

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

SDI-LAC

August

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



Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

GSDI

[GSDI Definition](#)

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

[Message from the Editor](#)

[Input to this Issue](#)

[Global and Regional SDI, News, Presentations](#)

[IGS News, Links, Publications](#)

[National SDI, News, Links, Presentations](#)

[Articles and Publications of the Month](#)

[Geospatial Research, Applications, Software, Data](#)

[Training and Funding Opportunities, Awards](#)

[Employment Opportunities](#)

[Other](#)

[Americas: Conferences, SDI Events \(Year 2012\) \(Year 2013\)](#)



Message from the Editor

This SDI-LAC issue highlights: The **Global and Regional SDI** section comprises a Call for Papers on Volunteered Geographic Information; UNGIWG Becomes OGC Member; SIRGAS Meeting 2012; GeoSUR's Participation in OGC and GSDI Committees; e-Science Commitment for Latin America; The Mesoamerican Land Information System for Disaster Risk Management; 8th FIG Regional Conference in Uruguay; Latin America Geospatial Forum (LAGF) 2012; and the UN International Conference on Space-based Technologies for Disaster Management. The **IGS section** includes a call for membership. The **National SDI** segment informs on GEOBOLIVIA meetings at Departmental level; 1st IDECA Virtual Learning Environment in Colombia; Cuba's Generic Map Viewer Version 3.0; RedCEDIA SDI in Ecuador; Government progresses on building the Jamaican SDI; Panama's IPDE 2011 Annual Report; and Peru's CCIDEP 2012 National Spatial Data Policy. **Articles and Publications** of the month comprise comments on Argentina's IDEF Newsletter No.1; and the article on *Remote Sensing Emerges as an Important Tool for Habitat and Species Conservation*. **Geospatial Research and Applications** underline INPE's Launch of a New Platform for the Monitoring of Natural Disasters; Application of GIS to Improve Environmental Sustainability in Nicaragua; Colombian Aerospace Development Forum; FAO-ILC Project on landportal.info; and free gvSIG and I3GEO software to join forces. The **Training and Funding Opportunities** section

encompasses calls for relevant initiatives including the International Seminar on Open Environmental Data in Latin America. Finally, several **Events taking place in the Americas** are listed in the last section.

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

Back issues of the newsletter are at the GSDI website:

<http://www.gsdi.org/newsletters.asp>

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

[\(Back to top\)](#)

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

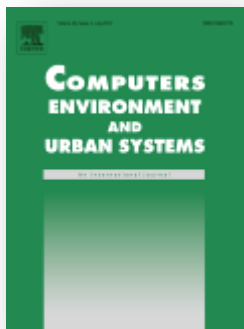
Input to this Issue

Sergio Acosta y Lara	Department of Geographic Information, Bureau of Surveying (MTO), SDI Working Group (GTIDE-AGESIC), Uruguay
Susana Barrera	Associate Professor, Department of Geography, National University, Bogota, Colombia
Santiago Borrero	Secretary General, Pan-American Institute of Geography and History, PAIGH, Mexico
Arturo Brun-Martinez	Architect, Colombia
Eduardo Freitas	SDI-LAC Newsletter Correspondent for Brazil
Pierre Gautreau	Associate Professor, Department of Geography, University of Paris, France
Hannah Gosnell	Associate Professor, Department of Earth, Oceanic and Atmospheric Science, Oregon State University, USA
Andrés Guhl	Associate Professor and Chair, Master Program on Geography, Department of History, University of Andes, Colombia
Kate Lance	SERVIR, NASA/USRA Coordinator, Huntsville, AL, USA
Alessandra Lobo P.	Coordinator of Forests and Climate Change and Education, Chiquitano Forest Conservation Foundation (FCBC), Bolivia
Harlan Onsrud	Executive Director, GSDI Association, USA
Eric van Praag	Coordinator, GeoSUR Program

[\(Back to top\)](#)

Global and Regional SDI, News, Presentations

[Call for Papers: A Special Issue on Geospatial Analysis of Volunteered Geographic Information with Computers, Environment and Urban Systems](#)



Source: Harlan Onsrud

Volunteered Geographic Information (VGI), created by volunteers through crowdsourcing, represents a new phenomenon arising from Web 2.0 technologies. It constitutes one of the most important types of user-generated content, and is quickly becoming a new source of asserted geographic information, complementing the traditional authoritative geographic information collected by government agencies or private organizations. In the context of this call, define VGI broadly as any georeferenced information that is freely distributable without copyright constraints for sharing among those interested. The increasing availability of VGI of various kinds such as OpenStreetMap, and digital traces of GPS, cell phones, Flickr photos, and tweets has dramatically transformed traditional geography to data-driven computational geography. The ways of doing geography are changing! Along with the emerging computational social science, we believe that the abundance of VGI provides an unprecedented opportunity for conducting innovative studies about the environment, cities, and human activities in both physical and virtual spaces. Call for original papers that focus on geospatial analysis of VGI for a better understanding of geographic forms

and processes, or of urban structure and dynamics in particular, as well as of human activities individually or collectively with various platforms of social media. Particularly interested in papers that use VGI at a large scale to uncover hidden and surprising patterns. We will archive your data, source codes, and other supplemental materials, along with the published papers.

