

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

SDI-LAC

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Spatial Data Infrastructure-Latin America and the Caribbean (SDI-LAC) is a regional, monthly, and free, electronic newsletter from the [Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association](#) (GSDI). It focuses on aspects related with Spatial Data Infrastructure, and on GIS, remote sensing, and data management issues, related with SDI in Latin America and the Caribbean. It aims to raise awareness, provide useful information to strengthen national SDI initiatives, and support synchronization of regional efforts.



Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

GSDI

[GSDI Definition](#)

The [Pan-American Institute of Geography and History](#) (PAIGH), member organization of GSDI, and the [Permanent Committee on Geospatial Data Infrastructure for the Americas](#) (PC-IDEA), promote SDI development in the region. The newsletter is prepared by PAIGH for GSDI.

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Message from the Editor

This SDI-LAC issue highlights the following news: The **Global and Regional SDI** section comprises notes on GSDI 13 Call for Abstracts and Papers, and Nominations for Global Citizen Award of the GSDI Association; Caribbean Satellite Disaster Pilot: Hurricane Season 2011; the Status of SDI Relevant Issues in PC-IDEA Member Countries; and the Improved Global Topographic Map. The **IGS section** includes comments on the VI IDERA Working Days; and the Seminar on SDI Latest Trends and Research. The **National SDI** segment covers activities of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Grenada, and Panama including local and thematic SDIs, institutional initiatives, and events. **Articles and Publications** of the month comprise notes on The UNSDI Daily; a Master's Thesis on ICDE's Cost-benefit Assessment Model; the new NOTI-IDECA Newsletter; and ICRI's publication on Good Coastal Management Practices in the Pacific. **Geospatial Research and Applications** underline a novel research on the Antarctic Terrain; the Brazilian Bank of Geographic Names; the International Charter Geographic Tool; and release of GeoNode 1.1-RC1. The **Training and Funding Opportunities** section encompasses calls for the course "Introduction to Spatial Analysis in OpenGeoDa"; and the Science and Operational Applications Research. Finally, several **Events taking place in the Americas** are highlighted in the last section.

We are pleased to welcome **Eduardo Freitas Oliveira**, as SDI-LAC Newsletter **correspondent member** for Brazil; he is

a Cartographic Engineer, MSc in GIS, editor of the portal MundoGEO and the magazines InfoGNSS and InfoGEO Geomatics.

The SDI-LAC Newsletter is available in Portuguese! Translation of SDI-LAC Portuguese is possible thanks to undergrad students from UNESP **Matthew de Barros Manhani** and **Esrom A. Rissate Júnior** and the cartographers engineers: **Eduardo Freitas Oliveira**, MSc in GIS, editor of the portal MundoGEO and magazine InfoGNSS and InfoGEO Geomatics; **Silvane Paixão**, MSc in Geodetic Sciences and Geoinformation Technologies, PhD in Land Administration and Land Information Management; **Camila Bassetto Guedes**, advisor of the Operations Department of the Air Space Control (DECEA), **Juan Carlos Gironda Mamani**, a consultant in Geotechnology and IT solutions for Geoinformation, **Annette Pic**, MSc in Remote Sensing; **Edilce Figueiredo Burity**, MSc in Computer Systems and Technologist of IBGE / PE Geographic Information and Statistics.

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

Editor, Nancy Aguirre, Pan-American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH), <http://www.ipgh.org>, cnaguirre@ipgh.org

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Input to this Issue

Mabel Álvarez	President, International Geospatial Society (IGS), Argentina
Temenoujka Bandrova	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Head of Laboratory on Cartography, University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy, Sofia, Bulgaria; President, Bulgarian Cartographic Association
Santiago Borrero	Secretary General, Pan-American Institute of Geography and History, PAIGH, Mexico
Rinku Roy Chowdhury	Chair, Human Dimensions of Global Change Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Indiana University, USA
Joep Crompvoets	Secretary-General of EuroSDR, Belgium
Eduardo Freitas	Correspondent for SDI-LAC Newsletter, Brazil
Elieth Hoyos	Professional on Virtual Environments, Cadastre, IDECA, Bogota, Colombia
Kate Lance	SERVIR, NASA/USRA Coordinator, Huntsville, AL, USA
Lin Liu	Professor and Head of Geography, University of Cincinnati, USA
Jennifer A. Miller	Assistant Professor, Department of Geography and the Environment, University of Texas at Austin, USA
Violet Tsang	Organizing Committee for ISDM 2011, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, China
Alexander Montealegre	GIS Professional, IDECA, Division of Informatics, Special Administrative Unit of the District Land Registry, Bogota, Colombia

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Global and Regional SDI, News, Presentations



CANADIAN
GEOMATICS
CONFERENCE



GSDI 13
WORLD
CONFERENCE



GEOIDE
SCIENTIFIC
CONFERENCE



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

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

This call supports three primary forms of publication:

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

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

1. *The Added Value of Scientific Networking: GEOIDE Network Experiences* ([call for chapters](#)) to be distributed to all conference participants, and

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2. "3DGeo Info Conference Proceedings" (Springer) ([call for papers](#)) to be mailed after the conference to all 3DGeo Conference participants (a single track on Wednesday and Thursday).

Deadline for submission of abstracts, and full papers for consideration in the Conference Proceedings, the Book, or Journal: **15 November** 2011. Detailed information if found at: <http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsdi13/index.html>

Nominations for Global Citizen Award of the GSDI Association

The GSDI Association desires to receive nominations to recognize globally an individual who has provided exemplary thought leadership and substantive worldwide contributions in (1) promoting informed and responsible use of geographic information and geospatial technologies for the benefit of society and/or (2) fostering spatial data infrastructure developments that support sustainable social, economic, and environmental systems integrated from local to global scales.

Eligibility: The candidate pool includes all persons meeting the criteria and nominations may come from any source.

Process: Nominations are accepted prior to each major global conference of the GSDI Association. The nominations letter should describe explicitly and in detail how the nominee meets the criteria. No specified format is required. A web link to a full resume for the candidate should be provided in the letter or, alternatively, a resume may be attached. Please send your letters of nomination on or before **1 December 2011** to Harlan J. Onsrud, Executive Director, GSDI Association at onsrud@spatial.maine.edu with a copy to Abbas Rajabifard, President, GSDI Association at abbas.r@unimelb.edu.au. Expect a confirmation of receipt within two days.

Selection: The sole recipient, if any, is selected by past recipients of the award (see <http://www.gsdi.org/globalcitizenaward>) and the GSDI Association executive committee which consists of the past president, president, and president-elect. The goal is to honor persons who contribute laudably as citizens of the world both for their profession and society.

Benefits: A plaque is awarded at the global GSDI conference (see <http://gsdi.org/gsdi13>), the recipient is invited to present a vision speech to the plenary audience, the recipient is permanently recognized on the Association's Global Citizen Award web site, and the recipient receives a lifetime membership in the International Geospatial Society. The recipient must be present at the ceremony to accept the award or no award shall be presented.

