

# Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

## Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

SDI-LAC

June

2011

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



Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

# GSDI

[GSDI Definition](#)

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

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## Message from the Editor

Current SDI-LAC issue focuses on Disaster Risk Reduction initiatives. The **Global and Regional SDI** section includes announcements on reduced OGC membership fees in developing nations and respective GovFuture webinar of June 2, 2011; the current leadership of the Space Disaster Charter by UK; side events of the 2nd Joint Technical Meetings of PAIGH's Commissions in Panama to be held on June; Caribbean user-defined satellite products for disaster management; Mesoamerican progresses on the Land Information Platform for Disaster Prevention; Integration of a new Steering Board of CPCI, Latin America; Establishment of the Uruguayan gvSIG Community; Call for contributions to the *UD and Geomatics Journal*, Development of a New FGDC Geospatial Platform Website; and the International Cartographic Conference and General Assembly to be held on July. The **IGS** piece evokes capacity building activities to one of IGS members by the Ministry of Interior of Taiwan. The **National SDI** section highlights activities of Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Mexico, including: The new Cartographic Base of Roraima, Brazil; First SNIT National Coordination Workshop of Chile 2011; Geographical Information Management in the Mining-Energy Sector of Colombia; and both the First 2011 National Geographic and Environmental Information Subsystem Executive Committee Meeting, and recent availability of the National Statistics Inventory of the Public Sector, in Mexico. **Articles and Publications** of the

month contains notes on the First Brazilian NSDI, and Third Argentinean IDERA Bulletins; the on-line Proceedings of the 2010 UN-SPIDER Bonn Workshop; and a New Booklet on Modern Antarctic Science. **Geospatial Research and Applications** comprise comments on Territorial Strategic Development Plans launched in Guatemala; the Environmental Information System of Venezuela; the Global Drought Monitoring System of Systems; Release of Landsat image services by ESRI; and launching of GeoServer major version 2.1.0. The **Training and Funding Opportunities** section encompasses calls for international and national programs, among them the Graduate Scholarship of PAIGH's Committee on Geophysics; Registration deadline to Fall 2011 UNIGIS Program; Annual request for research proposals on Latin America and the Caribbean of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy; PhD studentships at University College Cork, Ireland; and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) fellowships. Finally, several **Events taking place in the Americas** are highlighted in the last section.

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

Sergio Acosta y Lara	Department of Geographic Information, Bureau of Surveying (MTO), SDI Working Group (GTIDE-AGESIC), Uruguay
Mabel Álvarez	President International Geospatial Society, (IGS), Argentina
Darius Bartlett	Department of Geography, University College Cork, Cork, Ireland
Santiago Borrero	Secretary General, Pan-American Institute of Geography and History, PAIGH, Mexico
Arturo Brun-Martínez	Architect, Colombia
Roy Chowdhury	Chair, Human Dimensions of Global Change Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers; Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, USA
M. Steven Cummins	Senior Lecturer & NIHR Senior Fellow, School of Geography, Queen Mary, University of London, UK
Kate Lance	
Lance McKee	Senior Staff Writer, Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC), USA
Luis Reynoso,	Member, Internacional Geospatial Society (IGS), Argentina
Luz Angela Rocha	Editorial Board, UD and Geomatics Journal, Faculty of Engineering, District University FJC, Bogota, Colombia
Carmelle J. Terborgh	GSDI Industry Advisory Council, Chair, Societal Impacts Committee, GSDI, and Federal/Global Affairs Team Lead and Account Manager, ESRI, USA

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#### Global and Regional SDI, News, Presentations

#### OGC reduces membership fees for organizations in developing nations

Source: Lance McKee

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) announces new membership options for organizations based in emerging economies. The need for information integration and the ability to share geospatial information within organizations, across organizations and across borders has increased dramatically in recent years. This has been driven by a large number of factors, including the large number of emergencies and disasters worldwide where data sharing is key. The OGC plays an important role in enabling technical interoperability that makes data sharing easier. To support the current trend toward more global participation in the OGC's open standards process, the OGC has responded to requests for a fee structure (<http://www.opengeospatial.org/ogc/join/levels>) that gives certain categories of organizations discounts based on their country of registration. These categories include government, academic, research, not-for-profit, individuals, and some for-profit organizations. Discounts are based on world economic indicator data (<http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-classifications>) compiled and published by the World Bank. One element of OGC's flexible membership pricing approach is GovFuture (<http://www.ogcnetwork.net/node/1568>), a new kind of membership available for government agencies operating at the local, state or provincial levels in all countries. GovFuture membership focuses on helping local and sub-national governments implement and use OGC standards to achieve government mission objectives.

"The new fee structure changes are part of our consortium's globalization goals," explained Mark Reichardt, president and CEO of the OGC. "We want to improve representation from all regions of the world to help everyone benefit from OGC standards. We are excited at the level of activity in Latin America regarding open standards and Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI), and we are working to identify ways in which we can improve our presence in this region. We are fortunate to have very active leaders from the Latin American community on our Global Advisory Council, a formal subcommittee of the OGC Board of Directors." He also explains that "GovFuture is an important new membership option. It affords local and subnational government organizations the opportunity to network with their peers around the world to share experiences, case studies, and lessons learned from implementing open standards-based solutions. The membership level will include webinars, on-line resources, and a vibrant virtual network for government members to help each other improve their usage of location information."

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**GovFuture webinar - 2 June 2011**



The OGC invites professionals in local and subnational (county, state, province, etc.) governments to participate in a free webinar: "Location Standards – How Do They Help Government?" (<http://www.directionsmag.com/webinars/>). The webinar will be held on Thursday, **June 2**, 2011 at 18:00:00 UTC (2:00 PM EDT). You can register for this Directions Media Webinar at <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/996819355>. This OGC GovFuture webinar will show how local and subnational governments are already benefiting from the "organizational interoperability" enabled by technical interoperability. During this webinar, you will learn:

- How a commitment to open standards has transformed the way government spatial information is used and shared in Western Australia
- How informed planning can prevent privacy, intellectual property, liability and security issues from derailing data sharing efforts
- How GovFuture membership in the OGC can help governments derive maximum value from geospatial technologies

The OGC is an international consortium of more than 415 companies, government agencies, research organizations, and universities participating in a consensus process to develop publicly available geospatial standards. OGC standards support interoperable solutions that "geo-enable" the Web, wireless and location-based services, and mainstream IT. OGC Standards empower technology developers to make geospatial information and services useful with any application that needs to be geospatially enabled. Visit the OGC website at <http://www.opengeospatial.org/contact>

### **GEO Work Plan Symposium reviews the 2012-2015 Work Plan**

Source: GEO News (Issue #14, 17 May 2011) by way of Santiago Borrero

This year's GEO Work Plan Symposium convened over 100 participants from 35 GEO Members and Participating Organizations from 4 to 6 May in Geneva. The participants reviewed Version 0 of the new Work Plan and explored related management options. Summaries of the Symposium outcomes, including a document on the GEOSS Strategic Targets Performance Indicators, are [available online](#). These outcomes, together with technical review comments received from the GEO community by 26 May and recommendations from the Executive Committee, will be incorporated into the draft Work Plan. This Version 1 of the 2012-2015 Work Plan will then be distributed to governments and organizations for official review in late June.