Submission: Original papers with a length of 6000-7000 words are welcome. To submit your paper, please follow the journal's Guide for Authors, and click <http://ees.elsevier.com/ceus/>. We encourage authors to consider the option of supplementary data including raw data, derived data and source codes; we particularly encourage authors to pack your supplementary data in such a manner that interested readers can easily replicate your results. Authors must select "Special Issue" while they reach the "Article Type" step in the submission process, and identify the "geospatial analysis of VGI" special issue in their cover letter. First-time users must register themselves as Author.

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

Important dates: Paper submission due: **30 December** 2012; Acceptance notification: 30 May 2013; Publication: 30 August 2013

Editors for the special issue: Bin Jiang, Department of Technology and Built Environment, Division of Geomatics, University of Gävle, Sweden, Email: bin.jiang@hig.se; and Jean-Claude Thill, Department of Geography and Earth Sciences, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, USA, Email: Jean-Claude.Thill@uncc.edu

[UNGIWG Becomes Open Geospatial Consortium Member](#)

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

The United Nations Geographic Information Working Group (UNGIWG) has taken principal level membership in the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC). The UNGIWG addresses topics related to geospatial information sharing and quality of location information. The group is working across the United Nations to improve the efficient use of geographic information for better decision-making, to promote standards and norms for maps and other geospatial and location information and to provide a forum for discussing common issues and emerging technological changes. "The UNGIWG's Principal Membership in the OGC reflects the importance to the UN of efficient and effective sharing of geospatial information among UN agencies," said Mark Reichardt, President and CEO of the OGC. "We look forward to their active involvement in our process, as they bring expertise, international experience and a tremendous breadth of requirements that will help shape and advance future OGC standards and best practices." Suha Ulgen, Co-chair of the UNGIWG, said, "It is no coincidence that UNGIWG's OGC membership is aligned with the launch of the Centre of Excellence for UN Spatial Data Infrastructure by UNGIWG. The Centre will boost the UN's capacity to leverage the power of geoinformatics in support of its many mandates. As a Principal Member, UNGIWG is looking forward to contributing to the OGC in the standards setting process, as well as the promulgation of geospatial information management best practices." Read more: [OGC Network](#)



[SIRGAS Meeting 2012](#)

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



Universidad
de Concepción



SIRGAS MEETING 2012

Recent achievements, on-going activities, and new challenges are presented and discussed in the SIRGAS Annual Meetings. In this opportunity, we have the kind invitation from the Universidad de Concepción (in Spanish UDEC) and Instituto Geográfico Militar of Chile to hold the SIRGAS Meeting 2012 in Concepción, Chile, from 29 to 31 October. In addition to the meeting sessions, a technical visit to the Transportable Integrated Geodetic Observatory (TIGO) of the German Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy (BKG) is scheduled. SIRGAS is a non-profit organization whose main purposes are the definition, realization, and maintenance of the 3D geocentric reference system for the Americas, including a gravity field-related vertical reference system. Its initiatives are concentrated on a continuous improvement of its components to be consistent with the state-of-the-art in geodetic issues and to satisfy in a better way the user needs. As a member of the Commission 1 (Reference Frames) of the International Association of Geodesy (IAG) and as a Working Group of the Cartographic Commission of the Pan-American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH), SIRGAS provides the adequate support to develop and combine all scientific and practical activities related to precise geo-referencing and navigation, Earth sciences research, and multidisciplinary applications. The achievements of SIRGAS as a reference frame and as a technical community are possible thanks to the maintenance of an active network of people and organizations working in the same direction and contributing to the different SIRGAS objectives.

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

GeoSUR's Participation in OGC and GSDI Committees

Source: <http://www.geosur.info/>

GeoSUR La Red Geoespacial de América Latina y el Caribe



Eric van Praag, GeoSUR's Coordinator, has accepted OGC's offer to become a member of its Global Advisory Board. The Board functions as a non-executive, "blue-ribbon" panel positioned to advise OGC concerning its global outreach and organizational strategies. He has also accepted an offer from the GSDI Association to chair its Technical Committee. This entity provides continuous observation and review of technical issues affecting the development of local to global spatial data infrastructures. It should be noted that Mr. van Praag is also the South American Representative in the Association's Board of Directors. These two recent nominations highlight the regional and global reach of the GeoSUR Program.

