GSDI AND IGS GLOBAL NEWS

News from the GSDI Association and the International Geospatial Society

Vol. 4, No. 5, 2014

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

ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death on 31 May of Douglas Nebert, long-serving Chair and current vice-Chair of the GSDI Technical Committee and one of the driving forces behind the Association's SDI Cookbook. As fulsome tributes to Doug's work and contributions to the geo and SDI worlds arrive from his colleagues and friends who will miss his contributions, friendship and support, see the President's Corner for a personal message from Dr. David Coleman.

GSDI COMMITTEE NEWS

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

Outreach & Membership Committee

Work continues on developing the 5-year GSDI & IGS Strategic Plan via the working group led by President-elect Dave Lovell (EuroGeographcis). The first full draft of the revised document has been completed and is receiving final comments from members of the working group, with the plan to circulate a final version to the GSDI Board before the end of June, 2014. Delay in completing this draft arose from the time taken to explore some of the more radical options to be considered in regard to future operation of the Association, including integrating individual members more closely into the main organisation and investigating possible merger options.

News Editor, **Kate Lance**, published the second issue of the new *GSDI SDI Regional Newsletter* that now covers all six of the Association's main regions in a single monthly publication. Kate also continues to research the news and populates the various regional mailing lists. Work continues on developing a new web site for launch later this year, which features more opportunities for all members to publish their news directly to the web using a content management system (CMS).

Vice-Chair, Communications, **Roger Longhorn**, is cooperating with members of the Societal Impacts Committee in reviewing further the proposals received in response to the Call for Proposals for the Small Grants Program earlier this year, with the view to seeking further funding for proposals that were highly ranked, but for which there was insufficient funding available from the current budget.

Newly appointed Membership Recruitment Manager, **Bruce Westcott**, continues to work with Operations & Communications Manager, Roger Longhorn, in developing a viable Membership Retention and Recruitment Strategy, also providing valuable insight into the GSDI Strategic Plan. Bruce will be pursuing potential new members at the Esri International User Conference in San Diego, CA, in July this year, with support from our valued members, Esri, Inc.

Roger and vice-Chair, Europe, **Joep Crompvoets** (also co-Chair of the Legal & Socioeconomic Committee) were at the European Union Location Framework (EULF) one-day workshop in Brussels, Belgium, on 25 April. EULF is a complementary action under the EU's ISA programme to improve integration of location information in e-Government services. EULF is separate from the part-EU-funded European Location Framework (E.L.F.) project in which Association member EuroGeographics is heavily involved, as reported in previous newsletters. See the brief workshop report later in this newsletter.

Roger also attended the NESSI Summit 2014 in Brussels on 27 May, which was also attended by Wolfgang Steinborn, representing GSDI Member EUROGI. See the brief report later in this issue.

The O&M Committee manages the GSDI Group on LinkedIn, which now has **335 members**. If you are not already a member of this group, please join today – and tell your friends! Visit http://www.linkedin.com to join, then find GSDI in the 'Groups' option, to join the group or go direct to: http://www.linkedin.com/groups/GSDI-Association-3794985.

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

Our **Facebook** account has gathered a few more followers and GSDI and IGS members are encouraged to use Facebook to tell us about their activities. Visit us on Facebook at: (www.facebook.com/gsdiandigs).

We continue to publish news on the Members' Corner of the GSDI website and via **Twitter** @GSDI_IGS.

Societal Impacts Committee

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

Vice-Chair Jeremy Shen reports in the 'Capacity Building' section of the Newsletter on the free training provided by the Societal Impact Committee at the ICLPST (International Center for Land Policy Studies and Training) training Seminar on GIS and Land Management in Taipei, from 19 March to 1 April 2014.

2014 GSDI Small Grants Program Update

Since its launch in 2003, the GSDI Association's Small Grants Program has supported more than 100 projects across the globe. Through 2012, the program was sponsored via a partnership between the GSDI Association, the U.S. Federal Geographic Data Committee and the GISCorps of URISA. Three types of awards are

available: a cash award of up to US$ 2500 per project; SDI/GIS consulting services up to the value of US$ 2500; or a combination of cash award and SDI/GIS consulting services. The consulting services are offered through the GISCorps.

In 2014, GSDI secured funding for four Small Grants projects from GeoConnections, a national collaborative initiative led by GSDI Association member Natural Resources Canada. GeoConnections supports the integration and use of the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI), an on-line resource that improves the sharing, access and use of open geospatial information. The CGDI helps decision-makers from all levels of government, the private sector, non-government organizations and academia make better decisions on social, economic and environmental priorities. The infrastructure itself consists of data, standards, policies, technologies and partnerships that are in place to allow the sharing and visualization of information on the Internet.
(See: http://www.geoconnections.nrcan.gc.ca)

With the GeoConnections contribution, a Call for Proposals was issued in March 2014, resulting in 40 proposals, which were reviewed by volunteers from six continents from organizations in over 20 countries. The proposals selected for funding, from Ghana, Uganda, Belize and Armenia, are listed below.

Title: ***Establishing standards-based web mapping and data access services using open source geospatial software technologies for CERSGIS***

Institution: Centre for Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Services (CERSGIS), University of Ghana, Legon.

Project summary: The project is focused on the development of a clearinghouse for spatial data for CERSGIS and is a case study for the full-scale implementation of recommendations and activities for the National Spatial Development Framework for Ghana. Project activities include:

* Develop data policies and standards.
* Develop metadata for the datasets based on the defined standards
* Implement web-based spatial data infrastructure portal for public access to the datasets.
* Workshop to present the SDI portal to stakeholders.

Title: ***Towards GIS Interoperability For Environmental Protection And Sustainable Development***

Institution: Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda.

Project summary: Develop a structured organization of geodata and geographic information based on internationally accepted OGC and ISO standards to guarantee interoperability in Uganda. Planned activities include:

- Evaluate the existing spatial datasets and value of geoinformation.
- Document spatial data according to the ISO 19115 standard.
- Develop a one-stop gateway to discover, access and evaluate spatial data.

Title: ***Developing a reliable agriculture GIS database for Belize through partnership with key stakeholders***

Institution: Land Information Center, Ministry of Natural Resources and Agriculture, Belmopan, Belize.

Project summary: Develop a reliable agriculture GIS database in collaboration with agriculture stakeholders in the country:

- Establish an Agriculture GIS data integration working group consisting of key stakeholders from governmental, private sector, and other relevant stakeholders.
- Identify the types of agriculture related data and data gaps that exist for large farms (and commercial farms) within the country.
- Establish standards for data integration exercises based on identified needs of stakeholders, best practices, and international standards.
- Develop and provide accessibility of the final database through the Belize NSDI geoportal to enable improved decision-making within this sector.

Title: ***Introducing EnviroSDI for Armenia: Piloting publicly accessible online platform***

Institution: Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography, National Academy of Sciences, Republic of Armenia.

Project summary: The proposed project will create an online SDI open-source based platform (Ushahidi may be one option), enabling the non-profit sector and the wider public to access a wide range of geographic data including base maps and sector specific thematic maps. The main components of the project are:

- Designing the concept of the online SDI platform, with the specifics of it use (users) in mind;
- Developing (customizing an existing open-source platform) and rolling out the SDI (online);
- Populating it with base maps; and

- Populating the platform with geographic (environmental, conservation) thematic data collected during the field fieldwork over a pilot area.

There were many additional, very worthy proposals received, but to support those, GSDI needs more funding! We hope that other GSDI Association members, or organizations that are not members but appreciate the value of the Small Grants Program, would consider supporting some of the unfunded proposals this year.

To see details, including final project reports, from all the proposals funded by GSDI Small Grants since 2003, please visit this web site: http://www.gsdi.org/sic1

Further Funding Needed for Small Grants Program

Further funds to expand the Small Grants Program this year and ensure its long term sustainability into the future are still being sought from other sources, so watch this space for more news in future issues

Many of the applications for support received in response to the call earlier this year warrant funding, yet within the current Small Grants Program budget, we were only able to fund 4 grants. If your organisation can offer such support, please contact either the GSDI President, Dr. David Coleman, at dcoleman@unb.ca or the Societal Impacts Committee Chair, Carmelle Terborgh (cterborgh@esri.com) or Brigitta Urban-Mathieux (Gita Urban-Mathieux burbanma@fgdc.gov). The Small Grants Program has been one of the most successful initiatives of the Association, having funded or part-funded more than 100 projects, meetings, conferences, and training opportunities since its launch in 2003. For information on how to donate, download the program flyer at this link: http://memberservices.gsdi.org/files/?artifact_id=1512.

Note: The Small Grants Program is intended as a benefit of "full membership" in the GSDI Association. We make this opportunity available to non-members, as well, however, full members may obtain favored treatment in the instance in which two grant applications have been ranked similarly in the peer review process. Note that the annual GSDI Association membership fee for national organizations in low and very low per capita income nations may be as little as U.S. $100 or documented in-kind contributions in lieu of dues. Please see www.gsdi.org/joinGSDI for details.

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

THE INTERNATIONAL GEOSPATIAL SOCIETY (IGS)

The *International Geospatial Society* is the **individual membership arm of the GSDI Association** and seeks individuals for membership who have geospatial, SDI, GIS or related professional or specialist interests, including professionals working in these topic areas in government, academia or industry, and students.

