Dutch NSDI

A well-developed infrastructure is the basis for everything. Take the transport industry for example. Who would be able to travel properly from location A to location B by car without a road network? Of course, one could argue that with a little effort, the trip can succeed. Nevertheless, the voyage will be far from comfortable and will take more time than necessary – and time is money. In a similar way, the basis for nationwide successful use of geo-information is a National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI). This involves the development of standards and agreements that enable the exchange and use of geo-information.

Following the European guidelines developed in INSPIRE, the Dutch have pioneered with an NSDI – and success is on its way with the many projects and pilots that have been or are currently carried out. This article explains some key aspects that characterize the Dutch NSDI and how it facilitates the success of all kinds of geo-information users.

Source: V1 Magazine (28 May, 2010)

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SDI Spotlight

This month's Spotlight feature is an abstract from the FIG 2010 Conference by Lik Shan Lesly Lam (of the Lands Department, Government of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region) who describes the process of developing a SDI in Hong Kong.

Evolutionary Process of the Development of Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) in Hong Kong SUMMARY

Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) is primarily a mega-project at national scale. It involves top-level developmental and administrative policy. It also resides on legal and institutional structures. It nurtures database production and communication. No matter what the scale, all nations are moving towards SDI as it is not just a vogue on national development. The Hong Kong government also recognise that SDI is a collection of technologies, policies and institutional arrangements that facilitate the accessibility and availability of spatial data. However, the existing Geospatial Information Hub (GIH) and Data Alignment Measures Projects, which are considered a miniature version of SDI, seems still not holistic enough. Top directive and policy support on SDI are required to induce the collaborative initiative in creating/sustaining an environment where the spatial data, policies and technologies are not integrated to foster innovation, knowledge and value creation. The synergy among the three major components in the society, (i) government, (ii) enterprises and (iii) community can then be created for the economical development. If Hong Kong asserts as an information society, SDI is to be taken up with highest political priority. A benchmark study on the current achievements of the major SDI, e.g. INSPIRE and DCGF, shall give directions on Hong Kong's SDI development path.

The paper thus illustrates the study on the development of SDI based on the assumption that GIH is the future SDI in Hong Kong. It involves the policy, legal and institutional issues, e.g. complexity, standards and guidance related to data licencing, copy-right issues, liability or misuse of published data, data quality and data custodianship issues, etc. As a mean to commence the further study, the standard and database problems are touched as well. The GIH supports ready access to geographic information. To strengthen the GIH model, sound project governance and a clear transition plan to move from temporary project governance to operational governance in a multi agency context is a major governance challenge. Addressing the concerns of data custodians will assist in removing barriers to publication. Barriers must be identified and solutions proposed. The study on legal concerns (such as licencing and liability) and the role of key agencies including lead agency,

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custodial, coordinator, and operator of the infrastructure, should be made understood. Using semi-structured Interviews with stakeholders involved in the case study initiatives and informants from government agencies and the private sectors, the conceptualization, function, scope, mechanisms, and challenges of SDI governance are explored in this paper.

Powerpoint Presentation (pdf) available [here](#).

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GIS Tools, Software, Data

[EQECAT's Asia Typhoon Model](#)

EQECAT is releasing the first basin-wide Asian typhoon model in July 2010 to provide a comprehensive and correlated view of typhoon risk across the entire western Pacific basin. Residing in EQECAT's global multi-peril platform WORLDCATenterprise™, version 3.15, this groundbreaking release includes the direct effects of: Wind, Storm surge and Typhoon rainfall-induced flooding. The Asia Typhoon Model, a basin-wide typhoon model for catastrophe risk management in Asia that covers Japan, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, the Philippines, Thailand and Malaysia.

Source: [EQECAT](#)

[How the Right Map in the Right Hands Can Save Your Life](#)

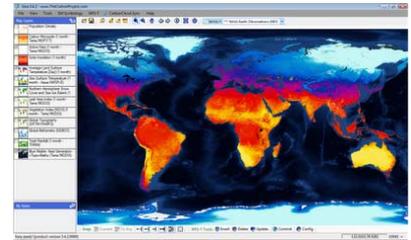
Spatial information products and maps can be effective tools for assessing and communicating conditions during all phases of disaster management. A well-designed map can provide a disaster manager with the information necessary to make quick, well informed decisions that save lives.

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#) and Pacific Disaster Centre

[NEO – NASA Earth Observations](#)

Neo- NASA Earth Observations [mission](#) is to help you picture climate and environmental changes happening on our home planet. To open up the NEO collection to all users they provide a WMS - giving anyone the ability to access maps from any application using a standardized programming interface. Just plug the [service descriptions for NEO](#) into [Gaia](#) to access it and start tracking changes around the world.

Source: Blog



[NASA Earth Observatory follows Gulf of Mexico oil spill \(images\)](#)

This [website](#) contains some interesting content.

Further [imagery](#) of attempts to plug the spill (from GIS Development & [BBC News](#))

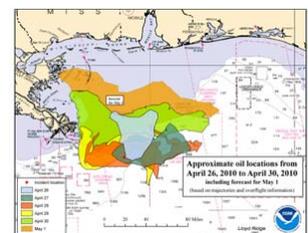
See also [Coastal Mapping Aids Oil Spill Recovery](#) (Asian Surveying & Mapping) & [Tracking the Oil Spill in the Gulf](#) (New York Times)



[Summary of Deepwater Horizon Incident in the Gulf of Mexico](#)

US National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) website shows a [trajectory map](#) showing the oil locations by day and projected location for the Deepwater Horizon Incident located in the Gulf of Mexico. A [summary of the incident to date](#) and efforts to help with scientific weather and biological response services is also available. The Deepwater Horizon incident declared a Spill of National Significance (SONS). A SONS is defined as, "a spill that, due to its severity, size, location, actual or potential impact on the public health and welfare or the environment, or the necessary response effort, is so complex that it requires extraordinary coordination of federal, state, local, and responsible party resources to contain and clean up the discharge" and allows greater federal involvement.

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



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FURTHER links to the Gulf of Mexico oil spill provided by Wonkug Baek:

The explosion of the Deepwater Horizon rig and subsequent spewing of millions of gallons of oil in the Gulf of Mexico is creating an environmental disaster of epic proportions. There are many mapping resources out there helping to map out the extent of the spill and to predict its trajectory and impact in the area.

[Comparing the Gulf oil spill to other historic spills](#): The Google Earth Blog has a KML file created by GEB reader 'David' that provides a lot of detail about the Gulf of Mexico oil spill and provides comparisons to 70 other historic oil spills.

[How big is the Deepwater Horizon oil spill?](#): Paul Rademacher, Google Maps Engineering Manager, created a page that uses the Google Earth plugin for browsers to allow visitors to compare the extent of the spill to any location they choose. Type in any city and the map will pan to the area and overlay a polygon of the current oil spill extent.

[ESA Oil Spill Monitoring](#): The European Space Agency has been monitoring and releasing satellite imagery of the oil spill with Envisat, the largest Earth Observation spacecraft ever built.

[ESRI's Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill Map](#): ESRI is consolidating links, imagery, and videos on their Oil Spill Map. Users are invited to add current information to the map relating to the oil spill. ESRI outline their efforts to help with the disaster in this [press release](#).

[ROFFS Deepwater Horizon Rig oil spill monitoring](#): An ocean fishing forecasting service, ROFFS has a series of maps showing the extent of the spill and ocean currents on their site.

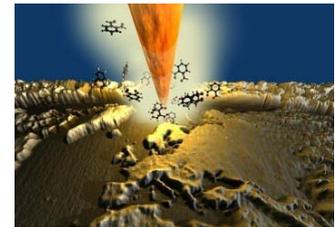
Oil Spill Maps Roundups: Jonathan Crowe has compiled an [extensive list of oil spill related maps](#) and news articles. [Google Maps Mania](#) also has a list.

Source: GIS Lounge (by [Caitlin Dempsey](#))

[World's smallest 3D Map developed by IBM](#)

IBM scientists have created the smallest 3D map of the Earth. The scientists accomplished this through a new, breakthrough technique that uses a tiny, silicon tip with a sharp apex, 100,000 times smaller than a sharpened pencil, to create patterns and structures as small as 15 nanometers at greatly reduced cost and complexity. This patterning technique opens new prospects for developing nanosized objects in fields such as electronics, future chip technology, medicine, life sciences, and optoelectronics.

Source: [GIS Development](#) & IBM Press Release



[gvSIG Mini for Android 0.2 released \(\[comunicacion_gvsig@gva.es\]\(mailto:comunicacion_gvsig@gva.es\)\)](#)

gvSIG Mini is an open source project (GNU/GPL) aimed at Android and Java mobile phones [1]. Released version is 0.2.0 for Android.

[1] <http://www.gvsigmini.org> and <http://www.gvsig.org/web/plugins/downloads/gvsig-mini>

[Mining and the Value of 3D](#)

Mining operations have used 3D technologies for many years. These technologies provide important benefits to both open-pit and underground mining operations. The technologies used to capture 3D information include aerial and satellite imagery, laser, global positioning systems and conventional surveying equipment.

Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping

[Sea lions with 'crittercams' the new marine explorers](#)

Sea lions are playing a central role in the development of South Australia's (SA) marine parks. Sea lions fitted with GPS trackers and National Geographic Crittercams are taking scientists on journeys under seas to previously unknown marine 'hot spots,' supplying very clear information about areas that provide important habitats for fish stocks and other marine life.

