

GSDI AND IGS GLOBAL NEWS

News from the GSDI Association and the International Geospatial Society
Vol. 3, No. 9, 2013

"The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association - Advancing a Location Enabled World"

ASSOCIATION NEWS



JOIN the GSDI Association or International Geospatial Society to enjoy conference fee reductions!

The organisers of the **Global Geospatial Conference 2013**, to be held at the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 4-8 November, are pleased to announce that industry leaders Esri, Intergraph, Google and DigitalGlobe have been joined by GEO, the Group on Earth Observations, as sponsors for this joint **GSDI 14 World Conference** and **AfricaGIS 2013 Conference**. For latest details, check the link at <http://gsdi.org/gsd14>.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION UPDATE!

It is shaping up to be a great conference! Over 170 presentations are scheduled (see topics below), nine free workshops and sponsored sessions are offered throughout the week, plus launch of AfriGEOSS initiative. The exhibition hall is filling rapidly, with 22 organisations already reserving space. Online registration ends on 20 October, so don't delay if you want to attend the conference. Register at:

<http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsd14/register.html>

Conference Links:

Conference Website: <http://www.gsdi.org/gsd14>

Conference Registration:

<http://www.gsdi.org/gsd14/register.html>

Past GSDI World Conference Proceedings:

<http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconferences>

Past open access Books affiliated with the conference:

<http://www.gsdi.org/openaccessbooks>

Other Important Dates:

<http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsd14/dates.html>

Conference Sponsors, Supporters and Collaborators



EIS-Africa



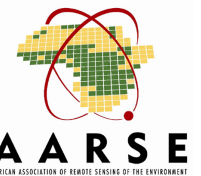
International Geospatial Society



United Nations Economic Commission for Africa



EiABC
Environmental Planning and Geodesign Competence Center



Ethiopian Mapping Agency



GIS Society of Ethiopia (GISSE)



Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources



Group on Earth Observations (GEO/GEOS)



Open Geospatial Consortium



International Cartographic Association



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KEYNOTE SPEAKERS UPDATE

In addition to an excellent technical program of more than 170 papers, 9 workshops and many meetings, with speakers from five continents already registered, the following Keynote Speakers have been confirmed (alphabetic order):

- Jack Dangermond, President, Esri, Inc.
- Peter Gilruth, Director, Division of Early Warning and Assessment (DEWA), United Nations Environment Programme
- Carlos Lopes, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
- Jacqueline McGlade, former Executive Director of the European Environment Agency (EEA) and GSDI Global Citizen Award Recipient
- Helge Onsrud, Director, Norwegian Mapping Authority Centre for Property Rights and Development
- Wilber Khasilwa Ottichilo, Member of Parliament, Emuhaya Constituency, Kenya
- Barbara Ryan, Secretariat Director, Group on Earth Observations (GEO)
- Lee Schwartz, Director, Office of the Geographer and Global Issues, US Department of State
- Carrie Stokes, USAID GeoCenter
- Stanley Wood, Gates Foundation
- plus speakers from leading international geospatial technology firms, including Stan Tillman (Intergraph), Mark Cygan (Esri), Ed Parsons(Google) and Andrea Smith (DigitalGlobe).

Visit the conference web site (www.gsdi.org/gsdi14/) to



see the programme overview and for latest information on the detailed programme, showing dates and times of the seven plenary sessions, the panel sessions, meetings and workshops.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM PUBLISHED

The detailed programme for the **Global Geospatial Conference 2013** has been published on the conference website.

http://www.gsdiconf/gsdiconf/gsdiconf14/prog_details.html

Seven Plenary Sessions

The conference includes an extensive programme of plenary and panel sessions, with renowned speakers offering their views and experience on a wide range of topics and issues focusing on the main conference theme of "Spatial Enablement in Support of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction".

Plenary 1: Conference Opening

- Welcome from the conference joint organisers, hosts and associated international geospatial organizations supporting the conference
- Keynote: **Carlos Lopes**, Executive Secretary, UN Economic Commission for Africa

Plenary 2: Global Perspectives on Spatial Enablement in Support of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction

- **Prof Jacqueline McGlade**, recipient of the GSDI Global Citizen Award 2013
- **Jack Dangermond**, President, Esri

Plenary 3: Corporate Perspectives

- **Stan Tillman**, Software Scientist, Intergraph
- **Mark Cygan**, Industry Solutions Manager for Map, Chart & Data Production and SDI, Esri
- **Ed Parsons**, Geospatial Technologist, Google

Plenary 4: Multi-Nation and Regional Experiences and Perspectives

- **Stanley Wood**, Gates Foundation
- **Peter Gilruth**, Director, Division of Early Warning and Assessment (DEWA), UNEP
- **Barbara Ryan**, Secretariat Director, Group on Earth Observation (GEO)

Plenary 5: African Continent Perspectives

- **Wilber Khasilwa Ottichilo**, MP, Emuhaya Constituency, Kenya
- **Andrea Smith**, Senior Regional Sales Manager, DigitalGlobe
- **Lee Schwartz**, Director, Office of the Geographer and Global Issues, US Department of State

Plenary 6: Panel on Aid Programs Supporting Mapping and Geospatial Initiatives

- World Bank – tba
- **Abebe Haile Gabriel**, Director of Rural Economy and Agriculture Department, African Union Commission
- **Jacob Gyamfi-Aidoo**, UN Development Program (UNEP)
- **Carrie Stokes**, USAID Geographer, USAID GeoCenter
- **Helge Onsrud**, Director, Norwegian Mapping Authority, Centre for Property Rights and Development

Plenary 7: Conference Reflections So Far and Moving Forward

- **Denise McKenzie**, Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)
- **Prof David Coleman**, President, GSDI Association
- **Sives Govender**, Executive Director, EIS-Africa & President, International Geospatial Society (IGS)

Technical Sessions

The plenaries are accompanied by an extensive technical programme of over 170 presentations in multiple parallel sessions each day of the conference. The session topics include:

- SDI and Geospatial Enablement
- SDI Development, Data Sharing and Tools
- Assessing SDIs
- Enabling Citizens, Government Decision Making, and Collaboration
- Enabling Africa
- Data: Decision, Policy and Economic Approaches
- Economic Development and Poverty, Institutional and Economic
- Education Innovations, Capacity Building
- Risk and Security, Vulnerability Assessment
- Collaborative Approaches: Implementation and Research
- Geospatial Research Reports and Studies: Crops, Water, Vegetation, Soil and Mineral, Change and Prediction
- Health, Roads, Agriculture, Forest Assessment, Change Assessment, Energy and Environment
- Technical Approaches, Monitoring and Management, Tracking Physical Change
- Resource and Waste Management, Vectors and Vegetation
- Land Information Systems Development, Land Use and Land Cover
- Earth Observation from Space, EO for Forestry and Agriculture (Agricab)



Industry Showcase

An Industry Showcase session is offered on Tuesday, 5 November, at which Exhibitors have the opportunity to present their organisations, products and services.

Meetings

- Meetings of the **GSDI Societal Impacts Committee, Technical Committee, Legal & Socioeconomic Committee** and the **Outreach and Membership Committee** are held on the final day of the conference (8 November). Anyone interested in participating in any of the Committees is invited to attend these sessions.
- The **International Geospatial Society (IGS)** meeting is on Sunday (3 November) at 1130-1300h.
- Member meetings for **EIS-Africa** and **AARSE** are on Friday morning (8 November).
- The new **AfriGEOSS** initiative of GEO will be launched on Tuesday (5 November), with a plenary session, a workshop and reception at the end of the day.

WORKSHOPS

Conference workshops are scheduled before and during the primary sessions of the Global Geospatial Conference 2013 in Addis Ababa, between 3 and 8 November 2013. The content of each workshop is described on the conference website at gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsdiconf14/workshops.html.

The availability of workshop seats is limited. Seats will be filled in priority order based on online requests from paid individual registrants. Workshop hosts have the ability to restrict the number of registrants admitted and may limit the number of persons attending from a single organization. You will receive notification directly from the hosting organization and/or the conference organizers approximately one month in advance of the conference as to whether you have a seat or have been placed on a waiting list. Please cancel your workshop registration in the listing below if your plans change for any reason.

The workshops currently scheduled include:

- WebGIS for decision-makers using ArcGIS Online - Sunday 3 Nov at 9:00-12:30
- Mobile GIS using new Esri Tools - Sunday 3 Nov at 2:00-5:30
- Driving the Spatial Revolution - from data collection to dynamic geospatial content - Tuesday 5 Nov at 11:30-1:00
- A Platform for Your Nation: ArcGIS Online - Tuesday 5 Nov at 2:00-3:30

- Earth Observation for Agriculture and Forestry Management - Wednesday 6 Nov at 11:30-1:00, 2:00-3:30
- Software for Processing and Interpreting Remote Sensing Image Time Series: SPIRITS Launch - Wednesday 6 Nov at 4:00-5:30
- GMES and Africa Roundtable - Thursday 7 Nov at 11:30-1:00
- Management of Mining and Environmental Permit Geodatabase – Thursday 7 Nov 11:30-1:00
- Google Maps and Earth: Basics, Advanced and Interesting Use Cases Workshop- Thursday 7 Nov at 2:00-3:30

Look for the latest information and sign-up details on the Conference website at:
<http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsdiconf14/workshops.html>

HOSTS, SPONSORS, SUPPORTERS AND COLLABORATORS

Esri, Inc. is the conference Titanium Sponsor while **Intergraph Corporation** and **Google, Inc.** are Platinum Sponsors, **GEO** is a Gold sponsor and **DigitalGlobe** is a Bronze sponsor.

Other hosts, sponsors, supporters and collaborators include: EIS-Africa, Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association (GSDI), International Geospatial Society (IGS), UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), EiABC Addis Ababa University, African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment (AARSE), Ethiopian Mapping Authority (EMA), GIS Society of Ethiopia (GISSE), Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD), Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) and the International Cartographic Association (ICA). Media sponsors include: Asian Surveying and Mapping, Cities Today, Coordinates, Directions Magazine, EarthZine, GEO:connexion, GEOInformatic, Geo-matching, Geomatica, Geospatial World, GIM International, MundoGEO, PositionIT, and Sensors and Systems.