Approaching Deadline for receiving applications for the 2012 GeoSUR Award

Source: Eric van Praag (GeoSUR) Program and Santiago Borrero (PAIGH)

August, Friday 31st is the deadline for submitting applications for GeoSUR Award granted by the CAF-development bank in Latin America, and the Pan-American Institute of Geography and History. Each year the award will be bestowed to two activities that stem from the relationship between participating institutions and the GeoSUR Program that stand out for their application of the available data and use of the services provided by the Program. Firstly, recognition will be given to applications of data or development of services resulting from the GeoSUR Program which are innovative for the region. A second acknowledgement will be awarded to the application or service that stands out for its relevance for complying with the objectives of the GeoSUR Program. Institutions or individuals in any country of Latin America and the Caribbean may participate. GeoSUR will announce the winners in the categories of "Innovation and Relevance" during the installation ceremony of the 5th GeoSUR Program Meeting, as part of the 45 Meeting of the Directing Council of the PAIGH that will take place on November 2012, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, thus highlighting the initiatives of institutions and active members of GeoSUR. The guidelines to apply can also be found at: http://www.ipgh.org/GeoSUR/Files/Bases_Premio-GeoSUR_vENG.pdf. Further information can be requested from premios@ipgh.org or secretariageneral@ipgh.org.

Mexico, Ecuador, Colombia and Costa Rica Sign an e-Science Commitment for Latin America

Source: Arturo Brun-Martinez



Aiming to put advanced computing resources at reach for researchers and academics, last June the first regional agreement to follow up the functioning of the e-Infrastructure based on grid technology in Latin America was signed. Grid Technology will keep growing in the region thanks to a regional agreement signed to keep this e-Infrastructure running. This effort is focused on benefiting strategic sectors such as health and environment. Moreover, the agreement is greatly focused on getting financial resources and managerial mechanisms to consolidate on sustainable way the region's e-Infrastructure, and stimulate its use in the Latin American academic communities. The

agreement is the result of the GISELA-CHAIN conference held in Mexico in late June. The representatives of the National Research and Education Networks of Colombia, Ecuador, and Mexico, RENATA, CEDIA, and CUDI, respectively, signed the agreement in June 29. A few days later, during the TICAL 2012 conference held in Lima, Peru (July 2 and 3), Costa Rica joined the agreement through RedCONARE. GISELA is the last stage of a project that was financed by the European Community to set and develop an e-Infrastructure based on grid technology, which allows the use of scientific and investigative resources. This agreement makes real a politic will to guarantee the sustainability of this particular initiative. It is envisioned that new countries will join this important declaration, where the goal is to keep advanced computing services sustainable.

See de declaration here: http://www.gisela-grid.eu/images/stories/GISELA_Images/declaracionMx.jpg

More about GISELA: http://www.gisela-grid.eu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=33&Itemid=39

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

Dominican Republic is Integrated to the Mesoamerican Land Information System for Disaster Risk Management

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

In order to strengthen the capacity of disaster risk management, on May 2, 2012 was held at the offices of the Civil Defense, the protocol ceremony for delivering of a specialized computer equipment as part of the Phase II activities in the Mesoamerican Land Information System (SMIT, in Spanish) that integrates countries such as Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama. Just after the official ceremony, it was held the First National SMIT Workshop with the facilitation of CATHALAC and focused to all national representatives from the offices of meteorology, water resources, cartography and geography, statistics and ministry of environment, among others. The workshop aims to present the achievements of the SMIT in its first stage, as well as to visualize goals, processes and institutional mechanisms to be developed in SMIT Phase II for Dominican Republic in order to enhance its capacity to jointly manage relevant geospatial national information with agencies responsible for civil protection, risk reduction and planning. The SMIT, is a comprehensive, accessible and updated management tool focused on establishing the different process from the disaster risk reduction as a keystone for the development to the Mesoamerican region. CATHALAC has been the SMIT Central Executive Unit leveraging its technological capacity and expertise in geospatial information for decision making. The first phase of SMIT, involved a close collaboration with national civil protection agencies in each country of Central America (Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Belize and the Dominican Republic) and the effective communication with the Presidential Commissioners for the Mesoamerican Integration and Development Project, the national mapping agencies and national institutions dedicated to monitoring (Met Services, Hydrological and Geological Services). The SMIT is promoted as part of the Mesoamerican Integration and Development Project (Proyecto Mesoamerica, as Spanish), which coordinates regional efforts of cooperation, development and integration of the countries to move forward in addressing shared challenges and facilitate management and implementing initiatives to improve the quality of life of the Mesoamerican inhabitants. [Sistema Mesoamericano de Información Territorial](#)



