

# Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

SDI-LAC

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



GSDI Definition

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

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## Message from the Editor

This SDI-LAC number highlights the following: The **Global and Regional SDI** section comprises notes on the Global Geospatial Conference 2013 and call to host AfricaGIS 2015; A free training opportunity by GSDI Association; FGDC Approval of NSDI Strategic Plan 2014-2016; the 6th Meeting of GeoSUR Programme; UN-SPIDER Call for Mission to Kenya; the JRC Workshop on Remote Sensing for Conservation; the Call for Expressions of Interest to host BIOPAMA Caribbean Regional Observatory; the OGC ILAF Corner; and the Proposed Elements of the HFA2. The **IGS section** includes comments on IGS Membership Renewal. The **National SDI** segment informs on the WMS offered by IDESF, Argentina; Participation of GeoBolivia on SDI exchange with other countries; IBGE's Geoservices on the Cartographic Base of Brazil; Chilean SDI Interoperation with Ministry of the Environment; the New Table Joining Service (TJS), Cuba; the Novel Information of National Interest in Mexico; An Introduction to GEORED Platform, Panama; Publication of Decree on Spatial Information Sharing among State agencies, Peru; and Presentations of SDI International Exchange in Uruguay. **Articles and Publications** of the month include GGIM's Future trends in geospatial information management; Directions Magazine Editors Predictions for 2014; 5th LAC gvSIG and 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference Presentations and Articles; and a paper on Geospatial Education. **Geospatial Research and Applications** underline the launching of CLASlite Classroom; A new SIRGAS Processing Centre in Bolivia; technology for massive crop monitoring, Colombia; gvSIG 2.1 Available for Testing; NASA iPad App for Earth Changing observation; Food Security Mapping of Major Cities; and the ORFEO Toolbox Incubation in OSGeo. The **Training**

and **Funding Opportunities** section encompasses calls for the funded Specialization on GIS, Colombia; 516 Scholarships for Doctorates in Colombia; the Master in Cadastre, Spain; and the MundoGEO#Connect LatinAmerica 2014 Award. Finally, several **Events taking place in the Americas** are listed in the last section.

Translation of SDI-LAC Portuguese is possible thanks to undergrad students **Esrom A. Rissate Jr.** and **Caroline Martins**, the geographer **Alexandre Scussel**, editorial assistant (MundoGEO) and cartographer engineers: **Alison Galdino**, Analist (Navteq – Recife); **Antonio J. Fazan**, Analist (AMS Kepler Engenharia de Sistemas); **Annette Pic**, MSc in Remote Sensing; **Camila B. Guedes**, Operations Department Advisor (DECEA); **Edilce F. Burity**, Technologist (IBGE/PE); **Edmilson M. Volpi**, Natural Resources Secretary in SP; **Eduardo Freitas**, editor (MundoGEO portal and magazine); **Flávio Porfírio**, Geoinformation Unit (ITEP); **Juan Carlos G. Mamani**, consultant in Geoinformation Technology; **Rodrigo Quirino** Technologist (IBGE/RJ); **Silvana Camboim** Professor (UFPR); **Silvane Paixão**, GIS Project Coordinator; **Tatiana Mendes**, Professor ICT (Unesp); Verônica Azevedo, Analist (Navteq- Recife); **Vivan Fernandes**, Professor (UFBA). Under the general coordination of **Silvane Paixão** and review of **Eduardo Freitas**.

Back issues of the newsletter are at the GSDI website: <http://www.gsdi.org/newsletters.asp>  
Editor, **Nancy Aguirre**, Pan-American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH), <http://www.ipgh.org>, [cnaguirre@ipgh.org](mailto:cnaguirre@ipgh.org)

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## Input to this Issue

Thanks for their contributions to this SDI-LAC Newsletter issue to:

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Maribel Yasmina Santos	Secretary-General AGILE
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Imma Serra	National Geographic Information Center, National Geographic Institute, Spain
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Stephan Winter	Professor, Discipline Leader, Geomatics, Department of Infrastructure Engineering, Melbourne School of Engineering, The University of Melbourne, Australia

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## Global and Regional SDI, News, Presentations

### [Global Geospatial Conference 2013 and call to host AfricaGIS 2015 in EIS NEWS](#)

Source: eis-africa secretariat



The Joint GSDI 14 and AfricaGIS 2013 (Global Geospatial Conference) has come and gone. With leading keynote speakers, an excellent technical program, a vibrant Exhibits Hall, and over 500 participants from 60 countries, it has already been recognized as one of the most successful geospatial conferences held in Sub-Saharan Africa over the past two decades. EIS-Africa and the GSDI Association want to give special thanks to our sponsors, our speakers,

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workshop hosts, local organizing committee members, the very capable UNECA staff, the volunteers and all the delegates that made the event such a huge success. EIS-Africa would also like to thank all the delegates that attended our Annual General Meeting. [Sives Govender, Executive Director, EIS-Africa and Dr. David Coleman, President, GSDI Association]

### GSDI Association will provide a free training opportunity

Source: Santiago Borrero



Information Systems and Land Management in Taipei. The training seminar will begin on March 19, 2014 and conclude on April 1, 2014. Please click the link as following: [http://ngis.moi.gov.tw/lan\\_en/Content.aspx?MenuID=95&SubjectID=510](http://ngis.moi.gov.tw/lan_en/Content.aspx?MenuID=95&SubjectID=510) [Information provided by Jeremy Shen (jeremyshen0120@hotmail.com)]

### [FGDC Steering Committee Approves the NSDI Strategic Plan for 2014-2016](http://www.fgdc.gov/)

Source: <http://www.fgdc.gov/>



On December, 2013, the US FGDC Steering Committee approved the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Strategic Plan for 2014–2016. The Plan was developed during 2013 through extensive consultation with Federal agencies, the National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC), and with partners and stakeholders across the geospatial community. This external input was instrumental in shaping the plan and in reflecting the perspectives of the broader geospatial community. The plan describes a shared national vision of the NSDI and includes a set of goals and objectives for the role of Federal agencies in achieving this vision: The NSDI leverages investments in people, technology, data, and procedures to create and provide the geospatial knowledge required to understand, protect, and promote our national and global interests. The goals and objectives in the plan define areas of critical importance to the continued development of the NSDI and provide a framework for the Federal geospatial community's responsibilities over the next three years. The plan is posted at [National Spatial Data Infrastructure Strategic Plan 2014–2016](#) (PDF).

### Sixth Meeting of GeoSUR Programme Held in Montevideo

Source : Eric van Praag



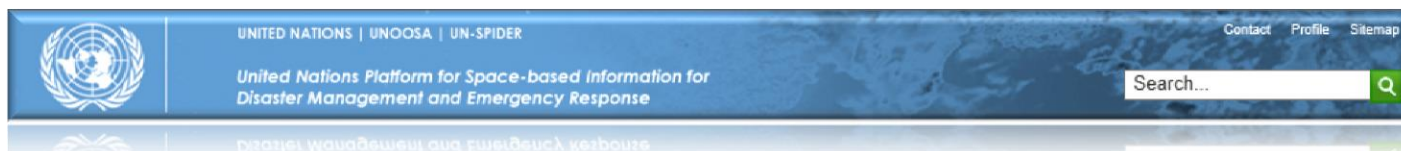
The 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of GeoSUR Program took place as part of the 20th General Assembly of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) held on November 17-22, 2013 in Montevideo, Uruguay. Mr. Eric van Praag, Program Coordinator, presented at the GeoSUR Meeting the current status of plans for the coming years and the new lines of work for flood mapping in real time, integration of regional maps, and on-line assessment of project impacts and hydropower potential (ongoing in Sao Paulo-Brazil, Peru and Bolivia). Dr. Santiago Borrero, Secretary General of PAIGH, presented viewpoints of the Program from a regional perspective and its relationship with the Pan American Agenda 2010-2020. During the Assembly the PAIGH issued Resolution No. 9 thanking the CAF and GeoSUR Program for the effective and important cooperation provided to PAIGH and reiterating its interest in expanding cooperation with GeoSUR in the quadrennial 2013-2017. During the event the GeoSUR Award 2014 was granted to the International

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Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) for the construction of first habitat loss monitoring system in Latin America and the Caribbean (Terra-I system). A representative of CIAT received the award and gave a presentation of this system. During the meeting the Director of Land Management of the Ministry of Environment of Peru presented their Geoserver, created with support from GeoSUR Program that deserved a GeoSUR Award in 2012. The event was attended by the Representative of CAF in Uruguay, Gladis Genua, and more than 70 representatives of geographical institutes, universities and other organizations that participated in the Assembly. As a prelude to the Assembly, the PAIGH hosted a working dinner in order to coordinate actions for the development of the Joint Plan to Accelerate the Development of Spatial Data Infrastructure for the Americas, signed by the CAF, the PAIGH, the United Nations Global Spatial Data Initiative for the Americas (UN GGIM Americas) and the Geocentric Reference System for the Americas (SIRGAS). GeoSUR Program sets publicly available geographic information and variables useful for analyzing development planning in Latin America and the Caribbean. More than 90 institutions from 25 countries in the region are actively involved in the Program, and over 10,000 digital maps are available from its regional portal. Access to services offered by Geosur is free and requires no special software. All services are available at [www.geosur.info](http://www.geosur.info).