3rd GEOSS in the Americas Symposium was a Great Success

Source: <http://www.agenciaespacial.gob.cl/>



Chile hosted the 3rd International GEOSS in the Americas Symposium (GEOSS - Global Earth Observation System of Systems). This event, which took place in Santiago de Chile from 5 to 7 October 2011 was attended by approximately 100 national and international experts on matters related to the use of space technology. The Symposium was conducted by the Chilean Space Agency (in Spanish ACE), with coordination of the Technical University Federico Santa María (in Spanish USM). In this context, the benefits and importance of GEOSS for all countries of the Americas were explored, and a dialogue about opportunities and requirements was also enabled. The first version of the International GEOSS in the Americas Symposium was held in Brazil in 2007 and the second in Panama in 2009. For more information please log on to www.geossamericas2011.cl

GEO News

Source: GEO News Issue #16, October 2011; <http://www.earthobservations.org/>

The GEO-VIII Plenary: Information on the GEO-VIII Plenary meeting (Group on Earth Observations), to be held in Istanbul on 16-17 November, is [now available here](#). Conference participants are invited to visit the site to learn more

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about registration procedures, the GEO-VIII Exhibition, hotel availability, visa requirements, the scheduling of the week's events, and much more.

[G20 calls for GEO Global Agricultural Monitoring initiative \(GEO-GLAM\)](#): First proposed by GEO and various research centers in G20 countries, the Global Agricultural Monitoring (GLAM) initiative was launched at the Paris meeting of G20 Agriculture Ministers in June 2011. The initiative forms part of the [G20 Action Plan on Food Price Volatility](#), which also includes the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS) initiative led by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The G20 Ministerial Declaration that launched the Action Plan states that the GEO-GLAM initiative "will strengthen global agricultural monitoring by improving the use of remote sensing tools for crop production projections and weather forecasting". By providing coordinated Earth observations from satellites and validating them using in situ measurements, the initiative will deliver reliable, accurate, timely and sustained crop monitoring information and yield forecasts. The initiative is also described in a Plenary document and will be presented to delegates at the GEO-VIII Plenary meeting in Istanbul in November.



[Caribbean Satellite Disaster Pilot: Hurricane Season 2011](#)

Source: Canadian Space Agency <http://www.asc-csa.gc.ca/>

The Canadian Space Agency (CSA) Earth Observation Applications and Utilization (EOAU) Division continues to support disaster management for affected populations across the Caribbean, including local damage assessment and coastal change detection. CSA is a critical part of the NASA-led Caribbean Satellite Disaster Pilot (CSDP), contributing more than 40 high-resolution RADARSAT-2 scenes have been collected by CSA in preparation for rapid change detection and flood mapping activities. In addition, CSA is leading the CSDP's efforts for longer-term risk mitigation and preparedness, working directly with local authorities in five Caribbean island states. In the coming months, radar imagery will be planned and acquired over affected areas to assist disaster management efforts. The data sets are accessible to accredited CSDP end-users within a very short time. In cooperation with Canadian industry and Caribbean authorities, CSA will also contribute EO expertise and RADARSAT-2 image change detection maps for local damage assessment teams. Canada's contributions are part of the overall GEO Task 'Demonstrating regional end-to-end applications for disaster management' which is led by CSA on behalf of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS). For further information, please contact guy.seguin@asc-csa.gc.ca or guy.aube@asc-csa.gc.ca

An Overview on the Status of SDI Relevant Issues in PC-IDEA Member Countries

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



By Álvaro Monett Hernández, SNIT Executive Secretariat, Ministry of National Assets, Chile

During the last meeting of the PC-IDEA directive board, held in New York in May 2010, PC-IDEA working group on planning (GTplan) was created to implement the three recommendations made in the Ninth Regional Cartographic Conference of the United Nations for the Americas. This working group consists of México, Cuba, Brazil, Guatemala, Colombia, Canada and Chile, which formulated a working plan and having as temporal horizon the deadline of December 2013. One of the principal products considered in this PC-IDEA working plan for 2011 was the formulation system of a diagnosis about relevant SDI issues in the countries members, including capacity building, standards and technical specifications, best practices, innovations in national cartographic and geographic institutes and SDI assessment. The structure and the contents of the questionnaire were discussed in a meeting of PC-IDEA GTplan last April in New York. After that, the consensus/and an informatics tool for implementing the questionnaire in the members countries of PC-IDEA was developed on questionnaire was achieved. During July 2011 it was conducted the process of consultation with the support of the national PC-IDEA counterparts and also the regional vocals of Caribbean, North, Central and South America [The complete presentation may be found at: <http://www.lagf.org/2011/proceeding/Alvaro.pdf>]

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1st Argentinean gvSIG Working Day: Presentations

Source: News Office gvSIG



Primera Jornada Argentina de gvSIG

Integrando Voluntades y Consolidando la Comunidad

Papers presented at the 1st Argentinean gvSIG Working Day are now available (<http://www.gvsig.org/web/community/events/jornadas-argentina/2011/ponencias>). This event took place on September 10, 2011 in the Aula Magna of the EST (Army Technical College) in the City of Buenos Aires, Argentina, under the theme "Integrating Wills and Strengthening the Community."

Spatial Data Infrastructures in Luxembourg: State of Play 2010

Source: <http://blog-idee.blogspot.com/> ; <http://inspire.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

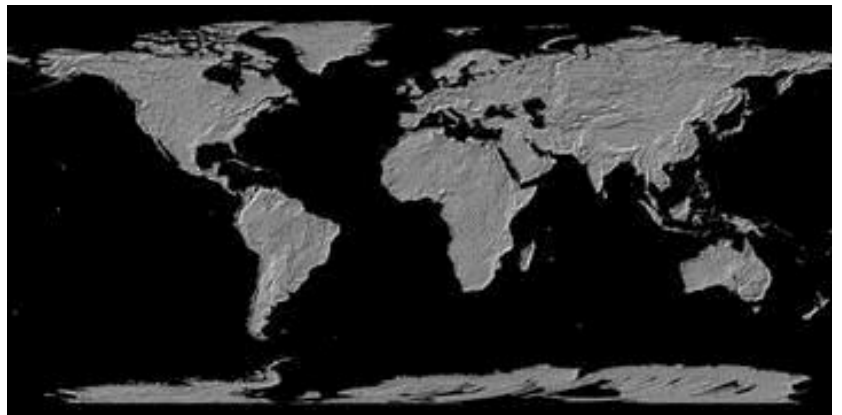


The Luxembourg NSDI is the ILDG (Infrastructure Luxembourgeoise de Données Géographiques) was created in 2009 by a official government decision, which also created an interdisciplinary and interministerial group to support the ILDG. The body which coordinates, organizes and manages is the [Administration du Cadastre et de la Topographie \(ACT\)](#), this institution is also the most important node of the ILDG. The CC-ILDG (Committee Cordination Luxembourgeoise de l'Infrastructure de Géodonnées) is a body of collaboration that directs the activities related to creating, updating, management and distribution of geographic datasets, in order to generate a coordinated approach sector activities. The reference geoportal is the [Géoportail National Grand Duchy of Luxembourg](#), is administered by the ACT and was created as part of the e-Lëtzebuerg eGovernment. The geo-portal is a platform that centralizes data sets of ministries, state agencies and departments, municipalities and other public bodies. It is necessary to be registered as a specialist user to access advanced features, for general public queries there is a [viewing platform](#) that offers data sets of the ILDG. Altogether it has 64 WMS and 64 WFS being some general access and others of exclusive access to some public bodies.