IGS members are automatically GSDI Association members. The Society enhances communications globally among individuals that are actively involved in promoting, developing, or advancing spatial data infrastructure and related concepts. As of 31 May 2014, IGS had **405 members.** The IGS web site is at: http://www.igeoss.org.

IGS REMINDERS

Subscriptions to GIM International

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

Subscriptions to Geospatial World Online Magazine

Geospatial World magazine is now offering free subscriptions to IGS members from developing nations or who are students.

Participation in GIKNet

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

GSDI & IGS on LinkedIn and Facebook

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

Join IGS Today!

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

Help us reach – or beat! - our goal of 500 IGS Members in 2014 - get your friends, colleagues and associates to join today! We are continually looking for ways to improve on IGS Member Benefits, so please tell us what you think would be most valuable to you, as an IGS Member - or as a potential IGS Member.

IGS Member News Needed!

IGS Members – submit your news, please, so that we can learn more about what our membership is doing! There are more than 300 of you out there now, so please communicate with us. News can be sent by e-mail directly to me, Roger Longhorn, Editor GSDI & IGS Global Newsletter at: ral@alum.mit.edu, or to Sives Govender, IGS President, at: sives.govender@gmail.com or to Dev Raj Paudyal, IGS President-elect, at: DevRaj.Paudyal@usq.edu.au.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Esri Pledges $1 Billion in Software for K-12 STEM Education in USA

Esri [http://www.esri.com/] is committing up to $1 billion in free accounts for its cloud-based ArcGIS Online software, to help bolster STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) education, as part of a White House initiative, the company said Tuesday. Esri said it would provide a grant to make its advanced, cloud-based mapping software available to more than 100,000 elementary, middle, and high schools in the United States, for free. The software is hosted by Amazon Web Services, who are committing AWS resources for three years to support the initiative. Individual ArcGIS licenses run $10,000 per school. Through the program, the licences and hosting will be provided for free.

Esri said the move is part of the White House ConnectED initiative,which was recently announced by President Barack Obama. The initiative has already attracted commitments from several other tech companies, including Microsoft, Dell, Lenovo and others. In addition

to the software, the program also provides teacher training, a community space, educator mentoring and other student and teacher resources. (See: http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/06/06/president-obama-unveils-connected-initiative-bring-america-s-students-di)

Esri's ArcGIS geographic information systems software suite provides tools for creating interactive Web-based maps. The software is already widely used in schools, with some statewide licenses in place. It is used in across multiple disciplines, including science, math and social sciences. ArcGIS is widely used by government agencies and organizations for mapping data. Esri normally charges more than $10,000 for a license to ArcGIS Online. Through the program, elementary, middle and high schools will be able to receive grants for the use of ArcGIS Online, the hosted edition of ArcGIS. [http://www.esri.com/software/arcgis/arcgisonline/features]

"We are proud to be part of the President's ConnectED Initiative," said Jack Dangermond, Esri president. "Geographic Information System technology gives students powerful tools for understanding our planet, and teaches them to become problem solvers. It is a perfect complement to STEM courses and many other classroom activities, while preparing students for further education and expanding career opportunities in fields that can help better manage our world, build better lives for more people, and design a better future."

Information for educators who wish to participate can be found at connected.esri.com.

ESRI CEO Jack Dangermond discusses strengthening and investing in stem education with Trish Regan on Bloomberg Television's "Street Smart". (Source: Bloomberg) See the video here: http://www.directionsmag.com/videos/esri-pledges-1b-in-software-and-stem-education/401391

ICLPST GIS and Land Management Training

The free training opportunity provided by the Societal Impact Committee, to attend the ICLPST (International Center for Land Policy Studies and Training) training Seminar on Geographical Information Systems and Land Management in Taipei, from 19 March to 1 April 2014 was successfully concluded and Jeremy Shen, Vice-Chair of the Societal Impacts Committee of the GSDI Association, promises a report on the results of the course. The ICLPST sponsored the following IGS members for this excellent training opportunity, the third such provided by our member from Chinese Taipei:

- Mr. Ivar M. Ledezma Casablanca of Bolivia,

- Ms. Rosario Casanova of Uruguay, and
- Mr. Mathenge Mwehe of Kenya.

Rosario Casanova, Jeremy Shen, Mathenge Mwehe, and Ivar M. Ledezma Casablanca at the training seminar

Here is some feedback about the training seminar from candidates:

Ivar Ledezma Casablanca (Bolivia): "*I truly enjoyed the two weeks in Taiwan, the presentations, visits, travelling, eating, and getting to know around. A unique characteristic of this GIS seminar was the fact that it attracted people from all around the world, and this made this event highly enriching at different levels: technical, cultural and social. It has been enjoyable interacting with each other and tying up an international network for exchanging experiences, knowledge and maybe new opportunities….*"

Mathenge Mwehe (Kenya): "*My Taiwan experience I sum up thus; Generation goes, and generation comes, but the earth remains forever, it is us, in our lifetime, to protect and preserve this earth for the sake of them, who will live in it long after we are gone. Exactly this is what the wonderful people of Taiwan are doing, and they are using GIS technology to achieve just that. It is a lesson I learned, it's a lesson I carried back to my country to teach others, it's a lesson that I wish the world can learn from it: The Taiwan GIS Experience.…*"

UNIGIS MSc in GIS for Latin America

I am pleased to present the UNIGIS virtual program for the MSc in GIS (Master of Science (in Geographical Information Science & Systems). The MSc degree in GIS is offered in virtual mode, using open and distance learning, and is currently certified by the University of Salzburg , Austria. The degree awarded is to the MSc (GIS) - Master of Science (Geographical Information Science & Systems) , which is validated in Colombia and other Latin American countries.

Course of study and program structure:

- Traditionally, UNIGIS programs open in the months of April and October. The study, corresponding to 120 ECTS credits, is completed in 13 modules, each of which has a duration of 8 weeks (not counting the time of development of the thesis).
- Instructional materials are taught in Spanish language.
- The Blackboard platform is one of the most important resources for access to academic materials, and also for the interaction between the community of students, tutors and teachers.

Costs and Payment: UNIGIS accepts funding through public or private institutions. The cost of the program is EUR 5 500 (five thousand five hundred euros), and may be paid in two ways:

1. A single payment of EUR 5 000 (five thousand euros). Deadline: end of September 2014
2. Two payments: A first installment of EUR 3 000 (three thousand euros). Deadline: End of September 2014. Second installment of EUR 2 500 (two thousand five hundred euros). Deadline: September 2015.

Requirements: Applicants must have a title, "Professional Grade " or "Third Level ", issued by a university officially registered in the country of origin, duly recognised. Being foreign university study, the passport is also a requirement.

Admission: Entries are open for the academic year which will begin in November 2014. We invite you to fill out your basic information online in this format: "Admission" (no charge):
https://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=dDUzd0dOVXBvRzFUUEljc1pwTmRDbmc6MQ

Once the application for admission is posted, we appreciate that you will send a confirmation mail to either office.cali@unigis.net or to office.americalatina@unigis.net.

Feel free to contact us by which mechanism you prefer, to address any concerns that you have or for further information that you consider relevant to the virtual UNIGIS Programme MSc in GIS - Master of Science (Geographical Information Science & Systems).

Jenny Correa, Coordinator, UNIGIS in Colombia
Skype: jennycorrea1
E-mail: jenny.correa@team.unigis.net
office.cali@unigis.net - http://quito.unigis.net
Tel: +57 (315) 792 5409 - Cali, Colombia

Webinars and Online Training

Readers should not forget also the many possibilities for training on specific aspects of geomatics, geoscience and SDI implementation offered by online webinars and more formal training opportunities from some of our members, not least our industry members, such as Esri and Intergraph, or association members, such as EuroGeographics, ICC (Cartographic Institute of Catalonia), UNIGIS, USGS/FGDC, EUROGI, HUNAGI, etc.

The latest information and schedule of webinars is maintained on the GSDI web site at this link:

http://www.gsdi.org/webinars

and includes webinars from other agencies, not just GSDI members, including US NOAA, ICA (with whom GSDI has a Memorandum of Understanding on joint promotion), Open Geo Foundation and government agencies from various nations, to name but a few.

ASSOCIATION & MEMBER NEWS

Industry Member News

Esri Press SDI Concept Book now Digital!

The Research and Theory in Advancing Spatial Data Infrastructure Concept book from Esri Press, authored by the GSDI Association Secretary General (and former GSDI President) Prof Harlan Onsrud, is now available as an e-book!

In this scholarly volume, Harlan presents the latest research by renowned international experts and offers insights into possible directions in which SDIs may be headed. Firmly rooted in a broad societal context, this book analyzes models for planning, financing, and implementing SDI initiatives and assesses the extent to which established SDI projects in Australia, India, and the European Union are contributing to national economic competitiveness and social well-being.
Author: Harlan Onsrud - ISBN 9781589482876 and eBook cost is $24.99. For more information visit:
http://www.esri.com/library/esripress/ebooks.html

Esri Press e-books are available for purchase from online retailers worldwide. Download the Esri Bookstore app to your mobile device to purchase e-books directly from Esri.