Source: [GIS Development](#) & Science Alert (Australia)

[Using remote sensing to locate Fire Ants pests](#)

State Minister for Primary Industries, Fisheries and Rural and Regional Queensland, Tim Mulherin said that scientific trials have been conducted in the use of high tech imagery for the purpose of detecting fire ant colonies using remote sensing technology.

Source: [GIS Development](#) & Media Newswire press release

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[Philippines National Economic and Development Authority \(NEDA\) urges use of GIS for disaster risk](#)

The National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Region 2 urged all Local Government Units to prioritize establishing their own Geographic Information System (GIS) to mainstream disaster risk reduction in planning.

Source: [GIS Development](#) & Philippines Information Agency press release

[Land Registration and Cadastre System for Sustainable Agriculture Project \(LRCSP\) in Tajikistan: High Resolution Digital Satellite Imagery](#)

The Republic of Tajikistan has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Land Registration and Cadastre System for Sustainable Agriculture Project (LRCSP), and it intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for procurement of High Resolution Digital Satellite Imagery

Source: [GIS Development](#) & International Development Business: Projects & Tenders

[Land title registration in India](#)

The Dept. of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India has taken an initiative towards bringing in conclusive land titling in India by drafting the **Land Titling Bill 2010**.

The draft is open to public debate till June 15. The details of the draft are available on the link

<<http://dolr.nic.in/Draft%20Final%20Model%20Land%20Titling%20Act-04.5.10.doc>>

Source: [GIS Development](#)

[Ten of the Greatest Maps That Changed the World](#)

A list compiled by Peter Barber who is the Head of Map Collections at the British Library on the ten of the greatest maps that have affected the world is presented on the UK Mail Online. From the USSR's 'Be On Guard!' map in 1921 to Google Earth, a new exhibition at the [British Library](#) charts the extraordinary documents that transformed the way we view the globe forever.

Source: the *Daily Mail* [thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item]

[gvSIG Brazilian Community was constituted officially.](#)

Geomatics has expanded considerably in Brazil in the last years, with a tendency to adopt the open source and free software philosophy by all of the country. This new technology development model is considered fundamental in the adoption of Geographic Information Systems, because of the high cost of the proprietary software as well as the impossibility to access to its source code and modify it.

The gvSIG Brazilian Community has been created with the aim of spreading gvSIG use in Brazil, encouraging its members to share experiences, supporting the project and promoting its business model.

[Look at me! Art and geomatics project has collaboration in sight](#)

University student Julian Tan has collaborated with artist Elisabeth Weissensteiner on a unique summer research project sponsored by the University's Melbourne Engineering Research Institute (MERIT).

Art and Engineering rarely intersect, but Ms Weissensteiner's ambitious project required help from the University's Department of Geomatics, which Julian and his supervisor, Head of the Department of Geomatics, Associate Professor Stephan Winter were happy to provide.

Ms Weissensteiner's idea was to display a pair of eyes on a large screen in a public space (imagine Federation Square). The eyes would scan the crowds before focusing on one person who would, presumably, return the gaze. Passers-by would notice the fixation of the large eyes on the screen, and when the person moved, all the eyes would follow.

Source: [Melbourne University Staff/Student E-news : Issue 36,May 2010](#)

[Australia looks to join the space age](#)

The second round of the four-year, AU\$ 40 million (US\$ 36 million) Australian Space Research Programme (ASRP), part of a four-year, AU\$ 46.8 million Australian Space Science Programme, concluded. The programme created a dedicated Space Policy Unit within the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research, to act as the central point of contact for the country's national and international civil space activities. The policy will cover civil and defence matters and may address how Australia uses space to tackle climate change, weather forecasting, natural resource management, forestry and agriculture, disaster management, national security, communications, Earth observation and remote sensing, position navigation and timing applications. The policy will also detail Australia's engagement and participation on the global stage, according to the unit.

Source: [GIS Development](#) & <www.flightglobal.com>

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[Altimetry Satellite Data - 8-m Waves During Cyclone Tomas](#)

Cyclones are among the most frequently occurring natural disasters in the tropical Pacific, and they are characterised by high waves and strong winds. At the time of tropical cyclone Tomas ocean surface waves up to eight meters high were reported to inundate villages on Vanua Levu. Such an extreme event can lead to coastal erosion or accretion, depending on the configuration of the particular shoreline. It is however difficult to imagine such large waves, and even more difficult to assess their impact without direct measurements in the location concerned.

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#) and SOPAC (Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission)

[Atlas of Living Australia Goes Live in September 2010](#)

The Atlas of Living Australia goes live in September, opening the door to a rich collection of information about Australia's plants, animals and micro-organisms. Across Australia, people will be able to contribute sightings of plants, animals and micro-organisms; download tools and more

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#) and *Atlas of Living Australia*

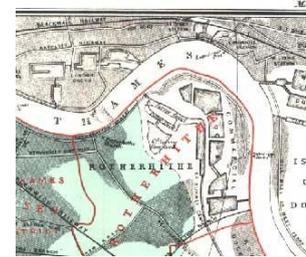
[Unique Applications](#)

Spatial information has been in use for many years and in many ways.

However, its scope of usage seems to be unlimited. Application in epidemiology is one such area. In 1854 Dr John Snow used spatial data to locate the source of a cholera epidemic in Broad Street in London. The Broad Street pump episode was the culmination and final proof of the hypothesis. Today, use of GIS for epidemiology is accepted but used rarely. Apart from the location of malaria endemic areas it has been used to track the bird flu epidemic and later the H1N1 spread. Similarly, the use of GIS and remote sensing for archaeology is an area which remains neglected in spite of great promise. Use of GIS has been made to study the causative factors for human conflict. In fact if you are feeling low just visit

<www.wefeelfine.org> to know who else is having the same mood as you, and where!

GIS Development editorial (17 May) by [Prof Arup Dasgupta](#)



[BIM: the new modelling tool for mines](#)

Building Information Management (BIM) is a new engineering modelling practise that allows mines to bring together all facets of engineering into a three dimensional, dynamic model of a proposed mine prior to construction and maintain a live record during operation. The 3D model of the design can highlight any issues associated with the planned site's geometry and geographic information as well as the spatial relationships, quantities and properties of infrastructure components before a bull dozer even scrapes the surface.

This is achieved by linking 3D model elements with data for infrastructure elements of plant down to individual nuts and bolts. When linked with the fourth dimension, the model elements can be linked to schedule tools to provide earned value reporting during construction as well as maintenance scheduling during the operational phase of the mine.

Traditionally, mine operators have had to overcome the challenges associated with integrating the components of the design as they came up during construction or operation.

Furthermore, the model can simulate the facility's operations to identify its future asset management needs and upgrades, without starting from scratch. It applies to the whole site infrastructure, not just the buildings.

Source: [GIS Development](#) & *Australian Journal of Mining* (online)

[China targets illegal online maps](#)

China will introduce new net mapping rules to prevent disclosure of sensitive information such as location of army bases. Anyone who would violate the regulations may face seven to 10 years of imprisonment, according to Zee News report. Song Chaozhi, deputy director of State Bureau of Surveying and Mapping (SBSM) said that an investigation would be launched to detect problematic Internet map sites. According to the [China National News report](#), under the latest standard, qualified online map servers must have no record of information leakage in any form in the past three years. The new regulation includes all maps downloaded or copied from the Internet onto cell phones and handheld computers. By December officials will also crack down on unregistered or illegal Internet map servers and release a blacklist to the public.

Source: ZeeNews.com [thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item]. See also [GIS Development Weekly](#) (24/5/2010)

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[India's Largest Mapping Exercise of Migrant Population](#)

Migration is one of the major global issues of concern this century. In India alone, more than 30 million people migrate every year in search of livelihoods. Around 12.6 million short term out-migrants are staying away from their usual residence for about six months to a year. According to the 55th Round of the National Sample Survey (1999–2000), there are 20 million people who annually migrate temporarily, and as per National Sample Survey data (1999-2000), around 62% is rural migration.

Source: PRLog.org and [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#)

[2010 Australian Energy Resource Assessment](#)

Abstract:

The Australian Energy Resource Assessment examines the nation's identified and potential energy resources ranging from fossil fuels and uranium to renewables. The assessment reviews the factors likely to influence the use of Australia's energy resources to 2030, including the technologies being developed to extract energy more efficiently and cleanly from existing and new energy sources.

Source: Geo Sciences Australia & [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#)

[Partnership Agreement between OpenGEO and the gvSIG Association](#)

OpenGEO, a company specialized in the development of corporative solutions with geographic intelligence and FOSS (Free and Open Source Software), has signed a partnership agreement with the gvSIG Association, the "Association for the promotion of FOSS4G and the development of gvSIG". Helton Nogueira Uchoa, manager of OpenGEO, and Alvaro Anguix, general manager of the gvSIG Association, have signed this agreement.

[New version of NavTable for gvSIG 1.9, developed by Cartolab](#)

<<http://www.gvsig.com/news/new-version-of-navtable-for-gvsig-desktop-1.9>>

[New Zealand Enlists GIS to Monitor Greenhouse Gas](#)

New Zealand Ministry for the Environment is implementing GIS software to analyse, measure and report greenhouse gas emissions and land-use change. GIS will be used to comply with the reporting requirements of the Kyoto Protocol in an effort to reduce greenhouse gases that contribute to Earth's climate changes. The Land Use and Carbon Analysis System (LUCAS) is built on a geospatial system developed by New Zealand-based ESRI business partner Explorer Graphics Ltd. (EGL). The system supports complex carbon sequestration calculations using validated and quantified land use and land-use change information.

