GSDI
Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Spatial Data Infrastructure
Asia & the Pacific Newsletter

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Spatial Data Infrastructure – Asia and the Pacific (SDI-AP) is a free electronic newsletter from the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association (GSDI) and 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 synchronisation of 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 to, and access archives of, thematic or regional discussion lists please visit.

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Message from the editor

Welcome to the November edition of the newsletter. In this edition the SDI Spotlight feature has been omitted as we have not been provided with any spotlight features from the region. The Editors urge subscribers to publish progress reports on their current research by submitting them as "Spotlight" features.

We have introduced a new section "Conference Proceedings" to cover news items reporting back on recent conferences. The new section is located immediately prior to the "Conferences, Events" section.

DISASTER in the A-P region – typhoons, earthquakes, tsunami visit upon Taiwan, Phillipines, Pacific Islands & Indonesia. As usual, geographic information has been vital to organising the rescue effort. The recently installed tsunami warning system was of little use to the Samoan Islands where the tidal wave caused by a submarine earthquake had already struck the islands by the time the alert was issued – 18 minutes after the earthquake (ABC News). **There are predictions of more to follow including** the third typhoon to strike the Phillipines in the last month. See also Asian Surveying & Mapping magazine

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Of further interest to our readers is the International Geospatial Society (the individual membership arm of the GSDI Association) which has only recently been formed and is seeking individual members.

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

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

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 & Jeremy Huang for the Chinese translation, and Shivani Lal, *GIS Development*, *Asia Surveying Mapping Magazine* for directly feeding into the newsletter.

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International Geospatial Society Information

The International Geospatial Society is the individual membership arm of the GSDI Association and seeks individuals for membership that have geospatial, SDI, GIS or related professional or specialist interests. The Society intends to engage and enhance communications globally among individuals that are actively involved in promoting, developing, or advancing spatial data infrastructure and related concepts.
The Society is in the formative stage but there are significant benefits to be gained by joining early.

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SDI News, Links, Papers, Presentations

Whose Public?
"The Need For Spatial Data Infrastructure in a Sea of Data" This blog advocates for consistent data and refers to the recent article by Johnathan Feldman "How to fix the GIS Data Mess" which is followed by discussion on the way forward for solving the problems associated with numerous disparate datasets.
Source: Professional Geographer website   **(a website well worth visiting)**

Innogistic Launches the Community Map
Innogistic announces the launch of Community Map a new product designed to facilitate the creation of powerful yet easy to use Public Service web sites. Mapping based web sites give Local Authorities and other public services the ideal platform for sharing information with, and gaining feedback from, the community they serve. Community Map from Innogistic has been developed to make on-line information access and incident reporting a simple, trouble-free experience.
Source: Geoconnexion

China completes 3D map of moon
China has completed a high-resolution, three-dimensional map of the entire surface of the moon, state media reported. After putting its first man into space in 2003 -- only the third nation to do so -- China is aiming to launch an unmanned rover on the moon's surface by 2012 and a manned mission to the moon by around 2020.
The map was made using image data obtained by a camera on China's first lunar probe -- the Chang'e 1 -- launched in October 2007.

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China is one of only a few countries including the United States, Russia, Japan and India to have undertaken a mapping of the moon, according to Chen.
Source: china.org.cn & GIS Development

ESRI Brings GIS to the Public with Mapping for Everyone Web Site
ESRI has launched a Web site that allows users to create maps for free with simple geographic information system (GIS) tools. Called **Mapping for Everyone**, the Web site includes tools that cover a range of mapping needs, such as embedding an interactive demographic map into a Web site, creating custom applications using Web Mapping APIs, and using a 2D/3D globe viewer on the desktop.
Source: ESRI press release

Mountain MoU
On 1 October, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) in Kanagawa, Japan, and the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) in Kathmandu signed a memorandum of understanding to foster collaboration in research on climate change, water, and forestry issues in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region.
Source: Asia Surveying and Mapping Magazine

Digital Village
A two-year project to bridge the urban-rural digital divide in China is gathering pace. People have spent RMB124 million (US$18 million) so far in the creation of the Yunnan Digital Village, an integrated information network that will serve the area's 44 million residents. It will enable information exchange about that will be particularly helpful for farmers.
Source: Asia Surveying and Mapping Magazine

Fifty States Next Steps Report
Over the past five years the Fifty States Initiative has been successful in raising the profile of the NSDI with state and local geospatial stakeholders by catalyzing strategic and business planning. The next steps for the program involve consolidating those gains, supporting the realization of the plans through implementation, and beginning the process of measuring where the nation stands on NSDI development. The thrust of the recommended next steps for the Fifty States Initiative acknowledges that successful statewide strategic planning efforts are winding down and that there needs to be a new focus on assisting states in actualizing the goals identified through strategic planning. The report makes seven specific recommendations.
Read the report here. (PDF)
Source: Wonkug Baek

Request for Assistance from Melissa Burgess
Dear Colleagues,
The United Nations Development Program - Regional Centre in Bangkok (UNDP-RCB) is managing a project funded by the Government of Japan titled "Better Informed Environmental Decision Making through Integrated Spatial Planning", which is under implementation in the Asia-Pacific Region.
A Toolkit designed to assist governments develop their capacity for Integrated Spatial Planning is being developed as part of this project. This Toolkit comprises a Module on Spatial Data Infrastructure Standards. As an expert in this field, I would very much appreciate your comments on the first draft of the Module on Spatial Data Infrastructure Standards. The topics covered in the Module include:
o   Spatial Planning Applications
o   Geographic Information System
o   Database Management System
o   Web Map Service Servers
o · File Format Standards
o · File Organization Standards
o · File Naming Standards
o   Metadata Standards
o · Attribute Data Standards
o · Projection and Datum standards
o · Quality Standards
o   Positional Accuracy
o   Informational quality

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o Map scale
o Minimum Mapping Units and Resolution
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Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments about the project or the Integrated Spatial Planning Toolkit, your input is much appreciated.
Thanking you in advance,
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SDI Spotlight

We have not published the "Spotlight" feature this month because we have received no submissions.
The editors are actively soliciting contributions to the monthly "SDI Spotlight" feature for the December and subsequent issues.