Improved Global Topographic Map

Source: GIM International Newsletter; <http://www.gim-international.com/>

NASA and Japan have released an improved version of the most complete digital topographic map of Earth on 17th October 2011, produced with detailed measurements from NASA's Terra spacecraft. The map, known as a global digital elevation model, was created from images collected by the Japanese Advanced Spaceborne Thermal Emission and Reflection Radiometer, or ASTER, instrument aboard Terra. So-called stereo-pair images are produced by merging



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two slightly offset two-dimensional images to create the three-dimensional effect of depth. The first version of the map was released by NASA and Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) in June 2009. The new version of the map adds 260,000 additional stereo-pair images to improve coverage. It features improved spatial resolution, increased horizontal and vertical accuracy, more realistic coverage over water bodies and the ability to identify lakes as small as 0.6 miles (1 kilometre) in diameter. The map is available online to users everywhere at no cost. NASA, METI, Japan's Earth Remote Sensing Data Analysis Center (ERSDAC), and the US Geological Survey validated the data, with support from the US National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and other collaborators. The data are distributed by NASA's Land Processes Distributed Active Archive Center at the US Geological Survey's Earth Resources Observation and Science Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and by ERSDAC in Tokyo. Users of the new version of the [ASTER data products](#) are advised that while improved, the data still contain anomalies and artefacts that will affect its usefulness for certain applications.

[Proceedings of LAGF 2011 now Available](#)

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



The 2011 Latin America Geospatial Forum (LAGF), was held last August in Rio de Janeiro Brazil. The conference - a new initiative exclusively for Latin America's geospatial industry- was very well received with more than 550 delegates representing various segments from across the length and breadth of the region and beyond served as an excellent networking and learning platform. LAGF 2012 will take place on August, 14-17, 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Proceedings of the LAGF's Symposium track on "Spatial Data Infrastructure: Federal to Local" are available at: <http://www.lagf.org/2011/proceeding/sdi.htm>

Upcoming UN-SPIDER Outreach Activities

Source: UN-SPIDER September 2011 Updates



UNITED NATIONS | UNOOSA | UN-SPIDER

United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for
Disaster Management and Emergency Response

[Second UN-SPIDER International Expert Meeting: Crowdsourcing Mapping for Preparedness and Emergency Response, Geneva, 16 November 2011](#): In July 2011 the UN-SPIDER Programme successfully conducted the First International Expert Meeting on "Crowdsourcing Mapping for Preparedness and Emergency Response". The second activity of this project will be this Expert Meeting to be held in Geneva, back-to-back with the [International Conference on Crisis Mapping \(ICCM 2011\)](#). For those interested in contributing to the discussion on this topic, please consider joining the [Google Group on Space-based Information for Crowdsourcing Mapping](#).

[United Nations International Conference on Space-based Technologies for Disaster Risk Management "Best Practices for Risk Reduction and Rapid Response Mapping", Beijing, 22-25 November 2011](#): One year after the successful opening of the UN-SPIDER office in Beijing in November 2010, the first "United Nations International Conference on Space-based Technologies for Disaster Risk Management" will be hosted at the new location. The conference will bring together 120 participants including disaster managers, policy makers, and providers of space technology solutions, tools and applications from Government, NGOs, Academia and the corporate sector. The focus of the conference will be to share and discuss "Best Practices for Risk Reduction and Rapid Response Mapping"



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[2nd Announcement - Deformation Monitoring Symposium \(JISDM 2011\)](#)

Source: Violet Tsang by way of Santiago Borrero



Joint International Symposium on Deformation Monitoring

(2-4 November 2011, Hong Kong, China)

The "Joint International Symposium on Deformation Monitoring" (JIS-DM) be held in Hong Kong, China, November 2-4, 2011. This symposium is a joint event of the International Federation of Surveyors (in Spanish FIG) and the International Association of Geodesy (IAG), combining the "14th FIG Symposium on Deformation Measurements and Analysis", the "5th IAG Symposium on Geodesy for Geotechnical and Structural Engineering" and the "2nd International Workshop on Spatial Information Technologies for Monitoring the Deformation of Large-Scale Man-Made Linear Features". The Preliminary Program is ready at the Symposium site: <http://dma.lsgj.polyu.edu.hk/programme.html>. Registration is done online through the website <https://www.softconf.com/c/dma2011/>. Contact Information in Hong Kong: Violet Tsang, JISDM.2011@polyu.edu.hk, Website: <http://dma.lsgj.polyu.edu.hk/index.html>

[FIG Working Week 2012](#)

Source: FIG e-Newsletter October 2011



FIG WORKING WEEK 2012

May 6–10 2012
Rome, Italy

FIG Working Week 2012 "Knowing to manage the territory, protect the environment, evaluate the cultural heritage" will be held on May 6-10, 2012 in Rome, Italy (www.fig.net/fig2012). We expect more than 1,200 participants from 100 countries to attend this main FIG conference next year. The conference is organized by Consiglio Nazionale Geometri e Geometri Laureati (CNGGL) and FIG. The main partner is FAO. The call for papers has been announced. Deadline for peer review papers is **1 November** 2011 and for non peer review abstracts **15 December** 2011.

Submit your abstract: <http://www.fig.net/abstractdb/submit.asp?id=14>

Call for paper: http://fig.net/fig2012/fig_2012_call_for_papers.pdf

Template for paper, template.doc http://www.fig.net/fig2012/fig_2012_template.doc

Template for paper, template.dotx http://www.fig.net/fig2012/fig_2012_template.dotx

[4th International Conference on Cartography and GIS](#)

Source: Temenoujka Bandrova



4th International Conference on Cartography and GIS

June, 18-22, 2012, Albena, Bulgaria

This is the first announcement about the organization of the 4th International Conference on Cartography and GIS (ICC&GIS), to be held in June 18-22, 2012, in Albena, Bulgaria <http://www.cartography-gis.com/4thConference/Index.html>. ICC&GIS is the fourth conference of this type that will take place in Bulgaria. The



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previous editions were held in 2006, 2008 and 2010. The conference is organized under the endorsement of the International Cartographic Association (ICA). The event aims to collect knowledge and information about the latest achievements of cartography and GIS in the region of the Balkan Peninsula, Europe and at the global level. Another purpose of the conference is to discover and offer satisfactory decisions of the ever increasing demands for analyses and visualization of geo-spatial data in the area of science, economy, management, ecology, crises situations and others at national, regional and global scale. A Two-day Seminar with EU Cooperation on Early Warning and Disaster / Crisis Management is organized by Prof. Dr. Milan Konecny, Chair of ICA Commission on Cartography on Early Warning and Crises Management (CEWCM) and Past-ICA President. Deadline of Abstract Submission **January 10, 2012**. Contact: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Temenoujka Bandrova, Bulgarian Cartographic Association, bgcartography@gmail.com ; www.uacg.bg ; www.cartography-gis.com

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IGS News, Links, Publications



International
Geospatial Society



VI Working Days of the Spatial Data Infrastructure in Argentina (IDERA)

Source: Mabel Alvarez

VI Conference of Spatial Data Infrastructure in Argentina were held on October 13-14 in the City of San Miguel de Tucumán. A great attendance of officials and specialists in the field, with participation of representatives from 21 of 24 states comprising the country contributed to this two-day event.

During this Working Days it was possible to appreciate progresses made at national, provincial and local levels and the emerging results of collaborative efforts and synergies between agencies. The event included organized exhibitions, conferences, workshops and poster sessions. Workshops were of two kinds, one focusing on the IDERA Working Groups' themes, and the other structured in groups formed by participants in accordance to the country's regions.