### Call for Experts: UN-SPIDER Technical Advisory Mission to Kenya

Source: The UN-SPIDER team



UN-SPIDER is currently looking for international experts from the space, disaster management and disaster risk management communities to join our Technical Advisory Mission (TAM) to Kenya on 3 to 7 March 2014. UN-SPIDER will select four to six experts from outside of Kenya in various areas of disaster-preparedness as well as the use of space-technology, such as disaster response experts, spatial data infrastructure experts, and policy analysts with experience in the use of space-based information. Preference will be given to experts who are either already collaborating or who are willing to collaborate with the authorities or relevant institutions in Kenya. Further selection criteria include experience in the country and affiliation with a regional or international entity working in the country or region. UNOOSA particularly encourages qualified women to apply. UN-SPIDER cannot offer any remuneration. However, if required, UN-SPIDER will sponsor the travel and the stay of the expert in Kenya. If you are interested in joining the TAM please provide UN-SPIDER with:

- a short background, résumé or CV
- an indication of your current, planned or possible type of collaboration with Kenya
- possible sponsoring of the travel to Kenya (ticket/daily expenses).

Please send your application to [coen.bussink@unoosa.org](mailto:coen.bussink@unoosa.org). Deadline for application is **5 January** 2014. For more information, please also visit our Knowledge Portal: <http://www.un-spider.org/about-us/news/kenya-call-experts-un-spider-technical-advisory-mission>

### JRC Workshop on Remote Sensing for Conservation

Source: Andreas Brink

The Joint Research Centre (JRC) expert workshop on Remote Sensing for Conservation, will be held from 30 September till 2 October 2013 at the premises of the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (JRC) in Ispra, Italy and jointly organized by the JRC, the Zoological Society of London and the CEOS Biodiversity Group, discussed "real-world" implementation of remote sensing

data to conservation policy with a particular focus on developing countries. About 30 participants including scientists and decision makers, demonstrated and debated how existing remote sensing methods, products and tools have been and can be used to guide conservation policy, highlighting the obstacles and further needs for mainstreaming remotely



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sensed information into conservation policy making. The workshop started by reviewing a series of related initiatives and workshops that took place in recent years, and continued by showcasing a few concrete and successful examples from Africa and Latin America of “real-world” implementation of remotely sensed information to conservation policy. Presenters demonstrated which and how remote sensing data, methods and tools have been implemented in supporting and influencing decisions for protected areas managers and conservation policy makers. One of the key questions the workshop addressed was on how to mainstream remote sensing information into conservation policy – what are the difficulties, how can we bridge the gap? Participants identified three different levels of decision makers and agreed on the need of scalability of information suitable for all decision maker levels. However, participants also noted that in order to bridge the gap between researchers and policy makers an improved communication infrastructure including clearer and simplified scientific product packaging is necessary. Finally, the message conveyed by the invited experts is the need of a sustained communication between the remote sensing and conservation community. The establishment of networks through working groups has been highlighted as the mechanism to accomplish this. The CEOS-biodiversity initiative and the recently launched Conservation Remote Sensing Working Group (CRSWG) offer a platform for both remote sensors and conservationists to continue within a bigger community the “bridging the gap” process initiated during the series of remote sensing for conservation workshops. More details about the workshop can be found here: <http://remote-sensing-biodiversity.org/ceos/workshop2013> and the Conservation Remote Sensing Working Group at: [https://groups.google.com/forum/?hl=en#!forum/Conservation\\_RS](https://groups.google.com/forum/?hl=en#!forum/Conservation_RS)

### Call for Expressions of Interest to host BIOPAMA Caribbean Regional Observatory

Source: Kate Lance



BIOPAMA is seeking a suitable host organisation for the Caribbean Regional Observatory for Biodiversity and Protected Areas. This is an exciting opportunity for a dynamic, regionally active organisation that shares the mission of BIOPAMA and is interested in becoming part of, and helping to shape, the development of the Regional Observatory and supporting the delivery of its core functions. BIOPAMA is a collaborative program that aims to improve the long-term conservation of biodiversity in the Caribbean by promoting the use of the best available science and knowledge and building capacity to strengthen policy and decision-making on biodiversity conservation and protected areas management (terrestrial and marine). Towards this aim, the Regional Observatory is being established to enable the provision of relevant information and decision-support tools, to promote and facilitate exchange of information with a variety of end users (esp. decision-makers and protected area managers and practitioners). Over time, it is also intended to facilitate capacity development, as well as the exchange and improvement of knowledge about biodiversity conservation and protected area issues and responses. The objective of this call for Expressions of Interest (EoI) is to identify organisations in the region that have an interest in hosting the Regional Observatory and that share the vision of BIOPAMA for the Caribbean. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and EC-JRC (European Commission Joint Research Centre) will use the submissions as a basis for selecting a host organisation and for negotiating a hosting agreement for the establishment and implementation of the Regional Observatory. A consortium approach to the expression of interest would be encouraged where organisations believe they could maximise services and benefits through the Regional Observatory by pooling their collective capacity and resources. The hosting arrangement will be formalised through the conclusion of an Agreement between IUCN and the hosting organisation, initially for two years with potential to extend this into a second phase based on an evaluation of progress in the first two years. Information and guidelines on responding to the call for expressions of interest as well as the submission template can be found on the BIOPAMA website: [http://www.biopama.org/partners\\_and\\_actions/iucn/orma\\_ci.cfm](http://www.biopama.org/partners_and_actions/iucn/orma_ci.cfm) A BIOPAMA factsheet can be viewed at: [https://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/biopama\\_factsheet\\_web\\_final\\_17oct\\_.pdf](https://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/biopama_factsheet_web_final_17oct_.pdf) Expressions of Interest should be submitted by Wednesday, **22nd January** 2014. Please contact Jose Courrau ([Jose.COURRAU@iucn.org](mailto:Jose.COURRAU@iucn.org)) and cc Hyacinth Armstrong-Vaughn ([hyacinth.armstrongvaughn@iucn.org](mailto:hyacinth.armstrongvaughn@iucn.org)) if you have any questions.

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### OGC ILAF Corner

Source: Imma Serra and Joan Capdevila

Did you know that...

The Sensor Model Language (SensorML) specifies an XML model and encoding as well as the definition of geometric, dynamic and observation of sensors and SWE sensor systems Common Data features. A variety of sensor types from simple visual thermometers to electronic microscopic complex and Earth Observation satellites exist. All can be defined using process models and atomic processes chains. Within SensorML, all processes and components are encoded using a geographic object model in Geography Markup Language (GML) version 3.1.1 as a schema. SensorML objectives are:

- Ask descriptions of sensors and sensor systems for inventories management
- Provide information of sensors and processes thereby supporting resource discovery and observation
- Support the processing and analysis of sensor observations
- Support the geolocation of observed values (measured data)
- Give performance characteristics (e.g. Accuracy, Threshold, etc.).
- Make an explicit description of the process by which an observation was obtained (i.e. its lineage)
- Provide a string of runnable processes for deriving new data products on demand (i.e. derivable observation)
- File properties and fundamental assumptions about sensor systems.