### **UN experts meet to discuss standardizing place names worldwide**

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



Experts from around the world gathered in Vienna on May for a five-day United Nations conference aimed at standardizing the use of place names so that governments, organizations and the public can benefit. The UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN), which was created in 1960, held its latest session at a time when digital technology has made it easier to disseminate and obtain detailed geographic information. "Global expectations are for correct and authoritative information to be available virtually on demand," said UNGEGN Chairperson Helen Kerfoot, adding that "the challenges we face today remain as thought-provoking as in the past." UNGEGN was established to try to promote the use and availability of accurate, clear and unambiguous geographic names given their importance to national and international communication. Place names

are fundamental to many aspects of society, including the coordination of emergency services, tourism, communications systems, economic development and the setting up of planning databases. International standards



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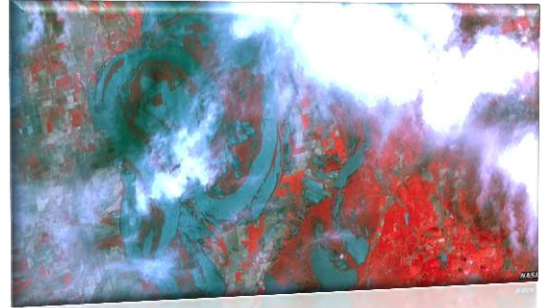
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and the challenges of making standardized names available for disaster responses are among the subjects discussed in Vienna. UNGEGN is one of seven standing expert bodies of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

#### [UK leads space disaster charter](#)

Source: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>


The UK is to lead the international effort that co-ordinates the acquisition of satellite images whenever there is a natural disaster. Britain will chair the International Charter on Space and Major Disasters for the next six months. Images taken from orbit in the event of earthquakes or floods are critical tools in helping emergency responders deal with a crisis. Satellite maps can show the extent of the damage or the areas under water. NGOs, UN agencies and national civil protection centers will use the information to guide their aid efforts on the ground, pinpointing still-passable roads and the best locations to set up refugee camps or mobile medical units. The charter was established by the French and European space agencies in 1999 but has since been joined by a range of other organizations, such as the UK Space Agency, that can provide access to remote-sensing satellites. And the requests for help are becoming ever more frequent - at least once a month. The charter has already been activated 12 times in 2011. These calls have included requests for satellite imagery of Japan after the 11 March earthquake and tsunami, and for data relating to the flooding in Queensland, Australia, in January. The most recent activation occurred on 28 April to deal with the flooding in the central mid-west of the US. When disaster strikes a region, the charter's operations team will check to see which of the members' satellites are due to pass over the affected area next. The spacecraft with most appropriate sensors will then gather the imagery needed most urgently. This could be radar data showing the extent of an oil spill, or infrared pictures to show the extent of wildfires. Satellites provided pictures of inundated Japanese coastlines after the 11 March tsunami. Normally, only a charter member can put the system into operation. Often, this means non-member countries having to seek a charter signatory to act on their behalf, wasting valuable hours before potentially life-saving satellite data is acquired. During the UK's leadership, however, it has been agreed that any country can now draw upon the data provided by the system.



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#### **Second Joint Technical Meetings of the PAIGH's Commissions will be held in Panama from 15 to 17 June 2011**

Source: Carmelle J. Terborgh



**PAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY**  
Specialized Organization of the Organization of American States - OAS

**PAIGH**

*"PAIGH: An organization ready, via its related sciences, to rethink America in the 21 st Century"*

The Second Joint Technical Meetings of the PAIGH's Commissions will take place in Panama on June 15-17, 2011. In addition to advancing the programs of the technical committees, it is planned to develop the following side events: 75 PAIGH Meeting, Fourth Meeting of the CAF-IPGH/GeoSUR Program ([preliminary program](#)); R3IGeo "Harmonization of terminology and the ISO 19100 standards in Spanish"; a "Crisis Support workshop," and the International Charter Class. Both the PAIGH Crisis Support Workshop (to be held on June 13-14), and the International Charter Class (to be held on June 15-16, 2011) will take place at the Hotel Panama, Panama City, Panama, under the coordination of Leslie Armstrong of USGS/EDC. For your participation please see the [detailed agenda](#) of these events, and the registration forms both for the [PAIGH Workshop](#), and the [International Charter Class](#) (the class will be taught entirely in English and no simultaneous translation will be provided). For more information on the International Charter please log on to: <http://www.disasterscharter.org/home>. Contact: Leslie Armstrong [larmstrong@usgs.gov](mailto:larmstrong@usgs.gov)

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### Caribbean user-defined satellite products for disaster management

Source: <http://www.cdema.org/> by way of Kate Lance



The Caribbean Satellite Disaster Pilot (CSDP) Partners Review meeting was hosted by the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency, Friday April 29, 2011 in collaboration with the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and the Canadian Space Agency (CSA). During its first phase, the Pilot was advanced through the volunteer contributions of satellite data and value-added services from participating space agencies. One of the main outcomes of phase 1 was the establishment of regional and national partner collaboration mechanisms as well as

capacity building. Under an initiative of the Canadian Space Agency, capacity building activities in phase 1 focused on satellite information for disaster management in each of the five National Partner States, Barbados, Saint Lucia, Grenada, Jamaica and the Virgin Islands. This followed the delivery of near-real time RADARSAT image map products during the 2010 Hurricane Season as part of the Earth Observation for Coastal Decision Support project of the Pilot. Additionally through the Pilot, NASA has established a Caribbean-wide initiative with a satellite-based Sensor Web for flood prediction and warning at its core. As the CSDP advances in the definition of components of phase 2, institutionalization and integration of the pilot's outputs into existing disaster management programmes, plans and operations of key organizations in the region will be addressed. This will also be important to ensure the sustainability of the pilot's outputs. The new work plan for phase 2 will address additional capacity building which would be tied to service lines, as well as further risk reduction activities aimed at mitigating natural hazards and catastrophic events. User-friendly access and sharing of the CSDP products remains a priority. The presentations at the meeting offered opportunities for advancement, identification of potential linkages and partnerships, as well as promising resources. These opportunities will be reflected in the work plan for phase 2 which is targeted for June 2011.

### Mesoamerican Progresses Towards Construction of Land Information Platform for Disaster Prevention

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

The Mesoamerican Territorial Information System (in Spanish SMIT) allows standards-based information exchange to improve risk management for natural disasters. With support from the National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction (in Spanish CONRED) of Guatemala, the Fourth Regional Meeting of the Mesoamerican Territorial Information System (in Spanish SMIT) was held on April 28-29 in Guatemala City. This initiative is driven under the Mesoamerican Integration and Development Project in coordination with the Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean (in Spanish CATHALAC), with participation of national civil protection agencies and with financial support from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), through its program of Regional Public Goods (RPG). The event was attended both by specialized personnel of CATHALAC, the national focal points of Civil Protection authorities of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama and Colombia, and by regional thematic experts and national specialists on Geographic Information Systems hired by the project to support the national platforms development, which will feed back into the system. By the end of the meeting, agreements were established aimed at producing metadata using a template tool and basic information based on an appropriate regional standard to SMIT; and to produce a standards and procedures handbook for the use of regional territorial information, an essential step for the organization and publication of spatial information required to facilitating decision-making on risk management. SMIT project is promoted pursuant to agreements made by Presidents and Heads of State in the region from the X Summit on the Dialogue and Agreement Mechanism of Tuxtla in 2009.





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#### [Costa Rica will be Chair of the Permanent Committee on Cadastre in Latin America](http://www.catastrolatino.org/)

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



During the meeting, convened by the Ibero-American Permanent Committee on Cadastre (in Spanish CPCI) on "Technological Modernization of Cadastre: 4th Assembly of the Standing Committee on Cadastre in Latin America", held on April 12-15 in Bogota, Colombia it was signed the Cadastral Declaration of Bogotá 2011, which comprises the agreements, experience, technical exchange and cooperation achieved through discussions held by Member countries of the CPCI. The Steering Committee for the period 2011-2012 was also renewed as follows: the Presidency shall be assumed by the Property Registry of Costa Rica; the Vice Presidency will be held by the Geographic Institute "Agustín Codazzi" (in Spanish IGAC) of Colombia; Delegationships of Central America - Mesoamerica, South America and Europe, will be in charge of the Management Authority (in Spanish ANATI) of Panama, the National Bureau of Registration of Uruguay, and the Directorate General for Cadastre of Spain, respectively. Within the "IX Workshop on Real Estate Cadastre", held in 2006 in Colombia, participants agreed to establish a Permanent Committee on Cadastre in Latin America, an institution that aims to establish: (i) The mechanisms to publicize the importance of Cadastre in developing countries, (ii) A permanent link between the cadastral organizations in Latin America, and (iii) A Cadastre Information Network to facilitate information, experiences and best practices exchange among its members.