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

[GPS data confirms Greenland rapidly rising](#)

Greenland's ice is melting so quickly that the land underneath is rising at an accelerated pace, U.S. researchers find.

"During ice ages and in times of ice accumulation, the ice suppresses the land," explained Shimon Wdowinski, research associate professor at RSMAS, and co-author of the study.

"When the ice melts, the land rebounds upwards," he said. "Our study is consistent with a number of global warming indicators, confirming that ice melt and sea level rise are real and becoming significant."

Source: [GIS Development](#) and www.xinhuanet.com/english2010/

[Building Applications on Elevation Terrain Data](#)

Terrain data is important for building many spatial applications in both geographic information systems (GIS) and computer aided design (CAD). Digital elevation and terrain models are particularly useful for 3D applications, but are not restricted to these uses. Elevation information assists in hydrology modeling, situating wind generator locations, mining operations and road building.

Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping

[Tools in the Forest](#)

Geospatial technologies are used for many purposes in the forest sector. Satellite imagery, photogrammetry, digital cameras, GNSS, mapping and field GIS services are all helping to manage forests throughout Asia.

Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping

[China to Launch Surveying and Mapping Satellite in 2011](#)

A responsible official from SBSM revealed on December 18 that China's first civilian high resolution stereo surveying and mapping satellite. The satellite will integrate the functions of mapping and resources survey. The

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data from the satellite will be used mainly for the production of basic geographic information products at 1:50,000, the revision and updating of large scale maps at or above 1:25,000, and the investigation and monitoring of land resources. The satellite will provide services to disaster prevention and alleviation, agriculture, forestry, water resources, environment, city planning, transportation and national defense building. Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#) and State Bureau of Surveying & Mapping (China)

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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.

[GPS Tracker for victims of domestic violence \(UK\)](#)

Victims of domestic abuse and honour-based violence in Hertfordshire are to be given a tiny GPS tracker alarm. The device can be activated by the victim and is designed to be worn on the body or carried in a bag. It marks the location every 15 seconds.

If it is taken out of a designated area or dropped from a certain height the police are alerted and will respond. Supt Jon Chapman said it was "important to provide additional reassurance to those most at risk. Victims of domestic abuse and honour-based violence can be highly vulnerable when outside the home."

Source: [GIS Development](#) and BBC

COMPARE: [Lawsuit accuses GPS firm of aiding domestic abuse \(USA\)](#)

"Jane Doe" has sued a Missouri company, Foxtrax Vehicle Tracking Inc., in a Wisconsin court, saying it aided and abetted her domestic partner in tracking her whereabouts, thus enabling him to commit assault and battery on her.

Source: [Overlawyered.com](#) and [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#)

[Europe's 'Urban Atlas'](#)

Developed as a land monitoring project under [GMES](#) (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security), the Urban Atlas is a digital mapping tool providing pan-European, reliable and inter-comparable urban planning data with high-resolution maps. The Urban Atlas brings together thousands of images from European satellites and provides detailed and cost-effective mapping of larger urban zones, yielding accurate land cover and usage data. In its initial stage, 117 European cities are included in the Urban Atlas but this will rise to more than 300 by early 2011. Future editions of Urban Atlas are planned every three to five years, communicating on the evolution of cities. The data sets and maps can be downloaded from the [EEA Urban Atlas website](#). Additionally, the maps can also be seen through a [map viewer](#), which will be gradually improved.

Source: <www.eea.europa.eu> [thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item]

[Solar satellites to confirm General Theory of Relativity – investigation of existence of gravity waves](#)

A collaboration between NASA and the European Space Agency plans a 2020 launch of three satellites orbiting the Sun to precisely measure variations in the distances between the satellites to detect the existence of gravitational waves. If these waves are detected this will be the final "proof" of Einstein's 1916 General Theory of Relativity which necessarily implies their existence.

Source: NASA's LISA (the Laser Interferometer Space Antenna) website

[Groundbreaking space technology project will save lives during emergencies and disasters](#)

An emergency management platform, GEO-PICTURES will be developed in Oslo with several partners, and form a seamless solution hosted by United Nations (UNOSAT-UNITAR) on the CERN campus in Geneva. This European project is lead by AnsuR Technologies AS of Norway and co-funded by the European Commission under the 7th Framework programme. It is targeted to mitigate disaster effects on environment.

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

[Laser Scanning Maps Ancient Civilizations Efficiently](#)

Laser scanning has proven to be a remarkable tool for mapping the ancient Mayan civilizations of Central America from the air, removing the need for extensive fieldwork in the dense tropical jungles of the region. The husband-and-wife team of Arlen F. Chase and Diane Z. Chase used airborne laser scanning to yield 3D images of ancient cities in just days, where traditional methods would have taken years. The team speculates that the

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same tools would be extremely helpful to map the ancient cities of the Khmer civilization at places like Angkor Wat.

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#) & the *New York Times*

[Unique map shows UK general election results](#)

Researchers at the University of Sheffield has created a map of the UK. It is showing alternative images of the General Election results. The image, which is based on population data, shows how many people are represented by each political party. This and other UK election maps are available for viewing [here](#).

Source: GIS Development

[Daniel's maps may play crucial role in Middle East row](#)

The S. Daniel Abraham Center for Middle East Peace has launched a digital map showing six different alternatives for the border between Israel and Palestine. It is helping decision makers make informed decisions about the borders. Over the past few years, the Center has contributed to the development of an extensive map database, covering the West Bank, East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip.

... it is hard to believe that even today; there are no official maps available to the public showing what was offered/rejected by Arafat at Camp David.

Source: GIS Development. See also [Don't Play with Middle East Maps, II](#)

[Saudi Arabia's MODON maps launched](#)

Saudi Industrial Property Authority (MODON) launched MODON maps website. It is the largest data reference for factories in the Kingdom using GIS technology. On this occasion, H.E the Director General of MODON, Dr. Tawfig Bin Fawzan Alrabiah announced that the authority has completed the first phase of the project to build the GIS system for the industrial cities (MODON maps) and a special version was activated for MODON clients to include industrialists, website visitors, as well as investors enthusiastic to invest in the industrial cities. The system can be accessed through MODON website or directly through the following link:

<http://maps.modon.gov.sa>. MODON's maps system aims to create a single reference for surveying layout of all industrial cities, controlling and identifying vacant and leased lands in the industrial cities, to be linked to the public network of roads, cities and others. It also aims at accurately identifying the area of each land, searching for and querying about information of factories, types of industry and investment.

Source: [MENAFN.COM](#) [thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item]

[UK's Geological Data Served via OpenGeoscience](#)

The British Geological Survey (BGS) has launched [OpenGeoscience Web site](#). It is the world's first Web map service built on vector data serving attributed geologic data for an entire country. OpenGeoscience's Web interface offers viewing access to geologic maps of the whole of Great Britain at a scale of 1:50,000 with the resolution of geologic details to about 50 meters on the ground, which is essentially street level, a world first in terms of releasing countrywide attributed information at this scale. Richard Hughes, BGS director of information and knowledge exchange, said, "OpenGeoscience provides the public with a wealth of geological information and resources including maps, photos, digital data, research reports, and software. These can be combined with other environmental information to help people better understand their world."

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

[Remote Sensing Data Show North Korea Logging In Protected Area](#)

Using NASA satellite data and Google Earth, a Purdue University researcher has reported finding evidence that North Korea has been logging in what is designated as a protected United Nations forest preserve. Guofan Shao, professor of geo-eco-informatics, studies the Mount Paekdu Biosphere Reserve, a 326,000-acre forest preserve in North Korea. Since many researchers are unable to visit North Korea, he studied changes in the forest using remote sensing data. He and his collaborators started noticing through NASA satellite data that there were some changes happening to the land in North Korea. NASA images didn't have the resolution he needed to pinpoint what those changes were or how they were occurring, so he used Google Earth, which has a clear resolution down to 1 meter. Google Earth images show that extensive logging has taken place in the North Korean biosphere. He estimated that as much as 75 percent of the forest in the core area had been removed in large strips.

Source: Spacemart.com [thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item]

[Canadian GeoConnections Program Renewed in Federal Budget 2010](#)

The 2010 Federal Budget announced renewed funding for the GeoConnections program. The Budget provides \$11 million in funding over the next two years to continue development of the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI) and to provide consolidated geographic-related information to Canadians via the Internet. GeoConnections delivered on its previous mandate to support CGDI users, while demonstrating the value of improved access to geospatial information and the benefits of interoperable standards and technologies. Information about the renewed GeoConnections initiatives and activities will be available on the GeoConnections website: <www.geoconnections.org>.

Source: GISuser.com [thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item]

[NOAA Modernizing Positioning System](#)

[The US National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration] NOAA's National Geodetic Survey – the official U.S. government source for determining precise latitude, longitude and elevation – announced it is undergoing a modernization effort that takes into account advances in GPS and other technologies. The effort is important to all activities requiring accurate positioning information including levee construction projects, the design of evacuation routes in hurricane-prone areas and the forecast of sea-level rise in coastal communities. The modernized National Spatial Reference System will take even greater advantage of newer technologies and better track changes in position and elevation over time to improve and update digital maps. A modernized reference system will allow users to easily calculate accurate positions using a survey-grade GPS receiver in conjunction with a scientific model of Earth's gravity field. In 2009, a NOAA commissioned, [independent socio-economic study](#) estimated the value of these modernization efforts to be \$4.8 billion over the next 15 years, including \$2.2 billion in avoidance costs from improved floodplain management.