From workshops of the IDERA Working Groups, it was possible to learn on progresses made by the groups and to participate in the drafting of actions aimed at future planning. The workshops organized by regions, worked first at the provincial and subsequently at the regions' levels, in both instances addressing issues that participants identified as priorities for future SDI developments. The various participatory models developed, allowed integration of inputs from all participants to this Working Days.

The IDERA Operating Regulations were also shared during the sessions as part of its road to institutionalization.

Seminar on Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDI), Latest Trends and Research

Source: Joep Crompvoets by way of Mabel Álvarez

Venue: Leuven, Belgium

Dates: 7th to 11th November 2011

Seminar website: http://www.spatialist.be/eng/act/20111107_SDIsseminar.html

Objectives: To enhance the knowledge about Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDIs) viewed from multi-disciplinary perspectives (e.g. technology, law, sociology, economics and public administration science), to clarify the latest SDI-trends, and to set up a research agenda in the context of SDI.

Target group: SDI-practitioners and academics who want to enhance their knowledge about Spatial Data Infrastructures and/or who are interested in the latest SDI-trends and research.

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ARGENTINA

[New IDET's Website](http://idet.tucuman.gov.ar/)

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



Is now available the new webpage for the Spatial Data Infrastructure of the Province of Tucumán (in Spanish IDET) with updated contents (<http://idet.tucuman.gov.ar/>). The IDET is an initiative that allows creating standardized services through a working platform, for free and unrestricted access to spatial data in the province. For this purpose, and based on inter-institutional and organizational guidelines, the project aims at implementing technologies, standards, methodologies and institutional arrangements that enable spatial data access and sharing. As a first step, in order to guarantee the citizens' right to information access, in September 2009 it was developed a web-based [map viewer](#) thanks to the Web Map Service (WMS) technology. In order to improve services directed to the community it is also possible to access a [metadata catalog](#) and a [Map's Bank](#), both for browsing or downloading. The government of Tucumán's geoservices provide a basis for searching, viewing, analyzing and applying georeferenced information.

BRAZIL

INDE Portal will Enable Access to Information About PPA in Brazil

Source: Eduardo Freitas

In late September it was announced that the National Commission of Cartography (in Spanish CONCAR) will allow online public access to information regarding the progress and implementation of public policies in Brazil, in the multi-year Plan (in Spanish PPA) from 2012 to 2015. This will be possible next year, through the Portal of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (in Spanish INDE). The Portal is on the web since 2010, and nowadays has information from the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (in Spanish IBGE), the Geological Survey of Brazil (in Spanish CPRM) and the Ministry of Environment (in Spanish MMA). INDE was the central topic of debates in MundoGEO#Connect - The National Spatial Data Infrastructure was established by 666/2008 Act, the intention is to classify, integrate and harmonize existing geospatial data from the Brazilian government institutions, so they can be easily accessed by any internet user. From the 14 to 16 of June this year, MundoGEO#Connect took place in Sao Paulo, and featured the seminar Geospatial Database which brought, among lectures, the involvement of the INDE. The explanation of the



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matter was done by Hesley Py, coordinator of the Committee of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (Cinde). Luiz Paulo Souto Fortes, executive secretary of Concar, explains the importance and some concepts that involve INDE. Check out the interview in <http://youtu.be/Y5sjisP1tKE>

SDI/BA

Source: Eduardo Freitas

[Spatial Data Infrastructure of the State of Bahia - SDI/BA](#) (By Rita Pimentel, Superintendence of Social and Economic Studies of Bahia (in Portuguese SEI), Centro Administrativo da Bahia, Brazil)

Abstract: The Superintendency of Economical and Social Studies of Bahia (SEI), is the State agency that coordinates the State Cartography Commission (SCC) (CECAR), which in turn, congregates the state administration organs, producers and users of geoinformation. That Commission has among their responsibilities, to implant the Spatial Data Infrastructure of the State of Bahia (IDE/Ba). With this purpose it follows the guidelines of the Assessoria de Gestão Estratégica de Tecnologias da Informação e Comunicação (AGETIC) (Government Civil Bureau for Strategic Management of Information and Communication Technologies – AGETIC-. The IDE-Ba project, is currently in the phase of Manifestation of Interest (the starting of the bidding process) and it has as its objective, the creation and provision of the technological conditions for the implant, based on a services architecture, a system of geospatial metadata management, a data catalog service, geospatial services and applications, and a geoportal for interactive access and visualization of elements of the IDE-Ba, following the norms and patterns of the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC), thus providing a tuning with what the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (in Portuguese INDE) rules. The Decreto n° 8.292 of 14/08/2002, is the prime legal ordinance that restructures the CECAR and, institutes, in its Article One, item IV, as the function of that Commission "to establish guidelines, parameters and procedures for the organization, maintenance and sharing of a spatial data infrastructure in the State." The Decreto n° 10.185 of 20/12/2006, further established the Bahia Geoportal. The final regulation will be laid down the discussion on the guidelines for the policies and actions formulation, implementation and management, by the public agents, for the establishment of the IDE-Ba [This presentation may be found at: <http://www.laqf.org/2011/proceeding/Rita%20Pimental.pdf>]

Additional historic information on the implementation of IDE-Ba may may be found [here](#). The article "[Infraestrutura de Datos Espaciales en el Estado de Bahia](#)" (Spatial Data Infrastructure in the State of Bahia) "makes an analysis of the situation of geographic data availability within the State of Bahia government, and the current efforts to build a Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) to cover and disseminate geographic data and metadata for access by interested organizations and the public in general, especially for conducting environmental analysis." A research seminar that seeks to "assess the potential and main constraints for using available geographic data in a Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) as a facilitator in the elaboration of cartographic representations in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)" on the case the Bahia SDI is available [here](#).

CHILE

[Basic Territorial Information Working Group's Progress](#)

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

The National Territorial Information System Coordination (SNIT) Basic Land Information Group (in Spanish GITB), comprised of representatives from various organizations including the Center for Natural Resource Information (CIREN), advances the generation of technical guidelines that will form the basis on which to develop a Basic Territorial Information Certification Model, possibly through a pilot project using community municipal master plans. This initiative seeks to support the consolidation of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) of Chile, represented by the SNIT's Executive Secretariat. Within the GITB Work Plan, it is expected that the national territory's place names or georeferenced Geographical Names adopted by institutions that make up this Working Group will be available to the national community. This information will be posted on the website of SNIT in the short term.





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CIREN and its Corporate SDI

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

By Adriano Torres-Manca, Manager Geomatics Technology, Natural Resource Information Center (in Spanish CIREN), Chile. Presented to LAGF 2011.