#### **Establishment of the Uruguayan gvSIG Community**

Source: Sergio Acosta y Lara

The Uruguay gvSIG Community has been officially established. This Community has grown and strengthened since 2007 with the ever-present goal of advancing gvSIG knowledge and usage, both technically and in its organizational aspect. Several are the initiatives emerging from this Community group: from conducting courses for gvSIG users, to project presentations and local practice, the commitment for developing a devoted-to-education GIS, and an extensive list of gvSIG Desktop version applications. Thus, from the active nucleus of this local community it has been decided the formalization of a group organized around gvSIG and to move forward. Anyone interested on joining and on more information about who are the coordinators, and what tools are being created for information sharing, please visit the web place: [http://www.gvsig.org/web/community/comm\\_groups/comm\\_gvsig\\_uy/](http://www.gvsig.org/web/community/comm_groups/comm_gvsig_uy/)

#### **Call for Papers to the *UD and Geomatics Journal*, Colombia**

Source: Luz Angela Rocha



The Francisco José de Caldas District University, through the Departments of Engineering and the Environment, publishes the journal *UD y la GEOMÁTICA* (UD and geomatics) on an annual basis, which aims to disseminate scientific knowledge in the disciplines inherent in, and associated to, Geomatics and Earth Sciences. *UD y la GEOMÁTICA* calls teachers, researchers, and Master and PhD students to publish their research, reflexing, or literature review articles in the next issue of the journal (No. 5) to be published in the second half of 2011. Papers may be sent by e-mail to: [revistageomatica@udistrital.edu.co](mailto:revistageomatica@udistrital.edu.co). Both the author's guidelines and previous Journal's editions are posted on the webpage at: <http://gemini.udistrital.edu.co/comunidad/revistas/revistageomatica/site/?q=node/44>

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#### [New FGDC Geospatial Platform Website, USA](http://www.geoplatform.gov/)

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



**GEOSPATIAL  
PLATFORM**

The partner agencies of the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) are developing a [Geospatial Platform](#) to more effectively provide place-based products and services to the American public. The Geospatial Platform will be a managed portfolio of common geospatial data, services, and applications contributed and administered by authoritative sources and hosted on a shared infrastructure, for use

by government agencies and partners to meet their mission needs and the broader needs of the Nation. Thus, the key building blocks of the platform are: Common Data, Common Services, and Common Applications. Detailed information and the new Modernization Roadmap for the Geospatial Platform (version 4) are posted at: <http://www.geoplatform.gov/>

#### [25<sup>th</sup> International Cartographic Conference and the 15th General Assembly of the International Cartographic Association](http://www.icc2011.fr/)

Source: <http://www.icc2011.fr/>

The 25th International Cartographic Conference and the 15th General Assembly of the International Cartographic Association, will be held on July 3-8, 2011 in Paris, France. France will host these events, marking the fiftieth anniversary of the first General Assembly of the Organization. During these fifty years, the ICA has skillfully remained true to its fundamental objectives, namely, to maintain its position as the benchmark international conference for cartography and geomatics, thanks to its solid and progressively updated scientific content, whilst remaining a conference which is open to a variety of participating groups: researchers, decision-makers in the field of geomatics, teachers and lovers of cartography. In its organization of the ICA in July 2011, on the theme of an enlightened view on Cartography and GIS, the French Committee of Cartography is seeking to combine thematic diversity, high-quality contributions and an up-to-date content. Detailed information is found at the Conference Website: <http://www.icc2011.fr/>

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### IGS News, Links, Publications

#### **Member of the International Geospatial Society (IGS) attended a Seminar in Taiwan**

Source: Luis Reynoso by way of Mabel Alvarez

A seminar on Geographic Information Systems and Land Management was held at the International Center of Land Policy Studies and Training (ICLPST), on March 16-29, 2011, in Taoyuan City, Taiwan, Republic of China. 26 participants from 23 different countries attended the seminar.

Main topics of the seminar focused on GIS, SDI, and the presentation of the Taiwanese SDI which is called NGIS (National Geographic Information System). NGIS is the product of many years of effort, coordinated and organizational work of many stakeholders. The main stakeholders' roles of any SDI can be clearly identified in Taiwan: NGIS includes providers, producers, policy makers, brokers, value added reseller and final users. NGIS is supported by the government through specific projects that are being improved throughout the last fifteen years.

Lectures of this seminar included topics on GIS concepts, Remote Sensing and Disaster Monitoring, Geographic Information Systems and Tourism Planning, Land Management and Administration. This seminar also included visits to three organizations in Taichung City: (a) the National Land Surveying and Mapping Center, (b) the Soil and Water Conservation Bureau (Council of Agriculture) and (c) the GIS Research Center, Feng Chia University. This seminar's lectures were perfectly diversified with cultural activities (a visit to the Sun Moon Lake –one of the best places I've ever

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seen- and many beautiful places in Taipei: Taipei 101, a landmark skyscraper -the world's second tallest building-, the National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall, and the National Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall, among others.

The seminar's direction and coordination was excellent; the organization committee paid always attention to any detail. Everything was carefully prepared allowing participants to share in a relaxed and friendly environment.

In addition to lectures and field trips, the program at the ICLPST encouraged the interaction among participants. Learning through debate about real problems from case presentation and active discussion with fellow participants and professionals was the basis of the participants' communication.

Through the participants' presentations it was possible to realize that Indonesia and Malaysia had developed important improvements toward the implementation of their own SDI, as well as Taiwan. However, in many topics of different presentations appears a recurrent problem: the social aspects (and problems related with working in a distributed manner) that need to be faced when SDI is evolving at any scale (local, national, regional or global levels).

Due to this last fact, which was also evidenced and previously detected by IGS, the topic of my presentation, which was discussed with Mabel Alvarez (current President of IGS) focused on a theoretical framework of the social connections that are always present within any SDI. The space is socially produced in any SDI, so we need to understand and measure the social ties that are behind the SDI. "If you cannot measure it, you cannot improve it" Lord Kelvin. The framework is based on three aspects: economic, spatial and social. We propose a framework to describe SDI in terms of its structural components and social capital relationships of bonding, linking and bridging. In the future, it is expected to publish this proposal in an international journal.

Taiwan, and in particular the ICLPST, are concerned with the diffusion and training on land policies. Taiwan's land management experience, in which not only the common core data of any SDI are used but also real-time information that are crucial for dealing with typhoon and earthquake (recall that this island is located in East Asia in the Western Pacific Ocean and struggles to continuously managing and exploiting spatial data in relation with climate disasters), is one of best world experience in spatial information. The last concern, besides the size of the island, the diversity of its topography, the efforts performed in the last years, makes Taiwan a best SDI laboratory for the rest of the world.

What more can we add? Their experience is socialized through international cooperation, permanently! Worthy of imitating!

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### National SDI, News, Links, Presentations

#### [NATIONAL SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE OF BRAZIL \(in Spanish INDE\)](#)

##### [IBGE and the State Government launch new Cartographic Base of Roraima](#)

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

The Brazilian Institute of Geography (in Portuguese IBGE) along with the Government of Roraima launched on May 16 the Roraima State Continuous Cartographic Base, at scale of 1:100,000. The new RR Cartographic Base will be available to the public at the portals of the IBGE and the NSDI (National Spatial Data Infrastructure), at: <http://ibge.gov.br> and <http://inde.gov.br/>

(<http://www.geoservicos.ibge.gov.br/geoserver/ows?service=wms&version=1.1.1&request=GetCapabilities>).

The Cartographic Base is a seamless mosaic of the State of 108 planimetric sheets (map information





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without relief), with data on locations, transportation system, rivers, etc. (image above). The information will serve as a basis for the creation of maps with different themes, such as geology or hydrology. The base map will be part of the Continuous Mapping of the Amazon, being the result of the Continuing Mapping of Legal Amazon 1:100,000, of the Ministry of Environment, which is run jointly by the IBGE and the Directorate of Army Geographical Service (in Portuguese DSG).