Source: <www.gpsworld.com> [thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item]

[EU Parliament approves Earth observation satellites plan](#)

The European Parliament's industry committee unanimously approved a draft regulation providing a legal basis for European Union (EU) satellites that observe the Earth's surface for environmental and security purposes, plus 107 million euro for initial operations in 2011-2013. The regulation has still to be approved by the full European Parliament, probably in June 2010. Like the Galileo satellite navigation programme, the Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES) programme involves developing the EU's own infrastructure, but, unlike Galileo, it is funded solely with public money. The primary purpose of earth monitoring is to provide detailed environment and security data, tailored to user needs. The programme aims to boost innovation, research and technological development, to support biodiversity, ecosystem management and climate change mitigation and adaptation. Satellite observation data can help emergency services to deal with natural or man-made disasters, such as earthquakes, floods and oil spills, faster and more efficiently. This data can also inform decision making in range of policies including soil and water management, agriculture, forestry, energy and utilities, urban development, infrastructure and transport.

Source: [European Parliament](#) [thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item]

[Google Feeling Heat From EU Regulators Over Privacy](#)

The latest kerfuffle has the company on its heels. Google co-founder Sergey Brin Wednesday said the company "screwed up" by collecting personal data through wireless networks and promised new oversight as European officials pledged to opening investigations of the data collection. Click here and here for the WSJ and NYT stories, respectively.

The data collection, which Google claims is inadvertent, stems from Google's collection of data for its Street View Service, which uses camera-equipped vehicles to take street images and mark the location of Wi-Fi networks.

The Google cars collecting data for Google Maps's nifty Street View service have also been inadvertently collecting information off people's unsecured wireless networks. If someone's Wi-Fi account lacked a password and encryption, the cars had the ability to snatch some data.

Source: *Wall Street Journal* Law blog, [New York Times](#), & [Wall Street Journal](#)

[Courthouse News Service](#) & [MediaPost online](#) report on a lawsuit in the US:

A federal class action accuses Google of violating privacy by running a fleet of cars that snoop into Wi-Fi streams at businesses and private homes while gathering information for Google Street View. ...

In Portland, lead plaintiff Vicki Van Valin claims Google operates vehicles mounted with "wireless sniffers" that decode Wi-Fi data. She claims Google captured and decoded her Social Security number, banking information, medical records and other personal information, then stored the data on servers where "hundreds if not thousands" of Google employees could see it.

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[More Manhattan and Less Staten Island in New Subway Map](#)

In a city of world-class art museums and an instantly recognizable skyline, no image is more closely examined than the New York City subway map, the ubiquitous blue-and-taupe rectangle scrutinized by millions.

Now the subterranean icon is poised to get a spruce-up.

Next month, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority will unveil a resized, recolored and simplified edition of the well-known map, its first overhaul in more than a decade.

Source: New York Times



[Scottish Homes Taken with Thermal Imaging Cameras](#)

Images of about 10,000 properties will be taken as part of a pilot scheme run by both the Scottish Federation of Housing Associations (SFHA) and the Scottish Government. The scan results will help the association to prioritise work on energy efficiency measures such as loft, cavity wall and water tank insulation in around 2000 properties.

Source: [V1 Media](#) & www.edie.net (*Environmental Data Interactive Exchange*)

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Articles

[Asian Monsoon Failure and Megadrought During the Last Millennium](#)

Edward R. Cook,^{1,*} Kevin J. Anchukaitis,¹ Brendan M. Buckley,¹ Rosanne D. D'Arrigo,¹ Gordon C. Jacoby,¹ William E. Wright^{1,2}

The Asian monsoon system affects more than half of humanity worldwide, yet the dynamical processes that govern its complex spatiotemporal variability are not sufficiently understood to model and predict its behavior, due in part to inadequate long-term climate observations. Here we present the Monsoon Asia Drought Atlas (MADA), a seasonally resolved gridded spatial reconstruction of Asian monsoon drought and pluvials over the past millennium, derived from a network of tree-ring chronologies. MADA provides the spatiotemporal details of known historic monsoon failures and reveals the occurrence, severity, and fingerprint of previously unknown monsoon megadroughts and their close linkages to large-scale patterns of tropical Indo-Pacific sea surface temperatures. MADA thus provides a long-term context for recent monsoon variability that is critically needed for climate modeling, prediction, and attribution.

Source: <http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/abstract/328/5977/486>

[Calculating carbon sequestration using remote sensing and GIS](#) by Dr. Shashikant Tripathi, Sandeep Kr

Soni, Abhisek Kr Maurya, Pradeep Kr Soni

Remote Sensing & GIS Lab, MGCGV, Chitrakoot, Satna, Madhya Pradesh, India

Abstract

Global warming is becoming a huge problem for the society due to carbon emission in the wake of modernisation and urbanisation. Forests, soils, oceans and atmosphere are agents for storage of carbon. They act as source or sink at different times and release more carbon than they absorb. The process by which carbon sinks remove carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the atmosphere is known as carbon sequestration.

At a large scale, forests offer better carbon sequestration but at a small scale, crops have their own place.

Carbon sequestration occurs in green plants through photosynthesis, using atmospheric carbon as CO₂.

Satellite data can be used to estimate ground biomass, seasonal productivity and carbon sequestration.

Remote sensing technology can be carried out at a global scale to observe vegetation and carbon cycle. This study is characterised by large scale healthy vegetation pattern and agricultural land, biomass, open and closed shrubs. This study provides a methodology to access the biomass and carbon sequestration value with quick turnaround time. The significant value of carbon sequestration indicates that the agricultural crops can also contribute as micro-sinks and cannot be ignored while modelling carbon balance in a region.

Source: GIS Development

[Analysing land administration system in Pakistan through stakeholders' perception](#) by Zahir Aliand and Abdul Nasir

Abstract

The current land administration system in Pakistan aims at land revenue assessment and tax collection for

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fiscal purposes. This system is organised or structured on the traditional land registers and cadastral maps in paper formats, and their maintenance is mainly dependent on the hard work of the local land administrator, the so-called "Patwari," at the grass-root level within his jurisdiction. Although the local administrator reports all changes on land rights and boundaries of land parcels to the higher level of government authorities, the maintenance and quality of the land registers and cadastral maps kept at national level are always questionable. Experience shows that limited accessibility and reliability of these records have restricted the operational and legal usefulness for securing land ownership as well as for carrying out reliable planning and development activities. This paper presents critical reviews of the land ownership structure, legal framework, organisational/administrative framework and land administration processes for the land record preparation and maintenance from the stakeholders' point of view. Institutional and technical issues are discussed in terms of strength and weakness of the current system situation in the Khyber Pukhtoonkhwa (formerly called NWFP) of Pakistan.

Source: GIS Development

[Spatially Enabled Government and Society - the Global Perspective](#) by Abbas RAJABIFARD

SUMMARY

Spatially Enabled Society is a scenario when the society manages their information "spatially" using spatial component. This can be a response to our increasingly complex and rapidly changing world. In this environment, meeting sustainable development objectives and responding to Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are also complex and temporal processes which involving multiple stakeholders. The creation of economic wealth, social stability and environmental protection in line with MDGs can be achieved through the development of products and services based on spatial information collected by all levels of government. These goals and objectives can be facilitated through the development of a spatially enabled government and society, where location and spatial information are regarded as common goods made available to citizens and businesses to encourage creativity and product development. This requires data and services to be accessible and accurate, well-maintained and sufficiently reliable for use by the majority of society which is not spatially aware.

Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDIs) as enabling platforms are being developed by many countries to improve access, sharing and integration of spatial data and services however, there are still many issues and challenges which need to be overcome in order to have a fully functioning platform. This paper aims to discuss the concepts and current trends globally in spatially enabled government and society and then discuss various challenges and issues associated in re-engineering current SDI design as an enabling platform to support the new vision on spatially enabled government and society. The paper highlights a range of activities and processes to be created across all jurisdictional levels in order to facilitate such a platform design and development. This includes aspects of designing, creating and processes involved in development and in particular governance of an SDI platform.

Source: FIG Article of the month (May 2010)

[Geomorphological characterisation and landscape evolution in and around Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh, India](#) by **Sharad Chandra Dwivedi**, Center for the study of Regional Development, School of Social Sciences, JNU, New Delhi, India & **Dr. Pravin Kumar Prabhakar**, Lecturer in Geography, Govt. Senior Secondary School, Patna, India.

Abstract

This paper attempts to determine the morphometric analysis of surface drainage that has been carried out in two micro-watersheds of Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh. Detailed geological, geomorphological, hydrogeomorphological and morphometrical studies have been carried out for Gwalior and its adjoining areas by visual interpretation and GIS software techniques like ARCGIS 9.0 and ERDAS 8.9. The remote sensing data pertained to SPOT- I, HRV1, MLA, 1989 Geocoded data and IRS – 1D, LISS – III, PAN Merged data 2003 published by NRSA, Hyderabad and Survey of India topographical maps on 1:50000/1:250000 scale. The interpreted data was supplemented as well as cross checked by field visits to add minor details of lithounits and geological and geomorphological features. On the basis of these studies, various lithounits like Achaean and Gwalior' sediments and alluvium were mapped. Geomorphological units, mainly of Denudational and fluvial origins, were represented by dissected pleateaus, pediplain, pediments and alluvium. Morphometric analysis of the surface drainage was carried out for the two micro-watersheds sonerekha and morar of Gwalior region. Through morphometric techniques, it was observed that various factors like geological structure, earth movements, climate, vegetation cover, drainage texture, frequency and mass movement were responsible for the changes in drainage pattern and formation of slope.