Esri National Security Summit Update

At the Esri National Security Summit, you won't just preview the latest geospatial technology for national security. You'll hear directly from ranking leaders with decades of experience in using GIS to save lives, secure

communities, and meet the national security mission. Here's a sampling of some of the distinguished speakers we've lined up for you:

- Major General William Reddel, adjutant general, New Hampshire National Guard, will set the stage with a conversation about information requirements during an event or incident and the collaboration between local, state, and federal agencies.
- Jonathon Monken, state director, Illinois Emergency Management Agency, will provide a briefing on CAPSTONE-14, a multistate earthquake exercise.
- David Carabin, director, Boston Regional Intelligence Center, will discuss challenges and successes during the response to the Boston Marathon bombing.
- Staff Sergeant Alain Gagnon, National Operations Centre, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, will share lessons learned about using GIS for domestic and international police operations.

National Security Social

Register for the National Security Summit and get ready to connect, engage, and learn. You get the opening day Plenary Session, Map Gallery, and Evening Reception. Day two features the Esri UC National Security Track Sessions, UC Exhibit Pavilion, and the Esri National Security Showcase.

New to the National Security Showcase this year, the Operations Platform for Safety/Security (OPS) Center Theater featuring integrated demonstrations that show you precisely how the ArcGIS platform supports national security mission objectives by working through security planning around a special event. To do this we will highlight GIS capabilities that are available today with generic mission workflows—Planning, Logistics, Operations, Command, and Public Information.

The showcase will also feature the public safety demo theater as well as defense-related ArcGIS for the Warfighter - Land Operations and Maritime Operations demonstrations. You will see how intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance and command and control systems can work together using a coherent and collaborative architecture that streamlines deployment, use, and sharing. More information and registration

here: http://www.esri.com/events/homeland

Get Esri Training Your Way at the Esri Education GIS Conference

Technical training is one of many benefits available to attendees at the Esri Education GIS Conference. Work at your own pace at the Hands-on Learning Lab on Saturday and Sunday. Each lesson is approximately 45 minutes in length and includes a prerecorded presentation and exercises. Topics include sharing maps using ArcGIS Online, spatial analysis techniques, Python scripting, and map design. Esri staff will be on hand to answer your questions. Come in when you can -- no advance registration is required. In addition, the conference will include technical workshops and computer labs presented by Esri staff. Join us at the 14th annual Esri Education GIS Conference! Get more information and register at this link - today! Visit: http://www.esri.com/events/educ

News from Intergraph

Intergraph Government Solutions (IGS), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Intergraph Corporation serving the U.S. Federal market, was awarded a five-year, US$23 million Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract by the U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) Systems Command.

Intergraph's industry-leading computer-aided dispatch system, I/CAD, will serve as the core of the USMC's Consolidated Emergency Response (CERS) Dispatch, Alert and Records (DAR) Management System. The system will provide USMC installations with hardware and software to manage incoming 911 emergency calls and the associated unit and incident management accurately and in real-time. All Marine Corps installations are covered by this contract, including locations within the United States and the Pacific.

"*This solution will greatly enhance the situational awareness of Marine Corps first responders, revolutionizing the way the USMC protects its personnel and resources,*" said Cameron Smith, IGS director of security solutions. "*Intergraph's industry-leading solution is Next Generation 911 (NG911) ready and will position the Marine Corps for future, nation-wide public safety projects like FirstNet. Intergraph brings a rich heritage of public safety projects throughout the world and will apply that experience to CERS DAR*."

The Intergraph I/CAD system is in use worldwide with nearly 300 agencies including the countries of New Zealand and Germany, as well as numerous major metropolitan areas in North America and Europe. I/CAD provides the ability to rapidly geospatially locate E911 telephone calls, create an incident for response, locate

the closest unit to the incident and dispatch first responders. For more information on Intergraph public safety solutions, please visit: http://www.intergraph.com/publicsafety/.

Intergraph has also released SmartPlant Fusion 2014, the latest version of its breakthrough solution for engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) companies and plant operators to rapidly find, capture, organize, link and visualize large volumes of information through a simple web portal. For the complete announcement, visit: http://www.intergraph.com/assets/pressreleases/2014/05-15-2014.aspx

Also from Intergraph: their latest issue of Perspectives is here! [This edition spotlights public safety thought leaders and innovative solutions that help you act fast to make smarter decisions. Check out some of their feature stories that will inspire you to move beyond traditional thinking about public safety technology and more here: http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/intergraph/perspectives_2014issue3/]

Spatial Innovision Ltd Training Schedule Released

Spatial Innovision Ltd. has released their training schedule for 2014. The Introductory, Intermediary and Advanced levels all offer courses to meet your level of GIS needs for self-improvement or organizational growth. Offered in both Jamaica and Trinidad between June and August, Spatial Training courses allows you to be certified in Esri or Trimble software. Register today at services@spatialvision.com. Courses begin in June.

Visit the Spatial Innovision schedule here: http://www.spatialvision.com/spatial-announces-2014-training-schedule/

News from Boundless

Jody Garnett, Senior Software Engineer at Boundless, offers these insights in the Boundless blog [http://boundlessgeo.com/blog/] into the Location Intelligence 2014 event held in Washington, DC, 19-21 May 2014. The conference was hosted by Directions Magazine, Oracle, Here (a Nokia business) and the Eclipse Foundation's LocationTech initiative [http://www.locationtech.org/]. The result was a diverse mix representing our industry and a strong outreach to the Business Intelligence community. The first 'half day' of the conference started with workshops. David Winslow and Juan Marin from Boundless offered a tag team introduction to GeoGit [http://geogit.org/] called Redefining Geospatial Data Versioning: The GeoGit Approach. The highlight of this workshop was a live demonstration of GeoGit plugin for QGIS. Jody's

contribution was a series of illustrations showing each step of the workshop and running around the room to assist as needed. See: http://www.locationintelligence.net/dc/presentations/redefining-geospatial-data-versioning-the-geogit-approach/386700.

Eddie Pickle, CEO of Boundless, offers his comments also in the Boundless blog:

"It's rather interesting (and really fun) to be a part of both the 'traditional' GIS/BI community and the newer geoweb community. Because our geospatial software makes this possible, I attended two radically different events in the past week that span this divide. One, the Location Intelligence Summit is an established event held on corporate turf at the Washington DC Convention Center. The other, the GeoWeb Summit [http://geoweb.co/], is a newer meeting held in the grittier Dumbo neighborhood of Brooklyn. I felt right at home in each."

"The Location Intelligence Summit, which Jody Garnett blogged about in great detail, did a great job representing the Old Guard. The event pre-dates Google Earth, a time when "location intelligence" came from geocoding customer records while Navteq and TeleAtlas drove the streets. Back then, "spatial was special" and getting and managing data in a GIS was a major effort."

"GeoWeb Summit came later, when geospatial data started to come from everything (mobile devices, cameras, sensors everywhere — even my dog has a chip now! Now spatial is context for data and applications, not necessarily more special than any other aspect of data. We call this Spatial IT and Paul Ramsey presented on it at length."

"Fast forward to today, and at both events there was a strong drive to get to the "now" — to capture, analyze, and visualize real-time data; leverage the crowd; track things indoors and out; and so much more. At each conference it was clear that there is no way that the applications enterprises seek for modern workflows, monitoring, analysis, application serving, and more could happen without the interoperable, scalable capabilities of open source. In the case of the Location Intelligence world, I was part of a whole new LocationTech track for high performance, location-aware technology. Here, open source is a way to get out of an historical trap of proprietary software locked doors. For the GeoWeb Summit, that's a starting assumption. In both cases, it's great to be a foundation for the future."

Eddie Pickle is CEO of Boundless, developers of OpenGeo Suite, and Eddie is Treasurer of the GSDI Association.

From the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)

Pitney Bowes becomes a Principal Member of the Open Geospatial Consortium

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC®) is pleased to announce that Pitney Bowes Inc. has raised its membership level from Technical Committee level to Principal level. As a Principal Member, Pitney Bowes will participate in OGC's Planning Committee to explore market and technology trends relevant to OGC's mission to assure that OGC's policies and procedures remain effective and agile in a changing technology environment, and to participate in final approval decisions for all OGC standards.

"*Pitney Bowes has a clear corporate commitment to advancing open, interoperable platforms to address their customers' communications challenges*," said Mark Reichardt, President and CEO of the OGC. "*Standards enable a multiplatform business intelligence environment for developing and delivering location service offerings, and this approach is perfectly aligned with the OGC vision.*"

James Buckley, Senior Vice President and General Manager, Location Intelligence, Pitney Bowes, adds: "*We are dedicated to the geospatial space and wholeheartedly believe in the work that OGC is doing and we want to be active participants in the development of guidelines and processes to further the industry. Currently, the MapInfo product suite and our new Spectrum Spatial Server support relevant OGC standards. We are excited to take an active role in the OGC community especially since our central focus is on enhancing our leadership position in the Location Intelligence and GIS markets.*" James adds, "*We look forward to working with the OGC in this new role.*"

OGC Seeks Participation in CityGML 3.0 Development

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC®) Membership seeks organizations and individuals to participate in the development of the next major version of the OGC City Geography Markup Language (CityGML). See the Call for Participation at:
http://www.opengeospatial.org/standards/requests/119

CityGML is a comprehensive open data model framework and XML-based encoding standard for the modeling, storage, and exchange of virtual 3D city and landscape models. In 2008 it was adopted by the OGC membership as an international OGC standard. CityGML is being implemented across Europe, Canada, the Middle East

and Asia. It has even been adopted by several countries including The Netherlands and Germany as an official national and municipal 3D geo information standard, and it has been adapted as part of the European Union's common spatial data infrastructure INSPIRE.