#### [NATIONAL TERRITORIAL INFORMATION SYSTEM OF CHILE \(in Spanish SNIT\)](#)

##### [First National Coordination Workshop](#)

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

The First National Coordination Workshop convened by SNIT was held on April at headquarters of the Military Geographic Institute of Chile (in Spanish IGM), involving the regional coordinators and representatives of thematic areas. The event was led by Esteban Tohá, SNIT Executive Secretary, who announced the Working Plan for 2011 that includes among its fundamental axes, the National and Regional Coordination; Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) management; and Approval and Dissemination of Norms and Standards to all institutions producers and users of geospatial information. A report on SNIT's activities at both the meeting of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (GGIM), and the meeting of the Planning Working Group of the Permanent Committee on Geospatial Data Infrastructure of the Americas (PC-IDEA), which were also held on April, was also presented. Likewise, there were talks on the progress of both the Standards and the Digital Mapping "South Latitude" projects of the Military Geographic Institute.

The coordinator of the Los Rios Region, Cesar Acuña, unveiled the plan for the Regional Spatial Data Infrastructure applied in this area, which already has an installed geo-node. Finally, it was agreed among those attending the workshop, a need for a more active participation by the Undersecretary of Regional Development, the incorporation of municipalities to local activities, the establishment of a functional structure for the working groups, and the strengthening of communication channels, among other issues.



#### [COLOMBIAN SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE \(in Spanish ICDE\)](#)



##### [Geographical Information Management in the Mining-Energy Sector](#)

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

This year, representatives of the mining and energy sector organizations, led by the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME), are actively involved in the drafting of a paper on Sectorial Policy Guidelines for Geographic Information Management. The document is based on the related proposed legislation fostered by the Spatial Data Infrastructure of Colombia (in Spanish ICDE), in accordance with the National Geographic Information Policy. The above has been developed under an agreement signed between the MME and the Geographic Institute "Agustin Codazzi" (in Spanish IGAC) for which they have conducted workshops on the following topics:

- Geographic Information Copyright and Ownership
- Geographic Information Use and Access
- Geographic Information Custody
- Cost Recovery and/or Pricing

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Likewise, as an essential input into this drafting process a diagnosis of institutional advancement on geographic information management is being conducted, with participation of organizations that make up the working groups.

### [MEXICO, NATIONAL STATISTICAL AND GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM \(in Spanish SNIEG\)](#)

#### [First 2011 National Geographic and Environmental Information Subsystem Executive Committee Meeting](#)

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

First 2011 Meeting of the National Geographic and Environmental Information Subsystem Executive Committee was held in Mexico City on April 28 with participation of representative members of institutions comprising this collegiate body, its Technical Secretary, Executive Secretary, and guests. After reviewing of agreements, there were presentations on the National Indicators Catalog Project; the Annual Program of Statistics and Geography 2011; and the Development of the Infrastructure Subsystem in 2011. Updated progresses of the Specialized Technical Information Committees on: Climate Change, Emissions, Waste and Hazardous Substances, Water, the Energy Sector, Land Use, Vegetation and Forest Resources, and Basic Geographic Information, were also discussed. Finally, the 2011 priorities of the National Geographic and Environmental Information Subsystem were debated, and both publications of the 2010 Report (of activities and results), and the Annual Statistical and Geography Program 2011 were distributed to the audience.



#### [Now available the National Statistics Inventory of the Public Sector, Mexico](#)

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

As a result of activities aimed at building the National Statistical and Geographical Information Infrastructure (in Spanish SNIEG), the National Statistics Inventory of the Public Sector is now available and may be accessed through SNIEG's portal at: [www.snieg.mx](http://www.snieg.mx). This Inventory, an essential component of the National Statistical Register (in Spanish REN), contains statistical information and basic references produced or integrated by the public sector administrative units with statistical functions of both federal and state levels. The information is provided by chip characterization of the reported projects and statistical outputs. The launched information was provided or updated mainly from 2010 to present. Information currently being updated by institutions will be integrated gradually into this Inventory.

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## Articles and Publications of the Month

### **First NSDI Bulletin, Brazil**

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

The [first issue of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure of Brazil \(NSDI in Portuguese INDE\) Bulletin](#), is a publication aimed at informing both this initiative's participants and the society at large, on its progress. The need for and effective and constant communication, the importance of widely disseminating information and of diffusing achievements and actions, are crucial for NSDI's consolidation and sustainability. The Bulletin is a responsive NSDI publication, with concise overviews, summaries and synopses, that refers to sites where resources will be available in full. This Bulletin will also publish interviews with leaders of NSDI member institutions. First issue includes the following topics:

- Deployment of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (in Portuguese INDE)
- Committee on Geographic Names (in Portuguese CNGEO)
- Committee on Standardization of Cadastral Mapping (in Portuguese CNMC)
- NSDI communication tools
- Committee for NSDI Implementation (in Portuguese CINDE)
- NSDI participates of the XV Brazilian Symposium on Remote Sensing (SBSR)
- Committee for Structuring the National Digital Map Collection (in Portuguese CEMND)
- Committee for Structuring Geospatial Metadata (in Portuguese CEMG)

# Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

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### Third IDERA Bulletin, Argentina

Source: <http://www.idera.gov.ar/>

The Working Group and Corporate Communications Broadcast Platform of the Spatial Data Infrastructure of Argentina (in Spanish IDERA) published its third newsletter containing GIS and SDI related news, articles and topics. For accessing this newsletter and past newsletters's issues please [click here](#).



### [Proceedings of the 2010 UN-SPIDER Bonn Workshop are now online](#)

Source: <http://www.un-spider.org/>

Introduction by the Board of Editors (excerpts): For the first time in the four-year history of the UN-SPIDER programme, we are happy to present a volume of Workshop Proceedings. This online publication contains a number of selected papers which were presented during the sessions of the Fourth United Nations International UN-SPIDER Bonn Workshop, as well as a few additional papers that were submitted by professionals who could unfortunately not attend the event and/or did not have the chance to present their findings to the workshop audience. Nonetheless we found these contributions to be fitting the overall frame of this publication and worth sharing with the interested readership. The papers are arranged according to the session topics of the workshop, with slight alterations. Accordingly, there are four chapters focusing on International support mechanisms and the SpaceAid Framework, Satellite communication for disaster management, Earth observation and geospatial information in support of risk and disaster management, and the UN-SPIDER Network and its activities. The workshop provided an opportunity for cutting-edge presentations, brainstorming and in-depth discussions. It brought together a total of about 120 decision-makers and senior experts, who hold managerial or professional positions within programmes or activities relating to support of disaster management and emergency response activities, early warning systems, risk and vulnerability assessment, or development of space technology capabilities and/or solutions. The Editorial Board of this booklet hopes, that with the present publication a valid impression of the 2010 Bonn Workshop is provided and that it not only serves as a documentation of a past meeting, but rather as input for future developments. We hope that the products and technologies introduced serve the better information of the end users, and that the reports of experiences and the mentioning of lacks and needs serve as an impulse to the providers. [The Workshop Proceedings are posted at: <http://www.un-spider.org/4c-challenge-communication-coordination-cooperation-capacity-development>]