Source: GIS Development

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Best Paper Award - AGILE 2010

Martin Raubal (UCSB) and Stephan Winter (Univ Melbourne) have won the Best Paper Award at the **13th AGILE International Conference on Geographic Information Science 2010** (Guimarães, Portugal). The paper is titled "[A Spatio-Temporal Model Towards Ad-Hoc Collaborative Decision-Making](#)".

Abstract

For an autonomous agent, performing a task in a spatio-temporal environment often requires interaction with other agents. Such interaction can be initiated by ad-hoc collaborative planning and decision-making, which then leads to physical support on site. On-site collaboration is important for a variety of operations, such as search-and-rescue or pick-up-and-delivery. Tasks are performed through sequences of actions, and agents perceive possibilities for these actions in terms of affordances from the environment. Agent collaboration therefore requires the communication of affordances between agents with different capabilities. This paper introduces a spatio-temporal model for the decentralized decision-making of autonomous agents regarding on-site collaboration. Based on Janelle's time-geographic perspective on communication modes, we demonstrate that different task situations lead to different spatio-temporal constraints on communication, involving both physical presence and telepresence. The application of such constraints leads to an optimized message distribution strategy and therefore efficient affordance communication with regard to maximizing support in performing a given task.

[Alternative source for downloading the PDF](#)

Smart Grid white paper

The Smart Grid white paper, written by Ian McRae from The LiTMUS Group (Australia), Tim Gunter from North Highland (USA) and Guus Van Leerdam from Twynstra Gudde (The Netherlands), has been released. It is a comprehensive white paper to help major utilities address the issues surrounding the development of a smart grid. The white paper is a result of a recent energy summit held in Paris. Experts from leading consulting firms gathered to address questions such as "what is a smart grid?" and "how do I deploy one?" The summit brought together perspectives from North America, Europe, and the Pacific Rim. These leaders represented a collective 150-plus years of industry experience across more than a dozen utilities worldwide.

The white paper includes analysis of:

1. What is a smart grid – definitions vary, however the best way to think of a smart grid is as an "energy internet" as it incorporates the three layers required to make the grid intelligent—the existing power distribution layer, a communication layer to provide real-time intelligence on the operation of that network, and an application layer in which new value-added products and services can be developed and extended to customers beyond the simple kilowatts and BTUs they receive today.
2. Essential technical elements of a smart grid – from meters to software.
3. Transformational processes needed to build a smart grid with a solid foundation – including the need to focus not only on technology and processes but also on people.
4. How to gain an early return on investment – quick wins to demonstrate viability of smart grid implementations. More investment yields greater returns – while early ROI is important, the significant benefits will come from serious investments and dedication to the success of smart grids.

Source: [Smart Grid Australia](#)

[How Does Cartography Link With GIS and Spatial Analysis?](#) by Jeff Thurston (V1 Magazine, 14 May, 2010)

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Books and Journals

[SERVIR-Africa community news - entries in April 2010](#)

- US-Africa workshop: expanding AfricaArray network to support multidisciplinary science
- South Africa, Brazil, and India agree at trilateral summit to joint satellite programme
- Breakthrough in Lake Victoria digital mapping
- Namibia Flood SensorWeb
- East African Corridors: transport projects database and map
- FAO publishes key findings of global forest resources assessment
- Census @ school (South Africa)
- Humans affect fire regimes more than climate in southern Africa

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- Monitoring carbon stocks in the Congo Basin
- Kenya's matatus captured on map
- 2nd Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Africa
- South Africa launches weather service radar network
- Crop info for Limpopo farmers via SMS
- Latest SDI-Africa newsletter (April 2010)

[PelicanWeb's Journal of Sustainable Development ~ Vol 6 No 5, May 2010](#)

[World's first coral reef atlas published](#)

The coral reefs of the Central Indian Ocean have now been quantified and mapped in the world's first coral reef atlas, prepared by the Space Applications Centre (SAC), Ahmadabad, India. The atlas, called the 'Coral Reef Atlas of the World', also gives a report on the health of different reefs through maps indicating their extent, distribution and habitat.

[Land title registration in India](#)

The Dept. of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India has taken an initiative towards bringing in conclusive land titling in India by drafting the **Land Titling Bill 2010**.

The draft is open to public debate till June 15. The details of the draft are available on the link

<<http://dolr.nic.in/Draft%20Final%20Model%20Land%20Titling%20Act-04.5.10.doc>>

Source: [GIS Development](#)

[Getting Started with Geographic Information Systems](#) (5th Edition) (Pearson Prentice Hall Series in Geographic Information Science) [Hardcover] by Keith C. Clarke

[Australian Government Liability risk assessment guide](#)

The Australian Government has developed a liability risk assessment guide for Government procurement officers which may also be of assistance to businesses.

The guide encourages Government procurement officers to minimise contractual requirements that unnecessarily shift risk and liability to businesses.

Businesses can use the guide to highlight case studies and the model liability clause if they feel they are being made to assume unreasonable levels of risk and insurance.

Source: [Sydney Morning Herald](#) & [business.gov.au](#)

[A Digital Agenda for Europe](#)

[COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS]

The overall aim of the Digital Agenda is to deliver sustainable economic and social benefits from a digital single market based on fast and ultra fast internet and interoperable applications.

[Understanding the Changing Planet: Strategic Directions for the Geographical Sciences](#)

The U.S. National Academies Press has released a new book, *Understanding the Changing Planet: Strategic Directions for the Geographical Sciences*. The book presents "eleven strategic directions to focus research and leverage new technologies to harness the potential that the geographical sciences offer." It stems from a study by the National Research Council's Committee on Strategic Directions for the Geographical Sciences in the Next Decade. The book is available for sale and can be viewed on-line. The [summary](#) is available for download as a PDF file.

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Just for Fun!

[This might be Noah's Ark](#)

There is a general feeling that the long lost Noah's Ark has finally been found. A group of clerics and some Hong Kong-based explorers claim that the remains of the ancient wooden vessel have been found on the Turkish mountain of Mount Ararat. ... the group claims that the satellite imagery of the site provides a strong evidence.

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Source: [GIS Development](#) & the *Daily Mail* on-line

[Women outshine men when it comes to navigation](#)

Women may struggle with road maps, but they are better at remembering routes than men, according to a new study.

Researchers at the National Autonomous University of Mexico have carried out the study and found that while men are better at finding new places, women make better navigators if they have been to the place before.

This is because women are much better at remembering landmarks than men, and so do not have to work out the route again — and it is linked with the different roles males and females adopted in early hunter gathering societies, British newspaper *The Daily Telegraph* reported.

While men were good at hunting down randomly moving prey, women were much better at remembering where the best places were to find growing food such as fruit and nuts, say the researchers.

Source: Hindustan Times & [GIS Development](#)

[New Global Map of Every Country's Tallest Building](#)

An anonymous tall-building aficionado going by the name "blackdogprod" [posted a map file](#) of every country's tallest building to the [Google Earth Hacks](#) site. (You can download the KML file and plan with it.) In his own words: "I have fanatically spent the last year thoroughly studying EVERY COUNTRY in the world to find the correct building. I've used every resource available on the internet to find and verify the tallest building in every country, with the most accurate height available. These are all buildings, NOT observation towers. I chose the CTBUH definition of a building as a structure in which 50% is occupiable, so this includes mosques and cathedrals. The buildings in this list are completed or very close to completion. I used the list of sovereign countries on wikipedia. I did allow the UK to be treated as four countries, England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland. Enjoy this labor of love!"

Source: [Directions Magazine](#) via [Wired Science](#).

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Training Opportunities

[NEW Master's, Diploma & Certificate Courses in Cartography & Mapping](#)

The Department of Geographical & Earth Sciences, University of Glasgow, UK has added TWO new MSc courses to its **Post-Graduate Taught Programme for Cartography and Mapping**:

1. Applied Population & Statistical Mapping
2. Landscape Monitoring & Mapping

Existing courses include:

Geoinformation Technology & Cartography

Geospatial & Mapping Sciences

Details and contact information can be found at: <http://www.ges.gla.ac.uk:443/degrees/postgraduate/courses>

The Courses begin in SEPTEMBER 2010. A limited number of Scholarships will be available for all of these programmes.

Master's courses may be available full or part time, it may also be possible to study for a Postgraduate Diploma or Certificate, or take specific courses or sub-units as CPD.

[United Nations University and ESRI to Collaborate on GIS Research and Training](#)

ESRI and United Nations University (UNU) recently approved a memorandum of understanding (MOU) at the university's headquarters in Tokyo, Japan. They will collaborate on research, create Centres of Excellence, promote the exchange of graduate students and provide GIS training opportunities within and by UNU.

Source: GISLounge

[Demographic and Health Surveys \(DHS\) course in Kenya](#)

University of Nairobi Enterprises and Services Ltd are offering a professional short course on Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) for Health from June 21-25, 2010 in Nairobi, Kenya. The course provides an overview of DHS surveys and how to use DHS data to improve health programs.

DHS are nationally-representative household surveys that provide data for a wide range of monitoring and impact evaluation indicators in the areas of population, health and nutrition. Demographic and Health Surveys

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provide countries with a standardised tool to obtain indicators for the effective monitoring of national programs such as those on HIV/AIDS, health and family planning services available in a country. [Contact: Prof. Mwanthi](#)
Source: Kate Lance

[The New Professional Spatial Information Programs at the University of Melbourne](#)

Master of Engineering (Geomatics) Master of Spatial Information Science

This item was extensively covered in [Volume 7, issue 3 \(March 2010\)](#) of the SDI-AP newsletter and is here reprinted in abbreviated form.