The Natural Resources Information Centre, under the instructions of the President of the Republic of Chile has been mandated by the Agriculture Ministry to develop an SDI for the agriculture sector in the public sphere; CIREN also leads the committee of natural resources information in the context of the National System for Territorial Information. To this end, CIREN had first developed its own SDI, changing procedures for internal clients to access the geographical information and databases. That has needed the introduction of services and related applications that enables a standard-oriented operation of Spatial Data Infrastructure. These changes follow international standards. Changes have been needed to reinforce the hardware and also prepare homologation procedures for data input. The paper shows the new organization, data flows and methods to enable the SDI in the institution. At the present point of evolution, it is possible to identify some advantages of the new structure. In short, quick and permanent on line accesses of spatial information, with its consequential reduction of time for other tasks and geomatic outputs. This advantage will further increase when the inner IDE were expanded to the whole Ministry. Parts of the implemented services are: catalogues, imaging services WMS and WCS, MapServer applications, different levels of access to data via PostGreSQL/PostGIS, and software GIS (licensed and free). Also an FTP service is available to access raster data. International standards and geomatic tools are continuously being developed. This set of service makes it possible to improve efficiency in geomatic production processes and save time and costs enabling the institution to be in better position to face the new challenges of the authority [This presentation may be found at: <http://www.lagf.org/2011/proceeding/Adriano.pdf>]

COLOMBIA

[Updating the Operating Regulations of the ICDE](#)

Source: <http://www.icde.org.co/>



Updating the Operating Regulations of the Colombian Spatial Data Infrastructure (in Spanish ICDE) is consistent with contemporary challenges of the country. ICDE's organizations, users of geographic information products, and all interested persons were invited to participate in the socialization and validation of this initiative that may be read in the [Proposal Paper](#). The views on the proposed alignment of the Operating Regulations of ICDE is consolidated through the [Discussion Forum](#) which closed on October 28, 2011.

Colombia Becomes 88th GEO Member

Source: GEO News Issue #16, October 2011

The Government of Colombia joined GEO on 29 August, 2011. It will be represented by the Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies, and by the Geographic Institute "Augustin Codazzi".

[Eleventh Plenary Meeting of the CEC Advanced the Geospatial Future of Colombia](#)

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

XI Plenary Meeting of the Colombian Space Commission (in Spanish CEC) successfully finished on September 27 in Santiago de Cali. Representatives of 70 public, private and academic institutios focused on the draft decree for the creation of the Colombian Agency for Outer Space Affairs (in Spanish ACAE), which would be the organization responsible for leading space technology development, use and application, and the consolidation of current project for putting in orbit an Earth Observation Satellite. The Plenary Meeting was chaired by Mr. Angelino Garzon, Colombian Vice President, who expressed his full support to the initiative of the draft decree. "Technical studies are finished which lay the legal basis for the creation of a Colombian Agency for Outer Space Affairs, an initiative structured between the organizations integrating the CEC for over ten years, and now we are witnessing its consolidation."

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[IDESC Included in the Colombian Spatial Data Infrastructure \(ICDE\) Portal](http://www.cali.gov.co/)

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



The Spatial Data Infrastructure of Santiago de Cali (in Spanish IDESC) was included in the [Colombian Spatial Data Infrastructure \(in Spanish ICDE\) Portal](#), as one of its nodes providing geographic information services through the Internet, which will bring as benefits that more national and international users be aware of this initiative, and may access to geographic information services. Is worth mentioning that IDESC is the second local order initiative in the Colombian territory. Activities of working groups were resumed to continue the development of IDESC components. IDESC is an effort by the Municipal Administration, which seeks the efficient management of geographic information in the municipality. This initiative is framed in the Municipal Development Plan 2008-2011 "Digital City" Macro-Project. Priority is to harmonize IDESC's geographic information collection, analysis, access, use and distribution processes, on the part of municipal public and/or private institutions, companies and organizations, aimed at avoiding duplication and fostering spatial data exchange, thus providing the community with planning and decision making tools. For this purpose IDESC is working on establishing policies, and on developing Geographic Information standards and Geoservices. One of IDESC Geoservices is to display information layers through the [Geovisor IDESC](#), which was developed based on open source technologies and OGC standards.

[ICDE - Quindío Node](http://serviciaf.igac.gov.co/)

Source: <http://serviciaf.igac.gov.co/>

Geoportal Quindío is a communication strategy of the Government of the Department of Quindío and the Regional Autonomous Corporation Quindío, with support of the Research and Development Center for Geographic Information Systems (in Spanish CIAF) of the Geographic Institute "Agustín Codazzi" (in Spanish IGAC), in order to inform the Department's community on all the advances in production, socialization, access, use, exchange, regulations and policies governing the spatial and alphanumeric information produced in various public and private entities of the Department. This technological tool is intended as an excellent communication medium between the community and the various regional organizations where citizens may have access to data, links to other sites of interest, latest news, training, and new technologies, as well as to forward concerns to the respective entities. Directors of participating organizations are confident that the implementation of this Geoportal will serve the community in general as a tool to support creation of projects and activities aimed at improving Quindío's quality of life, and the region's development.

One Step to Formalizing Geographic Information Policy In Bogota's District

Source: NOTI-IDECA Bulletin num.2; http://mapas.bogota.gov.co/geoportal/noti-ideca/NOTI-IDECA_201110.pdf

The Spatial Data Infrastructure of Bogota Capital District (in Spanish IDECA) attended a meeting convened by the Systems District Commission on August 29, in order to complete the oficialization process of nine (9) geographic information policies drafted during the last two years on: Production, Custody, Metadata, Intellectual Property, Oficialization, Responsibility, Security, Privacy and Disponibility, Access and Use. After the meeting, the Commission approved the proposed policy, pending the administrative act to their oficialization. This is the last stage prior to their dissemination and subsequent implementation.

STATE OF GRENADA

[Government of Grenada Hosts Caribbean Open-Source Geospatial Data Sharing and Management Workshop](http://www.gov.gd/)

Source: <http://www.gov.gd/> and <http://geonode.org/>



The Eastern Caribbean Open- Source Geospatial Data Sharing Management Workshop was held in Grenada on October 6-7, 2011. This was the first regional workshop of this kind. The main objective of this workshop was to

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examine the availability of national and regional geospatial data and tools to support evidence-based decision making to increase climate resilience and reduce risks related to the adverse effects of climate change in the Eastern Caribbean. This initial regional workshop aims to create a forum for practitioners to address the technical challenges of both national and regional geospatial data management, including data-sharing and metadata policies, GIS infrastructure, technological capacity, and open-source data platforms. Participants presented national, regional, and international case studies as a platform for discussions, and contributed to formulating a regional roadmap to improve geospatial data-sharing in the Eastern Caribbean. A component of the workshop was also held at the ICT Centre where participants gained hands-on experience with the application of GeoNode which is a web-based open-source data platform. In addition, an online Community of Practice (CooP) was launched at the workshop to provide a forum for technical discussions, creating subsequent activities, and building partnerships. It is expected that a second workshop targeting policy makers, and focusing on macro-level policies related to data-sharing, will soon be organized. Seven countries and six regional entities participated in the workshop, including the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) and the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF). Many of the participants had already deployed their own GeoNodes with support from The World Bank, bringing the total number of GeoNodes in the region to six: St Lucia, Grenada, St Vincent, UWI Trinidad, Haiti, and the CCRIF. While all the projects are in the very early stages, there's a strong commitment to promoting data sharing between agencies across the Caribbean -not to mention a lot of excitement towards using open standards and better collaborating around disaster risk data more generally.

PANAMA

[National Spatial Data Center](#)

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



The National Geospatial Data Center (in Spanish CNDG) arises from the need to produce and organize the information produced by the National Geographic Institute "Tommy Guardia" according to today's technological demands. These requirements involve the adequacy of the methodology and processes to be used primarily in the manufacture of basic cartography of the Republic, as well as the entire geospatial information. Among its main responsibilities are: to promote integration, systematization, and quality of georeferenced data, using advanced technology and innovative approaches to the collection, storage, management and dissemination of geoinformation that is produced in the country; and the formal implementation and administration of a Panamanian Spatial Data Infrastructure (in Spanish IPDE) for the Institute, and be extensible to other state institutions. Other projects promoted by the CNDG in addition to the IPDE include: 1) Geographic Product Specifications, and 2) Geographic Information Norms and Standards.