Meet Our Newest Conference Sponsor - GEO



GEO, the **Group on Earth Observations** is coordinating efforts to build a Global Earth Observation System of Systems, or GEOSS. GEO was launched in response to calls for action by the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development and by the G8 (Group of Eight) leading industrialized countries. These high-level meetings recognized that international collaboration is essential for exploiting the growing potential of Earth observations to support decision making in an increasingly complex and environmentally stressed world.



GEO is a voluntary partnership of governments and international organizations. It provides a framework within which these partners can develop new projects and coordinate their strategies and investments. As of March 2012, GEO's Members include 88 Governments and the European Commission. In addition, 67 intergovernmental, international, and regional organizations with a mandate in Earth observation or related issues have been recognized as Participating Organizations.

GEO is constructing GEOSS on the basis of a 10-Year Implementation Plan for the period 2005 to 2015. The Plan defines a vision statement for GEOSS, its purpose and scope, expected benefits, and the nine "Societal Benefit Areas" of disasters, health, energy, climate, water, weather, ecosystems, agriculture and biodiversity.

The conference organisers and hosts welcome GEO as our new Gold Sponsor!

GEO CHALLENGE GRANTS



The **Group on Earth Observations (GEO)** has contributed \$5,000 to help defray

expenses of worthy applicants from economically disadvantaged nations in Africa to attend the Global Geospatial Conference 2013 and training workshops before and after the conference. GEO invites, encourages and challenges other geospatial organizations and agencies from across the globe to make additional contributions.

To qualify to receive partial travel support, an applicant must have an abstract or paper accepted for the conference and be a resident in, and citizen of, any nation in Africa. Abstract submissions have now closed and the received abstracts are under review. Representatives from contributing organizations will serve on the selection panel for participants to receive the travel support.

If your organization can make a contribution to help support deserving peer professionals from across the African continent to attend the conference, please contact Sives Govender, Director, EIS-Africa, email: SGovender@eis-africa.org, phone: +27-12-3491068. If you are willing to fund and host a workshop, let him know that as well.

Barbara Ryan, Secretariat Director of GEO, is one of the keynote speakers at the conference, and will be focusing on GEO's AfriGEOSS initiative, which seeks to identify the challenges, and to put in place measures, to enhance

Africa's participation in, and contribution to, GEOSS. See: http://www.earthobservations.org/art_019_002.shtml.

GSDI GLOBAL CITIZEN AWARD 2013

The GSDI Association is delighted to announce that **Professor Jacqueline McGlade** is the recipient of the **GSDI Global Citizen Award for 2013**. Prof McGlade will receive the award at the Global Geospatial Conference 2013 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 4-8 November 2013, the combined GSDI 14 World Conference and AfricaGIS 2013 Conference, being held at the UN Conference Centre of UNECA. (see www.gsd.org/gsd14/)



Jacqueline McGlade joins our two previous Global Citizen Award winners, Jack Dangermond, President of Esri, and Gilberto Câmara, former Director of Brazil's National Institute for Space Research.

The GSDI Association's Global Citizen Award recognizes 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.

The recipient receives a medallion and certificate to be presented at the global conference, and is invited to present a visionary speech.

Prof McGlade completed her mandate as Executive Director of the European Environment Agency (EEA) in June 2013, following ten very active and productive years of service. Since 2003, Jacquie presided over a significant increase in the coverage and extent of data and information processed and analysed by the EEA and a doubling of resources for the agency. During this time, membership reached 32 countries and the EEA participated in more than 60 countries globally.

A strong advocate of new technologies to improve information gathering, including crowdsourcing, and providing citizen access to environmental information, Prof McGlade was also instrumental in establishing the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) in the European Union. SEIS brings together key aspects of national and international research for environmental



planning, monitoring and reporting, including information from the EU's Copernicus Earth observation programme.

Prof McGlade's vision of a Europe that encourages dialogue with citizens underpinned the EEA's launch of Eye on Earth in 2008, offering dynamic maps of air and water quality, which was recognised in the 2012 Rio+20 summit declaration as a key public information platform on the environment. Under Jacquie's leadership, the Eye on Earth Alliance and Network have become a global public information service, bringing together knowledge communities around the world to share data and information. This global initiative aims to leverage the power of regional networks and governments plus expertise from researchers, leading thinkers and citizen scientists from around the world, to build sustainable solutions for the future.

In her new role as Senior Advisor to the Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme, Jacquie has special responsibilities for UNEP-Live and Eye on Earth.

Prof McGlade is recognised as an outstanding and visionary communicator, commenting on some of the most pressing issues faced by Europe and the world. Be sure to attend the conference to hear Jacquie's thoughts on the future, which are guaranteed to be stimulating.

INFORMATION FOR REGISTRANTS FROM DEVELOPING NATIONS

If you reside in a developing nation and are a current member of either EIS-Africa or the International Geospatial Society (IGS), you qualify for an extra-low conference registration rate as shown at <http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsdi14/fees.html>. The registration system automatically detects both of these conditions. If you are not currently a member of EIS-Africa or IGS, you may join by following Option A or Option B as follows.

OPTION A

1. Create an account and register under Individual registration at the registration page at: <http://www.gsdi.org/exec/eventreg/>.
2. In the registration process you can add \$US 50 as a dues payment to EIS-Africa or the International Geospatial Society (IGS). If you do this, the system will automatically invoice you at the reduced registration rate.

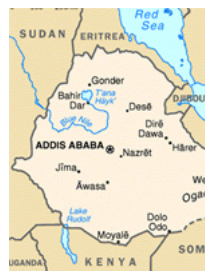
OPTION B

You are also able to join the International Geospatial Society for free if you are a geospatial specialist from a

developing nation. To join IGS for free complete the following steps:

1. Register as an individual in the Geographic Information Knowledge Network at <http://giknet.org> (Click login in the upper right hand corner and Register for an Account if you do not have one).
2. After establishing an account, login and under "My Submissions" submit your "Profile for an Individual." Don't forget to upload your photo. It may take a day or two for the moderator to approve your submission. After approval, view your profile at <http://www.giknet.org/registry/individual.php> and record the number at the end of your profile website link
3. Upon approval you will receive an email instructing you how to join the International Geospatial Society for free. Upon joining, your name and personal profile will be listed at <http://www.igeoss.org/members>
4. After you join, the conference registration system will automatically invoice you at the reduced registration rate. Go to the registration page at <http://www.gsdi.org/exec/eventreg/>, create an account and register under Individual Registration.

Either Option A or Option B will allow you to acquire the much reduced conference registration rate for participants from developing nations.



AfriGEOSS Launch!

AfriGEOSS is the GEO initiative to reinforce Earth observation in Africa and will be launched on the second day of the conference, followed by a reception that evening at the UNECA. This new initiative that will expose African experts to global collaborations and improve their access to data and open-software tools for applications development to create new benefits for society, help sustain existing capacities, encourage knowledge transfer and provide a large return on investment in EO.



RELATED CONFERENCE NEWS

10th ISPRS Student Consortium & WG VI/5 Summer School



The 10th ISPRS Student Consortium & WG VI/5 Summer School will be held from 29 October to 2 November 2013 at the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) Headquarters, Menelik II Avenue, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the week prior to the Global Geospatial Information 2013 Conference. Get full information at the link below.
<http://www.rcmr.org/index.php/10th-isprs-student-consortium/general-information>

GSDI COMMITTEE NEWS

To keep abreast of what is happening in SDI and related fields around the globe, be sure to check out the various newsletters downloadable from the GSDI website (<http://www.gsdi.org/newsletters>). These include the **GSDI Regional Newsletters** for Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Latin America & Caribbean; the **GSDI & IGS Global News** (covering GSDI Association and IGS Member activities), **FGDC Newsletter** (USA SDI news), EuroGeographics and **EUROGI Newsletters** (covering Europe), **EIS-Africa** (environmental news from Africa), **SALB Newsletter** (Second Administrative Level Boundaries from the UNGIWG project), the **UN-SPIDER Newsletter** (the UN Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response, published by UNOOSA – UN Office for Outer Space Affairs), and the newsletters of the organisations with which GSDI has MoUs – **ICA**, **FIG** and **ISPRS**

Outreach & Membership Committee

Work proceeds on developing the 5-year GSDI Strategic Plan, with the working group now comprising O&M Committee Chair, **Denise McKenzie**; **Roger Longhorn**, GSDI Communications Director; **Joep Crompvoets**, GSDI O&M regional vice-Chair, Europe; **Carmelle Terborgh**, GSDI Societal Impacts Committee Chair; **Dan Paul**, of PSMA Australia; and **Kate Lance**, former Chair of the GSDI L&SE Committee, all ably led by President-elect **Dave Lovell**. An initial position paper will be presented to the Council and Board at the GSDI 14 Conference in Addis Ababa for discussion.

Regional O&M vice-Chair, Asiapacific, **Prof Tien-Yin (Jimmy) Chou**, Feng Chia University, will be presenting at the 2013 OGC Asia Forum Summit to be held on 3 December 2013 at IIT Bombay, India during the 86th OGC TC/PC meeting. The meeting will be preceded by the annual meeting of NSDI 2013 organized by India government on 29 – 30 November and one-day tutorials on OGC standards on 1 December. You are all welcome to join the series of GIS feast.

The Outreach & Membership Committee manages the GSDI Group on LinkedIn, which now has 289 members. If you are not already a member of this group, please join today – and tell your friends! Visit <http://www.linkedin.com> to join, then find GSDI in the 'Groups' option, to join the group or go direct to: <http://www.linkedin.com/groups/GSDI-Association-3794985>.

Note: you do NOT have to be a member of the GSDI Association or the International Geospatial Society to join the LinkedIn group! However, requests to join the group and/or to post messages are moderated.

Our new **Facebook** account, created in July to help promote the GSDI Conference needs more traffic (www.facebook.com/gsdididigs) – those Facebook users out there are asked to consider using this new communications channel to help promote both the Association and their own organisations. We also continue to publish news on the **GSDI Member's Corner** of the GSDI website, with over 40 news items published online in September.
(<http://www.gsdi.org/memberscorner>).

A **Twitter** account has been created, and will be used during the forthcoming Global Geospatial Conference in November.