### [New Booklet About Modern Antarctic Science](#)

Source: <http://www.nsf.gov/> by way of Arturo Brun-Martínez

The National Science Foundation's Office of Polar Programs is making available a new full-color, extensively illustrated booklet that highlights the variety of cutting-edge science conducted in Antarctica at the three year-round stations the United States maintains on the continent. The booklet, which is available on-line, is aimed primarily at a middle-school audience and is designed to be useful as supplementary material for classroom teachers in a variety of subjects. The 60-page booklet, *Antarctica: A Journey of Discovery*, was written and designed by the National Science Foundation (NSF)-funded, Lincoln, Neb.-based Antarctic Geological Drilling (ANDRILL) project. NSF funds the U.S. participation in ANDRILL, a multinational collaboration comprised of more than 200 scientists, students, and educators from five nations, Germany, Italy, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States. *Antarctica: A Journey of Discovery* provides a basic introduction to subjects as diverse as the food web of the Southern Ocean-which includes penguins, orcas and shrimp-like Krill; the use of ice cores to establish a climate record extending back nearly a million years; state-of-the-art particle physics as carried out at the South Pole; and how Antarctic geology yields clues to our planet's past and its development. The booklet also includes a brief history of Antarctic exploration, both historical and modern, and material about how modern-day researchers prepare to work on the world's coldest continent. *Antarctica: A Journey of Discovery* is available for download in Arabic, English, Russian and Spanish in PDF format on the ANDRILL [website](#). (<http://www.andrill.org/publications>). A very limited number of hard copies are available and may be ordered by contacting David Friscic, technical information specialist in NSF's Office of Polar Programs: [dfriscic@nsf.gov](mailto:dfriscic@nsf.gov)



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# Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

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Geospatial Research,  
Applications, Software, Data

### Guatemalans Launched Territorial Strategic Development Plans

Source: <http://www.segeplan.gob.gt/>



Secretaría de  
Planificación y Programación  
de la Presidencia - SEGEPLAN -



On June 2009, at a ceremony held in Chimaltenango, President of Guatemala, Alvaro Colom, launched the National Planning System (in Spanish SNP), and the Territorial Strategic Development Plans framing process at municipal, departmental, regional and national levels. SEGEPLAN's (Planning and Programming Secretariat of the Presidency) Secretary, Karin Slowing Umaña, says that to comply with this mandate SEGEPLAN designed a set of tools based on past efforts' methodologies, and enabled a process throughout the country aimed at establishing a participatory development vision for each territory's situation. To date, so far, 287 Municipal Strategic Development Plans (in Spanish PDM), and 14 Departmental Strategic Development Plans (in Spanish PDD) are finished. At the regional level, the Northern Transversal Strip, the Pacific Coast, and the Updated Comprehensive Plan of Petén have been completed. As a result of this effort, in addition to Strategic Development Plans there is a broad legacy of products and methodological tools including: Territorial Ordering Methodology, the National Land Information System (in Spanish SINIT), Participatory Mapping, Project Sheets, Institutional Diagnosis, and the Participatory Planning Clearinghouse. The National Atlas on Risks is also highlighted, which was based on the people's risk-perceptions obtained through municipal planning processes. The Strategic Development Plans may be downloaded at the following addresses: [www.segeplan.gob.gt](http://www.segeplan.gob.gt) and [www.guatemala.gob.gt](http://www.guatemala.gob.gt)

### Environmental Information System of Venezuela

Source: <http://sia.geoportalsb.gob.ve/>



The promotion and dissemination of technical, documentary and educational environmental information of Venezuela, is accomplished through the on-line Environmental Information System (in Spanish SIA) as a permanent strategy of environmental information provision. The SIA contains information regarding Land Use Planning, Water, Biodiversity, Forestry, Environmental Quality, Permits, and Environmental Monitoring and Control, organized into six specific subsystems. The SIA currently includes two modules: the Territorial Management and Planning Information System (in Spanish SIGOT), which provides technical, documentary and geographic information appropriate to territorial ordering; and the Integrated Water Management Information System (in Spanish SIGIA), which provides technical, geographical and documentary information relating to comprehensive water management. Both systems provide information at the national, regional, state and local levels. For more information about the SIA and its modules please log on to: <http://sia.geoportalsb.gob.ve/>

# Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

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### Building a global drought monitoring system of systems

Source: GEO News (Issue #14, 17 May 2011) by way of Santiago Borrero

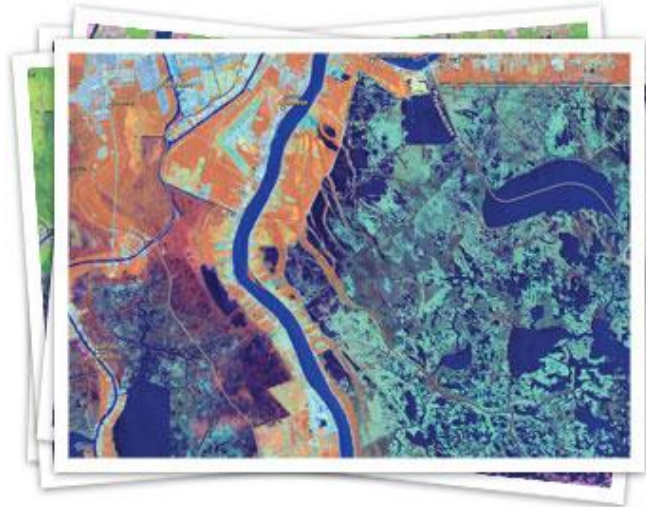
## Beyond Drought

### Global Participation for Better Planning and Response

The US [National Integrated Drought Information System \(NIDIS\)](#) has offered to begin linking together existing regional drought monitoring systems and to host the formation of a global system of drought monitoring systems. To achieve this, it is working in partnership with the [Group on Earth Observations \(GEO\)](#), the European Community's [Joint Research Centre](#) (home of the European Drought Observatory), Deltares, and the [World Meteorological Organization \(WMO\)](#). In addition to North America, regional drought monitoring centers or activities have been launched in Europe, southeast Europe, West and Central Asia, the Caribbean, and various sub-regions within sub-Saharan East Africa. Effective drought monitoring systems have also been established at the national level, including in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Hungary, India, Mexico, Nigeria, the Philippines, Romania, Russian Federation, South Africa and the United States. The emerging collaboration on global drought monitoring currently consists of three regional components: the [North American Drought Monitor](#), the [European Drought Observatory](#), and Princeton University's experimental [African Drought Monitor](#). Other contributors being brought into this global network include Argentina and Brazil's Province of São Paulo (for South America), Australia, Pakistan, Mongolia and the [Asian Water Cycle Initiative](#). The aim is to expand this partnership further to establish a global system of systems for data and information sharing. The centerpiece of this effort is the [global drought monitoring portal](#). This web-based portal and its associated software tools were designed by NIDIS for national and regional use, but they can be easily adapted and used by any national or regional system. To ensure interoperability, the prototype portal leverages OGC-compliant web services. To learn more about the global drought monitor portal or to express interest in participating, please contact the GEO Global Drought Early Warning Information Service Point of Contact (POC), Will Pozzi ([will.pozzi@gmail.com](mailto:will.pozzi@gmail.com)), Richard Heim ([richard.heim@noaa.gov](mailto:richard.heim@noaa.gov)), Michael J. Brewer ([michael.j.brewer@noaa.gov](mailto:michael.j.brewer@noaa.gov)) or Douglas Cripe ([dcripe@geosec.org](mailto:dcripe@geosec.org))

### Landsat data for the World

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



Working in close collaboration with the US Department of the Interior (DOI), ESRI is pleased to announce the release of Landsat image services. These provide access to almost four decades' worth of Global Land Survey (GLS) Landsat data developed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and DOI's US Geological Survey. ESRI provides access to the full multispectral, multitemporal Landsat data for free on ArcGIS Online as dynamic image services. "These Landsat image services expand the ability to monitor landscape change to Internet users worldwide," says Jack Dangermond, President of ESRI. "We're excited to showcase this valuable government resource that uses ArcGIS to rapidly deliver Landsat data so that it can be used to help users understand changes in the World." ESRI has also published an interactive website that leverages these Landsat image services to provide a starting point for understanding earth changes over time. The Landsat image

services from ESRI leverage the 40-year, multibillion-dollar US government investment in the collection and archiving of continuous worldwide Landsat imagery for earth observation. At 30-metre spatial resolution, Landsat imagery is excellent for mapping regional trends in climate change, agriculture, wildlife habitat, forestry, regional planning, coastal zones, and national security. Each Landsat satellite image also "sees" more than humans by collecting data in nonvisible wavelengths such as the infrared and optical (natural color) portions of the electromagnetic spectrum. Images are available at: <http://esri.com/landsat>