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GIS Tools, Software, Data

MapFish 1.2 Released
MapFish is a flexible and complete framework for building rich web-mapping applications. It emphasizes high productivity, and high-quality development. MapFish is compliant with the Open Geospatial Consortium standards. This is achieved through OpenLayers or GeoExt supporting several OGC norms, like WMS, WFS, WMC, KML, GML etc.. MapFish is open source, and distributed under the GPLv3 license.
Source: MapFish

New PROJ 4.7.0 library available
Frank Warmerdam, project lead, has announced the immediate release of the PROJ 4.7.0 Cartographic Projections library. PROJ 4 is used in many GIS applications including GDAL, GRASS GIS, QGIS, PostGIS, Mapserver, OSGeo4W and others. The project pages are at: < http://proj.osgeo.org/ >
Source: GFOSS blog

GIS & RS mapping eye infections in India
A project is underway to map eye infections that cause blindness among children in Pudukottai district of India. Started last year, the three-year initiative is using the GIS through remote sensing to help predict areas where the infection possibly abounds. The project began when Aravind Eye Hospital started to receive several cases of similar eye infections from a belt of villages in the district.
"We took patient data from the hospital and integrated it on to government toposheets and imagery obtained through remote sensing. Using this methodology, we predicted areas where there could be an incidence of the infection,'' said G Vasanthi, lecturer in the physics department of the college and principal investigator of the project.
Source: The New Indian Express & GIS Development

The Carbon Project recently announced a new WFS-T Extender for its **Gaia Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI)** platform. The Extender provides powerful and easy-to-use tools to create, edit, or delete data on any vendor's Web Feature Service Transactional (WFS-T).
Source: Jeff Harrison

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Online atlas to map Indian state's biodiversity

BANGALORE, India: The Karnataka Biodiversity Board (KBB) is preparing an online atlas of the state's biodiversity. The atlas, the first of its kind in the country, will provide information about the diversity of Karnataka's wildlife species and their habitats and help researchers, resource managers, decision-makers and the public. This would help conservation planning and decisionmaking.
Source: ExpressBuzz & GIS News

Bahrain joins global tracking system

Bahrain has become the first Arab state to tap into a global ship-tracking system that uses GPS and other supporting navigation technologies. The system will allow Bahrain to bolster its coastal security and maritime rescue operations.
It will also be able to better track its own growing fleet of vessels round the globe, within an estimated 1,000 miles of its coastal frontiers. Implementation of the Long Range Identification and Tracking of ships system was deemed obligatory by the International Maritime Organisation, of which Bahrain is a member.
….
Allowing for rapid access of information, the L.R.I.T. system will also afford Bahrain an edge in quickly pinpointing and reaching ships in distress in its waters. Ships within proximity of vessels in distress can also be given instant information on shipping in the region to allow for swifter assistance.
Source: GIS News & GPS Daily

CTU to track buses through digital map

Chandigarh, India: The digital map for Chandigarh Administration's project of installing Global Positioning system in Chandigarh Transport Undertaking (CTU) buses and new city police control room has been prepared by the Centre for Computational Engineering in PEC. Through this map, CTU will install GPS system in its buses and keep a track of the buses. The digital map has been made using the satellite imageries and contains all villages, sectors and colonies in the city.
Source: GIS News & ExpressIndia.com

Indian Ocean nations to test tsunami warning system

Eighteen countries around the Indian Ocean Rim will participate in a United Nations-backed tsunami exercise on 14 October to coincide with World Disaster Reduction Day, the first time that the warning system set up following the devastating disaster that struck the region in 2004 will be tested.
Source: afrol News & Vector 1 Media

Colorado government agency saving $100,000 per year by using GPS

Jefferson County CYF, the division of Children, Youth and Families, a 24/7 investigator of child abuse and neglect allegations, estimates it will save more than $100,000 annually using TeleNav Track (TM), a cell phone-based GPS navigation and tracking service the organization has deployed to reduce wasted hours and improve employee safety.
Source: Press release published in Directions Magazine

Oceansat-2 Progress

Oceansat-2 has begun beaming 'good quality' images, as well as relaying data on sea surface wind speed and direction, according to the Indian Space Research Organisation, which operates the satellite. The 960 kg spacecraft was launched on board the polar satellite launch vehicle (PSLV-C14) from Sriharikota space port on 23 September.
Source: Asian surveying & Mapping

Suite of GIS software tools unveiled

docSTAR has joined forces with Fountains Spatial. The team has produced a suite of GIS software tools called docSTAR MapConnect.
docSTAR MapConnect combines the power of the ESRI ArcGIS architecture with docSTAR's document management software. MapConnect is designed to enhance GIS applications by associating documents with geospatial features; thus it enables users to instantly access and process documents. The result is significant savings of time, resources and tax dollars.
Source: GIS Development

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Planning ahead of disasters with GIS

The two powerful typhoons that ravaged the Philippines have highlighted the need for a common data base for the local and national-level government agencies that would include, among others, information to facilitate the coordination of relief efforts.

UPDATE – (22 October): a third typhoon of greater destructive force is now bearing down on the Phillipines.
Source: GIS News and Inquirer.net.

US scientists to map Ganga stretch in Bihar, India

Scientists from the United States would work with the researchers of Tilka Manjhi Bhagalpur University (TNBU) to analyse the quality of water of river Ganga and prepare a map of riverbed through Global Positioning System (GPS). The Inland Waterways Authority of India will lend support to the effort with a well equipped vessel to aid the research, between October 21 and 31.

According to Dr Sunil Choudhar, leader of the six-member TNBU team, the School of Natural Resources and Environment of Michigan University would provide a specially developed computer programme and Doppler machines to study a 250-km stretch between Kahalgaon in Bhagalpur and Patna. The scientists from United States have shown interest in Ganga.

The team from the US will be led by Dr Mike Wiley and includes the noted specialist on Zooplankton, Dr Umair, who will also train TNBU scientists to carry on deeper investigations. The three hills situated in the river near Kahalgaon will be a centre of attraction. The scientists hope that some newer forms of life could be uncovered in the process of the research. Geo-mapping of the riverbed around these hills may also help discover as yet unknown causes of floods and also hideouts of bigger forms of aquatic life like dolphins.
Source: GIS News

Google has launched a new tool **Building Maker**, a way to create geo-located 3D models of buildings for Google Earth. Building Maker is a tool designed to make it possible for anyone with a web-browser to make high quality, photo-textured 3D models. Here's how it works: Users can build and construct a model of it by using aerial photos and 3D shapes provided by Google. When Users are finished with it, Google Earth team will examine the 3D model and if they approve it, they will add the model to the 3D building layers in Google Earth. For more information see: http://sketchup.google.com/3dwh/buildingmaker.html

GIS Day 2009 will take place on Wednesday, November 18, during the National Geographic Society's Geography Awareness Week, November 15-21. Geography Awareness Week has been held the third week of November since 1987. The purpose of Geography Awareness Week is to promote geographic education in schools and among the public. Geography Awareness Week was established in 1987 when U.S. President Ronald Reagan signed legislation that established the third week in November as Geography Awareness Week. Geography Awareness Week is sponsored by the National Geographic Society and other geographic organizations at the national, state, and local level.

My Wonderful World's Geography Awareness Week site provides information about Geography Awareness Week to the public while the National Geographic Society's Geography Action website serves to provide resources for educators about Geography Awareness Week.
Thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item

NY State Proposing Laws to Restrict Trucker Use of GPS

New York State just doesn't want truckers using products which route the vehicles on inappropriate routes that bring them into restricted areas, for example bringing hazards into residential areas or sending trucks on collision courses with low bridges. Penalties could include jail time or truck confiscation. New York state cites more than 1,400 bridge strikes in the past 15 years with 46 in suburban Westchester County in 2009.
Editor's comment: The truck drivers do not need GPS to choose inappropriate routes. A truck driver without GPS can still choose to drive into residential areas or under low bridges.
Source: Directions Magazine blog

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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.

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Regional workshop marks the end of the SMAS project (Report)

The project aiming to establish a Maghreb-wide system for early warning to drought (Système maghrébin d'alerte précoce à la sécheresse, SMAS), coordinated by OSS and implemented in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia, has ended with a final workshop which took place on 17-19 August 2009 in Tunis.