CityGML is implemented as an application schema of the OGC Geography Markup Language 3 (GML3) Encoding Standard, an international standard for spatial data exchange and encoding approved by the OGC and ISO. See: (http://www.opengeospatial.org/standards/gml

Since the release of CityGML 2.0, a number of CityGML change requests have been submitted to the OGC. In June 2013, further requirements and ideas guiding the development of CityGML 3.0 were gathered and discussed at an international workshop jointly hosted by the OGC and the Special Interest Group 3D (SIG 3D). All presentation slides and the minutes of the workshop are available here:
http://en.wiki.modeling.sig3d.de/index.php/Workshop_ Munich_2013.

The outcomes of this ongoing discussion are formally captured in a list of work packages that define the overall work scope for CityGML 3.0. Examples of the identified work include changes to CityGML's level-of-detail concept, additional semantic model structures such as building storeys, floor plans and utility networks, as well as new complex attributes such as time series and metadata. To the extent feasible, new features will minimize impacts on backwards compatibility that might affect the many communities using the current version of CityGML.

The OGC solicits input and expertise from CityGML users, data producers, software vendors, and scientists in order to identify participants willing to contribute to and able to assume ownership for the work of the work packages under the joint leadership of the OGC CityGML Standard Working Group (SWG) and the SIG 3D. This call explicitly includes non-OGC members. Active participation in the CityGML 3.0 development process does not require OGC membership. To be most effective, organizations and individuals responding to this CFP should plan to fully participate in the CityGML 3.0 development activities.

Responses to the CFP are requested by the time of the 10 June 2014 kickoff of CityGML 3.0 development at the OGC Technical Committee meeting in Geneva, Switzerland. Note, however, that this CFP will remain open for the duration of the CityGML 3.0 development process.

OGC extensions to Web Coverage Service Standard improve access to Earth data

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC®) Membership has approved six OGC Web Coverage Service (WCS) Interface Standard extensions as official OGC standards. These WCS extensions significantly expand the ability of researchers, environmental managers, disaster managers, policy advisers and others to access the world's network-distributed Earth imaging data resources.

The OGC Web Coverage Service (WCS) Interface Standard defines an interface for requesting coverage data, such as sensor data, satellite imagery, image time series, point clouds, and TINs (triangulated irregular networks). The six new WCS Extensions specify standard mechanisms for providing additional control over the processing of a coverage during its server-side processing:

- GML Application Schema - Coverages - GeoTIFF Coverage Encoding Profile: Returns a coverage in GeoTIFF encoding, in addition to formats like the OGC Geography Markup Language (GML) Encoding Standard.
- WCS Range Subsetting Extension: Specifies a standard way to extract specific fields from the range set of a coverage as part of the data request. For example, in remote sensing this is known as "band" or "channel" subsetting and in climate modeling it is called "variable extraction".
- WCS Scaling Extension: Specifies parameters to a request to provide control over scaling of a coverage during its server-side processing.
- WCS Interpolation Extension: Enables clients to specify the interpolation method that the server shall apply to a coverage.
- WCS Processing Extension: Specifies the standard service interface to the Web Coverage Processing Service (WCPS) query language. WCPS extends WCS functionality with a high-level query language for server-side filtering and processing of multi-dimensional Big Data.
- WCS Earth Observation Profile: Defines a profile of WCS 2.0 for use on Earth Observation data.

All OGC standards are free and publicly available at http://www.opengeospatial.org/standards. An overview and downloads of the complete WCS suite are available at http://www.opengeospatial.org/standards/wcs.

The OGC seeks comment on Unified Geo-Data Reference Model for Law Enforcement and Public Safety (LEAPS) Services

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC®) membership seeks public comment on the Unified Geo-Data Reference Model for Law Enforcement and Public Safety (LEAPS) Services, with the intent to establish this model as a new OGC Best Practice. The the Unified Geo-Data Reference Model for Law Enforcement and Public Safety (LEAPS) Services can be downloaded from http://www.opengeospatial.org/standards/requests/120 **Comments are due by 17 July 2014**

Open standards are essential if diverse systems are to provide law enforcement, civil security and public safety stakeholders with current and accurate role-based location information. The Unified Geo-Data Reference Model for Law Enforcement and Public Safety (LEAPS) Services specifies a framework that can be used to support interoperability at the data and services level.

The Unified Geo-Data Reference Model for Law Enforcement and Public Safety (LEAPS) Services document is the result of work undertaken since 2010 within the UAE Ministry of Interior's Abu Dhabi Police General Headquarters GIS Center for Security (GIS CS). The reference model development effort also included other organizations.

The GIS CS is an active member of the OGC Law Enforcement and Public Safety Domain Working Group (LEAPS DWG), which provides a unifying forum in which local, national, regional and international law enforcement, civil security and public safety forces can work collaboratively on issues related to law enforcement, civil security and public safety.

US Intelligence Foundation promotes value of OGC standards at international conference

The Virginia-based United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation (USGIF) recognized industry innovation and employment of OGC standards to nearly 4,000 international attendees at the 2014 GEOINT Symposium in Tampa, Florida.

Pixia Corp, [http://www.pixia.com/] a US commercial software company in Reston, Virginia was the sole USGIF industry award recipient at this year's conference. They were recognized for developing what has now become the widely accepted international best practice specification for Wide Area Motion Imagery (WAMI), which provides unprecedented universal data access and dissemination. Pixia invented, developed, and donated its WAMI specification to the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC), who in turn adopted the specification as the OGC international WAMI Best Practice. [http://www.opengeospatial.org/pressroom/pressreleas es/1759] This effort paves the way for a future user environment that leverages standard open architectures across all geospatial data types.

According to Rudi Ernst, Pixia Corp CEO, "OGC standards are crucial to making data relevant and useful. Users and

data collectors must look to architectures that leverage open standards to enable them to collect, combine, analyze and share knowledge to make critical decisions when time matters."

The OGC adopts "I15" standard providing ebRIM extension to OGC Catalog Services Interface Standard

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) membership as adopted the OGC standard, "OGC I15 (ISO19115 Metadata) Extension Package of CS-W ebRIM Profile 1.0." The OGC Catalogue Services Standard establishes a general framework for implementing catalogue services used for publishing and discovering geospatial data and geoprocessing services. The developers of the I15 standard anticipate that this standard will be useful to stakeholders in a wide variety of domains whose spatial metadata conform to the ISO19115 Metadata standard.

The I15 standard provides an extension package aligned with the ebRIM application profile of CS-W for the cataloguing of data and services whose metadata implements ISO geospatial metadata standards. The I15 Extension Package defines mechanisms that allow an ebRIM catalogue to manage and search ISO conformant metadata in ways that enable arbitrary, complex and deep searches involving multiple metadata elements.

The draft standard was initially produced during the ESA HMA (Heterogeneous Missions Accessibility) initiative (HMA) and related projects. The OGC OWS-9 testbed initiative tested the draft standard and provided input.

Download the OGC I15 (ISO19115 Metadata) Extension Package of CS-W ebRIM Profile 1.0 here: http://www.opengeospatial.org/standards/cat. Like all OGC standards, this standard is free and publicly available.

News from GSDI Members in the Americas

Two CIESIN Staff Positions Available

CIESIN, the Center for International Earth Science Information Network of the Earth Institute at Columbia University, is seeking to fill two Officer of Research positions, one in its Science Applications Division and the second in its Geospatial Applications Division:

1) **Senior Staff Associate, Science Applications Division**

The individual will play a lead role in the development of data systems and services for global and African digital soil mapping projects and will coordinate CIESIN's scientific and technical activities related to geoinformatics and cyber infrastructure for soil science, agricultural development, and related areas. He/she will manage projects involving the design, implementation, quality control, and maintenance of data systems for large-scale, geo-referenced soil and environmental data collection, integration, analysis and online dissemination; develop technical tools in support of soil cyber infrastructure project needs; participate in scientific analysis of soil data and its interrelationship with crop yields, land degradation, soil management practices, and other environmental and socioeconomic factors; and interact with other staff members to provide expert guidance and project management.

The position requires a Bachelor's degree and eight years of related experience or Masters degree and four years related experience in social or natural science discipline relevant to human-environment interactions or in geoinformatics or related field.

Search will stay open for 30 days after the ad appears and will continue until the job is filled. Please visit our online application site at: https://academicjobs.columbia.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=59340 for further information about this position and to submit your application. Annual salary will be commensurate with experience.

2) **Staff Associate, Geospatial Applications Division**

The individual will play a lead role in the creation, maintenance and integration of large spatial and non-spatial data sets, automate data processing and analysis tasks, assist in building and managing online interactive mapping systems, and conduct advanced spatial and statistical analysis on collections of environmental, social, and demographic datasets. He/she will bring inventive approaches to the use of remote sensing products and analysis techniques to advance global climate change research and sustainable development projects and programs. A key role is to design geospatial databases, data management processes, and distribution systems in consultation with CIESIN colleagues, other Earth Institute centers and projects, and external partners.