For more information see the description of the specification at <http://www.botts-inc.com/vast.html> and <http://www.opengeospatial.org/standards/sensorml>

#### OGC News

22/11: [OGC and USGIF invite I/ITSEC attendees to see how open standards integrate geospatial services with Modeling and Simulation](#)

05/12: [OGC announces new Compliance Fee Schedule](#)

09/12: [SPRINT1: OGC United Kingdom Ordnance Survey and Assessment Interoperability Plugfest \(UKIAP\) 2013](#)

11/12: [Indoor 3D – Cape Town](#) Conference

12/12: [The OGC forms working group to draft Point of Interest \(POI\) encoding standard](#)

13/12: [OGC announces the winners of Student App Challenge, sponsored by Google](#)

More on OGC at the Iberian and Latin American Forum of OGC [webpage!](#)

### Proposed Elements of the HFA2

Source: UNISDR by way of Santiago Borrero

## Towards a post-2015 framework for Disaster Risk Reduction



### BUILDING THE RESILIENCE OF NATIONS AND COMMUNITIES TO DISASTERS

The UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction UNISDR is pleased to announce the 'Proposed Elements for Consideration in the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction' by the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction (SRSG). The SRSG's 'Proposed Elements' draws on consultations of all stakeholders that began in early 2012, including online, local, national, regional and global events. Further guidance came from the SRSG's advisory groups, country reports through the UNISDR HFA Monitor, the findings of the biennial UN Global Assessment Reports on Disaster Risk Reduction of 2009, 2011 and 2013, relevant deliberations of the United Nations General Assembly, as well as a growing literature and practice on disaster risk and resilience. You can find the document and background information here: <http://www.preventionweb.net/posthfa/proposed-elements>

### UN sets the stage for adoption of a new global agreement on disaster risk in 2015

Source: Santiago Borrero

The United Nations General Assembly has set the stage for a new global agreement on reducing the impact of disasters by confirming that the 3rd World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction will take place in Sendai City, Japan from 14 to 18 March 2015 (<http://www.wcdrr.org>). The main item on the Conference agenda is agreement on a successor to the Hyogo Framework for Action which was adopted at the last such Conference in 2005 within weeks of



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the Indian Ocean tsunami and which was attended by representatives from 168 UN Member States. Over 8,000 people are expected to attend the 2015 event including heads of State, government ministers, parliamentarians, academics, NGO and other civil society representatives. UNISDR Chief Margareta Wahlström said: "The 3rd World Conference provides us with a rare opportunity to forge universal agreement on how to build disaster resilience across all sectors of society. It is particularly important that we have a strong urban focus as we expect 75% of the world's population to be living in towns and cities by 2050." Sendai City is the capital city of Miyagi Prefecture in the Tōhoku region with a population of one million people. In March 2011, it was one of the cities affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, which killed over 15,000 people and is one of the costliest disasters in history. Ms. Emiko Okuyama, the Mayor of Sendai City, unveiled the Conference logo saying: "This logo was designed by a local designer and represents people joining hands to create a chain of action. The five colors stand for the five priorities of Hyogo Framework for Action (2005-2015): Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters which brought the concept of resilience into the mainstream of development thinking. We look forward to hosting the Conference and to welcoming the world to the Tohoku region which has made a strong recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake." Visit the website of the 3rd World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction: <http://www.wcdrr.org> Read online: <http://www.unisdr.org/archive/35841>

### AGILE 2014

Source: Maribel Yasmina Santos and João Galvão by way of Santiago Borrero  
The 17<sup>th</sup> AGILE Conference on Geographic Information Science will take place in Castellón, Spain from June 3<sup>rd</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> 2014. For details about the conference and the venue, please see the AGILE 2014 website (<http://www.agile-online.org/index.php/conference/conference-2014>). Following in the tradition of past AGILE conferences, pre-conference workshops will be held on Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2014. Workshops are a complementary forum to the main conference, encouraging the presentation and discussion of work in progress, and facilitating dialogue on emerging topics in small groups. For any further information or inquiries, please contact: [agile2014@uji.es](mailto:agile2014@uji.es)



### World Parks Congress newsletter and registration

Source: Julia Marton-Lefèvre

Held once every 10 years, the IUCN World Parks Congress provides a unique opportunity to bring about change, not only for today, or tomorrow, but for the decade ahead. It will be a gathering not just for protected area professionals but for everyone who cares about the health of humanity and our natural world. On behalf of the IUCN and its partners, Parks Australia and NSW National Parks and Wildlife Services, you are encouraged to join this journey and help provide inspiring solutions for our planet's most precious natural areas. Congress registration is now open [online](#). The 'Early Bird' registration fee is available until **30 June**, 2014 and you can also benefit from the preferential rates for IUCN Members, Commission members and staff. An excellent way to keep up to date is to visit the [World Parks Congress website](#) and to subscribe to the [Congress newsletter](#). For further details and information about the IUCN World Parks Congress, please contact Helen Noble, World Parks Congress Executive Officer, email: [helen.noble@iucn.org](mailto:helen.noble@iucn.org). I look forward to seeing many of you in Sydney in 2014.



On behalf of the IUCN and its partners, Parks Australia and NSW National Parks and Wildlife Services, you are encouraged to join this journey and help provide inspiring solutions for our planet's most precious natural areas. Congress registration is now open [online](#). The 'Early Bird' registration fee is available until **30 June**, 2014 and you can also benefit from the preferential rates for IUCN Members, Commission members and staff. An excellent way to keep up to date is to visit the [World Parks Congress website](#) and to subscribe to the [Congress newsletter](#). For further details and information about the IUCN World Parks Congress, please contact Helen Noble, World Parks Congress Executive Officer, email: [helen.noble@iucn.org](mailto:helen.noble@iucn.org). I look forward to seeing many of you in Sydney in 2014.

### [FOSS4G Europe Conference at Jacobs University Bremen](#)

Source: <http://www.gim-international.com/>



Europe's largest ever event on free geospatial and location-based software will be held at Jacobs University in Bremen, Germany, from 15-17 July 2014. At the FOSS4G Europe Conference (<http://www.foss4g-e.org/>), the winners of the NASA Worldwind Europe Challenge will present their innovative apps to the public. The conference not only attracts software developers and open-source service companies, but also industry and governmental agencies which are increasingly recognising the value and cost-savings potential of open-source software. FOSS4G (Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial) is a conference series held under the auspices of OSGeo. This is a worldwide acting, independent, non-profit legal entity established to

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support the collaborative development of open source geospatial software, and promote its widespread use. Its international Board of Directors elected periodically by the OSGeo Charter Members, one of which is Prof. Dr. Peter Baumann. The OSGeo Board now has agreed to hold the FOSS4G Europe Conference on the campus of Jacobs University in Bremen coming summer. Following an outstandingly successful FOSS4G-CEE, for Central and Eastern Europe, in Bucharest, it was decided to widen scope to a pan-European event in 2014. Expecting over 500 participants this will be the largest event of its kind in history, only surpassed by the global FOSS4G conference. As part of this activity network, there are continental FOSS4G events held in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

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### IGS News, Links, Publications



International  
Geospatial Society



#### IGS Reminders – Membership Renewal

Source: News from the GSDI Association and the International Geospatial Society, Volume 3, Number 1, 2013

It is time to renew your membership in the International Geospatial Society (IGS). As a member you played a vital role in making the past year a great success.

#### *Activities and Benefits*

The International Geospatial Society (IGS) is the global society for geospatial specialists who want to affiliate with, help support, learn from and communicate with peer professionals across the world. Without the base financial support and volunteered personal time and effort of members the numerous activities in which IGS engages would not be possible. See a description of member benefits and the range of activities in which members have been engaged at <http://www.igeoss.org/BenefitsOfJoining>.

In terms of new initiatives, the organization was able to implement a program to allow geospatial specialists in developing nations to provide services in lieu of dues. Those services consist of providing or updating each year a personal professional profile in the geographic knowledge network. This effort has provided a much broader geographic distribution of representation in the organization. See the full list of members at <http://www.igeoss.org/members>.

We also expanded publication of GSDI and IGS Global News so it comes to you through email on a regular basis. The organization continues to advocate open access to geospatial conference proceedings, books, learning materials, newsletters and standards across global geospatial organizations to ensure that all are able to benefit from the resources being developed.

#### *Submitting your Dues or Maintaining Free Membership*

In order to renew your membership, please go to <http://www.igeoss.org/join> and pay the dues of US\$50 by credit card (\$25 for students). Dues payment is available only through use of a credit card. In the event that you are a citizen of and live within a qualifying economically disadvantaged nation, the online membership application



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at <http://www.igeoss.org/join> will provide you with the option of applying for free membership in IGS. The primary obligation is to provide the URL link to your professional profile in the GIKNetwork.

Information provided by Marilyn Gallant, GSDI Business Manager ([mgallant@gsdi.org](mailto:mgallant@gsdi.org)).