Representatives of eight partner institutions took part in the closing workshop which was convened to collectively take stock of the project's outputs and to explore avenues for the project's achievements to be extended to other countries across the circum-Saharan region (North Africa and the Sahel).

On the first day of the workshop, participants discussed the findings of a study of the structural vulnerability to drought in the three countries concerned by the project. The discussion touched on several themes including the concepts and methodologies used as well as the biophysical and socioeconomic factors considered in assessing vulnerability. The second day saw a hands-on training in drawing up maps of structural vulnerability. This was a highly useful exercise for participants who apprehended constraints and technical difficulties and acquainted themselves with the required tools. On the third day, participants dwelled on the project's achievements and discussed ways of maintaining the outputs.

Source: Kate Lance

Recovery.gov relaunched with data on maps (USA)

Recovery.gov, the USA government's official Web site for tracking federal stimulus spending, relaunched with a trove of new data that lets visitors see -- literally -- where the money is going by navigating through a series of maps. The site is managed by The Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board (RATB), which was created by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to provide transparency in reporting how stimulus funds are used.

Source: GIS News

Intermap announces the release elevation shaded imagery for Germany

Intermap Technologies today announced at INTERGEO 2009 the release of the Company's new **elevation shaded image** (ESI) product for Germany. Intermap has partnered with GeoContent GmbH, a provider in Germany of aerial photography and geospatial information, to create the high-resolution ESI product.

The Company said the ESI product for Germany combines the characteristics of GeoContent's optical images with the high-resolution shaded relief of Intermap's NEXTMap digital elevation data. The result is a topographic visualization that's ideal for manufacturers of personal navigation devices, in-dash navigation systems, and other applications benefiting from advanced visualization images.

"Users of navigation devices and systems employing our ESI product will be able to identify their current location and how to get to their desired destination much more quickly, reliably, and intuitively than with traditional maps or shaded relief products," said Tony Brown, vice president of data products for Intermap Technologies. "The 1-meter vertical accuracy of our underlying NEXTMap elevation data enables an extraordinary experience – whether it's a hike in the Bavarian Alps or a drive on the Autobahn – that can't be duplicated with less-precise map data."

The Company stated that ESIs will ultimately be created for every NEXTMap coverage area, including all of Western Europe and the United States.

Source: GPS World

Maps for the colour-blind are a real eye opener

For many people map reading can be a struggle, but for the hundreds of thousands that are colour-blind it can be an even more arduous experience.

The traditional rainbow of cartographic colours – green for grass-land and trees, red for main roads and public footpaths, and blue for motorways and rivers – can become indistinguishable, therefore making map reading extremely difficult.

Help may be on the way though, thanks to a new product from mapping agency Ordnance Survey that can be specifically styled to make mapping easier on the colour-blind eye.

Paul Beauchamp, Ordnance Survey spokesman, comments: "Cartography is a fine art, but the colours that have become so familiar to most of us are actually among the worst possible choices for those with colour blindness. By using our new mapping product, called OS VectorMap Local, councils and businesses will be able to create styles especially for colour-blind people that we hope will make life easier."

Colour vision deficiency can have an impact on many everyday tasks that most people take for granted – from reading maps, using the Internet and rewiring a plug to knowing when traffic lights change. It can even affect career choices, with pilots and coastguards requiring excellent colour vision.

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Source:

OUACHITA PARISH, LA PARCEL RECTIFICATION PROJECT

Pixxures, Inc., a Division of XēDAR Corporation, a leading provider of critical infrastructure geospatial services including data acquisition, processing, image analysis, data storage and Web services, has completed a parcel rectification project for Ouachita Parish, LA.

Ouachita Parish is approximately 611 sq miles, and is located at the hub of northeast Louisiana. The Ouachita Parish Assessor's Office maintains their data in a Geodatabase comprising multiple related annotation layers, polyline layers, and polygon layers. Due to budget constraints, the Parish's original data layers were built on digitized U.S. Geological Survey Quadrangle Sheets. Since the digitized quadrangle sheets were not very accurate, the resulting data sets were not accurate as well. "Once we placed our data layers on accurate imagery, we could see the magnitude of the problem we were facing," said Morgan Herring, IT Director for the Ouachita Parish Assessor's Office. "In certain areas, we were unable to locate properties and measure improvements because of the discrepancies between the data layers and the imagery," added Herring.

Source: Pixxures Press release & Directions Magazine

Ordnance Survey 3D map of Bournemouth 'is most detailed ever'

The UK seaside town of Bournemouth has been recreated in extraordinary three-dimensional detail by Ordnance Survey, as part of a pilot scheme for a new generation of maps.

The national agency used state-of-the-art laser technology and aerial imagery to create what it claims is one of the most accurate maps ever produced.

Bournemouth's attractions – including the pier, seafront and conference centre – are portrayed in lifelike detail in a video posted on YouTube showcasing the new technique.

Ordnance Survey says that the results are substantially more accurate than the 3D maps available through online applications such as **Google** Earth and Microsoft Virtual Earth, and will revolutionise the way it charts the British Isles.

Source: Telegraph.co.uk & Vector 1 Media & see GIS Development "Image of the Week"

GPS in the Snow

Recall that one of the errors in GPS is called "mulitipath error" - that's when the signal from the GPS satellite bounces off something before it gets to the receiver, making its path artificially "longer." Its noise for most applications, but in fact is valuable in ... wait for it... measuring snow depth. Researchers at the University of Colorado, Boulder, looking to learn about the impact of soil moisture on the echoes found their experiment in the middle of a snow storm. That lead to a startling realization: "The snow slowed the reflected GPS signals, and the delay corresponded to the snow's depth..." That in turn led to a method to accurately measure snow fall in real time. The team's paper, in Geophysical Research Letters appeared this month.

Source: Directions Magazine blog

Forest monitoring help mitigate climate change

Free and ready-to-use high-resolution satellite data is now available to monitor forests and help reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. The monitoring system has been launched by FAO and other partners as part of the Global Forest Resources Assessment.

Source: GIS News & UN FAO

Don't forget to read the footnotes

The following is extracted from DigitalGlobe's press release announcing the availability of the first WorldView-2 images:

WorldView-2 collects multispectral imagery at 1.8 meter resolution and panchromatic imagery at 0.46 meters.[1] The additional multispectral band capability supports improved levels of feature identification and extraction and more accurately reflects the world's natural color.

Now for the kicker! Here is footnote [1]:

[1] Due to current U.S. government restrictions. all imagery will be re-sampled to 2.0 meter multispectral and 0.50 meter panchromatic resolution unless the U.S. government has granted a customer specific waiver of the restriction.

Arctic Ice Thins

New data released by the Catlin Arctic Survey and World Wildlife Fund supports the view that within a decade the Arctic Ocean will be routinely free of ice during summer.

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Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping Magazine

Bluesky Launches Thermal Web Mapping Tool

UK aerial survey company Bluesky has launched an easy-to-use property heat loss mapper to help Local Authorities view thermal data collected during airborne thermal imaging surveys. The HELIOS (Heat Loss Investigation System) web based reporting tool, developed by Manchester Geomatics, will help energy and environment teams understand the results of thermal surveys and allow cross referencing of data with other information.
Source: Vector 1 Media

Where is the United States Stimulus money going?