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

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

Source: Vector1Media

[UNIGIS MSc now in Australia](#)

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

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

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

[Trimble Seminars](#)

Trimble will launch a new series of web seminars for people with an interest in GPS and GIS. They will be offered every 4-6 weeks. The schedule for upcoming 'webinars' includes: an introduction to the new Yuma rugged tablet computer and VRS. Visit the [Trimble website](#) for more information.

Source: [Asian Surveying & Mapping](#)

[Web Map Gallery](#)

[Web Map Gallery](#) | [Contribute Web Map](#)

Web Map Gallery is a resource for readers to see what others geospatial professionals have created. We encourage you to contribute to the gallery so that all may benefit from the breadth of geospatial applications now being used in many industries. Please feel free to use the link "Contribute Web Map" above to add your own Internet-based mapping application with as much information as necessary to explain your contribution.

Source: [Directions Magazine](#)

[GIS software training by ESRI](#)

ESRI now offers access to more than 40 beginning, intermediate and advanced instructor-led GIS courses through a variety of training alternatives and venues including

- Video teleconferencing training at the ESRI learning centers
- Virtual Classroom **online training delivered to students' own workplaces or home computers**

Source: GIS News

[ESRI Training Program](#)

ESRI in Singapore has released its training schedule for the first part of 2010, up to next February. Seats are reserved on a first come, first served basis, upon registration. Training prerequisites will be as indicated in the course notes. For course outlines, contact [ESRI](#) direct.

[Geospatial technology update seminars scheduled for SE Asia](#)

ESRI and GIS Development will present free seminars to mapping agencies in Southeast Asia. The Geospatial Technology Update seminars will take place in Jakarta, Indonesia; Bangkok, Thailand; Hanoi, Vietnam; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; and Manila, Philippines. The seminars commenced January 2010. The seminars will outline technology trends in the geospatial community including how to take advantage of the Web 2.0 environment, the integration of topographic and remotely sensed data and how to best offer published data via cloud

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computing.

Mapping organisation staff members and managers and their affiliates, including national hydrographic and aeronautical agencies, are invited to attend the free, daylong program in their respective cities. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.GISdevelopment.net/GTUS>. For more information on how mapping agencies use GIS software, visit www.esri.com/maps

FOSS 4G 2010 Workshops - Barcelona, Spain. – Workshop webpage

This item was extensively covered in [Volume 7, issue 3 \(March 2010\)](#) of the SDI-AP newsletter and is here reprinted in abbreviated form.

September 6 Workshops (Monday afternoon, 15-18h)

- W-01: Web mapping with GeoServer
- W-02: gvSIG 1.9 user workshop
- W-03: Setting up an OpenStreetMap rendering toolchain
- W-04: Introduction to PostGIS
- W-05: Introduction to the Mapbender geoportal framework
- W-06: Solid web mapping with Python
- W-07: Practical introduction to ZOO, the powerful WPS platform

September 7 Workshops (Tuesday morning, 9-12h)

- W-08: Getting started with MapServer
- W-09: Quantum GIS and PostGIS: Solving spatial problems and creating web-based analysis tools
- W-10: FOSS4G routing with PgRouting tools, OpenStreetMap road data and GeoEXT
- W-11: Working with OpenLayers
- W-12: GeoNetwork for dummies, or how to setup an SDI in 3 hours
- W-13: Geospatial for java
- W-14: Practical introduction to GRASS

FOSS 4G 2010 Tutorials - Barcelona, Spain. – Tutorials webpage (7 – 9 September)

Source: [FOSS4G 2010 press release 5](#)

Transparency in Land Administration - (2 weeks) - Ardhi University TANZANIA (18 – 31 November, 2010)

Course objectives:

Transparency in land administration is a critical factor and a precondition for enhanced good governance. It is also a major step towards elimination of corruption in land administration. The objectives of this course are;

- To share innovative tools to achieve tenure security and transparency in land administration;
- To enhance participants' awareness and understanding of transparency, disclosure management and flow of information in land administration matters; and
- To inculcate knowledge on tools required to engender and operationalise and monitor transparency in land administration.

Course structure

The course shall comprise five parts. The first part addresses the concepts and processes of land administration. The second part covers local governance and transparency concerns: access to information and participation, awareness on development indicators, understanding and assessing transparency in land administration. Good practices will be drawn from various countries including those from the SADC region. Lessons will also be drawn from case studies which have been developed by other institutions such as Transparent Institutions. The third part concentrates on institutional and organizational reforms; professional ethics, integrity; code of ethics; incentive systems and management systems including regular and independent audits.

The fourth part presents a review of innovative tools to achieve or improve tenure security; socio-economic politics of land; and dynamics of land conflicts. The fifth part addresses dispute resolution issues and conflict management system; and speedy, fair, transparent land dispute resolution.

Call for African Women Scientists to participate in Training & Networking on Climate Change

Brochure and Application form to be published in the [SDI-Africa newsletter](#). [or contact source below]

Source: Jane Bemigisha (Ph.D), Programme Manager, International Foundation for Science (IFS)

Email:< j.bemigisha@rforum.org>, <bemigisha@itc.nl>, <bemigisha@yahoo.co.uk>

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Funding Opportunities, Awards, Grants

[Wanted: Innovative Ideas for Applications in Satellite Navigation €20,000 grand prize](#)

The seventh European Satellite Navigation Competition (ESNC) has commenced its search for applications in satellite navigation at <www.galileo-masters.eu>. Until the end of July, innovators all over the world will have the chance to develop their ideas for new products and services based on satellite positioning.

[ESRI's Mashup Challenge Winners Announced](#)

Links to the winning mashups and related videos can be found at <http://www.esri.com/apimashup>.

Source: [Directions Magazine](#)

[Asia - RS and GIS Scholarships](#)

Remote Sensing and GIS field of study at Asian Institute of Technology (Thailand) has recently announced scholarships for this coming August 2010 semester. These scholarships will be granted to students who have excellent study records. Please take your chance to apply for this scholarship.

[MapGuide Project Sponsorship Program](#)

The MapGuide Project Steering Committee is pleased to announce the MapGuide Open Source Project Sponsorship and Donation program. This program provides a source of funding to help ensure the continued success of MapGuide Open Source. The full details of the program are available at the URL link above.

Source: [OSGeo](#)

[NAVTEQ Global LBS Challenge](#)

The NAVTEQ Global LBS Challenge is focused on driving the development and visibility of innovative location-based solutions (LBS) for wireless devices. The Global LBS Challenge has become the premier event in the wireless industry and a global symbol of LBS innovation and opportunity. From business applications to sports, travel and security, integrating the accuracy and richness of NAVTEQ digital map data facilitates the discovery of the next wave of LBS using dynamic positioning technology.

Winners are chosen by a panel of distinguished judges in each of five regions. Since the launch of the NAVTEQ Global LBS Challenge, over 32 per cent of the finalist companies have gone on to receive venture capital funding or launched commercially-distributed applications, many on major wireless carriers.

Further information on the registration process is available from [here](#)

Thanks to Kate Lance & Wonkug Baek for this update on the Challenge:

UPDATE: [Eight new sponsors for NAVTEQ LBS Challenge](#) Microsoft, Intel, Digital Globe, Alcatel-Lucent, Atlas CT, Imagination Technologies and Mobile Distillery are the new added sponsors to the list. Previously announced sponsors were HTC, Blackberry, deCarta, DeviceAnywhere and Tanla. These sponsors are contributing to a prize pool valued at over \$10 million, mostly made of professional licenses (maps, geospatial platforms, software testing tools, etc).

Source: NAVTEQ

[Earn a PhD in Fuxin](#)

Professor Xu Aigong is seeking PhD students to study under him at Liaoning Technical University in Fuxin, China. His subjects of interest include geodesy and geomatics, GNSS, GIS and intelligent transportation systems. Students may be eligible for support under the 2010 Liaoning Provincial Government Scholarship Program. Email [Prof. Xu](mailto:Prof.Xu) for details

[ICIMOD Photo Contest on Mountain Biodiversity](#)

ICIMOD is organising a Photo Contest on 'Mountain Biodiversity' to mark the International Year of Biodiversity 2010 and raise awareness of the vital role that mountain biodiversity plays in sustaining life in the Hindu Kush Himalayan region and beyond. The themes of the competition reflect the theme of the [International Year of Biodiversity 2010](#) 'Biodiversity is life. Biodiversity is our life', and the theme for the [International Day for Biological Diversity 22 May 2010](#) 'Biodiversity, Development and Poverty Alleviation'.

Regional Scope

To qualify for the competition, images must be taken within the Hindu-Kush Himalayan portion of ICIMOD's regional member countries - Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan - as shown in the [ICIMOD regional map](#).

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ESRI Australia supports Spatial Technology in Schools competition

ESRI Australia is proud to once again support the annual Spatial Technology in Schools competition. The competition sees students from across Australia use GIS technology in challenging, informative and fun ways to assist in solving a problem from any area of the curriculum.

The competition is conducted in each State and Territory of Australia, and New Zealand, with a prize awarded for the best project in each region. The winners of each region are then judged to determine the Regional Winner.

ESRI Australia is providing free ArcGIS software licences for schools entering in the competition. By using the same software that is used by millions of GIS professionals around the world every day, students will gain real insights into how GIS is used to solve real-world issues.

Participating schools can request their free licence by visiting <www.esriaustralia.com.au/esri/6176.html> or by contacting ESRI Australia Connect via email at <connect@esriaustralia.com.au>.