O&M Committee vice-Chair, Communications, **Roger Longhorn**, continues to support communications related activities of International Geospatial Society (IGS), as well as serving on the GSDI 14 World Conference committee. Activities in the past month continued in regard to re-design of the Association and Society web sites, further Global Conference preparations, publication of the monthly GSDI & IGS Newsletters and promotion of the three regional newsletters, plus creating new membership promotional literature for use by Members and presentation at the GSDI 14 World Conference in November.



Societal Impacts Committee

The Societal Impacts Committee, chaired by **Carmelle Terborgh** (Esri), administers the GSDI Small Grants Program, where vice-Chair, **Brigitta Urban-Mathieux** (FGDC/USGS) supports Small Grants Program development. **Jeremy Shen** is vice-Chair, Capacity Building. The Societal Impacts Committee also supports the International Geospatial Society officers in relation to capitalizing on capacity building initiatives for IGS members, especially from developing nations.



URISA's GISCorps works closely with the GSDI Association in providing professional GIS support in the field for the GSDI Small Grants Program. We encourage GSDI Association members and individual members of the International Geospatial Society to consider joining the GISCorps.

For updates on support from the **URISA GISCorps** volunteers on behalf of the GSDI Small Grants awards, and other URISA GISCorps activities, visit the **GISCorps Ongoing Projects** website at: http://www.giscorps.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=96&Itemid=62

NEW SMALL GRANTS FUNDERS NEEDED!

The GSDI Association Board and Members are seeking funding to help ensure that the Small Grants Program can be continued in 2013 and for the future. Anyone who can help with future financial support, please contact the Association President, Prof David Coleman, or Secretary General, Prof Harlan Onsrud.

To see the final reports and for more information on the **Small Grants Program** visit our web site at <http://www.gsdi.org/sic1>. Those wishing to make donations to the Small Grants Program in any amount will now find a 'Donate' button on the GSDI home page!

As always, we express the Association's grateful thanks for the past support of the US Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) and on-going support from the URISA GISCorps for making the programme possible.

THE INTERNATIONAL GEOSPATIAL SOCIETY (IGS)

The International Geospatial Society is the individual membership arm of the GSDI Association and seeks

individuals for membership who have geospatial, SDI, GIS or related professional or specialist interests, including professionals working in these topic areas in government, academia or industry, and students. The Society enhances communications globally among individuals that are actively involved in promoting, developing, or advancing spatial data infrastructure and related concepts. As of 30 September 2013, **IGS had 333 members**, an increase of 18 from the July figure. The IGS web site is at <http://www.igeoss.org>.

IGS Member Survey

The IGS Member Survey launched on 20 June was very successful, with 115 members responding (40% of the membership). The survey seeks input from all IGS Members on a range of issues, which will be used to help focus the new IGS strategy and proposed activities in the future work plan. The initial details results have been sent to all IGS Members for use in the discussions to define the next 5-year IGS Strategy and Action Plan 2014-2015 at the IGS Meeting to be held at the GSDI 14/AfricaGIS 2013 joint conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 3 November, to which all IGS Members are invited.

Member Survey Initial Observations

Question 9 of the survey requested responses to the question "Would you be willing to volunteer your time to help with any of the following activities?" From the responses received, three-quarters (74%) of respondents said that they were willing to participate in IGS Projects in their own regions – the most favoured activity of the seven offered as choices in the survey. Two-thirds (65%) rated highly the activities (a) assisting with the next Action Plan, (b) assisting in national or regional membership activities and (c) helping to promote IGS activities. Nearly 60% were also willing to act as national or regional 'IGS Ambassadors', while half of respondents (50%) were willing to provide content to the Global Newsletter. Given these results, we now conclude that the IGS Strategy should include:

- provision for supporting Projects in IGS Members' regions (exact nature of projects to be defined – 'SDI' or more general 'geo' orientation? capacity building?), which implies continued support for the GSDI Small Grants Program or a similar activity (e.g. a formal structure for accepting, reviewing and selecting project proposals – and funding selected projects; a mechanism for monitoring or reporting on projects; etc.),
- a viable Membership Recruitment Strategy that takes account of national or regional needs and



issues (e.g. language, fee structure, funding support, benefits, etc.),

- a structured framework within which all IGS Members can actively participate in not only helping to develop the 5-year Strategy (2014-2018) and the 2014-2015 Action Plan, but also implementing both and monitoring their performance and impact (e.g. using online collaboration and reporting tools, periodic 'performance' reporting, etc.), and finally
- developing and implementing an 'IGS Ambassador' programme for each region, which would also be a key part of the Membership Recruitment Strategy (e.g. defining the roles and responsibilities of IGS Ambassadors, providing them with an appropriate promotional 'toolkit' in multiple languages, highlighting Ambassadors in regional GSDI & IGS Newsletters, etc.).

Attend the **IGS Meeting** at the Conference to be part of this on-going discussion as we continue to develop the **IGS Strategy and Action Plan**.

IGS Members & Global Geospatial Conference 2013

Finalize your plans to attend the Global Geospatial Conference 2013 (<http://gsdi.org/gsdi14>) at the UN Conference Center in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. As you know this is the joint and fully integrated conference for **AfricaGIS 2013** and **GSDI 14** from November 4-8, 2013. It is shaping up to be a great event.

All GSDI delegates are invited to attend the IGS Business Meeting on Sunday morning, 3 November 2013. Items on the evolving agenda include:

1. Member survey and results.
2. Discussion on development of draft IGS Strategy and Action Plan.
3. Key short/medium term activities.
4. Membership recruitment discussion.
5. Finalisation of strategic plan and key tasks.

Further, IGS members are invited, room permitting, to attend as observers at the **GSDI Council Meeting** that immediately follows the IGS meeting. There is also an Esri workshop throughout the afternoon.

Preparations for the Conference for IGS Members

1. Register for the Conference

Please register at <http://gsdi.org/gsdi14/register.html> under Individual Registration. IGS members from developing nations receive a substantial discount in the registration fee. You can return to your conference

account at any time to provide further information but we recommend that you start the registration process now rather than later. Among the information items you will want to supply on the registration form include:

- Your name and other information as copied from your passport. This is needed for your invitation letter, for entry into the UN Conference Center and for the UNECA protocol officer(s) aiding your entry at the airport.
- Your flight details including arrival date, departure date and airlines. You will want to arrive in sufficient time to allow you to attend the business meetings on Sunday.
- The name of your hotel. Consult the list of recommended hotels at: <http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsdi14/accommodations.html>

Please note that your reservation is likely to be confirmed by the hotel you choose at a rate higher than the UN rate, but we have been assured that the UN protocol officer will provide your name to the designated hotel as specified on your registration form, following your registration, so that you will acquire the much lower UN rate.

- Pay your conference fee. Rates are found at <http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsdi14/fees.html>

The system automatically checks to see if you are an IGS member from a developing nation. Your invoice will be generated automatically and you can pay immediately by credit card, through a bank transfer or through a money transfer service company (e.g. Western Union).

2. Acquire Your Travel Visa

Although most conference participants from most countries may acquire their travel visa upon arrival, we recommend that you acquire your visa in advance if you are able to do so in your home country. See http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsdi14/travel_info.html As the last step in the registration process, you are able to generate an invitation letter that will be needed in acquiring your visa, whether in advance or upon arrival in Addis. Although you can obtain the invitation letter without paying your conference fee, you will not be included on the UN protocol officer's list for emigration authorities if you do not pay in advance.

3. Check Your Vaccinations

Everyone traveling to Ethiopia should have a yellow fever vaccination. Proof is needed by persons arriving from all African nations and often for travellers from other nations. Additional health information is posted at



http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsdi14/travel_info.html

Consult the website at <http://www.gsdi.org/gsdi14> for details on any of the above reminders. Or if you have questions, please feel free to contact us directly. Hopefully you have seen the news releases by our various geospatial media sponsors about the growing numbers of sponsors and speakers for the conference.

Come join us! We look forward to your active participation. Especially those IGS members based in Africa.



Sives Govender
President, International Geospatial Society
Executive Director, EIS-Africa

sgovender@eis-africa.org
sives.govender@gmail.com

IGS REMINDERS

Subscriptions to GIM International

Get your free subscription to ***GIM International*** magazine. GIM International carries GSDI news, including IGS news, in a monthly column. If you want to stay up to date with this column and read up on other developments in Geomatics, please follow this link and subscribe if you are not already receiving a hard copy of the magazine: <http://www.gim-international.com/GSDI>.

NEW – Subscriptions to Geospatial World Online Magazine

Geospatial World magazine is now offering free subscriptions to IGS members from developing nations or who are students. Details were sent to the IGS Members mail list on 25 September and by 30 September more than 90 IGS members had provided their subscription details to the web site registration web site provided by Geospatial World.

Participation in GIKNet

IGS members are also reminded that information is uploaded in the ***GIKnet Spatial Data Depot***, to which they are requested to contribute. Members are invited to actively participate in the IGS discussion list and/or on the GSDI LinkedIn Group as a means of sharing news, plus on the other regional and topic-oriented discussion lists of the GSDI Association.



GSDI & IGS on LinkedIn and Facebook

If you have not already done so, please join the GSDI Group on the professional networking site **LinkedIn** at www.linkedin.com. This group now serves both the GSDI Association and the International Geospatial Society – and is there for YOU to use to let the geo community know what you are doing – or to seek advice on important issues that you may be facing in your work or studies. You can now also join us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/gsdiandigs/ to share your news.

Join IGS !

Remember that individuals in low and very low income nations can apply to join the International Geospatial Society (IGS) by providing specific information of value to the global community in lieu of annual cash dues. The listing of low and very-low income nations may be found at <http://www.gsdi.org/RankingTable>. To join for free, simply add your professional profile to the growing interconnected network of geospatial specialists across the globe on the Geographic Information Knowledge Network (GIKNet) at <http://giknet.org> and then apply for membership in IGS at <http://www.igeoss.org/join>.

To maintain your free membership, simply update your professional profile each year on or about December or January. You have the ability to view, edit, or delete your individual profile at any time. Members who joined IGS via this route, i.e. without paying the annual members fee, are reminded to update their information annually, or lose their membership of IGS.

Help us reach our goal of 500 IGS Members by November 2013 – get your friends, colleagues and associates to join today! We are continually looking for ways to improve on IGS Member Benefits, so please tell us what you think would be most valuable to you, as an IGS Member – or as a potential IGS Member.