The United States Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board recently launched the redesigned Recovery.gov Web site with a new interactive Web map based on geographic information system (GIS). This dynamic map shows you where the Recovery Act money is going and who is getting it. On the web page, use the controls along the top to choose which geographic area you would like to view. The expandable navigation on the right side allows you to refine your display options for recipients. Click on a recipient dot and view more information. Moving forward, the map will continue to show updated spending information to facilitate the transparency and accountability the legislation requires.
Thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item

US Seeks Proposals to Build the NSDI

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) formally announced their request for proposals to support the 2010 National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Cooperative Agreements Program (CAP). With over $1.3 million spread across seven categories, the 2010 NSDI CAP will award an estimated 31 innovative projects in the geospatial data community. The goals of the awarded projects will be to develop partnerships and to build new and improve existing geospatial infrastructure necessary to effectively discover, access, share, manage and use geospatial assets.
In 2009, NSDI CAP awarded a total of 25 projects, totaling close to $1.3 million. One of the 2009 categories is helping States develop strategic and business plans that will support the coordination of programs, policies, technologies, and resources related to all aspects of geospatialinformation. See the full list of the 2009 NSDI CAP projects online. For more information.
Thanks to Wonkug Baek for this item

Forest monitoring help mitigate climate change

For the first time worldwide, free and ready-to-use high-resolution satellite data is now available to monitor forests and help reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. The monitoring system has been launched by FAO and other partners as part of the Global Forest Resources Assessment.
Source: GIS News
See also Google to monitor deforestation
Google is joining forces with space agencies around the world and the conservation organization Group on Earth Observations (GEO) to monitor deforestation rates using satellite imagery. Among the space agencies working on the program are NASA, the ESA, and the national space agencies of Japan, Germany, Italy, India, and Brazil.
Source: GIS News

Nigerian analogue maps converted digital

Office of the Surveyor-General of the Federation (SGoF) declared that the agency has successfully converted the country's map from analogue form to digital format.
Source: GIS News

SeaZone maps route for Crossrail waste (United Kingdom)

Crossrail has used detailed mapping of the Thames estuary from SeaZone to identify a safe and effective route for the transportation of waste material generated in the construction of a new railway for London and the south east of England. As the largest civil engineering project in Europe the construction will generate 7.3 million cubic metres of surplus material.
Source: GIS News

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Google to map USA university campuses

Navigating the 1,000 square feet of campus can be a daunting task, and differentiating between the almost 130 buildings can be even more confusing. The interactive maps include buildings around campus, as well as their addresses and phone numbers. The street view feature also shows a picture of the building.
Source: GIS News

India to launch satellites to study climate change

India will soon join a select space club by launching two dedicated satellites in polar orbit to study climate change through atmospheric research and detection of greenhouse gases
ALSO: India offers to share satellite data with ASEAN countries
India offered to help South East Asian nations in management of natural disasters by sharing satellite data for the region and launch small satellites built by them.
Source: GIS News and SpaceMart.com

LROSS and the Search for Lunar Water

NASA's LCROSS mission to the moon last week will have entertained remote sensors. It was an exhibition of high speed remote sensing as much as anything else. Typically, space sensors last for years – and scientists and engineers spend months calibrating and testing before the instruments go into service. But in this case, the instruments only had a few seconds to capture the data.
Source: Asian Surveying & Mapping magazine

H1N1 Influenza Maps

There are H1N1 flu maps showing the current outbreak and vaccine shortage.
FluTracker map is tracking the progress of H1N1 flu. This map and the data behind it were compiled by Dr. Henry Niman, a biomedical researcher in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, using technology provided by Rhiza Labs and Google. The map is compiled using data from official sources, news reports and user-contributions and updated multiple times per day.
H1N1 vaccine map shows you how many doses of the vaccine were shipped to each state in USA. The data on the map shows the total population, how many doses have been distributed and shows the percentage of those who are under age 14.
Thanks to Wonkug Baek

Mapping — Air Quality in Germany

The German Environment Agency publishes air quality data for the entire country. The information is compiled in a #GIS and made available online for use. Measured values include particulates, nitrogen dioxide and ozone.
Source: V1 Media

Spatialepidemiology.net provides a map-based interface for the display and analysis of infectious disease epidemiological data, including molecular data, utilising Google Maps and Google Earth. Mashing together genetic and epidemiological data, utilising the mapping tools provided by Google, is providing an important new way of analysing and displaying epidemiological data. This approach is likely to grow as Google Maps and Google Earth are free resources, which can readily be linked to epidemiological data and analysis programs via a simple to use and intuitive web interface.
Source: V1 Media

Articles

Commonwealth Games 2010: Integrated approach for security by Nitin Arora & Prof. (Mrs.) Amarjeet Kaur

The city of New Delhi is home to around 14 million people. It will host the Commonwealth (CW) Games in 2010. To gear up for this mega event, the city is undergoing a major overhaul of its urban infrastructure along with the sporting facilities. Making security arrangements for an event of this magnitude is the biggest challenge before any nation and its security agencies. Only judicious deployment of manpower with extensive use of force multiplier techniques will yield optimum results. GIS is one such force multiplier.
Source: GIS Development

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What are the implications of land records and the value of an integrated record system?

by Matt Bail

Land records are a cornerstone of capitalism and some would argue of civil society. The majority of people in the world lack any enforceable claim to their homes or the land they farm. Without land rights and records, there is a cycle of poverty and social inequalities. The lack of property rights strips the ability to generate equity that can be used to borrow against for an education or to start a business. The lack of property also strips a country's economy of large amounts of wealth, and stifles the ability of its citizens to escape poverty.
Source: V1 Media

Urban Spatial Growth Analysis of Khulna City by Md. Rejaur Rahman, Coordinator & Urban Planner, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), Bangladesh

Abstract

Before 60s or 70s, the process of spatial growth of Khulna city was not so complicated because the industries solely, have shaped the spatial development. Now Khulna city has passed its glorious era but till now urban growth and land use change is taking place in a dynamic ways. This study dealt with the major dynamics of urban spatial growth i.e. land elevation, road accessibility, land price, location of important structures etc which were identified as the prevailing factors for urban growth in the City, to have an idea about the future spatial growth of the city. The study tried to find the answer of the question - what will be the shape of this city after 20 or 30 year from right now? This study tried to introduce a model, built by using ArcGIS Model Builder tool which is applicable for the Khulna city in any time if only the spatial factors are used. This model can be a useful tool for decision making for the concerned authorities about the expansion strategy and development control in a sustainable way.
Source: GIS Development

Adaptive Classification Using Self Organizing Maps by André M. Coleman

As humans, we have an innate and natural tendency to establish patterns and associations in our environment. Consider for a moment, the capability of the human brain to "process millions of visual, acoustic, olfactory, tactile, and motor data, and…the astonishing ability to learn from experience, generalize from learned rules, recognize patterns, and make decisions". The ability to recognize patterns allows us to distinguish objects one from another; to interpret sound waves as speech; and to understand the unique patterns of individual letters that collate to form words and sentences.
Source: V1 Media