8th FIG Regional Conference

Source: Sergio Acosta and Lara



The 8th FIG Regional Conference will be held between November 26 and 29 in Montevideo, Uruguay. It is organized by the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) and the Association of Surveyors of Uruguay (in Spanish AAU) and is intended for participants from around the world. It will be conducted in English and Spanish with simultaneous translation. The Regional Conference will take place from Monday 26 to Wednesday 28 and the last day of the conference is reserved for a joint technical tour for all participants to Colonia del Sacramento renowned for its historic quarter, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We invite you to participate in this event with the concept "Surveying towards Sustainable Development". Applying science and technology to this profession works in the construction of development which promotes improvement of our society and respect for the environment. In the globalized world we are in, to share knowledge, information and data through compatible coordinate systems, is a necessity we are slowly solving and our regions ought to find an official way. We think our education may promote young colleagues to work in this way. It is a great challenge for Uruguay to host this important event that will bring together professionals from five

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

continents in order to exchange views on various topics and update scientific and technological knowledge. There will be a space for papers to be presented through posters and an area especially dedicated to stands, where companies and institutions may promote their activities, projects, programs and products or services. We call for an active participation in this event which offers different options to highlight the role of your company or institution. More information at: <http://www.agrimensores.org.uy/8ConferenciaRegional/> and www.fig.net/uruguay

[Latin America Geospatial Forum \(LAGF\) 2012](#)

Source: Santiago Borrero



The 2nd International Geospatial Technology and Applications Forum (LAGF 2012) with the theme: “Actionable Knowledge for Sustainable Development” will be held from 15-17 August 2012, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil at Sul America Convention Center. LAGF provides a platform for decision-makers, developers, researchers and application users, to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, experiences and concerns, in the field of geospatial. It aims to highlight the need to placing geospatial knowledge and awareness in the region by creating an international platform with global industry leaders with latest technology, government leaders, and eminent researchers, to meet and develop information exchange and meaningful dialogue to achieve this common goal together. To register for the Latin America Geospatial Forum Conference you have two options available: Express Registration - Delegates who wish to make any other kind of payments and Guests, please [Click Here](#); and Regular Registration- Delegates who wish to make payment either by cheque or wire transfer please [Click Here](#). More information at: <http://lagf.org/2012/index.htm>.

Specialists Present SDI Initiatives in Latin America

Source: Eduardo Freitas

MundoGEO#Connect LatinAmerica 2012, the largest and most important event in the geospatial industry in Latin America, held from 29 to 31 May in Sao Paulo, Brazil, brought together 3,350 participants and 45 companies exhibiting and representing 75 global brands. Throughout the first day of the event was held an International Forum on Geotrends (in spanish Geotendencias). The audience could listen to opinions of international executives of major companies and institutions on trends in geotechnology for sharing of spatial information in the coming years and how these concepts work to improve the world. The theme of the first session was the Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDI) in Latin America and the global context; the speaker was Mr. Luiz Paulo Souto Fortes, Chairman of the Permanent Committee on Geospatial Data Infrastructure for the Americas (PC-IDEA), and Mrs. Valeria Oliveira Henrique de Araújo, Executive Secretary of the PC-IDEA. Mr. Luiz Paulo presented a talk on UN Action for Global Geospatial Information Management (GGIM), and Mrs. Valeria introduced the topic of PC-IDEA activities in the construction of Geospatial Data Infrastructures in the Americas. More information at: <http://mundogeoconnect.com>

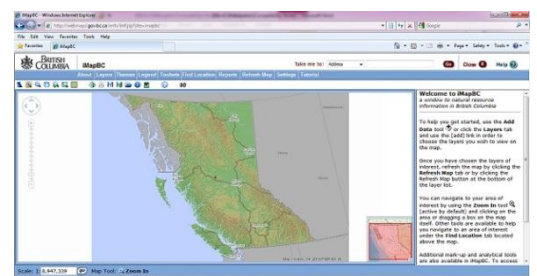
Photos: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/mundogeo/sets/72157630049259841/>



[British Columbia Receives Award for Exceptional Application of Geospatial Technology](#)

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

The Province recognizes that to become faster and more efficient, it needs to optimize the use of all its available data assets and social capital, both within and outside of government. Enabling this is the [BC Geographic Warehouse](#), a robust SDI containing more than 3,000 datasets that support effective government service delivery, land-use



Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

planning, environmental stewardship, emergency response and public safety, economic development, community health, transportation and infrastructure management. The SDI has also given the Province the ability to rapidly deploy more than 140 applications, support over 1,700 OGC Web Map Services, and provide a consistent data architecture for decision support staff to access. Transformation of business processes to incorporate geospatial information began with foundational work accomplished with the Natural Resource sector and expansion continues opening up new analysis and improved service delivery for other traditionally non-spatial sectors of government such as Justice, Health, Education and Social Services.