IGS Members – submit your news, please, so that we can learn more about what our membership is doing! There are 298 of you out there now, so please communicate with us. News can be sent by e-mail directly to me, Roger Longhorn, Editor GSDI & IGS Global Newsletter at: ral@alum.mit.edu, or to Sives Govender, IGS President, at: sives.govender@gmail.com or to Dev Raj Paudyal, IGS President-elect, at: DevRaj.Paudyal@usq.edu.au.



CAPACITY BUILDING

A CRCSI-commissioned ACIL Tasman report, published in July 2013, finds that the **shortages in surveying, geospatial and technical skills** projected for Queensland and Australia will require a very significant increase in domestic supply if dependence on net migration of skills is to be avoided.

ACIL Tasman analysed customised and detailed Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data from the 2011 Census (as well as the 2001 Census and the 2006 Census) to develop a picture of the surveying and geospatial workforce in Queensland, in terms of occupations, industries and qualifications. Surveys of the Queensland surveying and geospatial industry and Queensland Government agencies were undertaken to elicit views on likely future demand for surveyors and geospatial specialists in the state.

A demand projection model was developed using ABS Census data, data collected from the surveys and data from other sources. Three demand scenarios were analysed. On the supply side, a simulation model was developed by Spatial Information Services to project the future supply of surveying and geospatial graduates based on historical trends and recent developments. The model allows five possible futures to be explored regarding the likely number of future graduates. Skills importation was also analysed.

The skills demand and supply models were then brought together to produce estimates of the surveying and geospatial skills gap to 2025, by type and level of qualification. Finally, potential options for addressing the skills gap were outlined and their implications examined.

Details on the demand, supply and skills gap modelling methodologies are discussed in the relevant chapters of this report, which can be downloaded from the CRCSI Resources page here:

<http://www.crcsi.com.au/getattachment/5680d69c-dcd2-4c87-a821-051161e2d501/Queensland-surveying-and-geospatial-skills-gap-fin.aspx>

ASSOCIATION & MEMBER NEWS



OSKARI Open Source Map Solution

GSDI Member **EuroGeographics** continues to seek your help in providing language support for an Open Source 'map' solution. The European Location Framework (E.L.F.) project (www.elfproject.eu) started on 1 March. The European Commission's Competitiveness & Innovation framework Programme (CIP) Information and

Communication Technologies Policy Support Programme (ICT PSP) is providing 6.5 million euro to establish a technical infrastructure (the E.L.F.) to deliver national reference data and services, harmonised and edge-matched for use and re-use to meet the requirements of users.

The National Land Survey of Finland (<http://www.maanmittauslaitos.fi/en>) is developing an Open Source map application framework called **OSKARI** (<http://www.oskari.org/trac>), which will be used in the E.L.F. Your help is needed to make it possible for more people to use this Open Source software in their own language. If you would like to help us, please download all of the tables linked to at the site below:

<http://www.elfproject.eu/content/elf-oskari-translations>

Please fill in the translations found in the "Value" field into the "Translation" field in your own language. Please indicate in your response, which language you have used. Note that all other cells in the Excel sheet have been locked to avoid accidental changes. You can look at the OSKARI functionality at this link:

<http://www.paikkatiетоikkuna.fi/web/en/map-window> to see the terminology in correct context.



EUROGI Contract from ESA

EUROGI, the European Umbrella Organisation for Geographic Information, federating Geographic Information (GI) communities in over 20 European countries, has been awarded a contract by ESA, the European Space Agency, to explore the acceptance and potential of COPERNICUS, the European Earth Observation Programme, within the European GI community. Focused on products and services based on the COPERNICUS space infrastructure ("Sentinels" and other satellite missions), the activity aims at bridging the gap between the supply of products and services on the one hand and private service industry and individual consumers of location-based services on the other.

Within so-called "Market Pull Packs" the fitness for purpose of COPERNICUS information products shall be investigated country by country by means of a survey among users and service providers of GI-based solutions. Each country's survey activity will last about a semester and the MPP will be completed by an open workshop with participation from all over Europe.



As a result, the hosting country will present lessons learned from the feedback of its member network and beyond, ideas for best practice cases and possibilities for integrated value-adding chains using the GI industry as a multiplier. "COPERNICUS, the first major operational European Earth observation system, holds a large potential for updating GI data repositories and developing new applications, but it must become more de-centralised and reach the grassroots. GI is the key to both" said Dr Wolfgang Steinborn, member of EUROGI's Management Board and who is managing the contract on behalf of EUROGI.

Register for the smeSpire (INSPIRE) SEMINARS in October to December

SmeSpire (<http://www.smespire.eu/>) is an FP7 Support Action aiming to turn the challenges of the INSPIRE (<http://inspire.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>) implementation into business opportunities for the geo-ICT European Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

This smeSpire training programme aims to prepare the GI users/professionals – both beginners and advanced – coming from the commercial sector (SMEs), governmental sector or academic sector to become proficient and successful in implementing INSPIRE. The objective is to help to mature the geospatial professional's skills and knowledge regarding INSPIRE implementation activities and regarding innovative subjects, which than – in turn - can lead to the creation of (business) opportunities. The programme consists of 3 types of seminars:

- INTRODUCTION SEMINARS: aim to introduce the participants to the heart of the matter (basics) but at the same time stay at the level of non-technical comprehension;
- ADVANCED SEMINARS or TRAINING: intends to make the participants proficient in mastering the process(es) and techniques and thus are in-depth and are mostly hands-on training sessions which will enable the participants to effectively execute and test geospatial activities;
- INNOVATION SEMINARS (introduction or advanced): aim to make the participants acquainted with innovative technologies (services, applications, trends) and the latest geospatial technological trends.

Timing and Location: All seminars take place in Auditorium De Molen, Kasteelpark Arenberg 50 3001 Leuven, Belgium.

- <http://www.kuleuven.be/lokalen/50075174.htm>
- October – December 2013: Introduction seminars

- January – April 2014: Advanced seminars or Training sessions
- November 2013 – April 2014: Innovation Seminars

Registration for the smeSpire (INSPIRE) SEMINARS that take place from October – December 2013 is now open!

INSPIRE - INTRODUCTION SEMINARS (October - December 2013)

- Introduction to INSPIRE - 21 October 2013 from 14.00 – 17.00 by Danny Vandembroucke (SADL KU Leuven). Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/event/7395358717>
- Basics of INSPIRE Data and service sharing - 13 November 2013 from 14.00 – 17.00 by Clare Hadley (Ordnance Survey). Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/event/8419427735>
- Basics of INSPIRE Network Services - 18 November 2013 from 14.00 – 17.00 by Paul Jacxsens (SADL KU Leuven). Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/event/8419427735>
- Basics of INSPIRE Data Specifications – 2 December 2013 from 14.00 – 17.00 by Diederik Tirry (SADL KU Leuven). Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/event/8471180529>
- Introduction to costs/benefits of INSPIRE & possible opportunities - 9 December 2013 from 14.00 – 17.00 by Catharina Bamps (SADL KU Leuven). Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/event/8471619843>

INNOVATION SEMINARS (November 2013 – April 2014)

- Introduction to Business Process Modelling – UML and BPMN - 27 November 2013 from 14.00 – 17.00 by Monique Snoeck (Research Center for Management Informatics - KU Leuven). Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/event/8472197571>

EUROGI (European Umbrella Organisation for Geographic Information) are valued members of the GSDI Association. <http://www.eurogi.org>



OpenGeo is now Boundless

OpenGeo, the long time leader in open source geospatial software, has changed its name to **Boundless**, creating a new corporate brand to better reflect the growing range



of platforms, applications, and services the company develops and sells.

The new name marks a push by Boundless into new technologies, including geospatial web services monitoring with **Mapmeter**, desktop software with QGIS, growing capabilities in cloud and mobile platforms, and expanded work in data editing workflows. Boundless is the first sustainable, open source alternative to proprietary systems that currently dominate the geospatial market.

"We are the same company our customers have known for many years, with the same commitment to open source they and the open source community expect from us," said Eddie Pickle, Boundless CEO. "However, we've known for some time that there was a conflict with other companies using the OpenGeo name, so this is the perfect time to change our corporate brand, especially with the momentum behind the company and the evolution from traditional GIS to Spatial IT. "

Similar to the impact of Linux in the operating system market, the innovation, quality, and power of software created in an open manner is revolutionizing the geospatial field with applications of greater scale and speed at lower costs. Under the new corporate umbrella, Boundless will work to improve upon the business models pioneered by companies like Red Hat by expanding their core offerings to address the specific needs of customers who require enterprise-class features and services.

Boundless was spun out of its longtime incubator, **OpenPlans**, in April 2013 and has sold much of its company stock to its employees. The company is backed by a Series A investment from Vanedge Capital of Vancouver, BC. Most recently, it entered into a strategic investment and technology development agreement with In-Q-Tel, the independent strategic investment firm that identifies innovative technology solutions to support the missions of the U.S. Intelligence Community.

Along with the corporate rebranding, Boundless announced a public beta release of **OpenGeo Suite 4.0** and the official release of Mapmeter, a management and analytics tool for monitoring the health of production geospatial deployments.

OpenGeo Suite powers web, mobile, and desktop applications across the enterprise. Built on leading open source software – including PostGIS, GeoServer, GeoWebCache, OpenLayers – OpenGeo Suite optimizes standards-based technology for organizations large and small. OpenGeo Suite 4.0 brings many new features and improvements, including the adoption of GeoServer 2.3. PostGIS 2.2, QGIS support, and seamless integration with

Mapmeter. These improvements greatly expand the capabilities of OpenGeo Suite, enabling enterprises to replace legacy software with a modern web-based open source stack and gain insight into their production environments.

OpenGeo Suite 4.0 lowers the cost of open source software for enterprises by improving flexibility, eliminating vendor lock-in, and avoiding costly in-house maintenance. With the option of commercially supported open source software, enterprises are now able to substitute expensive proprietary closed source options, or inter-operate with them, without vendor lock-in or software license fees. Boundless offers maintenance agreements to OpenGeo Suite customers, which include support, training and other professional services.