Bjorn Sandvik's papers are available from his website. His research paper, *Using KML for Thematic Mapping*, is now available for download (PDF, 2.3 MB). This is the first part of his MSc GIS thesis. The second part of his thesis, describing the Thematic Mapping Engine, is already available on this page. The thesis was awarded with distinction and an invitation to Googleplex.
Source: thematicmapping.org blog

Global Impositioning Systems: *Is GPS technology actually harming our sense of direction?*

by Alex Hutchinson

The experts are picking up some worrying signs about the changes that will occur as we grow accustomed to the brain-free navigation of the GPS era.
Source: Walrus magazine & Directions Magazine blog

Interview: Dr. Michael Sutcliffe, City Manager, Durban "GIS benefiting Citizens"

Source: GIS News

Making a Case for Design Skills by Gretchen Peterson

Gretchen Peterson's book, *GIS Cartography: A Guide to Effective Map Design*, brings cartographic design techniques to GIS users who don't have training in map design. In this article, she highlights some of those techniques - which apply regardless of whether you're using sophisticated GIS software or pen and ink to make your map.
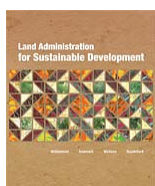Source: Directions Magazine article

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Mobile GIS Gives Recovery Specialists an Advantage in the Victoria Bushfires by Jesse Theodore , ESRI
Several dozen fires merged causing more than 170 deaths and several hundred injuries. The situation may have been even worse without the use of desktop and mobile tools to manage what became the largest search and rescue effort the Victoria Police had ever attempted. Paper and pencil were put aside for a custom app on ruggedized handhelds which allowed quick assessment and reporting within the 550,000-acre area where victims were found.
Source: Directions Magazine article

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Books and Journals

Land Administration for Sustainable Development   **Available December 2009**
Land Administration for Sustainable Development examines global land administration systems at different levels of maturity. This examination elucidates how countries can establish basic infrastructure for the implementation of land-related policies and land management strategies that will help ensure social equality, economic growth, and environmental protection. Through its presentation of a holistic view of land management for sustainable development, this book outlines basic principles of land administration applicable to all countries and their divergent needs. *Land Administration for Sustainable Development* is a resource for professors and students of land planning, land administrators, land planning managers, and government officials. From ESRI Press.

Research Trends in Geographic Information Science
In June/July 2008 the Institute for Geoinformation and Cartography at the Vienna University of Technology organized a scientific colloquium in this city, where 15 well-known scientists presented their ideas on research for the upcoming decade. This book contains papers prepared by the participants as well as by other researchers. The 18 papers in this book reflect the opinion of a core group of geoinformation scientists about future research topics. Dealing with these topics poses multiple research questions for the coming years. From Springer, 2009.

Location-Based Services and Geo-Information Engineering
Location-Based Services (LBS) are the delivery of data and information services where the content of those services is tailored to the current location and context of a mobile user. This is a new and fast-growing technology sector incorporating GIS, wireless technologies, positioning systems and mobile human-computer interaction. Geo-Information Engineering is the design of dependably engineered solutions to society's use of geographical information and underpins applications such as LBS. These are brought together in this comprehensive text that takes the reader through from source data to product delivery. From Wiley, 2009.

Maps of the Weird
"Imagine going to a bookstore or the library to pick up a riveting read, and all they have is thousands of copies of 'The Da Vinci Code,' " writes Frank Jacobs, speaking our language in the introduction to his *Strange Maps: An Atlas of Cartographic Curiosities*, due out later this month from Viking Studio (you can pre-order it now). This scenario may seem like an episode of "The Twilight Zone," but for Jacobs, whose boredom with "regular" atlases cannot be measured in miles, it is very real.
Jacobs writes, "All regular atlases tell the same old story." In other words, they are dull as ocean water, with "maybe some astronomy or socioeconomic geography thrown in to distinguish it from other atlases." So Jacobs began collecting different kinds of maps on his very popular blog, the best of which appear in this book.
This "anti-atlas" is a peculiar and delightful compiling of disparately obsessive imaginations, selected on the criteria of strangeness, rarity, and originality, and arranged into eighteen sections, including "Strange Borders," "Based on the Underground," and "Watchamacallit." "Every strange map tells a story—sometimes surprising, always informative and generally not covered by those more comprehensive atlases," Jacobs writes.
Source: *New Yorker* magazine blog

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***Strange but True, America* booksite**
Jon Hafnor's new book, *Strange But True America* offers tales revealing weird and eerie historical trivia.
Further, it's reached Award Finalist status in the "U.S. History" category of The National Best Books 2009
Awards, sponsored by USA Book News. And there's a map of the story locations, too
Source: Directions Magazine blog

GIS for Building and Managing Infrastructure, the latest book from ESRI Press, presents maps from nine
countries and 57 organizations, illustrating the versatility of geographic information system (GIS) technology
when applied to physical systems and complex operations. The map book covers a wide range of infrastructure
projects in chapters from "The North American Natural Gas System," a look at the supply, transportation, and
demand of the natural gas market to "Wind Atlas for the Languedoc-Roussillon Region," which maps the
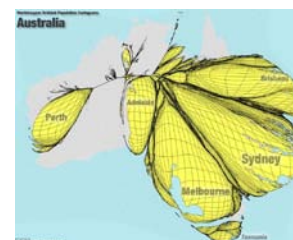potential for wind-generated power in France.

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Just for Fun !

Great Wall Expands
The Great Wall of China stretches 11 km further east than previously thought. The newly discovered section,
built during the Qin (221-206 BC) and Han (206 BC to 220 AD) dynasties, was found in northeastern Jilin
province. Archaeologists working in JinLin Province discovered the new section last year.
Source: Asia Surveying and Mapping Magazine

A whole new world: The amazing map based on population that shows Britain is still a big player
It is a world away from the world we know. But this is how the countries of the world
look if maps are based on population size rather than land mass.
Academics came up with the startling images after throwing away 500 years of
conventional cartography. The result was this very different global landscape.
The map below shows the distribution of the Earth's population, with the size of each
territory showing the relative proportion of people living there. India, China and Japan
loom large as they have the largest populations.
Britain bulges beyond recognition while Australia, one of the world's largest countries, is relegated to pipsqueak
status.
Source:The Daily Mail

How far away can you get from our world of generic convenience? And how would you figure that out?
Mapping the Density of 'Big Mac' MacDonalds hamburger outlets.
Y'all have a nice day now!
Source: Directions Magazine

California "Cool Car" Regs May Mean no GPS, Radio, Cell phone Signals in the Vehicles
The "Cool Cars" regulations adopted by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) requires automakers to
build cars and trucks with windows which prevent 45% of the sun's energy from entering a vehicle by 2014, and
60% by 2016. Manufacturers are trying to do just that by using window glazing containing microscopic specs of
reflective metal oxide.
That coating however, mess with digital signals. Garmin says GPS reception will be degraded. Cell phones,
wireless laptop devices, garage door openers, and even ankle bracelets for parolees may be impacted, too. The
technology was tried in Japan a few years ago and dropped due to the impact on signals.
Source: Directions Magazine blog