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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

GIS Analyst Or GIS Specialist

Salary: from \$80,000.00 AU\$ up to \$110,000.00 AU\$ per year

Position Type: Full Time, Employee

Required Education Level: Bachelors

Job Closing Date: June 25, 2010

ESRI, MapInfo, MS Projects and or CAD skills.

Industry recognised qualifications and professional experience working in the Australian/New Zealand workplace are essential for this staff role.

This role is only available to residents of Australia or to those who hold valid working visas or permits

Reference: GIASB05512e

In addition to this GIS Analyst/Specialist role, we encourage candidates with 2plus years experience to also forward their details as our client will be recruiting for a junior position expected to commence in mid June.

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Conference Proceedings

[The 16th Session of the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum \(APRSAF-16\)](#)

The **[24th FIG International Congress 2010](#)** (Sydney, 11-16 April) has now concluded and the papers from the [Technical Proceedings](#) and the [Meeting Programme](#) are now available.



[2010 ESRI Developer Summit](#)

22-25 March

View the [plenary demos](#) and [tech session videos](#). More technical information is going to be posted so check back for this additional information.

Source: [ESRI](#)

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[5th gvSIG Conference Proceedings available](#)

The videos of the report sessions and workshops at the 5th gvSIG Conference, held the first week of December 2009, are now available.

All the videos are available with English and Spanish audio. They are available to be downloaded directly as well as online.

With this publishing, we pretend to bring the Conference closer to the interested people that could not attend the event, having the possibility to access to the recording of the different sessions.

[2010 NSGIC Midyear Conference Archive Published](#)

The National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) hosted the 2010 NSGIC Midyear Conference on March 7-10, 2010 in Annapolis, Maryland, USA. The NSGIC is an organization committed to efficient and effective government through the prudent adoption of geospatial information technologies (GIT). The archive of [PowerPoint presentations](#) and other materials from the 2010 NSGIC Midyear Conference, is now available. The archive includes the [final on-site agenda](#) (PDF) as well as the final attendance roster (PDF) from the conference. [NSGIC's on-line conference](#) archives include materials from the 1999 Midyear conference to the present.

Source: <http://news.nsgic.org/> & Wonkug Baek

[The Australian and New Zealand Map Society Conference 2010](#)

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Conferences, Events

For upcoming events of global or major international interest, please visit the [upcoming conference list](#) on the GSDI website.

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

Date	Location	Event
June 2010		
2 – 3 June	New Delhi, India	GeoIntelligence Asia Conference and Exhibition on Geospatial Technologies for Defence and Security General Information - Annu Negi Exhibition - Kushagra Agarwal Registration - Amit Roshan
7-11 June	Bangkok, Thailand	Data Democracy Workshop for Asia Theme: Climate Change and relevant free-software/data/applications for SE Asia 2010 GISTDA, Objective: To transfer technologies about application of EO information for climate change to user community in working level in South East ASIA Contact: Ms. Taksaporn Sungsirj , GISTDA/Thailand
9-11 June	Washington, DC USA	The First International Conference on Computing for Geospatial (Com.GEO 2010) Important Submission Deadlines Full and Short Papers 19, February 2010, Courses Proposal 19 February 2010 Tech Talks Abstract 22 March 2010, Invited Sessions Proposal 25 January 2009 Workshops Proposal 25 January 2009
9-11 June	Nottingham, United Kingdom	The British Cartographic Society Annual Symposium 2010 'Talking With Maps' The closing date for submissions is Friday, 8 January 2010. Successful submissions will be notified by no later than Friday, 22

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		<p>January. Proposed titles and abstracts of no more than 300 words should be submitted to: Mr P Jones, Chair of Programme Committee, Defence Geographic Centre, Hotine 141, Elmwood Avenue, Feltham, Middx, TW13 7AH.</p>
14 – 15 June	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	<p>4th Malaysia National GIS Conference & Exhibition 2010 Theme: <i>Mainstreaming GIS in Addressing National Challenges</i> Objectives Serve as a platform of experience for the management, sharing, and exchange of geographic information. Create more effective awareness of geoinformation technology. Strengthening knowledge and encourage the use of geoinformation technology. Strengthen the effectiveness of government delivery systems. Contact</p>
14-17 June 2010 “NEW”	Kyiv, Ukraine	<p>2nd Ukrainian Conference on Earth Observations for Sustainable Development and Security International researchers and experts interested in Earth observation data application will have the opportunity to present and discuss results and ideas with focus on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disaster reduction: flooding, forest and field fires, water, air and soil pollution; • Understanding and adapting to climate variability and change; • Management and protection of ecosystems; • Sustainable agriculture; • Sea and ocean problems. <p>A UN-SPIDER related Special Session (Workshop) will be held during the conference. E-mail</p>
18-20 June 2010	Beijing, China	<p>18th International Conference on Geoinformatics (Geoinformatics 2010) The conference theme is “GIScience in Change”. CALL for Papers: Abstract deadline: January 30, 2010. CPGIS will organize student paper competition. The top quality papers will be selected as CPGIS Geoinformatics' 2010 Best Student Paper to receive plaque and cash award and will be invited to submit a revised version to a special journal issue. Pre-conference workshop: Topological analysis of urban street networks for better understanding of human mobility patterns</p>
21-22 June	Nottingham, UK	<p>The OSGIS Conference (Open Source GIS UK Conference) As a highlighted event, the first gvSIG Day will be held at the Conference. The main activity of this day will be a wide workshop during eight hours the 21st June, where gvSIG Desktop and gvSIG Mobile will be shown in-depth. The entities that wish to contact with the gvSIG Association previously can do it from the form of the website [4], with the objective of planning meetings for the gvSIG Day.</p>
21-24 June	Yogyakarta, Indonesia	<p>9th GISDECO Conference Theme: Applying Remote Sensing and GIS in Disaster Management Abstract deadline: 15 January 2010. The conference aims to encourage the use of geospatial information in disaster and risk management as well as a basis for spatial planning and regional development. Contact: Dr. Richard Sliuzas, ITC For practical matters: Dr. Projo Danoedoro, PUSPICS Faculty of Geography, Gadjah Mada University,</p>
28-30 June	London	<p>International Conference on Information Society (i-Society 2010)</p>

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July 2010		Technically Co-Sponsored by IEEE UK/RI Computer Chapter								
5 – 7 July	Vienna	<p>100 Years ISPRS: Call for Papers Organisers of the ISPRS Commission VII Symposium (5-7 July 2010, Vienna) are inviting papers relating to the theme, 100 Years ISPRS – Advancing Remote Sensing Science. They are particularly seeking contributions that critically review major research areas in remote sensing. The deadline for full-paper review is 28 November 2009. The deadline for abstract-only review is 28 February 2010.</p>								
5 – 7 July	Barcelona, SPAIN	<p>EDULEARN10, the International Conference on Education and New Learning Technologies Abstract submission: 1st April 2010 Acceptance notification: 22nd April 2010 Final Paper submission: 20th May 2010 For more information CONTACT NOTE - You can present your projects in two modalities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In person: oral and poster presentations. • Virtually: if you can not attend in person </p>								
6-9 July	Salzburg, Austria	<p>GI Forum 2010 The organisers of the GI Forum 2010 in Austria have issued a call for papers for the conference, which will be held 6-9 July. The conference theme is spatial assessment and analysis of vulnerability. Workshops will be held prior to the conference on 6 July. email IMPORTANT DATES Full papers for publication in the conference proceedings and oral presentation February 1, 2010 Extended abstracts for discussion session February 1 Extended abstract for poster presentation June 7 Workshop presentation February 19 Registration deadlines Early registration – until May 28, 2010 Online registration – until June 25 On-the-spot registration commences July 6 The GI Forum pass also provides access to the AGIT Symposium and AGIT Expo.</p>								
9 – 11 July "NEW"	Girona, Spain	State of the Map 2010 -4th Annual International OpenStreetMap Conference								
11-12 July	San Diego	ESRI Business GIS Summit								
12 – 16 July	San Diego	<p>30th Annual ESRI User Conference ESRI invites users to tell their GIS story by sharing their experiences with GIS and presenting during a moderated session at the 2010 ESRI International User Conference (ESRI UC).</p>								
26 – 28 July	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	<p>MapAsia 2010 & ISG 2010 Email Important Dates to Remember</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td>Abstract Submission</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Call for Papers May 24, 2010</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Abstract Acceptance Intimation</td> <td style="text-align: right;">June 04, 2010</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Submission of Full Papers</td> <td style="text-align: right;">June 30, 2010</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Author Registration</td> <td style="text-align: right;">June 22, 2010</td> </tr> </table> <p>For any queries related to papers, contact Simmi Sinha.</p>	Abstract Submission	Call for Papers May 24, 2010	Abstract Acceptance Intimation	June 04, 2010	Submission of Full Papers	June 30, 2010	Author Registration	June 22, 2010
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Author Registration	June 22, 2010									
26 – 30 July	Vancouver, BC Canada	GeoWeb 2010 Conference Update								
28 – 30 July	Baltimore, MA USA	<p>Intelligent Spatial Decision Analysis (ISDA '10) & International Symposium on Intelligent Decision Technologies (IDT'10) Important dates 22 March 2010: *Notification of acceptance</p>								