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### National SDI, News, Links, Presentations

#### ARGENTINA

##### [WMS offered by IDESF](#)

Source: <http://www.idesf.santafe.gov.ar/>



Web Map Service (WMS) defined by the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) is a standard that allows visualization of geographic information. WMS (standard and interoperable) provides access to vector and raster data in different formats, with different coordinate and reference systems, offered from different remote servers, and to superimpose them on a

display. You may also check out some information and characteristics of the map image. Since OGC specifications are met, this may be accessed through any SDI client, either a web browser (thin client) or a desktop application such as ArcGIS, gvSIG, Geomedia (thick client). The Spatial Data Infrastructure of Santa Fe (IDESF) WMS may be accessed at: <http://www.idesf.santafe.gov.ar/cgi-bin/idesf?>

#### BOLIVIA

##### [GeoBolivia participates on meetings for exchanging SDI experiences with other countries](#)

Source: <http://geo.gob.bo/>



In recent months GeoBolivia participated in meetings for Spatial Data Infrastructure practice-exchange in Argentina and Uruguay, in which the work done by GeoBolivia in the last year and pertinent experiences to strengthen SDI in the region were shared. The first meeting took place in the city of San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina during the 8th IDERA Conference held on November 7-8 and organized by the Spatial Data Infrastructure of Argentina (in Spanish IDERA) and the Government of the Province of Rio Negro, whose purpose was to provide a place for the sharing and discussion of initiatives, projects and ideas for the development of the IDERA. The second event took place on December 4 in the city of Montevideo, Uruguay in the framework of the 6<sup>th</sup> National Electronic Government Meeting organized by the Agency for the Development of Electronic Government and Information and Knowledge Society (in Spanish

AGESIC) during which Dr. Diego Pastorin, CEO of the Presidency, concluded that the new Uruguayan SDI is a key tool for both departmental government and ministries.

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## BRAZIL

### [IBGE provides Geoservices on the Continuous Cartographic Base of Brazil](#)

Source: <http://www.inde.gov.br/>

In order to provide to the society and to enable integration between systems, networks, data, and technologies - namely interoperability - on December the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (in Portuguese IBGE) made available on the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (in Portuguese INDE [www.inde.gov.br](http://www.inde.gov.br)) geoservices to access the Continuous Cartographic Base of Brazil at scale of 1:250.000 (1cm = 2.5 km). Geoservices are specific to the geospatial web services domain, providing a powerful set of tools for collecting, storing, unrestrictedly retrieving, transforming, and presenting spatial data for a particular goal. The Continuous Cartographic Base information layers are published with the prefix "BC250" at IBGE's geoservices portal (<http://www.geoservicos.ibge.gov.br/geoserver/web>) and may be accessed by one of viewers available on the INDE: <http://www.visualizador.inde.gov.br/> (VINDE) or at <http://i3geo.inde.gov.br/i3geo/> (i3geo). The Continuous Cartographic Base open database script format (PostgreSQL 9.x/PostGIS 2.x) is also available at the IBGE download portal ([ftp://geoftp.ibge.gov.br/mapeamento\\_sistemtico/base\\_vetorial\\_continua\\_escala\\_250mil/](ftp://geoftp.ibge.gov.br/mapeamento_sistemtico/base_vetorial_continua_escala_250mil/)). INDE geoservices follow international standards and are aligned with the e-PING architecture (Interoperability Standards for Electronic Government) allowing both access to data and metadata.



## CHILE

### [The Environment begins to Interoperate with Chilean SDI](#)

Source: <http://www.ide.cl/>



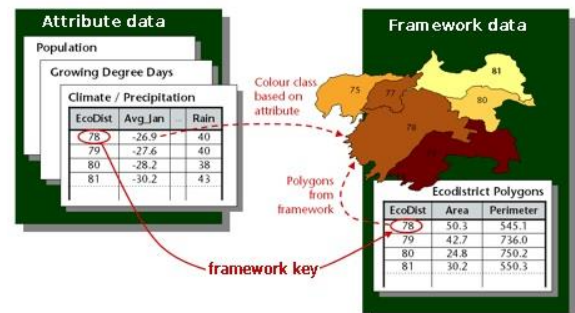
To log on to this information please visit the Chilean SDI viewfinder and activate the tab "Environment and Conservation", then click the layers "Sites Defined by the Regional Biodiversity Strategy" and "Priority Sites for Biodiversity Conservation". The layer on "Regional Biodiversity Strategy" shows 338 defined sites, which are considered hotspots of flora and fauna for the country. The "Priority Sites for Biodiversity Conservation" layer contains potential areas for protective action, privileging those that meet relevant ecosystem features along with social and cultural considerations. The Chilean SDI viewer connects to the SDI of the Ministry of Environment through the Web Map Service WMS (ISO 19128) standard, which allows displaying information from the data source.

## CUBA

### [New Table Joining Service \(TJS\) as an extension of Geoserver](#)

Source: <http://www.iderc.co.cu/>

The first version of a TJS Service was developed as an extension of Geoserver by the GEOCUBA Business Group. Its capabilities, user references, publications and development phases are described. It is the OGC Table Joining Service (TJS) specification for defining a geo statistical data Internet exchange mode in the form of a standard web service. The distributed data do not contain geometric information but are 'geolocated' by an identifier such as the code of a municipality or a company, zip code, a road section identifier, etc. It is currently used by HidroSIG (Water Resources Information System of Cuba), Geonovum and the Dutch Cadastre in the context of a European project of the Dutch Cadastre on Health Statistics by geographic region, and the National Mapping



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Agency of France (in French IGN). Related publications include:

- Geomatics 2013: [Implementing TJS using the GeoServer platform](#) , [presentation](#), [slides](#)
- FOSS4G 2013: [Table Joining Service Implementation Using The GeoServer Platform](#)

### MEXICO

#### New Information of National Interest

Source: <http://www.snieg.mx/>



The agreement whereby information of national interest is determined was published in the Official Journal of Mexico on December 2, 2013:

- [Topographic Information at scale of 1:50.000](#)
- [Maps of land use and vegetation at scale of 1:250.000](#)

The above information meets the criteria set out in Article 78 of the Law on the National Statistical and Geographic Information (in Spanish SNIEG). Under the SNIEG Act this information is official and of obligatory use for the Federation, the States, the Federal District and Municipalities.

### PANAMA

#### [Introduction to GEORED Platform](#)

Source: <http://www.ipde.gob.pa/>



On May 3, 2013 at premises of the "Tommy Guardia" National Geographic Institute the homogenization and standardization of thematic layers to be used in publishing services of the Panamanian Spatial Data Infrastructure (in Spanish IPDE) began. This activity was based on the GEORED tool for which a workshop lasting a day was held with participation of 22 government officials from 11 state institutions. Please find in the novel IPDE portal the following components: i) Legal and policy framework, ii) Geospatial information; iii) Standards, iv) Technology, and v) Institutional Strengthening.

### PERU

#### Supreme Decree on Spatial Information Sharing among State agencies was published

Source: Directorate General of Land Management of Peru by way of Santiago Borrero

The official gazette El Peruano published the [Supreme Decree No. 133-2013 -PCM](#), whereby "Spatial information access and exchange between the public administration organizations is established." Some important points are highlighted for the future understanding and coordination:

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1. In the preamble it is noted that according to Law No. 27444 the Administrative Procedures Act establishes the standard for collaboration between governmental institutions, which should directly provide data and information in their possession regardless of their legal status or institutional position, through any means.
2. Article 7 states that each public administration organization head or official responsible for coordinating data and services publication and cataloging is responsible for compliance with this standard.
3. The general guidelines set out in Article 5 are being worked and refined by the Ministry of Environment (in Spanish MINAM) through the Geoserver Platform as to improve the quality of provided services. MINAM also plans to launch Geoserver version 2.0, which includes publication of environmental indicators as well as access to and use of MINAM different resolution satellite images acquired, and to results of the thematic information produced.
4. Article 8 states that the public administration institutions must implement spatial information web services. In this regard, since 2009 MINAM Geoserver consents geospatial data exchange and cataloguing in a practical and transparent manner, as an important reference that allows conveying this experience to other state agencies towards coordination mechanisms and information exchange. In addition, high-resolution satellite images donated by the Government of Japan have been made available to the regional and local governments as part of the exchanging information policy promoted by MINAM to support implementation of the Spatial Data Infrastructure of Peru.