With the addition of Mapmeter, OpenGeo Suite enables administrators and developers to gain previously unattainable levels of insight into the health of production deployments. Mapmeter enables geospatial applications to be optimized during development, and diagnose critical issues from a single console. "Managing geospatial services is no easy task," said Juan Marin, Boundless CTO. "Many systems administrators are unable to easily obtain critical information about the health of their deployments. With Mapmeter and OpenGeo Suite, spatial monitoring and reporting become one piece in a complete IT workflow."

Mapmeter provides access to real time performance metrics allowing stakeholders to make better, more informed decisions on service deployments, resulting in reduced infrastructure and maintenance costs and proactive resolution of issues. Mapmeter is optimized to work with OpenGeo Suite 4.0. To sign up for Mapmeter, including a two-week trial visit:
<https://app.mapmeter.com/signup>

About Boundless

From database to server to client, Boundless is the company organizations turn to for a lower cost, more flexible and modern alternative to the industry's prevailing proprietary and closed source model. Our community-led, spatial IT based approach to building and maintaining software helps organizations manage geospatial data. Our software and maintenance agreements, which include support and professional services, provide a lower cost, more flexible and modern alternative.

We've built a team of experts from the open source geospatial community — as well those within the greater field who recognize the power and momentum the open source business model has on the future of their



industry. Our roots are in the open source community and our team members are actively involved core contributors and steering committee members across many open source geospatial projects. The foundation of our company is based on the knowledge that openness leads to better collaboration, better software and greater innovation. For more information, please visit boundlessgeo.com.

Boundless (formerly OpenGeo) is a valued member of the GSDI Association.



Introducing the Esri Canada Blog

Esri announced the launch of the **Esri Canada blog**, created to offer a uniquely Canadian perspective on all things GIS. Browse the various categories and posts to stay up-to-speed on developments affecting Canadian GIS users. Consider it a one-stop resource to see how others are using GIS, learn about new products and developments, read what's new in Canada and around the world related to Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI), get the latest education-related information, keep abreast of the Community Map of Canada Program, and much more. Visit the blog and subscribe to the RSS feed today to get all the latest information from Esri Canada. Visit the blog here: <http://www.esri.ca/en/blog>.

For a peek at the blog, see this posting from 27 September, by Gordon Plunkett, SDI Director at Esri Canada, on "Inside Canadian geographic data sharing":

"Canada has a lot of geography so its important for sustainable national development that we are very good at sharing our voluminous geographic data assets. So how do we share this geospatial data, how is Esri Canada helping out and how is Canada doing?"

Read the rest of this interesting post here: <http://www.esri.ca/en/blog/inside-canadian-geographic-data-sharing>

Esri Geodesign Summit

The Geodesign Summit will be held 29 - 30 January 2014 at Esri, Redlands, CA, USA. Topics will include geodesign applications, technology, education, and theory. There's still time to submit an idea for a Lightning Talk at the Geodesign Summit. Hurry! **Abstracts are due by October 18, 2013.** More here: <http://www.geodesignsummit.com/get-involved/lightning-talks.html>

Registration is open! Join GIS and design professionals worldwide to explore the combined power of geography and design. This event is your opportunity to understand how geodesign will impact your field, and how you can use it. Register here:

<http://www.geodesignsummit.com/registration/index.html>

Get the latest information here:

<http://www.geodesignsummit.com/index.html>

Esri Health GIS Conference

The Esri Health GIS Conference will be held 14-16 October 2013 at the Hyatt Regency Cambridge in Cambridge, MA, USA. Christina Bivona-Tellez, Esri Health and Human Services Industry Manager, writes:

Given the current global climate of uncertainty, I wanted to send you an e-mail to tell you how much I appreciate your enthusiasm and continued dedication to the improvement of health and human services worldwide. We designed and organized the upcoming Esri Health GIS Conference to cater to the needs of your organization and your job. This event should give you the opportunity to recharge and work toward your goals with people who share your vision.

A few highlights that might entice you to join or help you make the case to your employer for attending the Esri Health GIS Conference include:

- Breakout sessions and panel discussions will tackle topics such as how the Veterans Health Administration leverages geographic information technology (GIS) technology in its hospital operations, regional planning, and public health analysis; "hot spotting" -- pushing care into the community; managing the implementation of the Affordable Health Care Act; and the impact GIS can have on delivering better health outcomes.
- Technical workshops will teach you to leverage ArcGIS Online for health and human services and how spatial analysis can transform data into actionable information.
- Featured speakers will address how the geography of health care is changing The Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care and health care reform; how child welfare professionals can best leverage GIS; and why GIS is not just about maps - how data visualization changes the health care business.

Feel free to poke around the event website [<http://www.esri.com/events/health>] to learn more about the conference agenda, speakers, location, and



registration. I look forward to seeing you again or meeting you for the first time.

GIS for the UN and International Community

The **GIS for the United Nations and International Community Conference** will be held at the Convene Conference Center in New York, USA, on 10-11 October 2013. Join your colleagues and experts in the GIS community at the second annual GIS for the United Nations and the International Community Conference, to be held October 10-11, 2013, in New York City. Jointly hosted by United Nations Institute for Training and Research's (UNITAR's) Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNOSAT) World Bank Institute, and Esri, this collaborative event will help you discover how GIS and location analytics can help you improve the effectiveness of your programs and missions.

Topics will include the following:

- Emergency Operations Centers and GIS
- Linking Statistical Information to Geography
- Communicating with Maps
- Satellite Imagery Analysis and UAVs for Aid and Development

Register for the conference today at this link:

http://registration.esri.com/logon/log_p1_logon.aspx?oc=10&cc=STANDARD&AppSessionID=ej6fh5fdmfa3ejleimfhl&eventid=5219



Jeff de La Beaujardière Receives OGC's Gardels Award

At the September meeting of the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) in Frascati, Italy, **Jeff de La Beaujardière, PhD**, received the OGC's prestigious Kenneth D. Gardels Award. The Gardels Award is awarded each year to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to advance OGC's vision of geospatial information fully integrated into the world's information systems.

<http://www.opengeospatial.org/ogc/awards>
<http://www.opengeospatial.org/ogc/awards>

Instead of accepting the gold medallion associated with this award, Jeff has asked that the equivalent value be applied by OGC to support Individual Memberships to encourage participation in the international standards process.

Dr de La Beaujardière is currently at the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). "My career since 1994 at NOAA and previously NASA has been entirely focused on making US government data about the environment more accessible to the public," said Jeff. "I feel that access is not merely about removing policy barriers or putting files on a web server. Access is about using open standards to improve usability, and the Open Geospatial Consortium obviously plays a key role in that space."

Jeff de La Beaujardière's participation in the OGC's standards process began in 1998 during the first Web Mapping Testbed while at NASA. He served as Editor of the OGC Web Map Server (WMS) standard versions 1.1 and 1.3 and of the International Standard version (ISO 19128), and was a contributor to other standards. He programmed WMS implementations for the Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Program and the Modeling, Analysis, and Prediction 2005 (MAP'05) Program. As part of NASA's Digital Earth Office and Geospatial Interoperability Office he worked to promote interoperability and ensure OGC standards are able to meet NASA needs to support time-dependent observations and forecast model outputs.

In 2008, Jeff moved from NASA to NOAA, where as Senior System Architect of the US Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) Program he led implementations of OGC's Sensor Web Enablement standards. He now serves as NOAA's Data Management Architect and chair of the Environmental Data Management Committee. His vision is that all NOAA data will be easily discoverable by potential users, readily accessible and standardized, well documented with good metadata, and archived for future generations.

The Gardels Award is the OGC's highest honor bestowed upon a Consortium member representative. It is given annually in memory of Kenneth Gardels, a founding director of OGC and OGC's former director of academic programs. Mr. Gardels coined the term "Open GIS," and devoted his life to the humane and democratic uses of geographic information systems. He died at the age of 44 in 1999.

2013 OGC Asia Forum Summit, ITT Bombay, India

The **2013 OGC Asia Forum Summit** will be held on 3 December 2013 at IIT Bombay, India during the 86th OGC TC/PC meeting, starting from 2 December for 4 days. The meeting will be preceded by the annual meeting of NSDI 2013 organized by India government on 29 – 30 November and one-day tutorials on OGC standards on 1 December. You are all welcome to join the series of GIS feast.



Two major focuses of Summit this year will be highlighted including “Values of standards for research, education, and implementation” and “Uses of OGC standards in practical community settings”. Many distinguished speakers from Asian regions will share their efforts, experiences and practices in geo-informatics interoperability. Special guest speakers from India Forum and ANZ forum are also invited.

You are very welcome to join us for eminent talks and open discussions. Through the sharing of experiences and discussion from different perspectives, we’re expecting to stimulate potentials and opportunities for further cooperation among Asian. Therefore, your participation and feedbacks will be our great honor and essential to success of the Summit. Please register the summit at 2013 OGC Asia Forum Summit Registration. For more information, please visit the OGC Asia Forum Portal.

Contact: William Y. Lin, Associate Research Fellow, OGC Asia Forum News Center (<http://www.ogc.org.tw>)

OGC RFI on Aircraft Access to SWIM (AATs) Standards Harmonization

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) has issued a Request for Information (RFI) to engage the aviation community in identifying standards efforts relevant to the provision of aircraft connectivity to the FAA’s System Wide Information Management (SWIM) infrastructure. The RFI is available at: <http://www.opengeospatial.org/standards/requests/111>

Responses are due by 5 pm EST on 15 October 2013. A public Q&A webinar is scheduled for 1 October 2013 to provide the community with more information on the context and objectives behind this RFI. Register for the Webinar at: <https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/198363519>

OGC Requests Comment on GI standard – Well Known Text

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) is seeking comments on the candidate OGC standard, "**Geographic Information – Well Known Text (WKT) for coordinate reference systems**". OGC WKT offers a compact machine-readable and human-readable representation of geometric objects. WKT can also be used for succinctly describing the critical elements of coordinate reference system (CRS) definitions.

WKT is described in the OGC standard “Geographic information – Simple feature access – Part 1: Common architecture” (also International Standard ISO 19125-1:2004). The WKT representation of coordinate reference

systems was subsequently extended in other OGC standards. As a result, there are inconsistencies in how WKT CRS is expressed in various OGC and ISO standards.