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Articles and Publications of the Month

[The UNSDI Daily](#)

Source: http://paper.li/UNSDI_NCO

UNSDI Daily is a daily paper recently published by UNSDI-NCO, edited by Jan Cees Venema. It comprises information on various sections, among them, Headlines, Environment, Science, Technology, and Society.

Editor's note: "We follow a wide variety of organizations on Twitter, which are dealing with sustainability and development issues, realization of the MDGs (Millennium Development Goals) or related or supporting activities. This in order to be able to determine global geo-information, SDI, capacity building and institutional strengthening needs. All Tweets of the organizations we follow from the past 24 hours are forming the content of this daily paper. So no need anymore to scroll through the Tweets, just read this paper. Do you think we should follow you and incorporate your information in this paper? Contact us at <http://www.unsdi.nl>"

Colombian Spatial Data Infrastructure (ICDE) Cost-benefit Assessment Model

Source: <http://www.bdigital.unal.edu.co/> by way of Kate Lance

Master's Thesis (2011) by Carolina Morera Amaya

Abstract by the author: The management of a Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) consists on determining, planning, designing, implementing and monitoring strategies and geographic information management activities, thus ensuring quality of products and services to its users. The Colombian Spatial Data Infrastructure (in Spanish ICDE), according to the document "CONPES 3585 / 2009", is considered as the operational tool that provides access to geographic information for use in public policy. Accordingly, this investigation is a model to assess ICDE for characterize, measure performance, establish cost-benefit analysis to evaluate the usability and implementation of the geoport and the metadata catalog, as technological mechanisms that facilitate access and use of geographic information for several applications [The complete document (in Spanish) may be found at: <http://www.bdigital.unal.edu.co/4171/1/795044.2011.pdf>]

New NOTI-IDECA Newsletter

Source: Alexander Montealegre and Elieth Hoyos

Spatial Data Infrastructure for the Capital District of Bogota (in Spanish IDECA), Colombia, from last September 2011, publishes the "NOTI-IDECA" newsletter for the Capital District institutions. One strategy that IDECA has developed over the last half of the year, as a mechanism to publicize the progress made, is the publication of information notes in digital media, which are distributed since last September to all government and utilities' organizations of the Capital District. NOTI-IDECA is therefore a disclosure channel



for disseminating actions taken by the infrastructure to realize best practices of spatial information management, and reports the project's work that cuts across the institutions to the benefit of the City. Last issue is available at: http://mapas.bogota.gov.co/geoportal/noti-ideca/NOTI-IDECA_201110.pdf. IDECA is one of first SDI initiatives developed in Colombia, created in Bogotá DC District by Council Agreement No. 130 of 2004. It is designed as a set of data, standards, policies, technologies and interagency agreements established around the efficient use of geographic information produced in the city. IDECA is aimed at supporting social, economic and environmental development; and to provide the District's Administration with a tool for consistently identifying current conditions, mobility, dynamics, expansion, processes, projects and needs of the Bogotá DC city. This infrastructure is intended to provide authorities of the Capital District with geographic information required to adequately serve the citizens and thus contribute to more accurate decisions on behalf of the city and its inhabitants. Currently, the Special Administrative District Land Registry (in Spanish UAECD) exercises the infrastructure's coordination, and in partnership with government entities has worked in the provision of geographic information through the City of Bogota Map portal <http://mapas.bogota.gov.co/geoportal/>. This community combines efforts for the implementation of institutional policies, as well as geographic information provision, access and use standards, thus establishing institutional guidelines aimed at information sharing and transaction-associated cost reduction.

Release of "Good Coastal Management Practices in the Pacific: Experiences From the Field"

Source: Carib-coral-reefs list; <http://icriforum.org/>



The International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI), in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), with support from the French Government, released during the 22nd SPREP Meeting, held in September 2011 in Apia (Samoa), a "Good coastal management practices in the Pacific: experiences from the field." This work resulted from a recommendation adopted during the last ICRI General Meeting. This report presents a series of 17 case studies of coastal management initiatives from a wide a range of countries and territories throughout the Pacific region. Learn more and [download the report](#).

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International Charter Develops Geographic Tool to Provide Information about Satellite Data Used for Activations

Source: UN-SPIDER September 2011 Updates



The International Charter for Space and Major Disasters has developed a geographic tool to display footprints and characteristics of satellite data provided in the frame of each activation. This catalogue contains no data but rather metadata describing the images acquired by a range of satellites during Charter activations. The catalogue brings together the metadata from the images used in each activation and provides a user-friendly which allows discovery and browsing of these metadata. For further information Link to the geographic tool <http://www.disasterschartercatalog.org/cecec/ie/index.html>

GeoNode 1.1-RC1

Source: <http://geonode.org/>

The GeoNode team is proud to release GeoNode 1.1-RC1, another important milestone towards GeoNode 1.1. All planned features for GeoNode 1.1 are in place for this release but some testing, bug fixing, and documentation remains to be done before the final release. This unstable release is intended to allow GeoNode users to [help us identify bugs before the final release](#). As always, be sure to backup any existing data and configuration before attempting to upgrade. GeoNode is an open source platform that facilitates the creation, sharing, and collaborative use of geospatial data. The project aims to surpass existing spatial data infrastructure solutions by integrating robust social and cartographic tools. At its core, the GeoNode has a stack based on GeoServer, Django, and GeoExt that provides a platform for sophisticated web browser spatial visualization and analysis. Atop this stack, the project has built a map composer and viewer, tools for analysis, and reporting tools. For detailed information and downloads please log on to: <http://geonode.org/>

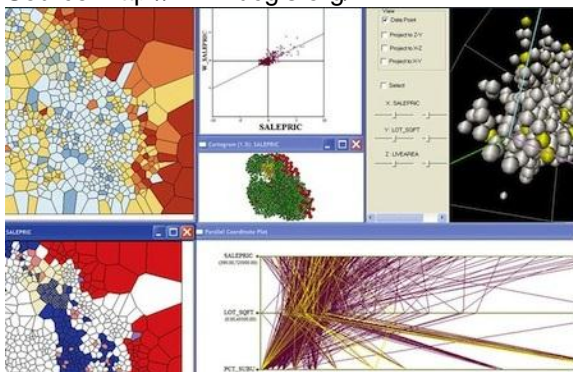


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Training and Funding Opportunities, Awards

Spatial Analysis Short Course by Luc Anselin

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



Luc Anselin is offering a 3-day short course "Introduction to Spatial Analysis in OpenGeoDa" in Tempe, AZ from December 5 to 7, 2011. Learn more about the short course and register here: <https://www.introgeoda.com/>. The short course provides an introduction to spatial analysis using the latest version of the cross-platform OpenGeoDa software. The focus is on two important topics. The first is the concept, statistical tests for and interpretation of spatial autocorrelation, one of the most fundamental notions in spatial analysis. The second deals with the principles behind spatial regression, especially how to carry out and interpret diagnostics for spatial autocorrelation and how to estimate models that incorporate such spatial correlation. The short course is designed in a hybrid



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format, mixing lectures with ongoing hands-on demonstrations, laboratory exercises and Q&A to address participants' questions. There will be ample time to discuss individual research projects in an informal setting. For more information, please email training@introgeoda.com