Why We Need Paper Maps
I cannot deny my bias. I love maps. Big maps, small maps, population maps, road maps, geological maps,
economic maps. Paper maps and digital maps. Old maps, new maps, and atlases of every conceivable type. I
am not alone: I run into map lovers everywhere I travel. For map lovers, maps are works of information and art,

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things of beauty and imagination. One of my "excuses" for not reading fiction is that I fantasize by studying maps; I imagine "being there." I become nostalgic when I retrace my past drives, walks, train rides, and flights.
Source: Gary Hoover blog

United States Public Broadcasting Service "Patchwork Nation" mapping site
An interesting website well worth visiting

Liquid Galaxy: An Immersive, Multi-screen Version of Google Earth
If you had six, 42" flat screen monitors what would you do? If you are unsure, you may want to configure something like Liquid Galaxy, Google's immersive environment that takes Google Earth from impressive website application to simulation environment. Stepping in side a small booth at the GEOINT Symposium, the user is surrounded by flat screens, and a small podium mounted with the SpaceNavigator joystick from 3DConnexion. Yes, it's very cool, and everyone should have one for their game room
Source: Directions Magazine blog

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Training Opportunities

Workshop for Asian GNSS
A workshop will be held in Bangkok to discuss the possibility of developing GNSS applications in Asia and the Pacific. The workshop follows discussions at APRSAF-15 which was held in Hanoi in December 2008. The Asia Oceania Regional Workshop on GNSS will be held 25-26 January 2010, just before APRSAF-16. The Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF) is an association of space agencies in the Asia Pacific region. The GNSS workshop will be jointly organised by the Satellite Positioning Research and Application Centre of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, and the Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency in Bangkok. Further details area available from here
Source: Asia Surveying and Mapping Magazine

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 programme 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. It offers in-service distance education for professionals interested in GIS and Geoinformatics. Courses towards the MSc will be launched with an on-site workshop in later in 2009 and lead students to recognized 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

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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

Defence Geospatial Information and Services – Information Day Beyond Maps: Setting a New Direction Together
The Defence Geospatial Information and Services – Information Day on Wednesday 18 November 2009 will be hosted by the Defence Coordinating Capability Manager for Geospatial Information (CCM-GI). The theme will be **Beyond Maps: Setting a New Direction Together**. Beyond Maps will inform and unite agencies within Defence, other government departments and industry with an interest in our future geospatial capability. The information day will: provide delegates with an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the CCM-GI, inform and seek input from Defence and industry stakeholders on future geospatial capability development develop greater understanding of Defence geospatial capability, including challenges and limitations
For further information email.
Source: Defence Imagery and Geospatial Organisation

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-recorded training at all ESRI learning centers in the United States
• Video teleconferencing training at the ESRI learning centers
• Virtual Classroom **online training delivered to students' own workplaces or home computers**
Source: GIS News

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Funding Opportunities, Awards, Grants

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% of the finalist companies have gone on to receive venture capital funding or launched commercially-distributed applications, many on major wireless carriers.
Registration for all regions is now open.
Europe-Middle East-Africa (EMEA) registration deadline: October 30, 2009?
Europe-Middle East-Africa (EMEA) solution submission deadline: November 20, 2009?
North American registration deadline: November 20, 2009
North American solution submission deadline: January 8, 2010
India registration deadline: December 11, 2009
India solution submission deadline: January 22, 2010
South America registration deadline: February 12, 2010
South America solution submission deadline: March 12, 2010
Asia-Pacific (APAC) registration deadline: March 5, 2010
Asia-Pacific (APAC) solution submission deadline: April 9, 2010
further information is available from here
Thanks to Kate Lance & Wonkug Baek for this update on the Challenge:

Wanted: Innovative Solutions to the World's Water Crisis - Reward $75,000
The inaugural Imagine H2O Prize competition is open for submissions. The competition offers prizes of $70,000 in cash and in-kind services, which will be awarded to the business plans that promise the greatest breakthroughs in the efficient use and supply of water.
The **Imagine H2O Prize** is designed to encourage entrepreneurs, investors, inventors and academics around the world to address water challenges. This inaugural business plan competition focuses on solutions to
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improve water efficiency in agriculture, commercial, industrial or residential applications, such as water demand reduction, improved water use, water recycling and/or reuse.

Entries will be accepted from around the world **beginning September 1 through November 16, 2009**. Winners will be announced at a showcase event in early 2010. The annual competition will feature a different water-related prize topic each year. For more details, go to:< http://www.imagineh2o.org >.

Source: Vector 1 Media

A new competition offered by the Journal of maps

The Journal of Maps are having a competition to develop the best Google Maps mashup. Use **JoM GeoRSS feed** and GoogleMaps API. The contest runs from now until 11:59pm on Thursday, 31 December 2009. Entry is straightforward: just email < googlemap@journalofmaps.com > giving a brief description of the project and a link to the code or project home page. For the winner there is £200 payable via PayPal.

Source: GIS Lounge

Bugs, Turtles and Whales Have a LOCATION 2—Kids Art Contest

Who says kids aren't location aware? "From a tiny insect to a huge blue whale, all animals have a place they call home. Their home —called a habitat—provides them with the food, water and shelter they need to survive. An art contest for grades 2–4 challenges young scientists and artists to become wildlife investigators by exploring habitats, small and large, in their backyard or around the world, and then draw a picture showing what they learned. Artwork might focus on one animal or many, from an area as small as a single habitat or large as a biome. "Habitat: Imagine That!" is the 14th annual art contest held by the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) in Arlington, Va, USA.

Source: V1 Media

ATREE Small Grants Program

Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), Bangalore, India invites proposals from individuals for research projects under its Small Grants program.

ATREE focuses on application of science to conservation of nature and sustainable use of natural resources by generating new knowledge, building human capacities, and working towards improving environmental governance.

ATREE's commitment to conserving biological diversity spans both ecological and socio-economic concerns bringing a unique interdisciplinary approach to addressing conservation issues in India.

One of the focal areas for the Small Grants program is 'ecological informatics', which includes spatial analytical modeling for conservation science and the eevelopment of tools/techniques for applications in WebGIS or community science for conservation.

Deadline (for 2nd round): 15 November 2009

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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

IT Solutions Architect

Climate and Oceans Branch, Bureau of Meteorology
•$83,187-$89,828 + 15.4% super
•Docklands, Melbourne, Australia
Reference: AG 17441

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For a comprehensive position description, application details and other requirements visit our website at < http://www.bom.gov.au/careers > or by emailing quoting position 11268.
Further information about the position can be obtained from Bruce Bannerman (03) 9669 4093.
Applications close 12 November 2009.

Conference Proceedings

SuperMap User Conference 2009 Proceedings now available
SuperMap has now put the conference proceedings on line.

Emerging GIS Landscapes in Central Asia
The 3rd successful Central Asia GIS Conference was concluded by conference chairs Akylbek Chymyrov and Josef Strobl from the Austria-Central Asia Centre for GIScience < http://www.aca-giscience.org > on August 28 at the University of Construction, Transportation and Architecture in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic. The two-day conference program brought together speakers from Central Asian countries with their counterparts from Central Europe, with representatives from Russia, India, Iran, USA and several other countries making this a truly international event.
Participants received a copy of the conference proceedings at registration (jointly published by KSUCTA and Salzburg University's Centre for Geoinformatics), this volume and further information is available from the conference website at www.aca-giscience.org/gisca.