This draft standard provides an updated version of WKT representation of coordinate reference systems that follows the provisions of OGC Abstract Specification Topic 2 (ISO 19111:2007) Spatial Referencing by Coordinates. The draft extends earlier WKT to allow for the description of coordinate transformations. This draft standard defines the structure and content of well-known text strings. It does not prescribe how implementations should read or write these strings.

Comments are due by 1 November 2013, but we encourage those interested to comment by 26 October. This draft has been submitted by the OGC to ISO TC211 as a Committee Draft for ballot as a Draft International Standard (document N3596). Comments received as part of the OGC RFC **by 26 October** will be fed into the ISO ballot.



IC_CARTOTECHNOLOGY International Course

We are glad to present the latest news of **IC_CARTOTECHNOLOGY** - the International Course on Management and Applied Techniques in Cartography – see www.iccartotechnology.com.

ICA President Keynote at IC_CARTOTECHNOLOGY Course Opening

Prof. Georg Gartner, President of the International Cartographic Association (ICA), was presenting and supporting IC_CARTOTECHNOLOGY with the Opening Course Keynote “**Modern Cartography**”. Prof Gartner highlighted the new geoinformation challenges and opportunities, including:

- Cartography is more relevant, attractive and modern than ever.
- Capacity building tools become the key investment to face current challenges in Cartography.
- Cartography is not a product any more, but a service for the citizens as a public good.
- Cartographic services, as main role of mapping agencies, need to be improved in terms of design and usability.
- Major suppliers and communication platforms already provide ICT tools in order to make the geoinformation services more properly accessible and useful to citizens.



- Cartography is generated for the citizens and by the citizens: collaborative movements are growing within our hyper-connected society.
- The collaboration among communication platforms and companies, collaborative citizens and mapping agencies, needs to be reinforced and planned, but always keeping the key role of mapping agencies in terms of integrity, accuracy and reliability

If you want to update your knowledge and participate in these new geoinformation challenges, join IC_CARTOTECHNOLOGY - the International Postgraduate Program. Send us your CV, as there are still few vacancies available! Visit:
www.iccartotechnology.com

Weekly Image Contest!

Participate every week and win a 5% enrolment discount to IC_CARTOTECHNOLOGY 2013/2014 and free updated world map! <http://www.iccartotechnology.com/>

New Synthesis Seminars

Learn more about the new Open Synthesis Seminar Projects within IC_Cartotechnology in collaboration with different institutions at:
<http://www.iccartotechnology.com/Home-IC-Cartotechnology/Program#Synthesis%20seminar>

Different Enrolment Options

Different enrolment options are available: whole postgraduate program, single itineraries or modules. More details at:

<http://www.iccartotechnology.com/Home-IC-Cartotechnology/Enrolment>

Visit the official website and complete the Pre-Enrolment Form for extra detailed information. For more information, contact Dr. Raquel Serrano-Calvo, Coordinator IC_Cartotechnology - www.iccartotechnology.com - twitter: @cartotechnology - LinkedIn Group: IC_Cartotechnology

IC_Cartotechnology is a Postgraduate Program (45 ECTS) consisting of several modules, certified by the Fundació de la Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, and supported by the Direcció General d'Universitats of the Autonomous Government of Catalonia.

The Program is conducted by the Institut Cartogràfic de Catalunya / Cartographic Institute of Catalonia (ICC). ICC is the official mapping agency of Catalonia with 30 years of experience in setting up and building new capacities in terms of developing knowledge, infrastructures and

added value in Cartography. This very practical experience is key to defining an innovative and consolidated course to track and translate current needs, requirements and geoinformation challenges into a powerful capacity building instrument.

ICC are offering Special Discounts from course fees for GSDI or IGS members as follows:

- Postgraduate program: 10% reduction in cost
- Itineraries: 10% reduction in cost
- Modules: 5% reduction in cost

Applicants will still be required to pass through the normal participation selection process, of course. For more information about the enrolment options, the GSDI and IGS Member discounted fees, and any other aspects of the IC_Cartotechnology course, please contact: **Dr Raquel Serrano Calvo** and **Dr Jordi Corbera** - raquel.serrano@icc.cat and jcorbera@icc.cat - or visit: www.iccartotechnology.com.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



This has been a very busy month for the GSDI President David Coleman, and all others on the Global Geospatial Conference 2013 organising committee. As well as following through on the procedure for nominations to GSDI Association Board positions that are up for replacement at GSDI 14, Prof Coleman also oversaw the selection procedure for the GSDI Global Citizen Award. He is delighted to announce that Professor Jacqueline McGlade is the recipient of the GSDI Global Citizen Award for 2013. Prof McGlade will receive the award at the Global Geospatial Conference 2013 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where she will also deliver her visionary keynote presentation.

Prof McGlade is a long-time supporter of open data for environmental planning and monitoring. Since 2003, she has overseen a significant increase in the coverage and extent of data and information processed and analysed by the EEA/Eionet, and a doubling of the resources for the agency to support this work. Be sure to attend the Global Geospatial Conference 2013 to hear Jacquie's thoughts on the future, which are always stimulating! (See the full announcement elsewhere in this newsletter).

David also launched the recent **Call for Expressions of Interest in Hosting GSDI 15 and GSDI6**.

The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association supports a major international geospatial conference every twelve to eighteen months. The conference is



typically delivered in affiliation with another regularly held national, regional or global geospatial conference and/or with the support of a major sponsoring organization. The gathering is purposefully moved around and across the globe in order to accomplish the Association's purpose of promoting international cooperation and collaboration in support of local, national and international spatial data infrastructure developments that allow nations to better address social, economic, and environmental issues of pressing importance. The locations and proceedings of the past twelve world conferences may be found at: <http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiConferences>.

The GSDI 14 World Conference will be held in Africa at the UNECA Conference Center, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, November 4-8, 2013.

<http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsdi14/>

Ideally GSDI 15 should be held within the time frame of November 2014 to May 2015 and GSDI 16 would be held approximately 12 to 18 months after that.

The GSDI Association is inviting expressions of interest to host either of these conferences. Affiliation with the GSDI World conference can bring international and global attention to a national or regional geospatial conference or Spatial Data Infrastructure initiatives, attract substantial international participation and sponsorship, and increase numbers of attendees overall.

While the GSDI Association can provide substantial support services, we try to work with a competent local organizing committee that is committed to working with broad geospatial stakeholder communities and which has a proven track record of supporting large geospatial events. Many tasks must be accomplished in preparing for a successful conference. The major conference planning and implementation tasks to be accomplished by the parties are open for negotiation. The specification of these tasks is typically set forth in a written agreement between the GSDI Association and a local legal entity such as a local hosting organization or government agency.

Because revenue from the GSDI World Conferences is an important contributor to the Association's overall budget, organizations proposing to host the next conference(s) should also provide a business case to support their proposal, indicating expected income, expenses and the cost- and revenue-sharing proposal.

Organizations or agencies interested in hosting the 15th or 16th GSDI World Conference should submit a written expression of interest of a maximum of four pages that must include:

- the name of the organization(s) or government agency(s) to serve as the local organizer for the conference,
- the name of the national, regional or global conference with which the GSDI World Conference would be affiliated (if any),
- the country, city and venue proposed for the conference (if known),
- the proposed approximate date for the conference,
- a short statement concerning the resources the local organizers would be able to contribute to the conference and past record in providing such resources,
- the facilities available for the event,
- the benefits to GSDI of affiliating with the organisation and/or event,
- other pertinent information bearing on the success of the conference, and
- the name and contact details for further communications.

Please send your expressions of interest to mgallant@gsdi.org **no later than 17 October 2013.**

Proposers will have the opportunity to briefly present their expression of interest orally to the GSDI Council at its meeting on Sunday, 3 November 2013, in Addis Ababa. A physical spokesperson is not required but highly recommended. Council members will vote on the proposals and thereby indicate the preferred options with which the GSDI officers should negotiate to select the organizers and locations for GSDI 15 and GSDI 16.

ARTICLE OF THE MONTH

In this issue of the Global Newsletter, we publish an article from the GSDI column that is published monthly by *GIM International magazine*. This month's article is by *Bastiaan van Loenen*, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands, and Chair of the GSDI Legal & Socioeconomic Committee.

Privacy: The beginning of the end of open geo-data?

On June 18, open data reached another level of awareness with the G8 Open Data Charter. The G8 agreed to release high-quality open data that are timely, comprehensive, and accurate. They also agreed to use robust and consistent metadata, and identified areas of high value, geographic information among them. It was promised to make available and discoverable national maps available and discoverable, and to work towards improving the granularity and accessibility of these maps (by December 2013). This is very welcome support to the great work of the open data community members who



are working hard to get towards the promised billions of extra economic value creation through open data.

What the G8 charter did not address was the growing concern of many of the potential interference of open data with the right to privacy or, if you like, "right to data" protection. The recently published EU Directive 2013/37/EU on the re-use of public sector information and the U.S. Executive Order of May 9th "Making Open and Machine Readable the New Default for Government Information" did rightly address the issue. Where Europe left it to a promise that the review of the directive should focus on interaction between data protection rules and re-use possibilities, the Memorandum accompanying the U.S. Executive Order already acknowledged that the key in the interaction between open data and privacy legislation is the so called "mosaic effect".

The Memorandum explained that this effect occurs when the information in an individual dataset, in isolation, may not pose a risk of identifying an individual but, when combined with other available information, could pose such risk. Therefore, U.S. Government agencies must consider other publicly available data in any medium and from any source to determine whether some combination of existing data and the data intended to be publicly released could allow for the identification of an individual or pose another security concern. In the European Union, the data protection Directive 95/46/EC requires a similar process prior to publishing the open data.

Since the risk of identification of an individual increases significantly if the data includes a location (e.g., the value of the property Main Street 12, Timboektoe), often geographic data shall be considered to be among the critical identifiers and thus subject to the privacy/ data protection legislation. The question is probably only at which level of aggregation is the risk of identification acceptable. With the ever-increasing technological advances to "de-anonimise" data, including geographic data, theoretically in the end all data should be considered personal data or personally identifiable data. In the short run many of today's open geo-data may expect a re-assessment of their role in identifying individuals. In the likely instance that these data are considered to fall within the scope of privacy/ data protection legislation, they will no longer be open. Since open geo-data was expected to represent a major portion in the promised extra economic value creation of open data, also these values need to be adjusted.