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#### [Release of GeoServer 2.1.0](#)

Source: <http://blog.geoserver.org/>



It's been a long time coming, but after nine months, hundreds of hours of development and testing work, two betas and five release candidates, the GeoServer team announce the release of GeoServer 2.1.0. The release of a new major version update is a big deal (the last one was 18 months ago). A detailed description of the new features that have been incrementally showing up are all together at the GeoServer website:

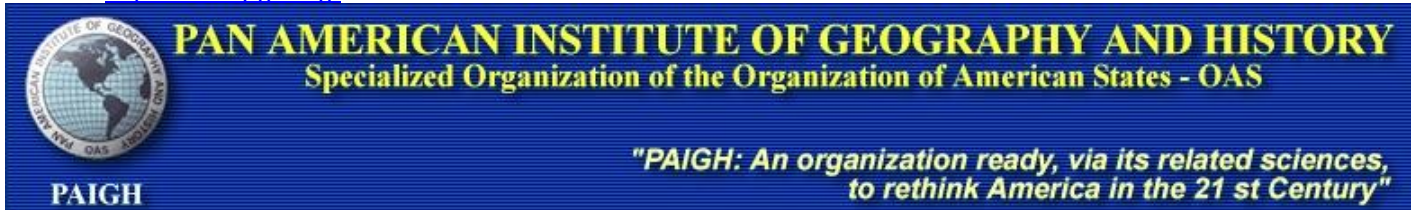
<http://blog.geoserver.org/2011/05/12/geoserver-2-1/>. You may [Download GeoServer 2.1.0](#), try it out, and please provide feedback and report any issues on the [GeoServer mailing list](#). Please be sure to backup your data directory before upgrading, as with all GeoServer major version upgrades there will be changes to the data directory that will make it incompatible with 2.0.x.

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### Training and Funding Opportunities, Awards

#### Call for Postgraduate Scholarship, PAIGH Committee on Geophysics

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



Deadline for applications: **June 15, 2011**. As part of the Pan-American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) Technical Cooperation Program relating to training of specialists with high academic standards, the Commission of Geophysics of PAIGH opens the application period for awarding two scholarships to Latin American students wishing to pursue graduate studies on Earth Sciences at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (in Spanish UNAM). Please access to the call [here](#).

#### [UNIGIS – registration opened for second half of 2011](#)

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

UNIGIS International Association (UIA) is the largest network of global distance learning offering programs in Geographic Information Systems and Science (GISc). It is an expanding network of institutions of higher education dedicated to enhancing the professional competence of GIS. Each year, more than 400 students register worldwide. There are over 3,000 UNIGIS students over 40 countries. UNIGIS in Latin America offers the program in Spanish language for GIS professionals in Latin America. Students qualify for a Specialization and a Masters in GIS, and optionally for a European Master of Science in GIS (with the University of Salzburg, Austria). Registration and enrollment is open until **September 5, 2011**. An Introductory Seminar will be held on Saturday October 15, 2011 and the start of school is Monday 17 October.





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### Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

#### Lincoln Institute of Land Policy - Request for Research Proposals on Latin America and the Caribbean

Source: Lincoln Institute Program on Latin America and the Caribbean  
The Program on Latin America and the Caribbean of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy announces its annual [request for research proposals](#) for studies to be completed by January 2013. The deadline for presentation of proposals is **June 19, 2011**. The terms of reference are posted on Lincoln's website in the following link: [Land Policy and Urban Development in Latin America](#). If you have any questions, please send us an email to: [lacinvestigacion@lincolninst.edu](mailto:lacinvestigacion@lincolninst.edu)



#### Three PhD studentships on offer in Cork, Ireland

Source: Darius Bartlett

The Department of Geography at University College Cork, Ireland, is offering three PhD studentships, to start in September 2011. Two studentships covering PhD fees for three years, and one studentship covering PhD fees and an additional stipend for a three year period. Students from outside the EU may also apply for these studentships and may be eligible for a fee waiver. Details of these may be found at <http://www.ucc.ie/en/hr/vacancies/research/full-details-122990-en.html> and some suggested research topics / areas of particular interest are outlined at <http://www.ucc.ie/en/geography/text-120987-en.html>. We would, however, also be pleased to discuss any additional or different proposed research topics that might be of interest to prospective applicants. Non EU students should contact the Department of Geography for further information. To apply,



please submit a completed application form, accompanied by a research proposal and academic CV by 5pm **June 24th, 2011**.

#### [World Meteorological Organization \(WMO\) fellowships](#)

Source: <http://www.wmo.int/>



World Meteorological Organization

Working together in weather, climate and water

The purpose of the WMO Fellowship Programme is to enable the fellowship holders to derive from their training the knowledge and professional competence which will increase their ability to make essential contribution to enhancing the capabilities of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS) and enable them to participate more actively in the economic and social development of their countries. The fellowships granted by WMO are for studies or training in meteorology and hydrology at universities or training institutes in countries where facilities are available. Special consideration is given to requests for WMO fellowships for training at one of the twenty-three WMO Regional Training Centres (RTCs). As fellowships are awarded only at the request of the candidate's government, the candidatures must be endorsed by the Permanent Representative of the candidate's country with WMO. Applications from individuals are not accepted. The Programme is cross-cutting and constitutes an integral part of each WMO Scientific Programme. The planning and management of fellowships are therefore closely coordinated through the WMO Fellowships Committee and with the staff of the Scientific Programmes concerned. For more information please visit the WMO website at: <http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/dra/etrp/fellowships.php>

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### Employment Opportunities

#### **Post-doctoral Research Opportunity: Integrated land use and ecosystem modeling, in the Amazon at the landscape scale, Stanford University, California**

Source: Roy Chowdhury

A post-doctoral associate for an 18-month appointment to analyze and model land use change impacts on biodiversity, biomass, soil nutrients and socioeconomic variables in landscapes inhabited by indigenous peoples. The work would use existing field data from the Amazon region. The model should represent in a spatially explicit way the impact of land use on forest cover, the impact of forest-cover change on biodiversity and carbon storage in terrestrial ecosystems, and feedbacks from changes in ecosystem services to patterns of land use. The model should represent fine-grained, landscape scale processes. The researcher should be able to combine multiple data sources in analyses and models. This position requires very strong skills in multivariate statistical analyses, simulation modeling of ecosystem processes, and spatial analysis (GIS/remote sensing). The successful applicant will be part of a team of researchers that is using a suite of remotely sensed and field data to evaluate coupled human-natural systems. The successful candidate will be based at the Stanford University, in Palo Alto, California, and will be jointly supervised by Drs. Eric Lambin and Jose Fragoso. Applicants must have a Ph.D. from an accredited university, and must demonstrate expertise in integrated land use change and ecosystem modeling. A publishing record in peer-reviewed journals is required. Applicants should send a letter of interest, curriculum vitae and the names and full contact information (email and phone numbers) of three potential references to Jose Manuel Fragoso ([fragoso@stanford.edu](mailto:fragoso@stanford.edu)) as a PDF file attached to an email no later than **July 10th**, 2011.

#### **Three Research Posts (2012 Olympics & Urban Health), Queen Mary University of London**

Source: Steven Cummins



Three exciting NIHR/DH-funded research and project support posts are offered by the Queen Mary University of London. The posts are available to support a number of major research initiatives led by the Healthy Environments Research Programme in the School of Geography. Three posts will be based in the School of Geography, and one post will be based at The Centre for Psychiatry, Barts & The London Medical School. Posts available are as follows:

Health Impact of 2012 London Olympics (two posts, closing date: **June 13th**, 2011)

One Research Fellow (Spatial Analyst) <http://webapps.qmul.ac.uk/hr/vacancies/jobs.php?id=2363>

One Research Fellow (Survey Research & Analysis) <http://webapps.qmul.ac.uk/hr/vacancies/jobs.php?id=2362>

Urban Health (One post, closing date: **June 8th**, 2011)

One Research Fellow (Urban Health) <http://webapps.qmul.ac.uk/hr/vacancies/jobs.php?id=2352>

Informal enquiries for all posts can be made to Dr Steven Cummins (email: [s.c.j.cummins@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:s.c.j.cummins@qmul.ac.uk)). Please note the separate closing dates.