The position requires a Bachelor's degree and four years of relevant experience or a Master's degree and two years of relevant experience. Degrees should be in Geography or Computer Science, or other related field emphasizing knowledge of spatial analysis techniques germane to CIESIN's ongoing and planned activities. Advanced degree preferred.

Search will stay open for 30 days after the ad appears and will continue until the job is filled. Please visit our online application site at https://academicjobs.columbia.edu/applicants/Central?q

uickFind=59349 for further information about this position and to submit your application. Annual salary will be commensurate with experience.

Information applicable to both positions: Columbia University benefits provided with this Officer of Research position. Please follow this link to view our benefits. http://hr.columbia.edu/files_humanresources/imce_shared/FOBIB-2014.pdf
Columbia University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.

We only accept online applications.

Contact information:

Dr. Robert S. Chen, Director, Center for International Earth Science Information Network
(CIESIN), The Earth Institute, Columbia University
Manager, NASA Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center (SEDAC)
P.O. Box 1000, 61 Route 9W, Palisades, NY 10964 USA
e-mail: bchen@ciesin.columbia.edu
CIESIN web site: http://www.ciesin.columbia.edu
SEDAC web site: http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu

News from University of Laval, Canada

The report "***Why does a smart city need to be spatially enabled?***" has been published by Stéphane Roche, Université Laval, Canada, Centre for Research in Geomatics, Université Laval, Québec (Québec) G1V 0A6, Canada. Email: stephane.roche@scg.ulaval.ca. Published online before print February 7, 2014, Progress in Human Geography.

Abstract:
In this report I propose to examine the concept of the 'smart city' from the standpoint of spatial enablement. I analyse emerging research on smart cities, particularly those addressing the potential role of GISciences in the development and implementation of the concept of smart cities. I develop the idea that the intelligence of a city should be measured by its ability to produce favourable conditions to get urban operators (citizens, organizations, private companies, etc.) actively involved into sociospatial innovation dynamics. To obtain such a commitment, I believe that operators should be able to develop and mobilize (digital) spatial skills so that they could efficiently manage their spatiality. In other words, I argue that a smart city is first of all a spatially enabled city. See:
http://phg.sagepub.com/content/early/2014/02/06/0309132513517365.abstract
And a recent PhD thesis at Laval University from Joel Grira should be of interest.

Thesis title: ***Improving knowledge about the risks of inappropriate uses of geospatial data by introducing a collaborative approach in the design of geospatial databases.***

In this thesis, we hypothesize that the use of a collaborative approach in the design phase of a geospatial database to improve knowledge of risks (identification and analysis) for inappropriate use of these data. We believe that the expertise and knowledge held by experts (i.e. experts geoTI), as well as professional users of geospatial data within the institutional framework of their duties (i.e. domain experts, expert content, subject matter experts) are a key element in the assessment of risks of inappropriate use said data, hence the importance of enriching the knowledge. Thus, we review the design process of geospatial databases and propose a collaborative approach to requirements analysis based on user.

As part of this approach, expert and professional user is involved in a collaborative process that helps identify a priori the case of inappropriate use. Then, by reviewing research risk analysis, we propose a systemic integration of risk analysis process to the process of designing geospatial databases and via the Delphi technique. Finally, still in the context of a collaborative approach, an ontological repository risk is proposed to increase knowledge about risks and to disseminate this knowledge to designers and end users. The approach is implemented as a web platform to implement the concepts and show its feasibility.

Visit this link:
http://www.scg.ulaval.ca/nouvelles.php?id=226*   News from our Asia-Pacific Members *

CAF Strengthens Cooperation with Spanish Institutions

During his official visit to Spain, Enrique Garcia, Executive President of CAF, Development Bank of Latin America, signed diverse cooperation agreements with Spanish institutions such as ADIF, CEDEX and ICO, in order to strengthen cooperation with the railroad and financial-entrepreneurial sectors, within its strategy to support the development of relationships between Spain and Latin America.

I

Enrique Garcia, Executive President of CAF, Development Bank of Latin America, signed agreements with ADIF, CEDEX, and ICO in Madrid.

In the presence of Ana Pastor, Development Minister, the presidents of CAF, Enrique Garcia, and of ADIF, Gonzalo Ferre, signed a cooperation agreement with the Administrator of Railroad Infrastructures (ADIF, for its acronym in Spanish), for the next three years. The objective is to promote knowledge and facilitate the transfer of information in matters regarding railroads through studies and reports that will be carried out jointly; organization and support for courses, conferences, seminars, and workshops; and international agreements between countries, universities, and knowledge centers for Research and Development (R&D) projects.

For Enrique Garcia this alliance will provide an impulse to the infrastructures and to the connections between the countries of the Latin American region, which have much to learn from the Spanish railroad administration. He pointed out that "if we learn in depth about the new technologies in the sector, we may be able to drastically change the development of the region".

This agreement fulfills part of the financial institution's mission, whose ultimate objective is to support progress in its shareholder countries in a sustainable manner. In this case, it has done so through the promotion of strategic dialogue to improve the quality of their public services.

ADIG has developed a significant experience throughout the years with respect to the construction and maintenance of conventional and high-speed railroad infrastructures, as well as regarding the regulation of train circulation.
This entity has been internationally recognized not only in these spheres, but also in those referring to cooperation actions, personnel training, and technical assistance.

In the same event, Enrique Garcia and the Director of the

Studies and Experimentation Center for Public Works (CEDEX, for its acronym in Spanish), Mariano Navas, signed an agreement to formalize the will of the parties to proceed with the collaboration in the studies for the development of projects and technical assistance programs, scientific, technical, and technological innovation research, as well as transfer of knowledge, when required by CAF, to promote development in the area on infrastructures in Latin America.

Agreements with ICO

During the morning, Enrique Garcia and Roman Escolano, President of the Official Credit Institute (ICO, for its acronym in Spanish), signed an agreement for the issuance of guarantees for up to USD 300 million to facilitate the participation of small and medium-sized Spanish enterprises in bidding processes and the execution of projects in Latin America.

During the ceremony, Enrique Garcia highlighted that "offering the possibility of obtaining guarantees through ICO, shows our interest in supporting the participation of the Spanish private sector in the economic growth of Latin America and in the promotion of a culture of exchange of practices that leads to the strengthening of the commercial management of SMEs and of subjects such as governance and social corporate responsibility."

The objective of this Agreement is to deepen the support to Spanish enterprises that are in the process of expanding their businesses in Latin America, as well as to Latin American companies that want to increase their operations in Spain. This Agreement was framed in the program announced in the Ibero-American Summit of Chiefs of State and Government, held in Cadiz in November of 2012.

Garcia explained that "At this time, most Latin American countries are developing important bidding processes which include the participation of small and medium-sized Spanish enterprises that require guarantees to participate. These guarantees may be issued by CAF which, in turn, would get ICO's counter-guarantees".

Thus, Spanish enterprises will be able to expand their actions in Latin America, internationalizing their businesses. Simultaneously, this activity will "positively impact the Ibero-American integration of the private sector in our region" highlighted Garcia.

Source: CAF Press release – see:
http://www.caf.com/en/currently/news/2014/05/caf-strengthens-its-cooperation-with-spanish-institutions/?parent=home

News from Europe

Dutch Kadaster wins Innovation Award

Dutch Kadaster received the Geospatial World Innovation Award for Technological Innovation in Cartography for the automatic generalization of topographic maps at the Geospatial World Forum that took place in Switzerland from 5-9 May. Map generalization is creating a topographical map from a map of smaller scale data to be displayed. Until recently, this was done by hand. Now we can automatically map scales to a smaller level. The jury praised the process of automatic generalization - or autogen - because it brings back the huge production and because it is an example for other organizations registers. The Land Registry is proud of this award that underlines the importance we attach to maps of good quality and timeliness.

Geospatial World Magazine encourages and recognizes projects, innovations and policies that shape the future of the geo-information field. They created the Geospatial World Awards to promote examples that excel in the geo world.

ITC - Thesis published

On 30 April 2014, Ms. Christine Richter, Department of Urban and Regional Planning and Geo-information Management, Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC) of the University of Twente, defended her PhD thesis entitled "Digital transformations in Indian cities: between paper list and GIS map". Her research explores SDI development in the context of urban governance in India, specifically in the state of Karnataka and – more tangentially – in the state of Maharashtra. Download the thesis here: http://www.itc.nl/library/papers_2014/phd/richter.pdf

Winners of the UNIGIS Master Thesis Award 2014

We congratulate all finalists - Marco Saner, Keith Peterson and Bernd Härtwig - to being selected as the top MSc theses in 2013! In a public vote following brief presentations in an online webinar format Keith Peterson was identified as the overall winner. In his master thesis he presents an approach for Monitoring Mangrove Reforestation with TerraSAR-X in Senegal. Learn more about this exciting research on our UNIGIS Alumni Website!

Congratulations to Keith from the entire UNIGIS team [http://www.unigis.ac.at/]. We are looking forward to welcoming Keith at the AGIT [http://www.agit.at/] / GI_Forum Symposium [http://www.gi-forum.org/] fron 2-4 July 2014 in Salzburg.