[DigitalGlobe and GeoEye Agree to Combine to Create a Global Leader in Earth Imagery and Geospatial Analysis](#)

Source: <http://geoeye.mediaroom.com/>

DigitalGlobe, Inc. (NYSE: DGI) and GeoEye, Inc. (NASDAQ: GEOY), in July announced that the boards of directors of both companies have unanimously approved a definitive merger agreement under which the companies will combine in a stock and cash transaction valued at approximately \$900 million. The combination of DigitalGlobe and GeoEye will create a global leader in earth imagery and geospatial analysis with a more diversified revenue base, a superior financial foundation and significant growth potential. The combined company will be named DigitalGlobe under the symbol DGI.

Call for Abstracts: Geography, GIScience, and Health: Spatial Frontiers of Health Research and Practice

Source: AAGeogram

Participation from geographers, GIScientists, health researchers, and other scientists working at the frontiers of geography, GIScience, and health are welcome at the Association of American Geographers (AAG) Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, April 9-13, 2013. Building on several recent AAG initiatives together with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in this research area, these sessions will explore new research frontiers in health and social environments, and also address progress generated by the AAG Initiative for an NIH-wide Geospatial Infrastructure for Health Research. These AAG initiatives have generated an increased awareness by health researchers as



well as geographers of the core role that geography and GIScience can play in addressing global health needs, both in research and in practice. Sessions will include leading medical and health researchers, and we encourage geographers active in these areas of research to present their work. Papers on all aspects of health research and its intersections with geography or GIScience are welcome. For more information, visit www.aag.org/annualmeeting. To participate in the Geography, GIScience, and Health sessions, please submit your abstract at: www.aag.org/annualmeeting. When you receive confirmation of a successful abstract submission, please then forward this confirmation to geohealth@aag.org. The abstract deadline is **October 24, 2012**.

United Nations International Conference on Space-based Technologies for Disaster Management: "Risk Assessment in the Context of Climate Change"

Source: The UN-SPIDER Team by way of Santiago Borrero

The Conference will take place on 7-9 November 2012 in Beijing. Topics will cover the role of space technology for implementing the outcomes of the recent Rio+20 conference as well as space-based information for early warning, monitoring and assessing vulnerabilities to climate change related hazards. Furthermore, the Conference will offer best practices and opportunities for bilateral and multilateral cooperation through specific meetings and breakout sessions. Please find all further information on the Knowledge Portal: <http://www.un-spider.org/risk-assessment-climate-change>

[\(Back to top\)](#)

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

IGS News, Links, Publications



International
Geospatial Society



The International Geospatial Society (IGS) is the individual membership arm of the GSDI Association and seeks individuals for membership that have geospatial, Spatial Data Infrastructure, Geographic Information System 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. Check out the Benefits of Joining ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#))

[\(Back to top\)](#)

National SDI, News, Links, Presentations

BOLIVIA

[GEOBOLIVIA at Pando and Beni](#)

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

The Spatial Data Infrastructure of the Pluri-national State of Bolivia (in Spanish IDE-EPB or GEOBOLIVIA) participated in a series of meetings in the Departments of Beni and Pando on July 26-27. There were meetings with the Departments' Governors, public universities, and various institutions in charge of managing geographic information. The objective of the meetings was to present and explain the progress of the IDE-EPB at Departmental level. Similar presentations will take place in all other Bolivian Departments.



COLOMBIA

[IDECA Premieres Module in Virtual Learning Environment](#)

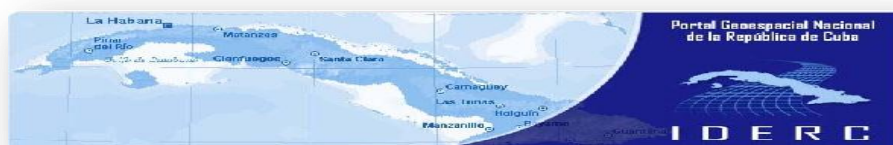
Source: <http://www.ideca.gov.co/>

On July, officials of the Land Registry Special Administrative Unit launched the first virtual learning course with the module titled "Exploring IDECA". The module is intended to inform the District's community on the basic knowledge officials should have in relation to the Capital District Spatial Data Infrastructure (in Spanish IDECA) which allow them to actively participate on the project's consolidation. This training will support development of new knowledge and best practices in different geographic information management processes with emphasis on cadastre. In the short term, this course is expected to be conducted at all District entities that produce and use geographic information, thus contributing to strengthening and diffusing of IDECA in order to support development processes in Bogota city.