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### Other

#### **Cities emerge top in UN Sasakawa Award for disaster risk reduction**

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

The cities of San Francisco (Philippines), Santa Fe (Argentina), and District of North Vancouver (Canada), were unveiled as winners of the United Nations-Sasakawa Award for Disaster Risk Reduction at a special ceremony of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction held in Geneva. One of two cities receiving US\$12,500 was Santa Fe, a city frequently hit by floods, which was recognized for effectively communicating risk to everyday citizens. In areas with many informal settlers, several thousand have been "regularized" and given certificates of occupancy, debt

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cancellation certificates and sale contracts for their homes. Scores of families in zones not protected by flood embankments have been relocated in this way. The winners were picked out of a pool of 25 nominees, by an independent jury of eminent disaster risk reduction experts from the Americas, Asia Pacific, Africa and Europe, after three days of deliberation in Geneva, in April. Additional information at <http://www.unisdr.org>

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### Americas: Conferences, SDI Events

#### [12th National Mapping Week](#)

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

The 12th National Mapping Week will take place between 26 June and 1 July in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, Argentina. Several activities for the dissemination of Cartography will be held, in which various related technologies to this discipline are to be presented. The program comprises thematic conferences that will show different views. For more information please contact: [eventos@centroargentinodecartografia.com.ar](mailto:eventos@centroargentinodecartografia.com.ar)

#### [1st National Workshop On Digital Mapping](#)

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

This Workshop will be held on November 9-11 2011, in Villa de Merlo, San Luis Province, Republic of Argentina. This meeting is an ideal place for professionals to share and exchange digital mapping progresses in research, education, knowledge transfer and professional policy, on each of the thematic areas being addressed. Among the objectives are to train partners in the Argentina Association of Soil Science and related professionals in this emerging topic, and to learn from latest issues from international institutions; to strengthen the presence of technology applied to agriculture, forestry and environmental protection; and to propose activities in this area (round tables, conferences and courses) for the next 23<sup>rd</sup> National Congress of Soil Science to be held in Mar del Plata (2012), among others. Contributions should be sent by e-mail to: [seminariotallersanluis@yahoo.com.ar](mailto:seminariotallersanluis@yahoo.com.ar) by **August 15**, 2011. For more information please contact the Organizing Committee at: [seminariotaller@fices.unsl.edu.ar](mailto:seminariotaller@fices.unsl.edu.ar) or [eminariotallersanluis@yahoo.com.ar](mailto:eminariotallersanluis@yahoo.com.ar)

#### **MundoGEO#Connect**

Fuente: MundoGEO#Connect

MundoGEO#Connect "The future of the maps has come" will take place on **June 14, 15 and 16** 2011. Navigate by clicking on the days in the [Full Agenda](#), and check out the complete schedule of [seminars](#) and [short courses](#). MundoGEO



Group was created in 1998 with the goal of producing content for the geo magazines and websites market, and for promoting events. The slogan "The future of maps has come" is inspired by a new relationship phase between users and maps. MundoGEO#Connect born from the perception of the new demand for geospatial solutions for business and government sectors. This was noticed from social network movements, registered visitors to our websites, subscribers to our magazines, and participants of the recent MundoGEO-Group national events held in São Paulo. Since 2009, eight seminars and 12 webinars gathered more than 10,000 professionals.

#### [Open Source Geospatial Conference offers entry-level content](#)

Source: <http://spatialnews.geocomm.com/>



The Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial (FOSS4G) Conference offers a full-day introduction for newcomers at the 2011 conference, which will be held September 12 - 16 in Denver, CO, USA. FOSS4G is the premier international conference focused on open source geospatial software. The broad introduction to the world of geospatial open source software takes place on September 13. The maturity of the software in recent years rivals closed source software, and it is being used by a wide range of commercial and government organizations for many mission-critical applications. If your organization is paying for geospatial software and you haven't yet evaluated open source software, this is a great way to find out more. The introduction will address common questions and misconceptions about open source software. Learn more about the introductory day-long session at <http://2011.foss4g.org/intro-details/>. FOSS4G is the global conference focused on Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial that is organized by the Open



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Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGeo) with support from an all-volunteer organizing committee and professional conference management from the Geospatial Information Technology Association (GITA). The 2011 FOSS4G event in Denver marks the first North American event in four years, with the prior three events taking place in Barcelona, Sydney and Cape Town.

### [WCRP announces Open Science Conference](#)

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



The [World Climate Research Programme](#) will host a major international Open Science Conference in Denver, Colorado, USA on October 24-28, 2011. The conference will bring together major disciplines and leaders of the Earth system research community to identify opportunities for advancing scientific understanding and prediction of climate variability and change from seasons to centuries, and from the

regional to the global levels. Details are available on the conference Web site: <http://www.wcrp-climate.org/conference2011>

### [Eighth International Conference on Technology, Knowledge and Society](#)

Source: <http://www.Technology-Conference.com>



The Conference will take place at the University of California, Los Angeles, USA, on January 16-18 2012. This Conference will address a range of critically important themes in the various fields that address the complex and subtle relationships between technology, knowledge and society. Plenary speakers include some of the leading thinkers in these areas, as well as numerous paper, colloquium and workshop presentations. The deadline for the next round in the call for papers (a title and short abstract) is **14 June 2011**.

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## YEAR 2011

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### JUNE 2011

1-3	Washington DC, USA	<a href="#">GTEC - Government Technology Expo + Conference 2011</a>
6-10	Orlando FL, USA	<a href="#">Hexagon 2011 Intergraph 2011</a>
8-11	Las Vegas NV, USA	<a href="#">Insights 2011</a>
8-9	Novi MI, USA	<a href="#">Telematics Detroit 2011</a>
8-9	Chicago IL, USA	<a href="#">Spatial Analysis and Assessment Modeling Symposium</a>
<b>*NEW*</b> 10-12	Washington DC, EUA	<a href="#">WhereCamp 2011</a>
13-17	St Louis MO, USA	<a href="#">URISA Leadership Academy</a>
14-15	Washington DC, USA	<a href="#">Forum on Earth Observations V: Creating a National Strategy for Environmental Intelligence</a>
14-17	Maca, Brazil	<a href="#">International Offshore Oil and Gas Industry Trade Show and Conference</a>
<b>*NEW*</b> 14-16	Sao Paulo SP, Brazil	<a href="#">MundoGEO#Connect</a> / Further information: <a href="http://mundogeoconnect.com/en">http://mundogeoconnect.com/en</a>
15-17	City of Panama, Panama	<a href="#">Second Meeting of the PAIGH Joint Technical Committees</a>
19-26	Chestertown MD, USA	<a href="#">Computer Mapping Technology Summer Camp</a>
Jun 20 – Jul 1	La Havana, Cuba	<a href="#">Diploma on Prevention, Mitigation and Management of Disasters at the Health Sector</a>
21-22	Chicago IL, USA	<a href="#">Ubiquitous Location and Positioning Technologies USA 2011</a>
Jun 26-Jul 1	Bolton Landing NY, USA	<a href="#">MAPPS Summer Conference</a>
Jun 26-Jul 1	Buenos Aires, Argentina	<a href="#">12th National Mapping Week</a>
<b>*NEW*</b> 27-30	Atlanta GA, USA	<a href="#">2011 URISA GIS in Public Health Conference</a> Contact: <a href="mailto:IMCCprogram@gmail.com">IMCCprogram@gmail.com</a>