EUROGI News

EUROGI member, IRLOGI and Ordnance Survey Ireland launched a report on the economic value of the Geospatial Industry in Ireland on 8 May, produced by independent economic consultants INDECON. Some headline annual findings - almost €120m direct and indirect contributions to Ireland's GDP; 4700 full time equivalent people employed directly and indirectly; €82m savings in the public sector; €279m time savings; €104m competitiveness improvements. The contributions excluded savings and efficiency gains in the private sector so the actual benefits would be above those identified in the report.

EUROGI President Invited Speaker at AGI NI Conference "Open Geospatial" in Belfast

By invitation from AGI Northern Ireland, on 13 May EUROGI President Bruce McCormack represented both EUROGI and IRLOGI (Irish Organisation for Geographic Information, of which he is also the President), at the AGI NI conference 'Open Geospatial' in Belfast. Bruce chaired a session which involved presentations on 'Why are Open Standards so Important' (Densie McKenzie, OGC), 'Open Data - are you serious?' (John Carpenter, Ordnance Survey GB) and 'Open Public Data as a Catalyst for Innovation' (Eoin McFadden, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, NI). The Belfast conference is one of a five conference series organised by AGI, the UK Association for Geographic Information. The other conferences focus on Future Cities, BIM and Asset Management, Big Data, and Policy. The conferences will provide input into a paper on Foresight which will be produced later in the year. Further information about the conferences can be found at: http://www.geobig5.com/.

2nd EUROGI imaGIne 2014 Conference Update

'Showcasing the very best Europe has to offer' is the key guiding principle that will shape all aspects of the conference. The defining focus is to highlight Europe's best examples of the use and role of Geographic Information and Geo-technologies in a variety of thematic fields, including energy, job creation and economic growth, environment, demography, smart cities, big data, Internet of Things and open data.

All speakers will have been specifically selected on the basis of their expertise or their involvement in particularly innovative practical GI/GT exercises which deliver meaningful value for beneficiaries/users.

EUROGI are also proud to announce that Esri as our new Gold Sponsor for the 2nd EUROGI imaGIne Conference

2014.

Flyer with all basic information is available here: http://www.imagine2014.eu/scripts/download.php?file= /data/upload/imaGIne2014_Flyer.pdf

It is confirmed that Deputy Director-General Roberto Viola of the European Commission, DG CONNECT, will give the opening keynote at the 2nd EUROGI imaGIne Conference 2014. [http://www.imagine2014.eu/]

Why Attend?

- imaGIne Conference - Get insight into cutting edge European GI policy and practice, network with key European decision makers and GI data and service providers

- INTERGEO Fair - Explore hundreds of stands showcasing a wide variety of GI related products and services. All the top companies present

- BERLIN - A great city to visit, a city with a real buzz

ImaGIne 2014 is present on social networks:

- On Facebook you can follow the link https://www.facebook.com/imagine2014.eu

- When tweeting the content related to imaGIne 2014 conference, please use hashtag #imagine2014eu

FROM THE PRESIDENT

May has proven to be a sad month for the Association, as it is with great sadness that we announce the tragic death on 31 May of Douglas Nebert, vice-Chair of the GSDI Technical Committee and one of the driving forces behind the Association's SDI Cookbook, including its launch as an online wiki. Doug's career spanned more than 30 years with the US Geological Survey (USGS). He was Senior Advisor, Geospatial Technology, with the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC), where he had also served in the past as Geospatial Team Lead at Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board, USGS Representative to the Technical Committee at the Open Geospatial Consortium, NSDI Clearinghouse Coordinator at USGS and Hydrologist.

Doug, aged 51, had relocated to Newport, Oregon, from where he was piloting his small plane with two family members when it went down in unknown circumstances in Toledo, Oregon, en route to Seattle. Doug will be greatly missed by his friends and colleagues in the Association and from across the geo world, and will be remembered by us all for his friendship and many contributions to developing SDIs in the USA and globally. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

ARTICLE OF THE MONTH

In this issue of the Global Newsletter, we publish an article from the GSDI column that is published monthly by *GIM International* magazine. This month's article is by GSDI Operations & Communications Manager, Roger Longhorn, which appeared in the May 2014 issue of *GIM International*.

GSDI Outreach and Membership

The GSDI Association was created in 2003 to carry on the tradition of the Global SDI conferences that began in Bonn, Germany, in 1996. Since then, 14 GSDI conferences have been held around the world, the latest in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in November 2013 (GSDI 14). The GSDI individual members division, the International Geospatial Society, currently has over 400 members worldwide, many from developing nations, where outreach activities, including capacity building, are much needed and appreciated.

The GSDI outreach and membership activities are managed by the Outreach and Membership (O&M) Committee, chaired by Denise McKenzie of our much-valued member, the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC ®). OGC also provides technical support for the Association's web site and membership management services. Outreach activities take many forms, including conferences for networking and published proceedings, newsletters, discussion lists, online capacity building material and opportunities, and the GI Knowledge Network, with the GIKnet Spatial Documents Depot.

GSDI Conferences

The GSDI World Conferences focus on spatial data infrastructure issues, including legal and policy topics too seldom discussed in other geo-related conferences. The conferences produce open access proceedings of all papers and presentations, plus peer reviewed papers and special publications. The conferences are a major component in our outreach activities not only to members, but to thousands of academic researchers, students, and government and industry practitioners involved in implementing SDIs globally who have attended over the past 18 years.

Communication Activities

The GSDI & IGS Global Newsletter, published monthly since 2011, provides news from our members and partners, distributed electronically to the Association

mailing list of approximately 4500 addressees and published on our website.

Several hundred monthly Regional SDI Newsletters have been published since 2002, covering Africa (2002), Asia-Pacific (since 2003, English and Chinese), and Latin America & Caribbean (since 2004, English, Spanish and Portuguese). All are downloadable from the GSDI website. From May, regional news will be produced under a single Regional GSDI Newsletter encompassing the three regions above, plus Europe and North America.

Outreach to members is also achieved via e-mail discussion lists for the five regions, managed by the relevant GSDI Committees, spanning a wide range of SDI-related topics and issues. Anyone can subscribe to these lists and then access the full archive.

Capacity Building Outreach

Outreach also involves capacity building, a task shared with the GSDI Societal Impacts Committee. The website provides access to numerous videos, publications and webinars offered mainly by members or partners, plus the GI Knowledge Network. Since its launch in 2003, the GSDI Small Grants Program has supported more than 100 projects across the globe. The program is a partnership between the GSDI Association and the GISCorps of URISA, with financial support from leading government agencies.

Membership

Our current recruitment drive is led by Bruce Westcott, GSDI's new Membership Recruitment Manager, and vice-Chair, North America, of the O&M Committee. You can expect Bruce to be calling on you soon for your support!

Links:
Outreach and Membership Committee – www.gsdi.org/standingcomm
Conferences – www.gsdi.org/gsdiConferences
Discussion forums –www.gsdi.org/discussionlists
Newsletters – www.gsdi.org/newsletters
Newslist Archive - www.gsdi.org/newslistarchive
Publications - www.gsdi.org/publications
Small Grants - www.gsdi.org/sic1
Capacity Building - www.gsdi.org/sic3

Roger Longhorn is Operations and Communications Manager at the GSDI Association, where he also serves as vice-Chair of the Outreach and Membership Committee.

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

THE GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION KNOWLEDGE NETWORK (GIKNET)

Visit and contribute to GIKnet, including registering your own details or those of your organisation! The aim of GIKNet is to enhance communication and freely share knowledge among professionals in the global geographic information community. GIKNet is a participatory, user-created and maintained information commons.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Participating in GIKNet

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

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

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

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

ASSOCIATED CONFERENCE NEWS

INSPIRE Conference Update

The 2014 INSPIRE Conference - 'INSPIRE for Governance' - takes place in Aalborg, Denmark, from 18 - 20 June, at the Aalborg Conference Centre, with INSPIRE Workshops being held on 16-17 June held at Aalborg University. The full program is now available at: http://inspire.ec.europa.eu/events/conferences/inspire_2014/page/ovw.

The conference will host 30 workshops, 5 plenary sessions, and around 200 presentations in parallel sessions, plus a poster session and accompanying exhibition. With the final piece of the INSPIRE legislation now in place, the EC Regulation governing harmonisation and interoperability for the 25 Annex II and III data themes, which was published in December, 2013, this year's INSPIRE Conference is shaping up to be one of the most important in the series to date.

Registration details, pus venue and accommodation information and the accompanying social programme are available at this link: http://inspire.ec.europa.eu/events/conferences/inspire_2014/page/registration

Don't miss the SmeSpire Challenge 2014 launch at the conference. The SmeSpire Consortium in collaboration with SUNSHINE, i-Scope, C-Spaceand eENVplus projects is proud to launch the first SmeSpire Challenge to stimulate new business ideas originating from the INSPIRE implementation process having geo-ICT SMEs as key players. The challenge is structured into two tracks: "Best Practices for INSPIRE" and "Open Source Software for INSPIRE", encouraging submissions related to successful INSPIRE implementations in vertical application domains.

More information about the SmeSpire Challenge 2014 at this link: http://www.smespire.eu/smespire-challenge-2014/

AfricaGEO 2014 Conference & Exhibition

You are invited to attend and participate at the AfricaGEO 2014 Conference & Exhibition, with the theme "Developing Geomatics for Africa" to be held 1-3 July 2014 at the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC). AfricaGEO facilities the sustainable economic and social development of Africa through interaction, discussion, collaboration and capacity building amongst participants. The conference provides a platform to share the latest issues in surveying, geo-information, remote sensing and aerial imagery. The exhibition will also promote and showcase the latest technologies, products and services the industry has to offer.