If nations, regions and global institutions including the G8 do not quickly come with guidelines clearly pointing out how data providers should deal with the interaction between privacy/data protection rules and open data, then it is the beginning of the end of open data.



Dr Bastiaan van Loenen is Chair of the GSDI Legal and Socio-Economic Committee of the GSDI Association. He is a faculty member of the Faculty of Architecture and The Built Environment at Delft University of Technology in The Netherlands.

Learn more about how to participate in the GSDI Association here: <http://www.gsd.org/joinGSDI>

THE GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION KNOWLEDGE NETWORK (GIKNET)

The aim of the Association's **Geographic Information Knowledge Network (GIKNet)** is to enhance communication and freely share knowledge among professionals in the global geographic information community. GIKNet is a participatory, user-created and maintained information commons.

The GIKNet **Community Registry** permits individuals, government agencies, NGOs, companies and other institutions to record and publish details about themselves in a central database, and to submit relevant documents to the Spatial Documents Depot, which provides a search facility for locating information and documents submitted by GIKNet members.

A comprehensive list of GI/SDI related discussion lists can be accessed from a single reference page. Access the GIKNetwork at this link: <http://www.giknet.org/>.

An 8-minute background video on the purposes and goals of the GIKNet may be found at: <http://www.youtube.com/user/spatialinnovations>.

The main categories under which documents can be referenced in GIKNet include: *GI Science - Education & Training*; *GI Science - Research*; and *SDI/GIS - Practice and Applications*. The network is promoted on the Association's e-mail lists and the LinkedIn GSDI Group.

All members of the GSDI Association and IGS are encouraged to sign up for GIKnet, enter their personal or agency profile information, and then submit documents relevant to any aspect of SDI development and deployment, globally.

Entering a professional profile to GIKNet is similar to entering a professional profile on Wikipedia, except that an individual may enter and maintain their own profile (in a format similar to that found on Linked In or other social networking sites) and GIKNet is restricted to geospatial professionals, students and those involved in implementing spatial data infrastructures (SDI) at any level.



Entering information about a geospatial agency or organization is similar to an entry in Wikipedia, except that individuals affiliated with the organization enter the data and it is much easier to accomplish.

The GIKNetwork is moderated by GSDI Association volunteers who review profile submissions for relevance. In short, none of us knows as much as all of us. GIKNet is intended for collective intelligence whereby each community member acts responsibly and makes their own decisions on what and how much to contribute.

From the GIKnet Spatial Documents Depot

This month's featured document from the GIKnet Spatial Documents Depot is "**MetroGIS white paper: Making Public GIS Data Free and Open - Benefits and Challenges**" prepared by the MetroGIS Data Producers Work Group in the US. The white paper was submitted to the MetroGIS Policy Board on 24 April 2013. The purpose is to serve as a general reference on the benefits and challenges of making publicly produced geospatial data available, to inform the discussion on policy directions which serve that aim.

Recently, the MetroGIS Policy Board of the Twin Cities (Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota) has been considering steps to remove restrictions on the sharing of geospatial data. To aid in Policy Board deliberations at a meeting held on 24 April 2013, the MetroGIS Data Producers Work Group drafted a 20-page 'white paper' resource document and a one-page summary fact sheet relating to the issues surrounding the benefits and challenges to free and open geospatial data. These documents promote the idea that geospatial data owned by government should be made freely available to the public if government truly seeks to maximize value. See links below to access the documents. Also, the minutes of the Policy Board meeting are available which document the various perspectives and concerns that were expressed.

Download the paper here:

http://www.metrogis.org/teams/pb/meetings/13_04_24/WhitePaperResource.pdf

Also, the "**Making Public Data Open and Freely Available Fact Sheet**" is provided by the MetroGIS Data Producers Work Group to assist policy makers and elected officials understand the benefits of making non-sensitive, publicly-produced data freely available to the public. Download the Fact Sheet here:

http://www.metrogis.org/teams/pb/meetings/13_04_24/SinglePageSummarySheet.pdf

Joining GIKNet

Join the network by clicking 'Login' in the upper right corner of the GIKNet home page (<http://www.giknet.org>) and use the 'Register for an Account' link. If you are already registered, then simply 'Login' to GIKNet (in the upper right corner of the welcome screen) or use the password reminder facility. (Your Username and/or Password can be e-mailed to you, using the e-mail address that you used when first registering).

The first thing you should accomplish after registering is to add information about yourself by using the 'GI Community Registry' link in the left menu to lead you to Enter Profile for Individual. The questions are similar to those used by sites such as "LinkedIn", so you might simply cut and paste from other sites in which you already participate. Most responses are limited typically to 200 words. Don't forget to upload a photo! You have the ability to view, edit, and delete your individual profile at any time in the future through your 'My Submissions' link in the upper right corner.

After that, feel free to add profile information about geospatial agencies, companies and NGO's with which you are affiliated. In a way, this is similar to entering basic information about geospatial organizations into Wikipedia, but much simpler.

Above all – contribute documents to the GIKNet *Spatial Documents Depot* relevant to any aspect of SDI development, implementation, monitoring, etc. so that we can build a useful repository of easily accessible information on SDI 'best practice' for access by all.

ASSOCIATED CONFERENCE NEWS

The GSDI Association acts as a Media Partner for various other international conferences in exchange for promotional opportunities at those conferences. This month, we feature two such events for which we have entered into joint promotional activities.



Geospatial & Engineering International Conference, 13-14 November

Focusing on the ability of engineering and geospatial firms to expand their professional services into the international market, the Geospatial & Engineering



International Conference: Entering & Expanding Global Business Opportunities, announced their draft program for the two-day conference to be held 13-14 November 2013 at the Westin Hotel in Alexandria, Virginia, USA.

Conference sessions feature agencies and organizations that finance, procure, coordinate, and manage geospatial and engineering projects outside the United States with presentations on their programs, budgets, requirements, and procurement procedures. Private sector professionals experienced in international business will share best practices and lessons learned. Sessions will focus on both new entrants to the market outside of the United States, as well as those experienced in overseas work.

If you are responsible for and interested in international contracting outside of the United States for professional geospatial and engineering services, then this conference is for you. The conference will provide information and practical knowledge to enable firms to export their services, data and products to overseas clients.

Hosts, Sponsors and Collaborators

MAPPS [<http://www.mapps.org>] is hosting Conference and participating organizations include the Association of American Geographers (**AAG**), American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (**ASPRS**), Construction Industry Round Table (**CIRT**), **Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association (GSDI)**, National Society of Professional Surveyors (**NSPS**), and the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (**URISA**).

See full information on all scheduled sessions at:
<http://www.mapps.org/page/GeoInternatSessions>

Browse the conference program at:
<http://www.mapps.org/page/GeoInternatProgram>

Register for the conference at:
<http://www.mapps.org/events/register.asp?id=326772>

Make your hotel reservations at:
<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1304081729&key=1C553>

For specific questions, contact sally@mapps.org. If you are interested in receiving updates about the conference via email, please visit:
<http://www.mapps.org/page/GeoInternatContactUs>



DGI (Defence Geospatial Intelligence) Conference – January 2014

The **DGI (Defence Geospatial Intelligence) Conference & Exhibition** is being held 21-23 January 2014 at the QEII Conference Centre in London, UK. It brings together heads of defence geospatial intelligence, remote sensing, GIS data & mapping, satellite imagery and analysis within the military, governmental, and intelligence sectors. It attracts professionals who are responsible for using, and integrating, geo based capabilities in their operations and organizations.

DGI provides a unique forum for defence intelligence professionals to discuss and debate the development of geospatial intelligence capabilities. Over 700 senior defence and security executives from 46 countries attend the Defence Geospatial Intelligence (DGI) in Westminster, London, to discuss the future role of GeoInt, Data and Cyber Security in their organisations, to debate new strategies, future collaboration plans, and to find solutions to their current Geo challenges.

Focusing On The Challenges That Most Affect Geo Professionals:

- CONTINGENCY PLANNING – Learn about the latest ideas and strategies for effective and interoperable defence and intelligence capability in the urban environment.
- NATIONAL SECURITY – Build your homeland security strategy based on experiences and tools from colleagues who are fighting terrorism the world over.
- LITTORAL FOCUS – develop an understanding of geospatial and intelligence support of operations and security missions in coastal waters around your country.
- MARITIME DOMAIN – get the latest insight into real time maritime surveillance of ships and environmental, defence and economic security
- BIG DATA & CLOUD – Tackle the challenges of big data storage, analysis and exploitation in intelligence and defense operations, with a special focus on using and integrating open source data.
- IT ARCHITECTURE – develop an effective data and IT architecture to support interoperable and scalable intelligence functions



- NORTH AMERICA DAY – gain insight into cutting edge strategies used in intelligence and geospatial support capabilities in the USA and Canada.
- ARCTIC FOCUS – giving you insight into the challenges and opportunities of northern passage real time surveillance, environmental matters, maritime and littoral issues.

Supported by the UK MoD, the NGA, US Army, NATO, Australian DoD, the EU and many more international military and governmental organisations, DGI combines a high level conference, with a large exhibition hall, to combine unparalleled networking, benchmarking and learning opportunities into one event.

GSDI & IGS Members receive 20% discount to attend the DGI 2014 Conference and Exhibition - register by 18 October!

Find out more information at: <http://bit.ly/1cQjyx9>

PARTICIPATION IN GLOBAL & REGIONAL SDI PROJECTS

AfriGEOSS

The International Symposium on Land Cover Mapping for the African Continent, hosted by the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD), with support from the United States Department of the Interior, Tsinghua University and the joint USAID/NASA SERVIR program, took place in Nairobi, Kenya on June 25-27, 2013. A further meeting of the working group is planned for the Global Geospatial Conference 2013 in November.



The Symposium brought together a diverse group of participants from four continents (Africa, America, Europe, and Asia). Participants were from governments, academia, and NGOs representatives from nineteen African countries, including regional entities. The major objectives of this three-day event were to share ongoing technical collaboration, data availability, capacity building successes, and to increase communication between and among the various stakeholders.

Land-cover data are some of the most important inputs for weather forecasting, human and ecosystem health, climate change, agricultural sustainability, management of water, forest and other natural resources, land use planning, reducing land degradation, conservation of biodiversity, and renewable energy assessment. Information on land-cover change trends provides significant value to both the scientific community and the general public. Therefore, land-cover information plays a

critical role in supporting policy and decision-making at local, regional, continental and global levels.