Map Africa 2009 Conference Report and Proceedings now available
Source: Kate Lance

7th FIG Regional Conference: Spatial Data Serving People (Hanoi)
Presentations from the 7th Regional FIG Conference are now available from the conference website:
http://www.fig.net/pub/vietnam/
Source: **FIG**

GEOINT 2009 Symposium Coverage links courtesy of Directions Magazine

ESRI Health GIS Conference Update
Redlands, California — October 13, 2009 — Identifying deficiencies in health and human services delivery and achieving better outcomes using geographic information system (GIS) technology were major themes during the 2009 ESRI Health GIS Conference. An update on the outcomes of the conference is available from here.
Source: Geoconnexion

From the FOSS4G Conference in Sydney, Australia (from Asian Surveying & Mapping magazine)
In Praise of FOSS
Paul Ramsey lit up the FOSS4G conference in Sydney this morning (21 October) with a rousing talk on the near-term future of free and open source software, especially geo-information software. His argument: there is less difference between free and proprietary software than you think.
Anzlic to Endorse CC
The peak body in the Australian and New Zealand spatial industry -- Anzlic -- is expected to endorse Creative Commons as the basis of sharing data sets. That's according to a presentation by Warwick Watkins to the FFOSS4G conference, which is being held in Sydney this week.
Further Coverage and even more coverage from Directions Magazine blog

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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.

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FIG 2010 Pre-Congress Program
Online registration is now open for the FIG surveying congress to be held in Sydney, 11-16 April 2010. A local surveyor, John Brock, has arranged a history seminar on the two days leading up to the congress (9-10 April). Technical tours have also been organised, including a boat trip to historic Fort Denison.
Source: Asia Surveying and Mapping Magazine

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

Date	Location	Event
November 2009		
Oct 31 – Nov 01	Hobart, Tasmania	**IMTA Asia Pacific Regional Conference & Trade Show** • *Description* Mapping Matters • *Organiser* International Map Trade Association Asia Pacific Region • *Telephone* + 61-8-8357-1777 • *Fax* +61-8-8357-3001 • *Contact* Noleen Zander *Email* imtaaspac@chariot.net.au
2-6 November	Quebec City	The Standards Council of Canada is hosting the next **International Standards Organization (ISO) Technical Committee (TC) 211** meeting. ISO/TC 211 develops international technical standards for Geographic Information and Geomatics.
10-12 November	St Petersburg, Florida, USA	**Fifth National GIS in Transit Conference** Website: http://www.urisa.org/gis_transit
10-12 November	Bahrein	**2009 ESRI Middle East &North Africa User Conference** Email
11-13 November	Perth, Western Australia	**WALIS Forum 2009** • *Telephone* +61-8-9273-7042 • *Contact* Melissah MacKenzie
15-22 November	Santiago, Chile	**XXIV International Cartographic Conference**
16 – 18 November	St. Petersburg, Florida	**Fifth National GIS in Transit Conference Program Unveiled** "The Route to Success in Transit GIS," This biennial conference will focus on the growing role of GIS in supporting planning, service delivery, and decision making in public transit. Recognizing the importance of the conference, both the Transportation Research Board (TRB) and the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) have endorsed the event.
16 – 19 November	San Antonio, Texas, USA	**ASPRS / MAPPS 2009 Fall Conference**
17-20 November	Denver, USA	**7th William T. Pecora Memorial Remote Sensing Symposium** E-mail
25-27 November	Hyderabad, India	**ISPRS Workshop on Geospatial Data Cyber Infrastucture** The ISPRS is inviting abstracts for an international workshop on Geospatial Data Cyber Infrastructure and Real-time Services, with an emphasis on Disaster Management (25-27 November, Hyderabad). Themes include web-based geospatial services, data management, predicitve modelling for disaster management, decision support systems and participatory mapping using high resolution imagery.
30 November - 2 December	Sydney, Australia (Univ NSW)	**GeoComputation 2009** **The 10th International Conference on GeoComputation**
December 2009		
1 – 4	Suva, Fiji	**Pacific GIS and RS User Conference**

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December		University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji [Website] Since the first Pacific GIS & RS Conference in 1999, this annual event has attracted many participants, from near and far. Each year the range of GIS & RS technologies presented cover an array of applications including the management of resources of the small island Pacific nations. Shallow water bathymetry derived from satellite imagery, forest function maps to identify areas for to be protected, areas identified for developments in flood zones are some of the applications where the development of GIS & RS in the region have been applied in various sectors. As with previous conferences, there are no fees levied for those wishing to attend.
1 – 3 December	Gold Coast, Australia	**International Global Navigation Satellite Systems Society's (IGNSS) 2009** symposium and exhibition
1 – 3 December	Moscow, Russia	**Scanex 4th International Conference "Earth from Digital Space – the most effective solutions"** [Email]
2 – 4 December	Feria Valencia, Spain	**The 5th Edition of the gvSIG Conference** organized by the Regional Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport (CIT), will be held at the Feria Valencia Convention and Exhibition Center, and will once again host the eclipseDay. The call for papers for the Fifth Edition of the gvSIG conference is now open. As of today communication proposals can be sent to the email address to be evaluated by the scientific committee as to their inclusion in the conference program. There are two types of communication: paper or poster. Information regarding to regulations on communication presentations can be found in the report's section . Abstracts will be accepted until September 21st . See also < http://jornadas.gvsig.org/how-to-collaborate > email to .
4 December "NEW"	Copenhagen, Denmark	**Creating convincing charts, maps and diagrams on climate change** – workshop at COP15, December 4, 2009 in Copenhagen
7-9 December "NEW"	Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre	**Global Space Technology Forum 2009** High caliber speakers, space enthusiasts and professionals are invited to submit abstracts for consideration by a scientific committee to be presented for oral presentation. A limited number of speaking slots are available, and the submissions will be filtered by the judges who will have the final say on the subject at hand. Papers are required to be relevant to one of the topics nominated for discussion within the conference, and in the English language. To submit your paper, send the document by email.
17 – 18 December	Ahmedabad, India	ISPRS **International Workshop on "Impact of Climate Change on Agriculture"**
January 2010		
January 6–8	Redlands, California	The first **GeoDesign Summit**. Geodesign brings geographic information system (GIS) technology into any type of design process such as developing a community project or conducting scientific research. Participants will introduce the first generation of geodesign concepts, technologies, and tools, drawing from the international group's experience in a variety of disciplines.
19-21 January	Epicentre, Gurgaon	**MapIndia 2010** The organisers of Map India 2010, the 13th conference and exhibition on geospatial information technology and applications in India, have issued a call for abstracts for the conference. It will be held 19 - 21 January 2010 at Epicentre, Gurgaon. The conference theme is 'Defining a geospatial vision for India'.
26-29 January	Phuket, Thailand	**16th Session of Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum APRSAF – 16 (2010)**