CUBA

[Generic Map Viewer Version 3.0](#)

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



Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

Is now available the Generic Map Viewer Version 3.0 of the Spatial Data Infrastructure of the Republic of Cuba (in Spanish IDERC), which includes a wizard for creating thematic maps. This wizard for creating thematic maps is a web tool implemented on open source platforms that allow creating thematic maps based on topographic maps; thus allowing representation of geographic phenomena of the earth's surface, such as distribution characteristics, relative density, or regionalization of tangible objects (e.g. vegetation, soils, geology, etc.), as well as abstract concepts (e.g. violence indicators, economic development, quality of life, etc.).

ECUADOR

[RedCEDIA SDI](http://ide.cedia.org.ec/)

Source: <http://ide.cedia.org.ec/>



RedCEDIA SDI is an academic initiative in which all members of the Academic Network of Ecuador, Ecuadorian Consortium for Advanced Internet Development (CEDIA) may participate. Within this SDI you may find information on the network socialization, meetings, progresses, news, software updates, and geographic information of its members. If your institution is not a part, please contact Andrea Morales R. at andrea.morales@ucuenca.edu.ec. Currently, RedCEDIA is structured by several universities' SDIs including the [University of Cuenca](http://www.ucuenca.edu.ec), [Polytechnic School of Chimborazo](http://www.upc.edu.ec), [Technical University of Loja](http://www.uloja.edu.ec), [Autonomous Regional University Los Andes](http://www.ura.edu.ec), [Salesian Polytechnic University](http://www.spsa.edu.ec), [State University of Bolivar](http://www.sulb.edu.ec), and [Technical Northern University](http://www.una.edu.ec).

JAMAICA

[Government to Build National Spatial Data Infrastructure](http://www.jis.gov.jm/)

Source: <http://www.jis.gov.jm/>



The Government is working to build a National Spatial Data Infrastructure for Jamaica. This was disclosed by Minister of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change, Hon. Robert Pickersgill, during his contribution to the 2012/13 Sectorial Debate in the House of Representatives on July 24. "This is necessary to facilitate sectorial growth, and for us to keep up with technological advancements and of course, provide for the geospatial data needs of the government and our people," he said. Mr. Pickersgill said the Government will be working assiduously to prepare legislation to govern the geospatial industry. "After 20 years being guided by policy, it has now become necessary to have a firm governance framework. We continue to build capacity in this area and I am pleased to report that we have even been delivering GIS training regionally and are looked upon as leaders in the area, in the Caribbean and Latin American region," he said. The Minister argued that geospatial information can be a critical tool for decision makers, as they communicate issues and design solutions, for example, in the planning of towns and cities. Mr. Pickersgill informed that work is currently underway on a metadata policy, which will make it mandatory for all creators of geospatial data to collect and maintain metadata, adding that all creators and users of geospatial data need to collect and manage metadata. Metadata is the information that describes and gives information about other data. "This activity is important as it preserves the millions of dollars of investment made to create geospatial data. I therefore call upon all Ministers to do their part to ensure that their data are collected and maintained in line with policy," he said. He further disclosed that the Government is in the process of contracting the services of an imagery distributor to procure the most current, highest available resolution, true color, imagery of the entire island. Mr. Pickersgill said the acquisition will be at a cost

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

of \$24.5 million and will be funded by contributions from over 15 geospatial data users, adding that the imagery will be distributed to over 40 entities to be used in their operations. "I am pleased to say that this Government has continued to make the necessary investments, in the areas of training and education, technology, data collection and management, systems and processes and the preparation of standards and guidelines to manage the country's geospatial information. We have been successfully using this information to support management and decision making, not only in my Ministry, but across all of Government," he added.

PANAMA

IPDE 2011 Annual Report

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

The Annual Report 2011 of the Panamanian Spatial Data Infrastructure (in Spanish IPDE) has been published and is available [here](#) (PDF file). "The IPDE seeks to promote policies, standards, organizations, human and technological resources to facilitate the production, use, access and exchange of spatial data while ensuring interoperability between different systems." With the overall objective of "Designing, developing, implementing, managing and disseminating the Panamanian Spatial Data Infrastructure, based on standards, to apply service benefits such as visualization, query, editing and thematic analysis." To achieve this goal, five components developed by the initial working committee and through working groups were defined: Legal issues and Policy; Geospatial Information, Standards, Technology, and Capacity Building. The activities, results, and products of each of the five components, as well as aspects related to participating institutions within the IPDE in 2011 are detailed in the report. The IPDE is an initiative led by the National Geographic Institute "Tommy Guardia" (in Spanish IGNTG), as the representative of Panama to the Permanent Committee on Spatial Data Infrastructure of the Americas (PC-IDEA). Therefore, it stands out in the document that IPDE is a state policy, and thus IGNTG requires budgetary support, technical assistance, and consent and support of the institutions that form part of the IPDE in order to achieve the proposed activities of the work plan and its proper implementation in the coming years.