Mapping Africa's land cover has been facilitated by the availability of free and open data from the US Landsat program and data processing/analysis capabilities in African regional centres (e.g. RCMRD) and partner countries (e.g. China, US, EU). These data and processing capabilities have led to the creation of a new continent-wide map for the year 2010, continent-wide samples documenting land cover change between the 1990-2000-2010 epochs, regional maps for 2000 and 2010, regional validation datasets, and selected national and project scale mapping for specific tasks such as agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU) carbon accounting.

However, in several countries data gaps, inadequate institutional frameworks, missing networks of experts and technological barriers mean that the specific needs of policy makers cannot always be met. Eight key recommendations were made by symposium participants to advance Land Cover mapping for the African Continent. The Final Report of the Symposium is being completed and will be available soon.

Learn the latest news on AfriGEOSS at the Global Geospatial Conference 2013 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 4 November 2013.

European Union Location Framework (EULF) Strategic Vision

The objective of this action is to create a European Union Location Framework (EULF) addressing the EU-wide, cross-sector interoperability framework for the exchange and sharing of location data and services. The vision for the EULF can be summarised as follows:

"A recognised and coherent European framework of guidance and actions to foster interoperable cross-sector and cross-border sharing and use of location information, helping to deliver more effective e-services, save time and money, and enable growth and employment"

Learn more on the ISA action website at: <http://tinyurl.com/isa-eulf> or download the EULF Strategic Vision document at: tinyurl.com/eulf-vision.

European EO Services Industry Survey Published

EARSC (European Association of Remote Sensing Companies) announce the results from the survey they conducted into the state and health of the European EO services industry. It was an intensive exercise for us but we are pleased with the results. The Executive Summary can be found here, which contains the principal industry statistics, which we have also prepared as a brochure



(<http://email.earsc.org/t/y-l-ttkjwjt-ykklgtkij-p/>).

The survey was conducted between November 2012 and April 2013. A total of 365 companies were contacted with useful responses coming from 133 of them via an on-line questionnaire that was focused on financial and numerical data. The responses show that the EO services industry is employing over 5000 highly skilled staff and turns over some 750m Euro per annum. These and many more results are explained in the documents.

This is the third survey conducted but the first since 2006 and the first performed by EARSC. The brochure is a summary of the survey results. It and the full report can be downloaded at www.earsc.org. EARSC plans to revisit the industry facts and figures in 2014 / 2015 to assess the evolution of the EO services industry and to map the growth and trends that are shaping it. In the meantime, the results for 2012 follow which we hope you will find interesting, stimulating and helpful in your ventures.

ICA News



Distinguished Research Professor **Fraser Taylor** of Carleton University is the first Canadian cartographer to receive the **Carl Mannerfelt Gold Medal**. The International Cartographic Association (ICA) unanimously selected Prof. Taylor to receive

ICA's highest honour for his work in cybercartography, which includes the socio-economic and cultural aspects of places. Read the full laudation given by Bill Cartwright, Immediate Past-President of ICA, at the award ceremony here: <http://icaci.org/fraser-taylor-is-awarded-the-carl-mannerfelt-gold-medal/>

Open Source Geospatial Lab Established

We are pleased to announce the establishment of **ICA-OSGeo Lab** at the Center for Applied GIScience (**CAGIS**), University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNCC), USA. CAGIS is an interdisciplinary research center that focuses on using advanced space-time theories, methods, and technologies in cutting-edge Geographic Information Science for complex geographical problem-solving. Based on the synergistic coupling of spatiotemporal and computational thinking, major research themes of CAGIS consist of:

- 1) CyberGIS for large-scale geographical problem-solving,
- 2) Land use/cover change and sustainability,
- 3) Complexity theory and geospatial modeling,
- 4) Big data and space-time analytics,
- 5) Remote sensing, sensor networks and volunteered geographic information,

- 6) Computational intelligence for geocomputational modeling,
- 7) Cartography and geovisualization, and
- 8) Open source GIS.

CAGIS has unique strength in these cutting-edge research themes and has intensive interest in their applications in alternative spatially integrated domains, including environmental studies, ecology, earth science, hydrology, spatial epidemiology, social science, transportation, urban regional analysis and policies. More details at <http://gis.uncc.edu>.

This open source geospatial laboratory (<https://gis.uncc.edu/osgl>) is a joint initiative of the International Cartographic Association (ICA) and the Open Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGeo). The lab will be led by Dr. Wenwu Tang (Executive director of CAGIS) and Dr. Xingjian Liu with support from two full-time permanent positions: Director of Research & Outreach (John B. Vogler) and Resident Systems Administrator (Jason Watson). The facility has a well-equipped computational laboratory specializing in technologies for spatial analysis and geocomputation, spatial cyberinfrastructure, and big spatial data. It has also has access to advanced supercomputing computing resources held by US NSF XSEDE (<https://www.xsede.org/>), Open Science Grid (<http://www.opensciencegrid.org/>), RENCI (Renaissance Computing Institute; <http://www.renci.org/>), and URC (University Research Computing; <http://www.urc.uncc.edu/>) at UNC Charlotte.

OSGeo is a not-for-profit organisation founded in 2006 whose mission is to support and promote the collaborative development of open source geospatial technologies and data. ICA is the world authoritative body for cartography, the discipline dealing with the conception, production, dissemination and study of maps. ICA and the GSDI Association cooperate via a Memorandum of Understanding since 2011.

OPEN DATA INITIATIVES

South Australia Embraces Open Data

The South Australian government has joined the ranks of the federal government and other state governments after Premier Jay Weatherill mandated a new requirement for all government agencies to house their public data in a central portal to ensure that it is accessible to the community at large. Following in step with other Australian governments that have joined the Open Data movement, South Australia will become the latest government to create an "open data" access point to enable the public to search for, slice and dice relevant information or statistics. When the federal government



launched its own Open Data portal in March 2011, it was followed by the Victorian government in August 2012, the Queensland government in December 2012 and a revamp of the NSW government's Open Data website in 2013 that had been providing some data sets online since 2009. The South Australian government's move to create its Open Data platform leaves Western Australia and Tasmania as the only states still to join the what is essentially a non-partisan movement. The South Australian government's move is tied in with the state's Office of the Chief Information Officer leading an Open Data Action Plan to guide agencies in classifying, licencing and releasing their data. The government claims that the Open Data Action Plan will ensure that these agencies "maintain the highest standards or privacy, security and integrity".

Read the full article here:

<http://www.governmentnews.com.au/2013/09/06/article/South-Australia-embraces-Open-Data/RLIIGHWKDS.html>

Source: Article by Paul Hemsley in the *GovernmentNews.au.com*

Sustaining 'Domain' Data Repositories

Representatives of 25 archives of scientific data from around the U.S. have issued a call for change on how to sustain "domain" data repositories — data archives with close ties to their scientific communities. Coordinated by the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), the call addresses the growing mismatch between short-term funding of data archives and the increasing focus on open access data resources, exemplified by the February 2013 memorandum from the U.S. Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) requiring public access to federally funded data. To sustain such open resources in the long term, the domain repositories need to be supported as key components of the U.S. research infrastructure.

CIESIN director Robert Chen is one of the signatories of the call, which stems from a meeting held at ICPSR in Ann Arbor, Michigan, in June 2013, supported by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. CIESIN is a founding and current member of the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association.

Download "Sustaining Domain Repositories for Digital Data: A Call for Change from an Interdisciplinary Working

Group of Domain Repositories" here:

<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/files/ICPSR/pdf/DomainRepositoriesCTA25Sept2013.pdf>

GSDI INVOLVEMENT IN INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES

GSDI Member organisations, members of the GSDI Association Committees, Council and Board, and IGS members are involved in many other regional and global initiatives on an on-going basis.

- Eye on Earth – www.eyeeonearth.org.
- Group on Earth Observations (GEO) / Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) – www.earthobservations.org.
- EuroGEOSS – GEOSS Project funded by the European Union – see www.eurogeoss.eu.
- EU INSPIRE – Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community – inspire.jrc.ec.europa.eu.
- International Cartographic Association (ICA) – www.icaci.org.
- International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) – www.fig.net
- International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO) – Marine SDI Working Group – www.iho.int.
- International Society for Digital Earth (ISDE) - www.digitalearth-isde.org.
- International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM) – www.iscgm.org
- UNESCO IOC – Marine/Coastal Spatial Data Infrastructure development – www.iode.org.
- UNSD (Statistics Division) – UN-GGIM (UN Global Geospatial Information Management) – ggim.un.org.
- UNSDI – UNGIWG (UN GI Working Group) – www.ungiwg.org.

GSDI DISCUSSION FORUMS UPDATES

To see the latest news from the different e-mail forums maintained by the GSDI Committees (4) and the regional SDI Newsletters (5), visit the web site at <http://www.gsdi.org/discussionlists>, choose the forum of interest and select the 'Archives' option. All discussion lists are open to anyone who is interested in participating, and joining instructions are at the web site above



For more information on any of these items, visit the **GSDI Association** web site at <http://www.gsd.org>.

GSDI AND IGS GLOBAL NEWS - News from the GSDI Association and the International Geospatial Society – is published by the GSDI Association, edited by Roger Longhorn, vice-Chair, Communications, of the GSDI Outreach and Membership Committee. The Editor may be contacted at ral@alum.mit.edu. Please feel free to submit your news to the Editor, relevant to GSDI and IGS Member news or SDI initiatives at any level.



The GSDI Association is an inclusive organization of organizations, agencies, firms, and individuals from around the world. The purpose of the organization is to promote international cooperation and collaboration in support of local, national and international spatial data infrastructure developments that will allow nations to better address social, economic, and environmental issues of pressing importance.

Our Vision ... is of a world where everyone can readily discover, access and apply geographic information to improve their daily lives.

Our Purpose ... is to encourage international cooperation that stimulates the implementation and development of national, regional and local spatial data infrastructures.

Our Mission ... is to advance geo-information best practices, knowledge sharing and capacity building for the improved sharing and application of geographic 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 enhances communications globally among individuals that are actively involved in promoting, developing, or advancing spatial data infrastructure and related concepts.

"The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association - Advancing a Location Enabled World"