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		19 April 2010: *Deadline for Camera Ready Papers For further information or questions, please send an e-mail to: Beniamino Murgante (University of Basilicata, Italy) or idt-10@kesinternational.org
August 2010		
2 – 4 August	Brisbane, Australia	GITA 2010 - Australia and New Zealand GITA 2010 is the premier geospatial technologies conference in Australia and New Zealand. This year's program will focus on "Smarter infrastructure for a sustainable future" with particular focus on water reform, smart grid, critical infrastructure protection and emergency management, transportation and safety, and telecommunications and will feature the launch of two world class technology breakthroughs! CONTACT
9 – 12 August	Kyoto, Japan	ISPRS Commission VIII symposium International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing Contact: (Ms. Kumiko Sekiguchi, Ms. Juri Hikiba)
23 August – 1 September	Bangkok, Thailand	Call for Applications: Workshop on Asian Coastal Cities The Southeast Asia START Regional Center and the East-West Center has issued a Call for Applications for an upcoming International Workshop to address the risks of flooding in Asian Megacities. With support from the Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN) the Workshop on Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Urban Development Planning for Asian Coastal Cities will be held on August 23 to September 1. The Workshop objectives include: 1) The development of capacity on the part of urban planners, managers, and researchers in climate change risk and vulnerability assessment and its application to urban development planning and governance. 2) The promotion of locally led risk and vulnerability research in Asian coastal cities that is linked to user needs. 3) The development of partnerships between researchers, planners and policy makers that encourage communities of knowledge for vulnerability assessment in each participating city. The Workshop invites researchers, urban planners and managers, practitioners, professionals and policymakers interested in and working on topics related to the workshop topics to submit an Application to the Southeast Asia Regional Center by 1 March 2010. The application must include: A curriculum vitae for each applicant A written letter of interest describing the relevance of the workshop to the applicant/team's academic or professional work and expected benefits of participation All materials should be submitted in English For more information, review the Call for Applications or contact ..
September 2010		
1-3 September	Paris	PCV2010 PCV 2010 will be held in next year. It is an ISPRS selective conference covering all the aspects of computer vision and image analysis dealing with geographic data. PCV focuses on the processing of images and 3D point clouds, acquired from satellites, aircraft or from street level acquisition systems. Important dates: 1 March, 2010: for peer reviewed papers; 1 April: abstracts of non peer-reviewed papers. 31 August is tutorial day. Conference dates are 1-3 September,

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		2010. Visit the Website for further details.
6-9 September UPDATED	Barcelona, Spain	<p>FOSS4G 2010 At FOSS4G 2010 the community and conference registrants will have an opportunity to read through and score potential presentations prior to the selection of the final conference program. There is enough room in the conference schedule for 120 presentations. The conference committee will use the aggregate scores from the community review process to help choose which presentations to accept, and to assign presentations to appropriately sized rooms. The top quoted presentations will receive a special attention from the organization. Please follow this link to express your opinion: 1 Jun 2010, Presenters notified of acceptance for talks 15 Jun 2010, Author/Early registration deadline Aug 2010, Completed program available 6-7 Sep 2010, FOSS4G Workshops – Workshop webpage 7-9 Sep 2010, FOSS4G Presentations and Tutorials - webpage 10 Sep 2010, FOSS4G Code Sprint Contact Conference Chair for further details (Lorenzo Becchi)</p>
20-3 September	Gaeta, Italy	<p>The 10th Anniversary International Scientific and Technical Conference "From imagery to map: digital photogrammetric technologies". <i>More information about the conference will be available soon on the official site of the Conference.</i> Contact</p>
22 September	Washington, DC	<p>LI GeoCloud 2010 The first conference dedicated to geospatial cloud computing Call for presentations now open If you would like to submit a presentation for consideration, please use our submittal form to provide an outline of the topic you would like to present. Preference will be given to sponsors of the conference. Registration for the conference will be \$595 but early registration will be held June 1 through August 30. The cost for early registration will be just \$495.</p>
22-6 September	Toyama, Japan	<p>Asia-Pacific Radio Science Conference 2010 (AP-RASC10) Contact</p>
October 2010		
10 – 15 October “NEW”	Songdo Convensia, Incheon, Republic of Korea	<p>SPIE Asia-Pacific Remote Sensing Monitoring the Human Impact on the Natural Environment of the Coastal Zone 10-15 October 2010</p>
18 – 22 October	Singapore	<p>GSDI 12 World Conference – Realising Spatially Enabled Societies In conjunction with the 16th PCGIAP Annual Meeting. Call for Papers EXTENDED SUBMISSION DEADLINES: Abstract Deadline for All Submissions: 1 April 2010 Full Paper Deadline (if author wants submission considered for a refereed chapter in the Conference Book or refereed paper in the Proceedings): 1 April 2010 Full Paper Deadline (if author wants submission considered for inclusion in the Refereed IJSDIR Special Issue or in the non-refereed portion of the proceedings): 1 July 2010 ALSO: there will be a full day pre-conference workshop for PhD students pursuing research on SDI related topics which will be similar to the highly successful workshop held in conjunction with</p>

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		GSDI 11.								
24-27 October "NEW"	Stellenbosch, Cape Town, South Africa	<u>22nd International CODATA Conference</u> Theme: Scientific Information for Society: Scientific Data and Sustainable Development Abstract deadline is now closed: 30 April 2010.								
25-29 October	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	<u>8th International Conference of the African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment (AARSE)-2010</u> Theme: Earth Observation for Africa's Development Agenda 2010 Abstract deadline: 30 April 2010. <u>Send to</u> Final paper submission: 1 September 2010. The four major scientific sub-themes of the conference are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food and Water Security • Energy Resources • Disaster Risk Reduction • Marine and Coastal Management Conference sub-themes of a more operational nature are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity-building: achievement and challenges • Spatial Data Infrastructure, SDI • Space Policy in Africa • National and regional programs and projects • Products 								
November 2010										
31 October - 3 November	Denver, Colorado	<u>US - GSA Annual Meeting</u>								
5 – 6 November	Kaohsiung, Taipei	<u>ASIA GIS 2010</u> <u>Contact us</u> The theme for this conference is GIS and Cloud Computing . Cloud computing is a hot topic in 2010 and GIS is moving to the cloud computing paradigm. Invited keynote speakers will present the future trend of cloud computing and its application in GIS. Key Dates: <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td>Deadline for Paper Abstracts</td> <td style="text-align: right;">30 April</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Acceptance of Paper Abstracts</td> <td style="text-align: right;">31 May</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deadline for Early Bird Registration</td> <td style="text-align: right;">31 August</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Paper Submission</td> <td style="text-align: right;">31 August</td> </tr> </table>	Deadline for Paper Abstracts	30 April	Acceptance of Paper Abstracts	31 May	Deadline for Early Bird Registration	31 August	Paper Submission	31 August
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Paper Submission	31 August									
8 – 11 November	London	<u>The 5th International Conference for Internet Technology and Secured Transactions (ICITST-2010)</u> Technical Co-Sponsored by IEEE UK/RI Communications Chapter, <u>Contact</u> IMPORTANT DATES Full Paper Submission: May 31, 2010 Extended Abstract (Work in Progress) Submission: April 01, 2010 Proposal for Workshops and Tutorials: April 30, 2010 Notification of Workshop and Tutorial Acceptance: March 15, 2010 Proposal for Industrial Presentation: April 30, 2010 Early Registration Deadline: January 01 to July 31, 2010 Late Registration Deadline: July 31 to November 08, 2010								
9 – 11 November	Taipei, Taiwan	<u>2010 The 7th International Symposium on Cadastral Survey</u> . Main Topic: The Development of Cadastral Survey in New Generation. Contacts: Geographic Information Systems Research Center of Feng Chia University. Email: joy@gis.tw								
15 – 19 November "NEW"	Orlando, Florida	<u>ASPRS/CaGIS 2010 Specialty Conference</u> in conjunction with a special joint meeting of ISPRS Technical Commission IV & AutoCarta 2010 Important Dates May 1, 2010 - Workshop proposals due								

		<p>May 12, 2010 - Abstracts for papers and posters due June 15, 2010 - Notice of acceptance of all proposals August 15, 2010 - Presenter registration due September 13, 2010 - Final papers due (to be considered for publication)</p>
November - Dec 2010		
Date not fixed “NEW”	Melbourne, Australia	17th Asia Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum
28 November – 3 December “NEW”	Sydney Australia	OGC's Meeting on Business Value of Geospatial Standards The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) has announced the event, Deriving business value from geospatial standards to be held on June 17, 2010 at the NOAA Silver Spring offices in Maryland. OGC invites government officials, policy makers, senior managers, as well as sales and marketing professionals from across the industry to attend a series of business meetings during the event. The event is part of the OGC's quarterly Technical Committee and Planning Committee meetings. Steven Ramage, OGC's Executive Director, Marketing and Communications said, “I would like to invite professionals to attend a one-day business session at a TC/PC meeting. This invitation is open to OGC members and non-OGC members who want to learn more about the business value of geospatial technology. Silver Spring is the first such meeting and more one-day business sessions are planned for the OGC meetings in Toulouse, France in September and in Sydney, Australia in November-December 2010. ”
December 2010		
22 December	Kyoto, Japan	Japan - Topic Maps Japan 2010
January 2011		
18-21 January	Hyderabad, India	MapWorld Forum 2011 Contact
April 2011		
10 – 15 April “NEW”	Sydney, Australia	34th International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment
November 2011		
14 – 18 November	Santiago, Chile	UGI 2001 International Geographic Union “Regional Geographic Conference” Brochure & Call for Papers Contact
2014		
“NEW”	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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To subscribe to SDI-AP, please do so [online](#). To contact please [email](#) the editors. [Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association](#).

Please mention SDI-AP as a source of information in any correspondence you may have about items in this issue.

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