### URUGUAY

#### [Presentations of the SDI International Exchange Day](#)

Source: Sergio Acosta y Lara

Last December an “Exchange Day” was held with presentations of SDI (Spatial Data Infrastructure) of the region and Spain as part of the Week of the Uruguay Electronic Government. The new institutional framework in which the Uruguayan SDI will be operative as of January 1st 2014 was shared. Experiences of implementation and development of national SDIs of the region and Spain were presented. Presentations of foreign visitors from Spain, Colombia, Bolivia, and Brazil [are now available for download](#).

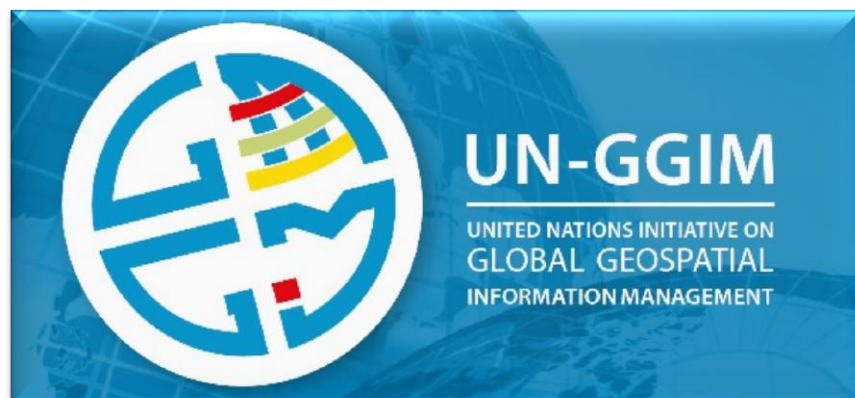


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## Articles and Publications of the Month

### Future trends in geospatial information management: the five to ten year vision

Source: <http://www.cp-idea.org/>



The [Spanish version](#) of the document “[Future trends in geospatial information management: the five to ten year vision](#)” was recently released as part of the Global Geospatial Information Management (GGIM) initiative activities. This publication consolidates the views of experts from a wide spectrum of disciplines within the geospatial community (including academia and the private world). The main objective is to highlight the importance of geospatial information and to show future expected ways to advance in terms of institutions, technology, capacity building and other relevant topics. ([Document in English](#)).

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## [Directions Magazine Editors Look Back at 2013 and Make Predictions for 2014](#)

Source: <http://www.directionsmag.com/>

Directions Magazine's Editor in Chief Joe Francica and Executive Editor Adena Schutzberg evaluate their predictions for 2013 and look ahead. Can they keep up the pace for 2014 and do their bold predictions offer insights into the trends that will shape the geospatial marketplace this year? [The complete article may be found at: <http://www.directionsmag.com/articles/directions-magazine-editors-look-back-at-2013-make-predictions-for-2013/373138>].



## **5th gvSIG Conference for Latin American and Caribbean: Presentations and articles**

Source: gvSIG News Office

Presentations and papers of the 5th gvSIG Conference for Latin America and Caribbean under the theme "Knowledge gives freedom," held on October 23-25, 2013 in Buenos Aires, Argentina are now available. Papers on spatial planning, postal service, advocacy and education were among the topics presented by speakers from a range of countries: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Uruguay and Venezuela. All presentations and articles are now available on the website of the conference at: <http://www.gvsig.org/web/community/events/jornadas-lac/2013/ponencias>.

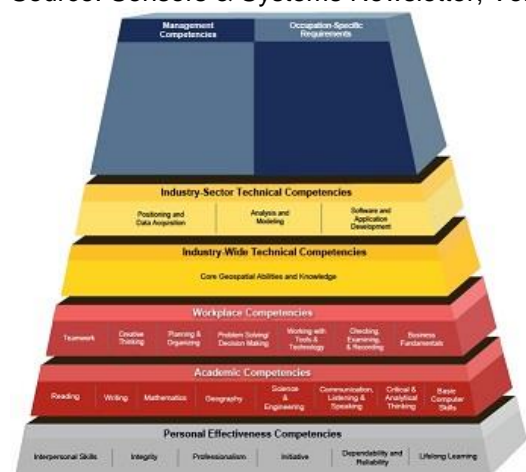
## **9th International gvSIG Conference: Presentations, posters and articles**

Source: gvSIG News Office

Presentations, posters and papers presented at the 9a International gvSIG Conference [<http://jornadas.gvsig.org/9as/comunicaciones/>], held on November 27-29 in Valencia, Spain are now available. Recordings of the presentations and workshops are also online. These videos are available with audio in Spanish and English, except for two of the workshops on Wednesday and Thursday, which are in Spanish only. As to bring the Conference to anyone interested who could not attend, publication of these videos allows everyone to access the various recording sessions.

## [Geospatial Education Continues to Balance Principles, Tools and Job Skills](#)

Source: Sensors & Systems Newsletter, Vol. 7, Issue 50, Dec. 17, 2013



From the very early days of geographic information systems and allied tools and technology, there have been ongoing questions on the best ways to train practitioners. Geospatial skill development relies on both tools and science, and needs a strong foundation of concepts as well as an understanding of the software and hardware that are used in professional practice. Two market research reports, commissioned by Google, came out on 2013, one by [Oxera](#) on the worldwide economic impact of geospatial services, and the other from the [Boston Consulting Group](#) on the market for the geospatial services industry. The reports reveal the economic contributions of the geospatial industry as well as growing employment prospects. While the profession continues to grow, the definition of geospatial practitioners is also expanding as witnessed by these reports. A slightly different conception of the geospatial industry overall takes in new uses, services, and more flexibility in the toolset. "The core geospatial industry is thriving," said David DiBiase, director of education, industry solutions at Esri, and long-time educator and former

director of the Dutton e-Education Institute at Penn State University. "But there is also an innovative frontier beyond core that is more consumer- and business-oriented than traditional applications. Software and application development is a core competency at the frontier." A big advancement in defining the skills needed at the different phases of career advancements has been the [Geospatial Technology Competency Model \(GTCM\)](#). Geospatial has been numbered among industries with a set competency since it was identified as a high-growth industry by the U.S. Department of Labor back in 2003. [The complete article may be found at: <http://www.sensorsandsystems.com/article/features/32544-geospatial-education-continues-to-balance-principles,-tools-and-job-skills.html#sthash.PF2anKpF.dpuf>]

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# Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

## Geospatial Research, Applications, Software, Data

### Satellites and psychology for improved forest monitoring

Source: Gregory P Asner by way of Eric van Praag



CLASlite Classroom, a free course on tropical forest monitoring with satellites hosted by Stanford University Online Learning has been launched. Following completion of a one-day course, users will be provided with a free license for CLASlite v3.x, a technology designed for personalized, high-resolution deforestation and forest degradation mapping using Landsat 4, 5, 7, and 8 and other satellite sensors. The Carnegie and Stanford press releases provide complementary overviews on the launch, and a PNAS op-ed expresses a view on why personalized forest monitoring is critical to conservation and management of our planet. The course can be accessed from either press release:

[http://carnegiescience.edu/news/forest\\_monitoring\\_bringing\\_power\\_people](http://carnegiescience.edu/news/forest_monitoring_bringing_power_people)

<http://news.stanford.edu/news/2013/december/forest-online-course-121713.htm>

or via the [CLASlite website](http://claslite.carnegiescience.edu). CLASlite, open and free internet software to track deforestation, is of particular interest for Latin America and the Caribbean. CLASlite Classroom (<http://claslite.carnegiescience.edu>) is supported by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation. To provision non experts with forest monitoring know-how, CLASlite was created [Carnegie Landsat Analysis System (lite)]. CLASlite was born in 2007 out of CLAS, a method originally designed to map subtle forest disturbances caused by selective logging. Following a study of potential user needs, CLASlite v1.0 was launched in 2008. Despite the fact that the software worked fine for experts, widespread negative user feedback were promptly received. The method and underlying concepts were not explained well enough; the software was clunky; the method produced crumbly results at times. Longer and longer the list grew, so CLASlite v2.0 was built. CLASlite Classroom, the new free Web based Carnegie Institution course hosted by Stanford University, includes video-based lessons, guided exercises, a forum, and a final examination. Successful trainees are issued the latest version of CLASlite -for free- to monitor forests of their choosing using their own computer.

### [A new SIRGAS Experimental Processing Centre in Bolivia](http://www.sirgas.org/)

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

The Military Geographic Institute (IGM-Bo), La Paz, Bolivia acts as a SIRGAS Experimental Processing Centre since the GPS week 1761 (October 6, 2013).