PERU

[CCIDEP 2012 National Spatial Data Policy](#)

Source: <http://www.ccidep.gob.pe/>



During the Coordinating Committee Meeting 003-2012 a second agreement of Minutes for the Permanent Spatial Data Infrastructure of Peru (in Spanish CCIDEP) established a Policy Proposal document for implementation in the short term and for guiding CCIDEP activities during 2012. This document includes five basic policies. Their respective guidelines will serve as a framework for actions and activities of CCIDEP and its Working Groups. These policies were drafted upon the meetings held by the CCIDEP and the Policy Working Group, and various documents of the archives of the National Electronic Government and Information Technology Office (in Spanish ONGEI). Full document [here](#).

[Launch of Harmonized Database of Nationwide Population Centers](#)

Source: <http://www.ccidep.gob.pe/>

Under the implementation process of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure of Peru (in Spanish IDEP) led by the National Electronic Government and Information Technology Office, it was launched the project on National Harmonized and Updated Population-Centers Data Base. This project allowed identifying that the country's population is distributed in 158,813 population centers of various sizes and hierarchies. The new database, issued by the National Institute of Statistics and Informatics (in Spanish INEI) in cooperation with the Ministry of Economy and Finance, will

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

enable the State to better plan their interventions with more disaggregated and accurate information than that provided by traditional districts. This Data Base will help to improve the processes of project evaluation and monitoring of the National Public Investment System (in Spanish SNIP), as well as population-center management by regional and local governments. It has been entrusted to the IDEP Population-Center Working Group, chaired by the INEI, to draft a proposal for implementation of an Integrated Population-Center Management System that allows continuous updating and access to pertinent information.

[\(Back to top\)](#)

Articles and Publications of the Month

IDEF Newsletter No.1

Source: <http://idef.formosa.gov.ar/>



Is now available the First edition of IDEF Newsletter (Spatial Data Infrastructure of the Province of Formosa in Argentina). It is a freely distributed electronic publication that is available through IDESF platform. This publication is aimed at informing on SDI, GIS, remote sensing, land management, and education initiatives in the context of Information Society. For subscription please log on to:

<http://idef.formosa.gov.ar/Newsletter.html>

UC Santa Barbara Geographer Charts the “Next-Generation Digital Earth”

Source: <http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/>

The world has gotten smaller and more accessible since applications like Google Earth became mainstream, says UC Santa Barbara Professor of Geography Michael Goodchild. However, there is still a long way to go, and there are important steps to take to get there. His perspective, shared with many co-authors around the world, has been published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in a paper titled, "Next-generation Digital Earth." Based on former vice-president Al Gore's 1992 vision of a digital replica of Earth, the paper examines the world's progress to date, and its prospects for the future. Full article: <http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/pa/display.aspx?pkey=2770>

Remote Sensing Emerges as an Important Tool for Habitat and Species Conservation

By John Platt, posted on June 27th, 2012 in *eathzine*

No matter where you look in the world, biodiversity is in decline. Habitats and ecosystems are threatened by development and climate change, and tens of thousands of species are at risk of extinction. Nowhere is this more evident than in Africa, where more than 2 million square kilometers have been classified as protected areas: Forests, savannahs or other sites where biodiversity conservation has been established as a priority. But how do governments and conservation organizations identify the areas that are most in need of protection? Are some areas that are important to biodiversity not yet being protected? Are conservation funds incorrectly going to less vital sites, while more important areas are being ignored? Until recently, the only way to answer some of these questions was with extensive ground surveys, which require outlays of capital, manpower and time —and which can become out-of-date almost as soon as they are completed. But now remote sensing has emerged as an important tool to help identify the habitats most in need of conservation. By using satellite data, scientists, governments and conservation organizations can access a broader range of information which can provide a picture of the health of the planet that ground surveys alone could not achieve. Remote sensing was used in 2009 to identify potential corridors that isolated tiger populations could use to travel and connect with each



Fig. 1. Illustration of the web services, currently in development at JRC, that will be made available by the DOPA.