AfricaGEO is organised by the Conference of Southern African Surveyors (CONSAS), and is supported and endorsed by the SA Dept of Rural Development & Land Reform, PLATO, SAGI, GISSA, IMSSA, the Hydrographic Society of SA, and the Association of Aircraft Survey Companies. PositionIT magazine is official media partner of AfricaGEO. http://www.positionit.co.za/

AfricaGEO promises a range of interesting papers with a focus on geomatics practice in Africa, including:

- Development planning, cadastre and land tenure
- Technology, engineering, precise surveying and scanning
- Geographic information science
- Spatial data infrastructure and management
- Remote sensing and photogrammetry
- Education and professional development

Keynote Presenters: The conference attracts top decision makers from government and the private sector, together with prospective users, academics, vendors, policy makers and representatives of various national and international organisations working in the geomatics sector. International keynote presenters include:
- Prof. Georg Gartner, president of the International Cartographic Association, Austria
- Dr. Solomon Abebe Haile, Land & Governance, UN-Habitat II, Kenya
- Mr. Jeff McKenna, president of the Open Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGeo), Canada
- Prof. Chris Rizos, president of the International Association of Geodesy, Australia
- Dr. Chen Jun, president of International Society for Photogrammetry & Remote Sensing, National Geomatics Centre of China

Concurrent Workshops - A number of concurrent workshops are being held at AfricaGEO 2014, including:
- FIG Young Surveyors Network Workshop on education
- Workshop on Spatial Data Infrastructures

Spatial Data Infrastructure workshop

The South African Spatial Data Infrastructure Act (2003) makes provision for the establishment of the South African Spatial Data Infrastructure (SADSI). This relies on the development of a variety skills on South Africa in order to realise the implementation of SASDI. History has shown that many SDI initiatives both locally and internationally have not succeeded due to poor planning and training of implementing organisations. Gaining from the experiences of international experts in this field is thus critical to the establishment of SASDI.

This workshop will be dedicated to implementing geographic information standards and best practices in the European Union INSPIRE spatial data infrastructure. At the workshop local researchers and relevant officials will gain access to theory and practical skills training from an international expert who is intimately involved with the European Union INSPIRE programme. This will form the basis for future stakeholder engagement and development of spatial data infrastructure implementation in South Africa

The AfricaGEO 2014 Exhibition will provide an opportunity to visit a wide cross-section of companies working in the geomatics sector.

Pre-conference Events: The following two pre-conference events are planned:

- Optron [http://www.optron.com/] is hosting its User Conference on 30 June at the CTICC.
- Blue Marble and SMC Synergy are providing a one-day GIS training course (cost R3800 per person) on Global Mapper at the Cullinan (Southern Sun), Cape Town, on 30 June.
  http://www.bluemarblegeo.com/solutions/training_details.php?id=63&aid=063014

CPD: AfricaGEO is also registered with PLATO and attendees will earn up to three CPD points.

Visit the AfricaGEO website here:
http://www.africageo.org/
Get the detailed programme here:
http://www.africageo.org/programme
Register online here:
http://www.africageo.org/registration

5th Open Source Opportunities in GIS Summer School

The 5th Open Source Opportunities in GIS Summer School focused on Open Web Services and Web Map Applications will take place from 7 to 11 July 2014 in Girona. It's organized by SIGTE of the University of Girona with the contribution of Prodevelop (partner de OpenGeo) and the Nottingham Geoespatial Institute of the University of Nottingham.

The Open Source Opportunities in GIS Summer School is an initiative aimed to meet the GIS professional demands related to free and open solutions, and we are working on this vision from the start. The Summer School 2014 will be focused on the development and creation of Open Web Services and Web Applications, especially on the publication of data on the web. With this goal, the programme will cover topics related to the acquisition and importation of OpenStreetMap data into a spatial database, creation of geospatial web services and development of internet viewers for publishing geospatial data.

If you are interested in application development and creation of web map services using the most widely used free and open source market products, then this is your opportunity.

Registration is open until 27 June 2014. More information here:
http://www.sigte.udg.edu/summerschool2014/

Geospatial and Engineering International Conference, September 2104

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

Who should attend?

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

What organizations are involved?
MAPPS is pleased to be hosting the Geospatial & Engineering International Conference: Entering & Expanding Global Business Opportunities on September 25-26, 2014 at the Westin Hotel in Alexandria, VA. Participating organizations include the Association of American Geographers (AAG), American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS), Construction Industry Round Table (CIRT), **Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association (GSDI)**, National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS), and the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA).

Conference & Hotel Registration
Early rate for conference registration is available now. All MAPPS members, as well as members of all participating organizations, receive a discount. Conference registration here:
http://www.mapps.org/events/register.aspx?id=385075

MAPPS has secured a special hotel room rate with the Westin Hotel in Alexandria, VA. The room rate is guaranteed through September 12 or until rooms sell out, so make your room reservations today here:
https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1312097048&key=71A50

Contact Information
For specific questions, contact sally@mapps.org. If you are interested in receiving updates about the conference via email, please use this link:
http://www.mapps.org/page/GeoInternatContactUs

Joint International Conference on Geospatial Theory, Processing, Modelling and Applications October 2014

This joint conference will be held on October 6-8, 2014 at the Toronto Marriott Downtown Eaton Centre, Toronto, Canada. The conference Registration and Online Hotel Room Booking is now open. Register before 01 May 2014 to enjoy the early registration rates, and book your rooms before 01 August 2014 to receive $20.00 reduction on top of the group rates from the hotel.
The **ISPRS Foundation** offers travel grants to support participation in 2014 ISPRS TC II Midterm Symposium. To apply, please visit: http://www.isprs.org/foundation/

The Joint International Conference on Geospatial Theory, Processing, Modelling and Applications is hosted by the **Canadian Institute of Geomatics (CIG)** and co-organized by the **International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS)** Technical Commission II on Theory and Concepts of Spatial Information Science, International Geographical Union (IGU) Commission on Geographical Information Science and Commission on Modelling Geographical Systems. With a theme on Building Connections in GISciences for Future, the conference intends to present and disseminate the research, development and the innovative applications of geographical information theory and technologies in broad areas, as well as other interested areas by the participating organizations.

This conference joins the following symposia together:

- 2014 ISPRS Technical Commission II Midterm Symposium
- 16th IGU Spatial Data Handling Symposium

ISPRS Technical Commission II Midterm Symposium is held every four years in between two consecutive ISPRS Congresses. The symposium aims to bring together scholars and professionals from the international community of geospatial information sciences and engineering to present latest research achievements and technological developments. The topics of the symposium address the focuses outlined by the Commission, stated on its website:
http://www2.isprs.org/commissions/comm2.html.

The **International Symposium on Spatial Data Handling (SDH)** is the biennial international research forum for Geospatial Information Science, co-organized by the IGU Commission on Geographic Information Science and the IGU Commission on Modelling Geographical Systems. It commenced in 1984, in Zurich, Switzerland and has since been held biennially in Seattle, USA; Sydney, Australia; Zurich, Switzerland; Charleston, USA; Edinburgh, UK; Delft, The Netherlands; Vancouver, Canada; Beijing,

China; Ottawa, Canada; Leicester, UK; Vienna, Austria; Montpellier, France; and Hong Kong, China. The International Symposium on Spatial Data Handling has become a major resource for recent advances in GIS research and is regarded as a premier international research forum for GIS.

2014 Esri Health GIS Conference Update – November 2014

Big changes are coming to health and human services (HHS). And you are invited to a gathering of peers and experts where it all will be spelled out - the 2014 Esri Health GIS Conference, to be held November 3-5, at the Broadmoor in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

This major national GIS event is your opportunity to be on the geospatial cutting edge -- to experience the winds of progress ahead of your colleagues who do not attend. You'll learn state-of-the-art GIS tools, network with peers across the health continuum, and gain perspective from industry leaders including Esri experts.

Two Ways to Participate: Present a Paper, Display a Map: Put your geospatial expertise in front of customers and peers. If you're a GIS professional in health and human services - someone with practical expertise and skills in the real world, then at the 2014 Esri Health GIS Conference, you'll have an opportunity to show your colleagues what works - or doesn't work.

Here are two ways you can help them accelerate their projects or avoid costly mistakes:
- Share your best work - give a 20-minute presentation about one of your successful GIS experiences.
- Show off your cartographic skills - put one of your GIS-based maps on display.

Submit an abstract and a map. **The submission deadline is August 1, 2014**.

Latest on Registration! The first 30 Registrants get in on a low $300 Red-Eye Rate!

And if you're among the first 30 to register, you'll attend for only $300 - a "Red-Eye" fee that's $199 off the standard $499 rate. We welcome professionals in public health, hospitals and health systems, human services, and academic health and research. The Esri Health GIS Conference is much more than any other user conference - it will put you squarely on the front line of HHS geospatial technology and best practices for 2014.