The main characteristics of this Processing Centre are:

**Name:** CEPAG-IGM: Processing Centre and GNSS Data Analysis of the Bolivian Military Geographic Institute

**Abbreviation:** BLV

**Processed stations:** AMCO, AREQ, BATF, BOMJ, BRAZ, BRFT, CALL, CATA, CHAC, CHPI, COPO, CRUZ, CUIB, GOJA, IACR, IQQE, IQUI, MABA, MGBH, MSCG, MTCN, MTCO, MTVB, NAUS, PAIT, PISR, PITN, POAL, POVE, PRMA, RECF, RIOB, RIOP, RNNA, ROCD, ROGM, ROJI, SALU, SAVO, SCRZ, SJRP, SVIC, TOPL, TUCU, UFPR, UNSA, URUS, UYNI, YCBA.

**Software:** Software GNSS Bernese, version 5.2, Windows

**Team:** Arturo Echalar, Mario Sandoval Nava, Daniel Espinoza Condori, David Morales Arce, Nelson Olivares Escobar, Rubén de La Cruz Quispe, Tito Flores Torrejón, Wilber Delgado Gutiérrez, Wilson Soria Sotez.



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The installation of this Experimental Processing Centre has been possible thanks to a cooperation agreement subscribed between the German Geodetic Research Institute (DGFI), the University of Bern (UniBern, Switzerland) and the Military Geographic Institute of Bolivia.

## [National University develops technology for massive crop monitoring, Colombia](#)

Source: Arturo Brun-Martinez

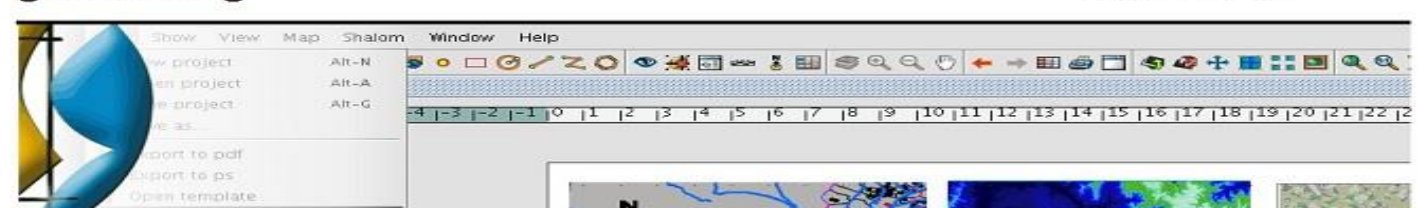
This model allows studies of coffee crops. The National University of Colombia works on the development of an automated model that benefits the coffee sector in terms of speed, coverage and scope in monitoring massive coffee plantations. Engineer Oscar Romero Gonzalo Castillo, linked to the National University of Colombia at Manizales PCM Computational Applications research group, advances the study and spectral analysis for coffee, which allows classifying and characterizing crop signatures.



## gvSIG 2.1 Available for Testing

Source: gvSIG News Office

### gvSIG blog



gvSIG Project is pleased to announce the release of gvSIG version 2.1. The stabilization phase officially started with release of gvSIG 2.1 beta. You are encouraged to actively try this version and report bugs and suggestions through the project's mailing list [<http://www.gvsig.org/web/community/mailling-lists/directory>]. Please take into account the recommendation of not using development versions in production environments. News on gvSIG 2.1 may be found at: <http://blog.gvsig.org/2013/12/19/gvsig-2-1-beta-available/>. Download gvSIG 2.1 beta at: <http://www.gvsig.org/web/projects/gvsig-desktop/official/gvsig-2.1/descargas/>.

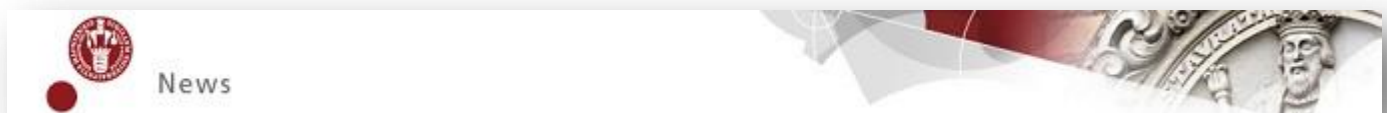
## NASA iPad App Shows Earth Changing before Your Eyes

Source: NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory by way of WALIS e-newsletter December 2013 eNews

Human activities, a changing climate and natural disasters are rapidly altering the face of our planet. Now, with NASA's Images of Change iPad application, users can get an interactive before-and-after view of these changes. The app presents pairs or sets of images of places around the world that have changed dramatically. Some of these locations have suffered a disaster, such as a fire or tsunami, or illustrate the effects of human activities, such as dam building or urban growth. Others document impacts of climate change such as persistent drought and rapidly receding glaciers. "Images of Change gives users an astronaut's or Earth explorer's view of the changes occurring on our planet and demonstrates the important role NASA plays in contributing to the long-term understanding of Earth," said John Grunsfeld, NASA's associate administrator for science in Washington. "By utilizing ground-based and space-based observation systems, we are able to better understand how humans are contributing to a changing world." Web link to full article: <http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/news.php?release=2013-346>

## Scientists Map Food Security and Self-Provision of Major Cities

Source: University of Copenhagen by way of WALIS e-newsletter December 2013 eNews



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Wealthy capital cities vary greatly in their dependence on the global food market. The Australian capital Canberra produces the majority of its most common food in its regional hinterland, while Tokyo primarily ensures its food security through import. The Copenhagen hinterland produces less than half of the consumption of the most common foods. For the first time, researchers have mapped the food systems of capital cities, an essential insight for future food security if population growth, climate change and political instability will affect the open market. Several partners in the International Alliance of Research Universities (IARU) are behind the study. "The three major cities in our study achieve food security by different degrees of self-provision and national and global market trade. It is important to understand such food flows in order to relate it to the energy challenge and the risk of national political unrest caused by food shortages and its effect on the open food trade," says Professor Dr. John R. Porter from the University of Copenhagen, who is leading author on the study recently published online in the journal *Global Food Security*. John R. Porter is also the main lead author of the forthcoming report from the [IPCC](#) (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) Working Group 2 on food production systems and food security, which will be released following governments' review, in March 2014. Web link to full article: [http://news.ku.dk/all\\_news/2013/2013.12/scientists-map-food-security-and-self-provision-of-major-cities/](http://news.ku.dk/all_news/2013/2013.12/scientists-map-food-security-and-self-provision-of-major-cities/)

### Lowest-ever temperature detected in Antarctica

Source: AAG SmartBrief December 2013

Using satellites, researchers detected a temperature of nearly 136 degrees below zero in August 2010 in East Antarctica. That's the lowest temperature ever recorded, but it will not be officially recognized by the World Meteorological Organization because of the method used to detect it, according to Randy Cerveny, a geography professor and the WMO's rapporteur for climate extremes. The lowest official measurement will still be -128.6 degrees, which was recorded in July 1983 in Vostok, Antarctica. More at: <http://www.usatoday.com/story/weather/2013/12/10/antarctica-cold-record/3950019/>

### [ORFEO Toolbox enters OSGeo Incubation](#)

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



The OSGeo Board is pleased to announce that it has approved the application by the [ORFEO Toolbox project](#) to enter the [incubation](#) process. Incubation is a stepping stone to becoming a full fledged OSGeo project. ORFEO Toolbox (OTB) is a project started by CNES (French Space Agency) in 2006 to provide open source tools to process satellite images and extract information. OTB is distributed as an open source library of image processing algorithms. As the motto of OTB goes, "Orfeo Toolbox is not a black box", OTB encourages full access to the details of all the algorithms. OTB is based on the medical image processing library ITK

and offers particular functionalities for remote sensing image processing in general and for high spatial resolution images in particular. Targeted algorithms for high resolution optical images (Pleiades, SPOT, QuickBird, WorldView, Landsat, Ikonos), hyperspectral sensors (Hyperion) or SAR (TerraSarX, ERS, Palsar) are available. OTB is distributed under a free software license CeCILL (similar to GPL) to encourage contribution from users and to promote reproducible research. The library is intensively tested on several platforms as Linux, Unix and Windows. Most functionalities are also adapted to process huge images without the need for a supercomputer using streaming and multi-threading as often as possible.