Science and Operational Applications Research – Education International (SOAR-EI)

Source: <http://www.asc-csa.gc.ca/>

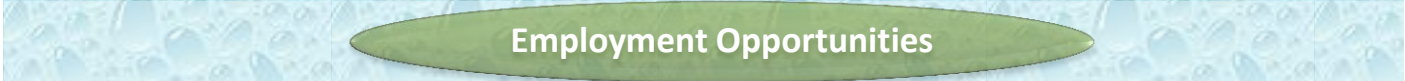


SOAR
SCIENCE AND OPERATIONAL APPLICATIONS
RESEARCH FOR RADARSAT-2



The Canadian Space Agency (CSA), in partnership with MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates Ltd. - MDA Geospatial Services Inc., is implementing the SOAR-EI initiative. This initiative, under the umbrella of the SOAR program, is intended for researchers in the international education community. In the proposal, the Principal Investigator must demonstrate interest and ability in terms of transforming RADARSAT-2 Products that would lead to a useful informative value added product. The announcement of opportunity, planned for Fall 2011, will be open for a limited two month-period. For more information, contact stephane.chalifoux@asc-csa.gc.ca or bjefferies@mdacorporation.com. The SOAR-EI opportunity will be announced through the CSA EO-Express newsletter. To subscribe, please send an email to eo-express@asc-csa.gc.ca or visit www.asc-csa.gc.ca/eng/newsletters/eo_express/editions.asp. For more information about the SOAR Program, please visit: www.asc-csa.gc.ca/eng/programs/soar/default.asp.

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Employment Opportunities

Assistant Professorship Position in the Area of Human Environment Interactions and GIScience

Source: Lin Liu by way of Rinku Roy Chowdhury

The University of Cincinnati, Department of Geography, invites applications for a tenure track assistant professorship position in the area of human environment interactions and GIScience, starting August 1, 2012. Applicants must demonstrate evidence of quality publications and effective teaching. The new hire is expected to teach human geography and GIScience courses at undergraduate and graduate level, be engaged in externally funded research, and have normal service responsibilities. PhD must be in hand by July 31, 2012. Salary is highly competitive and commensurate with experience. Candidates should apply online at www.jobsatuc.com, using job posting number 211UC1830. Evaluation of applications will begin **November 15**, 2011, and the search will remain open until the position is filled. The University of Cincinnati is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Women, people of color, people with disability and veterans are encouraged to apply. Please contact Dr. Lin Liu at lin.liu@uc.edu for further information.

GIScience Tenure-track Assistant Professor Position at UGA

Source: Jennifer A Miller



The Department of Geography at the University of Georgia seeks applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor in GIScience with specialization in Remote Sensing to start August 2012. Ph.D. required at time of appointment. We seek applications from scholars with expertise in remote sensing and image processing, including but not limited to active remote sensing (e.g., LiDAR and RADAR), hyperspectral imaging and emerging areas of geovisualization and Geographic Object-Based Image Analysis (GEOBIA). Application areas for a successful candidate could include urban systems, biogeography, conservation, landscape evolution, environmental change and public health, at local to global scales. The successful candidate should have a promising or established program of research and a record of, or potential for, securing funding from external sources. Excellence in teaching and graduate mentoring is expected. The successful candidate will play an important role in the department's graduate and undergraduate Geography degrees

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and GIScience certificate programs. The successful candidate also will have the opportunity to collaborate with the Center for Remote Sensing and Mapping Science (CRMS), a research unit within the Department of Geography. Other potential collaborative units on campus include the Department of Geology, Department of Marine Sciences, College of Public Health, College of Environment and Design, Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources and the Center for Integrative Conservation Research. More information about the department is available at <http://www.ggy.uga.edu>. To apply: Send a letter of application outlining a research agenda and teaching philosophy, curriculum vitae and up to three reprints/samples of written work; also arrange for three letters of reference to be sent. To be assured full consideration, applications must be received by **November 30, 2011**. The Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, its many units, and the University of Georgia are committed to increasing the diversity of its faculty and students, and sustaining a work and learning environment that is inclusive. Women, minorities and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply. The University is an EEO/AA institution. Apply: Marguerite Madden, Chair, Remote Sensing Search Committee, Department of Geography, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-2502. Voice: (706)542-2379. Fax: (706)542-2010. We request electronic submission of application materials and reference letters, which can be sent to geogjobs@uga.edu. For inquiries, contact Marguerite Madden at mmadden@uga.edu.

[International Land Administration Advisors](#)

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

ORGUT, a provider of consulting and technical services in sustainable development, is expanding its services and is looking for long- and short-term experts (including potential team leaders) with experience in

- Land Administration and Development of NSDI
- Geographical Information Systems and IT

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Other

[Google Earth Downloaded More than one Billion Times](#)

Source: <http://google-latlong.blogspot.com/>

On October 5, 2011 Google Earth has been downloaded more than one billion times since it was first introduced in 2005. That's more than one billion downloads of the Google Earth desktop client, mobile apps and the Google Earth plug-in -all enabling to explore the world in seconds, from Earth to Mars to the ocean floor.



Regularization of Informal Settlements in Latin America

Source: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy - Program on Latin America and the Caribbean

Author: Edesio Fernandes

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy is pleased to inform that the "Policy Focus Report" *Regularization of Informal Settlements in Latin America* (2011), written by Edesio Fernandes, is now available in Spanish and Portuguese and can be downloaded for free from its website. The report examines the prevalence of informal settlements in Latin America and analyze the two fundamental paradigms between regularization programs that have been applied, with mixed results, to improve the conditions of these settlements. [Download](#)

Intelligo: New Latin American Portal for Research Articles Search

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



Intelligo is an innovative tool consisting of a portal that from a contextual perspective searches the network of research articles. It allows finding requested documents and other items related thematically, also the repository to which they belong. To read more about this news please log on to the following address: <http://www.madrimasd.org/blogs/CTSiberoamerica/2011/09/30/131684>. Please access the portal at: <http://www.explora-intelligo.info/>

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Americas: Conferences, SDI Events

Call for participation: I Geoinformatics Workshop (UCIENCIA 2012)

Source: Kate Lance



The GEYSED (Geoinformatics and Digital Signals) Development Center, from the Universidad de las Ciencias Informáticas (UCI) invites professors, students, specialists and researchers in the field of Geoinformatics to participate in the First Geoinformatics Workshop to be held on February 20-22, 2012 in Havana, Cuba, inside the VI Scientific Conference UCIENCIA. Papers submission deadline: **December 9, 2011**. Topics: Algorithms and techniques for processing geographical information; Applied geoinformatics; Cartography and Spatial Databases; Geoinformatics and Education; Spatial Data Infrastructure; Geographic Information Systems.

The International Tropical Marine Ecosystem Management Symposium (ITMEMS)

Source: Carib-coral-reefs List



The International Tropical Marine Ecosystem Management Symposium (ITMEMS) is a flagship activity of the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI). ITMEMS aims to develop and strengthen the capacities of coastal and marine managers and their partners to conserve and promote the sustainable use of coral

reefs and related ecosystems. ITMEMS will be held in Guadeloupe from 5-8th December 2011. ITMEMS4 will have a greater focus on capacity development and training than previous symposia through interactive seminars and practical activities. This new format is intended to improve the value and relevance of the event and its outputs to managers, building on lessons learned from previous ITMEMS. The draft programme is now available on the [ITMEMS website](#).