Get the details and register here: http://www.esri.com/events/health/?WT.mc_id=EmailCampaignh21803

PARTICIPATION IN GLOBAL & REGIONAL SDI PROJECTS

GSDI Association Achieves Special Consultative Status at the UN

On 1 May 2014, we were informed that the **UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)**, at its Coordination and Management Session of April 2014, adopted the recommendation of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to grant special consultative status to the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association. This follows many months of background work by Secretary General Prof Harlan Onsrud and Business Manager, Marilyn Gallant, in preparing the application and responding to the many NGO Committee's enquiries that followed.

Our new status carries both privileges and responsibilities, as set out in ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31, specifically:

Consultations with ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies:

- Commissions and other subsidiary bodies of ECOSOC may consult with NGOs in general and special status; and such consultations may be arranged at the request of the NGO. Organizations on the roster may also be heard bythese bodies on the recommendation of the Secretary-General and at the request of such commission or subsidiary body;
- A commission of ECOSOC may recommend that an NGO with special competence in a particular field undertake studies or investigations, or prepare papers for the commission;
- NGOs shall be able to consult officers of the appropriate offices of the Secretariat on matters of mutual interest or concern. Such consultation shall be at the request of the NGO or the Secretary-General;
- The Secretary-General may request organizations in general, special and roster status to carry out studies or prepare papers.

Responsibilities and obligations of NGOs in consultative status - Quadrennial reports

Organizations in general and special consultative status are required to submit a report on the activities of their organizations in support of the work of ECOSOC and the United Nations once every four years, known as quadrennial reports, as per ECOSOC resolution 1996/31. In keeping with these requirements, your organization will be required to submit its first report for the 2014-2017 period by no later than 1 May 2018 for review by the ECOSOC Committee on NGOs.

In the intervening periods between the submission of quadrennial reports, organizations are advised to keep detailed records of participation in United Nations meetings and events, as well as cooperation with United Nations funds and agencies for inclusion in subsequent reports.

GSDI President Dr David Coleman is corresponding with the responsible Chief of the Non-Governmental Organizations Branch at the UN Office for ECOSOC Support And Coordination, Andrei Abramov, to better learn how we can assist UN agencies in fulfilling our obligations under the new consultative status.

European Union Location Framework (EULF) Workshop

The EU's European Union Location Framework (EULF) project held a one-day workshop in Brussels, Belgium, on 25 April, 2014, held in conjunction with the EU ONE Project, attended by GSDI Operations & Communications Manager, Roger Longhorn. EULF is a complementary action under the EU's ISA programme to improve integration of location information in e-Government services. EULF is separate from the part-EU-funded European Location Framework (E.L.F.)project in which Association member EuroGeographics is heavily involved, as reported in previous newsletters.

The objective of the workshop was to present and discuss key benefits of the EULF from the perspective of public sector administrations and the GI sector, to identify the barriers in delivering benefits, and to provide recommendations and guidelines on what could be done to overcome these barriers. Breakout sessions focused on:
- policy formulation,
- service delivery,
- building applications,
- supporting businesses, and
- helping citizens.

Roger led the breakout sessions dealing with policy formulation. The workshop was co-chaired by GSDI Legal & Socioeconomic Committee co-Chair, Joep Crompvoets, KUL, Belgium.

Further information is available from the links below.
EULF Action line:
 http://ec.europa.eu/isa/actions/index_en.htm
http://ec.europa.eu/isa/actions/02-interoperability-architecture/2-13action_en.htm
The ONE Project: http://www.oneproject.eu
EULF References report:
http://ec.europa.eu/isa/documents/**eulf**-references-v1-final_en.pdf

NESSI Summit 2014

NESSI is the European Technology Platform (***Networked Software and Services Initiative***), an industry-led stakeholder forum that is developing short to long-term research and innovation agendas and roadmaps for action at EU and national levels, focusing specially on software, services and data. NESSI membership is free and open, counting almost 500 members from across Europe today. Contributions are welcomed to developing the NESSI Strategic Research & Innovation Agenda to guide the European Commission in targeting R&D funds from its Horizon 2020 Research & Technology Development Programme.

GSDI Operations & Communications Manager, Roger Longhorn, attended the NESSI Summit 2014 held in Brussels, Belgium, on 27 May, representing the GSDI Association, with specific interest in the agenda item 'Big Data Value Innovation for Europe' from the point of view of geospatial information. Also attending was Wolfgang Steinborn, representative of DLR and GSDI Member, EUROGI. Both intervened in the discussions to better describe for the 80+ participants the role that geo data played in the 'big data' challenges, the goals of the INSPIRE Directive, and challenges ahead for the geo community in regard to using location based data.

Documents released at the workshop included:

- Framing a European Partnership for a Big Data Value System, ver. 1.4

- Big Data: A New World of Opportunities, NESSI White Paper, December 2012

- European Big Data Value Strategic Research & Innovation Agenda, ver 0.7 (draft)

For more information on NESSI, and access to the various documents, visit the website at: http://www.nessi-europe.com

ICA News

Be Part of "***Geo for All***" - the motto of ICA-OSGeo Labs initiative is "Geo For All." [http://www.geoforall.org]

The creativity, dynamism and high-profile success stories of the Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial applications (FOSS4G) movement are attracting increasing attention from end users, developers, businesses, governments, educators and researchers around the world. The goal of the 'Geo For All' initiative is to promote and enhance education, research and service activities carried out by these stakeholders in the area of Open Geospatial Science and Applications all over the world.

By combining the potential of free and open GI software, open data, open standards, open access to research publications, open education resources in Geospatial education and research will enable creation of sustainable innovation ecosystem to advance the discipline. This is key for widening geospatial education opportunities, accelerating new discoveries and helping solving global cross disciplinary societal challenges from Climate change mitigation to sustainable cities.

Free and Open Source Geospatial technologies are critical for both developed and developing countries as:

- it lowers the access cost to geospatial software for education, government and industry applications;

- provides enhancement of research and teaching in geospatial science and technology;

- supports research and development of Spatial Data Infrastructures; and

- addresses the need for more transparency, accessibility and long term sustainability.

It also creates healthy competition for proprietary software. This has been the key reason why government organisations, universities and private companies, are turning to FOSS4G to carry out their missions. For universities, educational institutions, Open Geospatial Science and Applications is especially important as it helps in empowerment of staff and students, capacity building, create openness in Geo Education for developing creative and open minds in students which is critical for building open innovation and contributes to building up Open Knowledge for the benefit of the whole society and for our future generations.

We look forward to working with you all for making geospatial education, software and opportunities accessible to all. We are inviting your strong participation for "Building up Open Access, Open Education and Open Data for Open Science" on 2 September 2014 at Nottingham, UK, in parallel with OSGIS 2014.

The aim of this one day workshop is to bring together participants from various disciplines to enable an in-depth dialogue focused on Open Access , Open Data and Open Education for building synergies and collaboration opportunities for Open Science and also with the "Geo for All" initiative.

There will also be an "RDA for Newcomers session" organised at this workshop, led by Herman Stehouwer. The purpose of the Research Data Alliance [https://rd-alliance.org] is to accelerate international data-driven innovation and discovery by facilitating research data sharing and exchange, use and re-use, standards harmonization, and discoverability. This will be achieved

through the development and adoption of infrastructure, policy, practice, standards, and other deliverables. This session is aimed to welcome and provide opportunity for those who are new to RDA to understand how RDA works and be part of the movement to accelerate international data-driven innovation and discovery by facilitating research data sharing and exchange, use and re-use, standards harmonisation, and discoverability.

Topics addressed by the workshop include:

- Open access developments
- Policy developments in Open Data
- Global aspects of Open Education
- Open educational resources, open courseware and open online courses
- Application use cases : Government, Health, Energy, Water, Climate change etc. for Open Science
- Open architectures
- Open content
- Open science
- Internationalisation and localisation
- Open Source examples in widening Education
- Implementation and deployment case studies in Open data
- Issues on data exchange, data harmonisation

Details of the workshop are at this link:
http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/osgis/workshops.aspx

GSDI AND INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES

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

- Eye on Earth – www.eyeonearth.org.
- Group on Earth Observations (GEO) / Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) – www.earthobservations.org.
- EuroGEOSS – GEOSS Project funded by the European Union – see www.eurogeoss.eu.
- EU INSPIRE – Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community – inspire.jrc.ec.europa.eu.
- International Cartographic Association (ICA) – www.icaci.org.
- International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) – www.fig.net
- International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO) – Marine SDI Working Group – www.iho.int.
- International Society for Digital Earth (ISDE) - www.digitalearth-isde.org.
- International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM) – www.iscgm.org

- UNESCO IOC – Marine/Coastal Spatial Data Infrastructure development – www.iode.org.
- UNSD (Statistics Division) – UN-GGIM (UN Global Geospatial Information Management) – ggim.un.org.
- UNSDI – UNGIWG (UN GI Working Group) – www.ungiwg.org.

GSDI DISCUSSION FORUMS UPDATES

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

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

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

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

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

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

Our Mission … is to advance geo-information best practices, knowledge sharing and capacity building for the improved sharing and application of geographic information.

The International Geospatial Society *is the individual membership arm of the GSDI Association and seeks individuals for membership that have geospatial, SDI, GIS or related professional or specialist interests. The Society enhances communications globally among individuals that are actively involved in promoting, developing, or advancing spatial data infrastructure and related concepts.*

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