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## Training and Funding Opportunities, Awards

### Specialization on Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Source: Edna Piedad Caicedo by way of Santiago Borrero

The "Agustin Codazzi" Geographic Institute of Colombia (IGAC) Geographic Information Research and Development Office (in Spanish CIAF), calls for participation in the Specialization Program on Geographic Information Systems (GIS)



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to be issued from 21 April to 14 November 2014 in partnership with the University Francisco Jose de Caldas in Bogotá. The course has the support of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), through grants to be awarded to professionals from institutions of member countries of the Bank. For further information please log on to IGAC website at: <http://www.igac.gov.co> and/or contact: [cursosciaf@igac.gov.co](mailto:cursosciaf@igac.gov.co).

### **516 Scholarships for Doctorates at Universities in Colombia**

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

516 scholarships have been assigned by the Department for Science, Technology and Innovation (in Spanish COLCIENCIAS) to pursue doctorates in different knowledge areas, which will be granted by Colombian universities through public announcements processes. Colombian citizens with master's degree will have access to these opportunities according to the schedules and conditions established by each of selected universities. More information on Universities, number of scholarships available, dates and contacts can be checked [here](#).

### **International Master in Multipurpose Cadastre and Evaluations - University of Jaén**

Source: Manuel Alcazar and Joaquin Segura

The following include the graduate training programs taught at the University of Jaén:

- Master in Cadastre, Urbanism and Valuation
- Master of Real Estate Judicial Expertise and Insurance.
- International Master in Multipurpose Cadastre and Valuations



For detailed information you may log on to: [www.mastercv.org](http://www.mastercv.org)

### **MundoGEO#Connect LatinAmerica 2014 Award - Open Vote**

Source : Eduardo Freitas by way of Santiago Borrero

Guided by the choice of the community the biggest event of Geomatics and Geospatial Solutions will reward Latin American best professionals, institutions, companies and brands in the industry with MundoGEO # Connect LatinAmerica 2014 Award (<http://mundogeoconnect.com/2014/es/premio-mundogeoconnect-2013/segunda-etapa/>). The award ceremony will be held on May 8 at the second MundoGEO # Connect LatinAmerica 2014 Geomatics Conference and Exhibition to be held on May 7-9 in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Please understand the process for choosing the winners:

- First stage (on November ) - the community sector chose next year awards categories through an online survey
- Second stage (from December 1 to February 14) - an indication of who should be the finalists in each category
- Third and final stage (from February 17 to April 18) - choice of the winner of each category from a list of the five highest voting of the previous phase

Please join this second phase of the award, nominally indicating who should be among the 5 finalists in each category: <http://mundogeoconnect.com/2014/es/premio-mundogeoconnect-2013/segunda-etapa>



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## Employment Opportunities

### Lecturer position in Spatial Information, University of Melbourne

Source: Stephan Winter



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

WELBROOKVILLE

At the University of Melbourne, Department of Infrastructure Engineering, a position is open for a Lecturer in Spatial Information. We are looking for an ambitious candidate to join one of the world-leading teams in spatial information on a continuing basis. You will work as an academic somewhere within sensing, collecting, modelling, interpreting or communicating spatial information. Your specialisation is expected to complement the current team's expertise. Suitable areas could be, for example, information from imaging sensors, data analytics, or urban informatics. You will contribute to the team's research impact and broaden its appeal in terms of industry engagement. The responsibilities of the position will include the development and delivery of successful undergraduate and graduate teaching subjects and making a significant contribution to the research activities of the department, including supervision of research higher degree students. More details can be found here: <http://jobs.unimelb.edu.au/jobDetails.asp?sJobIDs=881426>. Application deadline is **31 January 2014**.

### Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin-Platteville Geography & Geology Program

Source: Tamar Rothenberg

The Geography and Geology Program seeks applications for a tenure track position (Assistant Professor) in Geography with an emphasis in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Physical Geography. The effective date of appointment is August 19, 2014. Qualifications: 1) PhD in Geography completed with transcripts no later than January 1st, 2015; 2) teaching and research specialization in GIS and Physical Geography; 3) enthusiasm for integrating field and laboratory activities with GIS instruction; and 4) experience and strong interest in mentoring undergraduate researchers. The successful candidate will teach introductory and advanced undergraduate courses in GIS to students from a range of majors including, but not limited to, geography, biology, engineering, and reclamation. Additional responsibilities include mentoring student research and maintaining the GIS laboratory computers, server, and geospatial field equipment. To Ensure Consideration: Review of applications will begin on **January 15, 2014** and will continue until the position is filled. Questions may be addressed to: Dr. Evan Larson [larsonev@uwplatt.edu](mailto:larsonev@uwplatt.edu)

### GIS Position Announcement

Source: Jenny Marie Johnson



The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library is seeking applicants for the position of GIS Specialist. The GIS Specialist will have strong technical skills and will play a critical role in the development, growth and stability of the Library's GIS program through collaboration with personnel throughout the Library to meet the campus's need for GIS services, collections, and infrastructure. This

individual will promote the use of geospatial data and methodologies in instruction and research and will consult with and assist a campus-wide spectrum of users with a broad variety of needs, interests, and abilities. Additionally, s/he will be adept at and enthusiastic about communicating technical information to non-technical users. For full position description and application information, please see: <https://jobs.illinois.edu/academic-job-board/job-details?jobID=37725&job=geographic-information-systems-specialist-map-library-a1300555>

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### Other

#### [ECLAC Highlights Climate Change Impacts on Grain Production in Central America](#)

Source: <http://sids-l.iisd.org/>

The Sub regional headquarters for Mexico and Central America of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) issued a study finding substantial potential climate change impacts on basic grains production in the seven countries of Central America, and suggesting possible strategies to promote adaptation. The study examines the possible effects of temperature and rainfall changes on the production of maize, rice and beans in 95 subnational geographic units, using a baseline of their production in the 2000 decade. The three crops were chosen for several reasons, including: their central role in the region's diet and importance to Central American food security and nutrition; the amount of their regional production that remains in the hands of small farmers, most of whom live in poverty with limited access to social and economic services; and the importance of the role of small farmers in maintaining regional agro biodiversity. Under the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) A2 scenario (increasing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and global inaction), by the end of the 21st century the region would experience yield drops of 35%, 43% and 50% for maize, beans and rice, respectively. Under the IPCC B2 scenario (more gradual changes and less extreme developments in all respects than other scenarios) the yields would drop by 17%, 19% and 30%, respectively. The study also suggests that appropriate adaptation measures will vary depending on local conditions, calling for adaptation actions to be focused locally and combine poverty reduction with reduction of identified vulnerabilities. The study also suggests integrating adaptation measures in the region's mitigation plans for the agricultural sector. [Publication: [Potential Impacts of Climate Change on Basic Grains in Central America](#) (in Spanish)]



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### Americas: Conferences, SDI Events

#### [CFP: iEMSS 2014](#)

Source: Stephan Maes and Lars Bernard by way of Santiago Borrero



The International Congress on Environmental Modelling & Software (iEMSS 2014) is the official biennial conference of the International Environmental Modelling & Software Society, sponsors of the high impact journal, *Environmental Modelling & Software*. This is a call for submission for the 8th iEMSS being held in San Diego, California, USA, 15-19 June 2014 ([www.iemss.org/iemss2014](http://www.iemss.org/iemss2014)). Particularly attention is given to the conference session A2: "Sharing scientific environmental data and models". This session aims at bringing together the researchers involved in the implementation and development of scientific data infrastructures as well as environmental researchers working with such platforms to discuss the current state

of the art and the requirements and issues to address in future. Topics include, but are not limited to:

- E-science and cyberinfrastructures for environmental research
- scientific (spatial) data infrastructures and data exchange
- metadata descriptions of simulation outputs and their automatic generation
- description of data provenance
- distributed geoprocessing
- collaborative model development
- Versioning of models and simulation outputs

The deadline for the submission is **6th January 2014**, but the expected abstract length is approx. 250 words. Accepted submissions for oral presentation will be followed by a request for a six-page journal-quality technical research paper that will be refereed and peer-reviewed by session organizers and ultimately published in the conference proceedings. Further, it is

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planned to compose a special issue with selected contributions from the session (e.g. in Environmental Modelling and Software, impact factor: 3.47). To submit your abstract, please visit the conference website: <http://www.iemss.org/sites/iemss2014/Abstract.html>  
 Details on the conference program can be found at: <http://www.iemss.org/sites/iemss2014/Program.html>.  
 Do not hesitate to contact [Stephan.Maes@tu-dresden.de](mailto:Stephan.Maes@tu-dresden.de) and [Lars.Bernard@tu-dresden.de](mailto:Lars.Bernard@tu-dresden.de) in case of any question.