4th International Conference on GEographic Object Based Image Analysis

Source: <http://www.inpe.br/geobia2012/>



GEOBIA 2012 will be held on May 7-9, 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and is been jointly organized by the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (in Spanish PUC-Rio) and by the Brazilian National Institute for Space Research (in Spanish INPE). Extended abstracts must be submitted no later than **November 4th, 2011**, including: Introduction, Methodology, Preliminary results, and Conclusion. GEOBIA 2012 will be the fourth international conference on Geographic Object-Based Image Analysis. Following the successful meetings held in Salzburg, Austria (2006); Calgary, Canada (2008); and Ghent, Belgium (2010), the biannual international conference on GEOBIA will reach South America, demonstrating the world-wide interest in the development of a set of concepts, methods and applications related to this emerging field. Further details can be found on the [conference website](#).

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NOVEMBER 2011

1	San Francisco CA, USA	Locations and Beyond Summit
1-4	Chicago IL, USA	ACM SIGSPATIAL GIS 2011
1-4	Indianapolis IN, USA	GIS-Pro 2011: URISA's 49th Annual Conference for GIS Professionals
2-4	Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands	Simposio SIG 2011 de CARILEC / Contacto: slprimus@carilec.org
3-4	Seattle WA, USA	MAPublisher Training

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7-12	Pará - Belém PA, Brazil	V International Symposium on Agricultural Geography and VI National Symposium on Agricultural Geography
7-12 *NEW*	Lima, Peru	International Seminar on Hydrocarbons Exploration and Exploitation - VII INGEPET 2011
8-9	Monterey CA, USA	ENVI Classified User Symposium (ENVIUS West)
8-10	Atlanta GA, USA	11th Annual Outage Response and Restoration Management Conference
8-11	Mar del Plata, Argentina	VIII Congress on Hydrocarbon Exploration and Development
8-11	Rio de Janeiro RJ, Brazil	1st Latin American Seminar of Geography and Gender: Space, Gender and Power / Pre-meeting of UGI Regional Conference
8-11 *NEW*	Asunción, Paraguay	XVI CLAD International Congress on State Reform and Public Administration
9-10	Cypress, TX, USA	Houston Area GIS Day
9-11	Villa de Merlo, Provincia de San Luis, Argentina	1st National Workshop on Digital Mapping
Nov. 10 – Dec. 8	New Brunswick NJ, USA	ArcGIS: Editing and Data Development Series
13-16	Alta Gracia, Córdoba, Argentina	8th Conference on Remote Sensing Education in the Mercosur Area
14-15 *NEW*	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic	43rd Steering Board of the PAIGH
14-15 *NEW*	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic	9th Dominican Congress on Geographic Sciences Info: dominicana.ipgh@hotmail.com
14-17	Herndon VA, USA	Pecora18 - ASPRS Fall Conference
14-18	Santiago, Chile	UGI 2011 Regional Geographic Conference
15-16	Huntsville AL, USA	Rocket City Geospatial and Alabama GIS Conference 2011
15-18 *NEW*	Cali, Colombia	Water 2011: "Ecosystems and Society." Ecosystem services in a changing world: Vision, limits and applications
15-18 *NEW*	Boston MA, USA	Architecture in the fourth Dimensions Congress: Methods and Practice for Sustainable Building stock
16	World wide	GIS Day 2011 Discovering the World through GIS
16-17	New York City NY, USA	New York City GeoSymposium: 2001-2011-2021
17-18	Rio de Janeiro, Brasil	CONIP 2011 - 17th Information Technology and Innovation in Public Management Congress
21-23	Valparaíso, Chile	First inter-American Congress on Education in Environmental Engineering of AIDIS
28-30 *NEW*	Concepción, Chile	XIX Chilean Congress on Sanitary and Environmental Engineering AIDIS
Nov. 28 – Dec. 10	La Havana, Cuba	Course: Psychosocial Attention in Disasters

DECEMBER 2011

5-9	Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago	6th Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM)
5-9	Washington DC, USA	National BIM Conference
Nov. 10 – Dec. 8	New Brunswick NJ, USA	ArcGIS: Editing and Data Development Series

YEAR 2012

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JANUARY 2012

5-6 *NEW*	Redlands CA, USA	Geodesign Summit
10-12 *NEW*	Vancouver, Canada	Eighth International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability
16-18	Los Angeles CA, USA	Eighth International Conference on Technology, Knowledge and Society
23-25	Denver CO, USA	International LIDAR Mapping Forum (ILMF)

FEBRUARY 2012

2 *NEW*	World wide	World Wetlands Day 2012
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20-22 *NEW*	Havana, Cuba	Call for participation: I Geoinformatics Workshop (UCIENCIA 2012)
24-28	New York NY, USA	Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting
Feb. 27- Mar. 1 *NEW*	Mar del Plata, Argentina	XVIII International Sunflower Congress

MARCH 2012

12-15	San Antonio TX, USA	GIS/CAMA Technologies Conference
14-17	Paraná, Argentina	6th Latin American Geographic Colloquium "The New Latin American Regional Settings from a Geographic Perspective" Contact: infomesvicoloquio@uader.edu.ar http://www.technology-conference.com/
19-23	Sacramento CA, USA	ASPRS 2012 Annual Conference
23-25 *NEW*	Asunción, Paraguay	II National Congress of Agricultural Sciences: Integration, competitiveness and sustainable development

APRIL 2012

11-13	Sacramento CA, USA	CalGIS: 18th Annual California GIS Conference
16-18	Loveland CO, USA	GIS-T 2012: GIS for Transportation
16-20	Mar del Plata, Argentina	XIX Latin American Congress and XXIII Argentine Congress the Science of Soil
19-21	Bahia Blanca, Argentina	IX National Conference on Physical Geography Contact: geografafisica@uns.edu.ar
22-26	Kansas City MO, USA	MAGIC - 2012: Mid-America GIS Symposium
25-28	Cordoba, Argentina	XI National and VIII Latin American Congress on Surveying Contact: seceventos@agrimcba.org.ar

MAY 2012

7-9	Rio de Janeiro RJ, Brazil	GEOBIA 2012: Geographic Object-Based Image Analysis Contact: geobia2012@dpi.inpe.br
8-10	New Orleans LA, USA	CTIA Wireless 2012
14-17	Quebec, Canada	GSDI-13: Spatially Enabling Government, Industry and Citizens Deadline for submission of abstracts: 15 November 2011
29-31	São Paulo, Brazil	MundoGEO#Connect: "Sharing information for a better world" Contact: connect@mundogeo.com

JUNE 2012

3-6 *NEW*	Salvador Bahía, Brazil	33rd Inter-American Congress on Sanitary and Environmental Engineering AIDIS
4-6	Rio de Janeiro RJ, Brazil	UN Conference on Sustainable Development (commonly called Earth Summit 2012) or 'Rio+20'
12-13 *NEW*	Buenos Aires, Argentina	First Latin-American Congress on Urban Ecology - Challenges and Development Scenarios for Latin American Cities
14-15 *NEW*	Buenos Aires, Argentina	First International Course on Urban Ecology
24-27 *NEW*	Chicago IL, USA	4th Urban Street Symposium

JULY 2012

7-12	San Diego CA, USA	The Survey Summit
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AUGUST 2012

14-17 *NEW*	Río de Janeiro, Brasil	Latin America Geospatial Forum 2012
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