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		APRSAF Secretariat c/o Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency 1-6-5 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8260 Japan APRSAF-16 Leaflet (PDF 190KB) Click here to subscribe/un-subscribe to APRSAF News Mail**Email**
February 2010		
2-4 February	Torino, Italy	**Gi4DM 2010 Call for Papers** Organisers of the **International Symposium on Geo-information for Disaster Management** (Gi4DM 2010) have issued a call for papers related to the conference theme, 'Remote Sensing and Geo-Information for Environmental Emergencies'. Invitation is also open for contributions covering crisis management in any phase.
15-17 February **"NEW"**	Kochi, India	**Societal Applications in Fisheries and Aquaculture using Remote Sensing (SAFARI) Symposium** The SAFARI initiative (Societal Applications in Fisheries and Aquaculture using Remote Sensing) is organising an international symposium on Remote Sensing and Fisheries. The symposium will address a number of themes including Operational Use of Remote Sensing for Fish Harvesting; Ecosystem Indicators to assess Fish Health, Growth and Recruitment; and Implications of Climate Change on Fisheries, amongst others. Abstracts should be submitted electronically no later than October 15, 2009. **Limited funds for travel expenses will be available to assist selected participants in their efforts to attend the symposium.** Awards should not be expected to cover the full travel cost to attend the symposium. Priority will be given to those presenting talks or posters, especially participants from developing nations and/or students.
March 2010		
3 – 5 March	Gold Coast, Australia	**ESRI Asia Pacific User Conference** and **OZRI 2010** The theme for the conference is **GIS: extending the reach**. ESRI Australia clients, ESRI users and distributors from around the Asia Pacific region are invited to share their knowledge and experience by submitting an abstract based on the conference theme. The event incorporates OZRI 2010, ESRI Australia's national client conference. **Abstract deadline: 16 October 2009**.
23 – 26 March **"NEW"**	Kyushu Sangyo University, Fukuoka, Japan	**Fifth International Workshop on "Geographical Analysis, Urban Modeling, Spatial Statistics"** **GEOG-AN-MOD 10** in conjunction with **The 2010 International Conference on Computational Science and its Applications (ICCSA 2010)** **Important dates** **10 November, 2009:** Deadline for full paper submission **7 December 2009:** Notification of acceptance **8 January 2010:** Deadline for Camera Ready Papers **March 23-26, 2010:** ICCSA 2010 Conference For **further information or questions**, please send an e-mail to: Giuseppe Borruso (University of Trieste, Italy) or Beniamino Murgante (University of Basilicata, Italy)
April 2010		
11-16 April	Sydney, Australia	**International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) Congress 2010** Contact email **The deadline for submission of abstracts is 22 September 2009**. Alternative URL: FIG 2010 Pre-Congress Program Online registration is now open for the FIG surveying congress to

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		be held in Sydney, 11-16 April 2010. A local surveyor, John Brock, has arranged a history seminar on the two days leading up to the congress (9-10 April). Technical tours have also been organised, including a boat trip to historic Fort Denison.
12-13 April **"NEW"**	Melbourne, Australia	**The International Symposium on Coastal Zones and Climate Change (ISCZ)** will be held 12-13 April, 2010 at Monash University in Australia. The coastal zone will house 75 per cent of the world population by 2025. However, coastal zones face severe socio-economic and environmental problems, of which rising sea level is just one. The symposium is sponsored by the Asia Pacific Network for Global Change Research. **Contact - Registration queries** Email: Irene.Thavarajah@adm.monash.edu.au **Contact - Further Queries** Email: Charlotte.Fisher@sci.monash.edu.au
14-16 April **"NEW"**	Zahedan, Iran	**4th International Congress of the Islamic World Geographers (ICIWG2010)** Abstract deadline has passed. This congress is a chance for scholars across Iran and the world to exchange ideas and offer solutions in order to address obstacles facing the Islamic world and furthermore achieve sustainable development. Information Technology advances, especially in Information Management as well as new technologies in Geographic Sciences such as Geographic Information System (GIS) and Remote Sensing (RS), are very important to the geography community. Contact.
25-29 April	Phoenix, Arizona	**2010 GITA**
27-28 April **"NEW"**	Singapore	**Spatially Enabled Government Asia – Singapore – 2010** **Spatially Enabled Government Asia** will focus on the strategies for data management and data sharing. The conference will draw on local case studies from countries across the Asian region to showcase the different geospatial applications for a variety of governmental purposes viz. health, urban planning, transport, Defence, environment and others.
26-29 April **"NEW"**	Sendai, Japan	**PICES Symposium**,an international symposium on Climate Change Effects on Fish and Fisheries: Forecasting Impacts, Assessing Ecosystem Responses, and Evaluating Management Strategies. **Abstract submission deadline:** November 30, 2009 **Financial support application deadline:** January 15, 2010
28-29 April **"NEW"**	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	**The 6th International Remote Sensing and GIS Conference and Exhibition** (MRSS 2010) is being organised by the Malaysian Remote Sensing Society (MRSS) and Universiti Putra Malaysia. It is scheduled for 28-29 April, 2010 at PWTC in Kuala Lumpur. MRSS has issued a call for papers for the conference. Abstracts must be submitted by 10 January, 2010. **Contact E-mail (Attn: Ms Nuraini Bt Abdul Thalib)**
Date to be announced	Taipei	**ASIA GIS 2010 Conference** further details to be announced
May 2010		
26-28 May	Hong Kong	The **14th International Symposium on Spatial Data Handling** Organisers are inviting abstracts related to the theme Theory, Modelling and Concepts in Geospatial Information Science. The event will explore topics such as digital cartography, data modelling for social science and interoperability. The deadline for abstracts is 31 August. Pdf flyer available at International Symposium

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		Announcement
June 2010		
9-11 June **"NEW"**	Nottingham, United Kingdom	**The British Cartographic Society Annual Symposium 2010 'Talking With Maps'** The closing date for submissions is Friday 8th January 2010. Successful submissions will be notified by no later than Friday 22nd 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.
21-24 June **"NEW"**	Yogyakarta, Indonesia	**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. In this scientific meeting, researchers, lecturers, practitioners and students from both developed and developing countries meet together to share ideas in applying geospatial technology in order to satisfy the needs for planning in disaster prone areas. It is intended to select a series of the best papers for publication in a special issue of an international scientific journal. More information will be provided on this in subsequent announcements. Contact: Dr. Richard Sliuzas, ITC For practical matters: Dr. Projo Danoedoro, PUSPICS Faculty of Geography, Gadjah Mada University,
July 2010		
5 – 7 July	Vienna	**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.
6-9 July **"NEW"**	Salzburg, Austria	**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 presenation **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 provides access to the AGIT Symposium and AGIT Expo as well.
12 – 16 July	San Diego	**30th Annual ESRI User Conference** Call for papers & presentations – **Abstract deadline extended to 6**

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"UPDATED"		**November** 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).
September 2010		
1-3 September **"NEW"**	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, 2010. Website
October 2010		
18 – 22 October	Singapore	**GSDI 12 World Conference – Realising Spatially Enabled Societies** In conjunction with the **16th PCGIAP Annual Meeting**.

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