### 2nd Conference on Geographic Information Technologies of Southern Argentina

Source : Federico Gastón Barragan



The 2nd Conference on Geographic Information Technologies of Southern Argentina will be held at the University Nacional del Sur on August 6-8, 2014 in Bahia Blanca, Argentina. Members of the University Nacional del Sur Department of Geography and Tourism, Techniques in Geography Area, invite participation in this Conference. Deadline for submission of abstracts is **April 15, 2014**. This event is

a continuation of the 1st Conference on Geographic Information Technologies of Southern Argentina, conducted in April 2010 at the National University of the South in Bahia Blanca. Contact: [jornadasinfogeo@gmail.com](mailto:jornadasinfogeo@gmail.com).

### 27th Scientific Meeting of Argentinean Association of Geodesy and Geophysics

Source : <http://www.ign.gob.ar/>



The Argentinean Association of Geodesy and Geophysics (in Spanish AAGG) invites you to participate in the 27th AAGG Scientific Meeting which will take place on November 3-7, 2014 in the province of San Juan, Argentina. The program consists of lectures, symposia, workshops, and thematic sessions addressing: atmospheric science, global climate change, oceanography and hydrology, solar physics, seismology, geodesy, remote sensing, geomagnetism, tectonic processes. The venue of the meeting will be the CUIM Building, Faculty of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences of the National University. For more information please log on to:

<http://www.aagg.org.ar/aagg-t.htm>

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## Year 2014

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### JANUARY 2014

5-11	Panama City, Panama	<a href="#">Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers</a>
12	Washington DC, USA	<a href="#">Esri Developer Summit</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
28-30	San Antonio TX, USA	<a href="#">DistribuTECH 2014 Conference and Exhibition</a>
29-30	Redlands CA, USA	<a href="#">Geodesign Summit Asks Attendees to Reimagine Their World</a>

### FEBRUARY 2014

6-27	New Brunswick NJ, USA	<a href="#">ArcGIS: Introduction Learn GIS Mapping System Software Through Hands-On Training Course</a>
9-13	La Jolla CA., USA	<a href="#">MAPPS Winter Conference</a>
10-12	Washington DC, USA	<a href="#">Esri Federal GIS Conference 2014</a>
17-19	Denver CO, USA	<a href="#">International LiDAR Mapping Forum [ILMF] Conference</a>
19-21	Washington, DC, USA	<a href="#">Cloud Computing for DoD &amp; Government</a>
23-26	Annapolis MD; USA	<a href="#">NSGIC National States Geographic Information Council 2014 Midyear Meeting</a>
24-27	Jacksonville FL, USA	<a href="#">18th Annual GIS/CAMA Technologies Conference</a>

### MARCH 2014

3-5	Ottawa, Canada	<a href="#">Geospatial Advancement Canada 2014</a>
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8-11 <b>*NEW*</b>	Palm Springs CA, USA	<a href="#">Esri Partner Conference</a>
10-13	Palm Springs CA, USA	<a href="#">Esri International Developer Summit</a>
10-14	The Woodlands TX, USA	<a href="#">24th Annual South Central Arc User Group Conference</a>
12-15 <b>*NEW*</b>	Río Gallegos, Santa Cruz, Argentina	<a href="#">9<sup>th</sup> Patagonian working days on Geography 2014</a>
23-27	Louisville KY, USA	<a href="#">ASPRS 2014 Annual Conference- Geospatial Power in Our Pockets</a>
26-28 <b>*NEW*</b>	Vancouver, Canada	<a href="#">Globe 2014</a>
27-29	Malargüe – Mendoza, Argentina	<a href="#">10<sup>th</sup> Physical Geography National Working days</a>
Mar. 30 – Apr.2	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">17th Annual AAAE GIS Conference and Exhibition</a>

### APRIL 2014

8-10 <b>*NEW*</b>	Tabasco, México	<a href="#">PECOM – Petroleum Exhibition &amp; Conference of Mexico</a>
8-12	Tampa FL, USA	<a href="#">AAG Annual Meeting 2014</a>
14-17	Tampa FL, USA	<a href="#">GEOINT 2014</a>
22-25	Rancho Mirage CA, USA	<a href="#">Field Service 2014</a>
23-25	Houston TX, USA	<a href="#">Esri Petroleum GIS Conference</a>
Apr.27-May 1	Kansas City MO, USA	<a href="#">MAGIC 2014</a>

### MAY 2014

5-7 <b>*NEW*</b>	Charlotte NC, USA	<a href="#">Esri Southeast User Conference</a>
6-8	Burlington VT, USA	<a href="#">Geospatial Information Systems for Transportation Symposium</a>
7-9	Sao Paulo, Brazil	<a href="#">MundoGEO#Connect 2014</a>
7-9	Sao Paulo, Brazil	<a href="#">The Latin American and Caribbean gvSIG working days joined with MundoGEO#Connect 2014</a>
7-9	Tandil - Buenos Aires, Argentina	<a href="#">Third National Working days on Argentina Research and Teaching in Geography and Ninth Working days on Research and Extension Center Geographical Research - Geography: the challenge of building inclusive territories</a>
12-14 <b>*NEW*</b>	Tacoma WA, USA	<a href="#">2014 Washington GIS Conference</a>
13-15 <b>*NEW*</b>	Orlando FL, USA	<a href="#">AUVSI Unmanned Systems 2014</a>
14-17 <b>*NEW*</b>	Santa Fe, Argentina	<a href="#">4<sup>th</sup> Geography International Meeting of Southern Cone</a>
27-29	Guayaquil, Ecuador	<a href="#">Fourth Disaster Risk Reduction Session of the Regional Platform for the Americas 2014</a>

### JUNE 2014

2-5	Las Vegas NV, USA	<a href="#">HxGN LIVE 2014 - Hexagon International Conference</a>
3-5 <b>*NEW*</b>	Boone NC, USA	<a href="#">71<sup>st</sup> Eastern Snow Conference</a>
10-13	Vancouver BC, Canada	<a href="#">FME International User Conference 2014</a>
To be determined	São Paulo – SP, Brazil	<a href="#">History of Cartography, Historical Cartography and Digital Cartography</a>

### JULY 2014

12-15 <b>*NEW*</b>	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">Esri National Security Summit</a>
12-15 <b>*NEW*</b>	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">Esri Education GIS Conference</a>
12-15 <b>*NEW*</b>	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">Esri Business Summit</a>
12-15 <b>*NEW*</b>	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">Esri Architecture, Engineering and Construction Summit</a>
12-15 <b>*NEW*</b>	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">Esri 3D Mapping Forum</a>

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14-18	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">Esri International User Conference "United We Map"</a>
15-19 <b>*NEW*</b>	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">International Congress on Environmental Modelling &amp; Software (iEMSs 2014)</a>

### AUGUST 2014

6-8 <b>*NEW*</b>	Bahía Blanca, Argentina	2 <sup>nd</sup> Southern Argentina Conference on Geographic Information Technologies Contact: <a href="mailto:jornadasinfogeo@gmail.com">jornadasinfogeo@gmail.com</a>
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### SEPTEMBER 2014

14-18	Charleston SC, USA	<a href="#">NSGIC National States Geographic Information Council 2014 Annual Conference</a>
24-27	Bogotá, Colombia	<a href="#">5<sup>th</sup> Ibero-American Symposium on the History of Cartography (5siach)</a>

### OCTOBER 2014

14-18	Quilmes, Argentina	<a href="#">7<sup>th</sup> Symposium from the Latin American and Caribbean Society of Environmental History</a>
22-24	Ft. Worth TX, USA	<a href="#">Race, Ethnicity and Place 2014 Conference</a>

### NOVEMBER 2014

3-7 <b>*NEW*</b>	San Juan, Argentina	<a href="#">27<sup>th</sup> Scientific Meeting of Argentina Association of Geodesy and Geophysics</a>
5-7	Córdoba, Argentina	<a href="#">X Biennial Colloquium of Territorial Transformations</a>

## Year 2015

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### JULY 2015

12-17	San Salvador, El Salvador	<a href="#">55<sup>th</sup> Americanists International Congress: Conflict, peace and identity construction in the Americas</a>
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### AUGUST 2015

23-25	Rio de Janeiro RJ, Brazil	<a href="#">27<sup>th</sup> International Cartographic Conference: Maps Connecting the World</a>
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