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### JULY 2011

4-8	La Havana, Cuba	<a href="#">VIII International Convention on Environment and Development</a>	
4-8	La Havana, Cuba	<a href="#">III International Colloquium: Assessments of Hazard, Vulnerability and Risks for Disasters Reduction</a>	
5-8	Quito, Ecuador	<a href="#">Latin America and Caribbean Regional Consultation and Capacity-Building Workshop on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries, including on Relevant Biodiversity Safeguards</a>	
7-12	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">The Survey Summit Arranged by ESRI and the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (ACSM)</a>	
9-12	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">2011 ESRI Homeland Security GIS Summit</a>	
9-12	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">2011 ESRI International User Conference</a>	
9-12	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">2011 ESRI Education User Conference</a>	
<b>*NEW*</b>	10-11	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">ESRI Business GIS Summit</a>
	14-15	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">MAPublisher Training</a>
	16-19	Big Bear Lake CA, USA	<a href="#">14th Annual Conference Society for Conservation GIS (SCGIS)</a>
	19-21	Mexico City, Mexico	<a href="#">Indigenous Peoples, Marginalized Populations and Climate Change Workshop</a>
	19-22	Mayaguez, Puerto Rico	<a href="#">SAGES/FIG Workshop on Curriculum and Core Survey Knowledge</a>
	19-22	Orlando, FL, USA	<a href="#">WMSCI 2011: 15th World Multi-Conference on Systemics, Cybernetics and Informatics</a>
	21-22	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	<a href="#">Climate change conference 2011</a>
	23-27	Las Vegas NV, USA	<a href="#">Department of Defense (DoD) Worldwide Education Symposium 2012</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>	27-29	SJ Campos SP, Brazil	<a href="#">2nd Sao Paulo Regional School of High Performance - ERAD 2011</a> More at: <a href="http://www.lev.ieav.cta.br/erad2011">www.lev.ieav.cta.br/erad2011</a>
Jul 30 – Aug. 6	Fayetteville State NC, USA	<a href="#">6th ISPRS Student Consortium and WG VI/5 Summer School</a> Advanced LIDAR Data Processing and Applications	

### AUGUST 2011

3-10	Heredia, Costa Rica	<a href="#">SIRGAS Meeting 2011</a>	
7-12	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	<a href="#">International Conference on Atmospheric Electricity</a> More at: <a href="http://www.icae2011.net.br/">http://www.icae2011.net.br/</a>	
10-12	Burnaby, Canada	<a href="#">WG IV/5 2nd International Workshop on Pervasive Web Mapping, Geoprocessing and Services, in conjunction with 4th ICA Workshop on Geospatial Analysis and Modeling (ICA GAM 2011)</a>	
10-13	Cali, Colombia	<a href="#">XIX Colombian Congress of Geography</a> Contact: <a href="mailto:19CongresoGeografia@gmail.com">19CongresoGeografia@gmail.com</a>	
15-17	La Havana, Cuba	<a href="#">Course on Prevention and Preparedness for Emergencies and Disasters at the Primary Level of Health</a>	
15-18	New Orleans LA, USA	<a href="#">URISA/NENA Addressing Conference</a>	
16-18	São Paulo, Brazil	<a href="#">International Image Trade Fair</a>	
<b>*NEW*</b>	17-19	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	<a href="#">Latin American Geospatial Forum</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>	22	Chicago IL, USA	<a href="#">Call for Papers: CFP: The Second ACM SIGSPATIAL International Workshop on GeoStreaming (IWGS 2011)</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>	23-25	Panama City, Panama	<a href="#">Expo Geomática 2011</a>
	24-26	Minneapolis, MN, USA	<a href="#">12th International Symposium on Spatial and Temporal Databases</a>
	29-31	Calgary, Canada	<a href="#">WG V/3 Laser Scanning 2011</a>
Aug 31-Sep 1	Broomfield CO, USA	<a href="#">5th Annual GeoGathering Conference</a>	

### SEPTEMBER 2011

9-11	Denver CO, USA	<a href="#">State of the Map (SotM)</a>
11-14	Santa Fe NM, USA	<a href="#">WG VIII/2 Symposium on "Advances in Geospatial Technologies for Health"</a>
12-14	St. Petersburg FL, USA	<a href="#">GIS in Public Transportation Conference</a>
12-14	Washington DC, USA	<a href="#">Indoor Location Symposium</a>
12-16	Denver CO, USA	<a href="#">FOSS4G 2011</a>
13-15	Herndon VA, USA	<a href="#">FOSE Institute Geospatial Summit</a>
15-16	Washington DC, USA	<a href="#">MAPublisher Training</a>
16	Belfast Maine, USA	<a href="#">Call for Papers: 10th International Conference on Spatial Information Theory COSIT'11</a> Deadline: September 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2011
17-20	Daytona Beach FL, USA	<a href="#">5th Annual Central Florida GIS Workshop</a>



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## Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

17-27	Chantilly VA, USA	<a href="#">2011 GXP User Conference Discover. Learn. Advance</a>
19-23	Boulder CO, USA	<a href="#">OGC Technical and Planning Committee Meeting</a>
23	Boulder CO, USA	<a href="#">GEOSS Workshop XLIII – Climate</a>
29-30 <b>*NEW*</b>	Columbus OH, USA	<a href="#">The Ohio GIS Conference</a>

### OCTOBER 2011

3-7	Morelia, Mexico	<a href="#">XIX National Meeting SELPER-Mexico</a> Contact: <a href="mailto:selper2011@ciga.unam.mx">selper2011@ciga.unam.mx</a>
3-4 <b>*NEW*</b>	Whistler BC, Canada	<a href="#">2011 GITA Pacific Northwest Chapter's 11th Annual Fall Conference</a>
9-11 <b>*NEW*</b>	San Francisco CA, USA	<a href="#">Android Open Conference</a>
12-13	Montreal, Canada	<a href="#">Geomatics 2011</a>
12-14 <b>*NEW*</b>	Madison WI, USA	<a href="#">NACIS2011: Cartography and Information Design</a>
16-20	San Antonio TX, USA	<a href="#">GEOINT 2011</a>
17-20	Ottawa, Ontario, Canada	<a href="#">GTEC - Ottawa - Canada's Government Technology Event</a>
24-28	Denver CO, USA	<a href="#">WCRP OSC Climate Research in Service to Society</a>

### NOVEMBER 2011

1-4	Chicago IL, USA	<a href="#">ACM SIGSPATIAL GIS 2011</a>
1-4	Indianapolis IN, USA	<a href="#">GIS-Pro 2011: URISA's 49th Annual Conference for GIS Professionals</a>
3-4	Seattle WA, USA	<a href="#">MAPublisher Training</a>
7-12	Pará - Belém (PA), Brazil	<a href="#">V International Symposium on Agricultural Geography and VI National Symposium on Agricultural Geography</a>
8-11	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	<a href="#">1<sup>st</sup> Latin American Seminar of Geography and Gender: Space, Gender and Power / Pre-meeting of UGI Regional Conference</a>
9-11 <b>*NEW*</b>	Villa de Merlo, San Luis Province, Argentina	<a href="#">1st National Workshop On Digital Mapping</a>
14-18	Santiago, Chile	<a href="#">UGI 2011 Regional Geographic Conference</a>
15-16 <b>*NEW*</b>	Huntsville AL, USA	<a href="#">Rocket City Geospatial and Alabama GIS Conference 2011</a>
Nov. 28 – Dec. 10	La Havana, Cuba	<a href="#">Course: Psychosocial Attention in Disasters</a>

## YEAR 2012

[Year 2012](#) [January](#) February March April [May](#) June [July](#) August September October November December

### JANUARY 2012

16-18 <b>*NEW*</b>	Los Angeles CA, USA	<a href="#">Eighth International Conference on Technology, Knowledge and Society</a>
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### MAY 2012

14-17	Quebec City, Canada	<a href="#">GSDI-13: Spatially Enabling Government, Industry and Citizens</a>
TO BE DETERMINATED	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	<a href="#">UN Conference on Sustainable Development (commonly called Earth Summit 2012) or 'Rio+20'</a>

### JULY 2012

7-12	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">The Survey Summit</a>
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Nancy Aguirre, PAIGH, Editor [cnaguirre@ipgh.org](mailto:cnaguirre@ipgh.org)  
Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association,  
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