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

other. A study published in 2012 used remote sensing to locate potential new habitats for critically endangered Cross River gorillas, which need safe territory in which to breed and expand their numbers. Applying remotely sensed data has its challenges. Data are not always readily available, and different sources often use different terminology, format or geo spatial reference to describe the same things. Combining multiple data sets can be a time-consuming, difficult process [The complete article may be found at: <http://www.earthzine.org/2012/06/27/remote-sensing-emerges-as-an-important-tool-for-habitat-and-species-conservation/>]

[\(Back to top\)](#)

Geospatial Research, Applications, Software, Data

[INPE Launched a New Platform for the Monitoring of Natural Disasters](#)

Source: <http://mundogeo.com/>



Monitoramento, Análise e Alerta



For the monitoring and assessment of natural disasters, the Brazilian National Institute for Space Research (in Portuguese Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais – INPE) launches [TerraMA2](#), a computing platform opened to any user interested in developing its own operational system for environmental risks. This tool was presented on July 18 during a workshop in São José dos Campos (SP), Brazil. Using information available on the Internet, TerraMA2 allows monitoring any occurrence. It can use data from satellites and weather radar, or numerical forecasting models. Data from fixed points as Data Collection Platforms (DCP), probes, buoys, stations and geotechnical instruments can also be used. The user can monitor forest fires, landslides, floods, droughts, power outages caused by lightning and tidal movements in port areas, among other injuries. In order to achieve this, the platform integrates geographic services and modeling, accessing weather, climatic, atmospheric, hydrological geotechnical and demographics data. The ability to gather different databases allows TerraMA2 to monitor many kinds of occurrences, such as earthquakes, lightning, even epidemics and murder. A new version of the platform called Sismaden, TerraMA2 is a result of a 25-years research and development of INPE, based on innovation, in the strategic geotechnologies area. Creator of Spring, TerraLib, TerraView, TerraAmazon and TerraME, the Institute has developed TerraMA2 to meet a growing demand for monitoring, assessment and warning applications in several areas. The evolution of the project and functionalities of TerraMA2 were presented during the workshop, which also showed outcomes of the platform implementation in São Paulo State and southern Brazil, among other examples. Contact: terrama2@dpi.inpe.br

[Application of Geographic Information Systems to Improve Environmental Sustainability in Nicaragua](#)

Source: Kate Lance; <http://www.icdf.org.tw/>



*Become the best partner for
sustainable development by 2022*

The two-year project, initiated in January 2012 and supported by the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (International Cooperation and Development Fund), will assist the Nicaraguan government to improve its capacity to perform environmental monitoring operations by acting on data and images sourced from the Formosa II satellite. Since 2008, the Taiwan International Cooperation and Development Fund and the Nicaraguan government have pursued shared objectives and improved cooperation through this project. The cooperation has realized direct benefits in the aftermath of several natural disasters including the Masaya forest fire, the Ometepe landslide, and the Nagarote tornado, by immediately supplying satellite images to evaluate damage.

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

Executing Agency:

- Center for Space and Remote Sensing Research (CSRSR)
- Nicaraguan Institute of Territorial Studies, INETER (Nicaragua)
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment – National Environmental Information System (MARENA-SINIA) (Nicaragua)

Implementation Arrangement: The Center for Space and Remote Sensing Research (CSRSR) is providing batches of satellite images to Nicaraguan stakeholders every three months. INETER and MARENA-SINIA will perform fieldwork to discover the causes of any changes to land use, as highlighted by analysis of these images.

Colombian Aerospace Development Forum

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

First Forum on Colombian Aerospace Development was organized by members of the Colombian Space Commission, the Geographic Institute “Agustín Codazzi” (in Spanish IGAC), the Colombian Air Force (in Spanish FAC), and the Vice President of the Republic. It aimed at highlighting the importance of knowledge management and its usefulness in increasing the application and use of aerospace technologies for developing countries with emerging economies such as Colombia. With more than 600 people registered and over 20 national and international speakers the Forum achieved convergence of researchers, experts, businessmen, professionals and students interested on Colombian satellite and aerospace development during two continuous days, which aimed at creating synergies between different sectors, users, beneficiaries, and producers of aerospace technology. Likewise, projects already being implemented in support of cultural, economic and social development were announced. The Satellite Development project aims to implement a Satellite Earth Observation System that ensures access to Colombian images and consolidation of a pertinent research structure.

FAO-ILC Project Facilitates Access to Land Governance Resources

Source: Santiago Borrero

Information on land governance is critical factor for enabling developing and emerging economies to establish effective land tenure systems and ultimately ensure secure and equitable access to and control over land. To this end, the International Land Coalition, together with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), has announced the integration of information on land from FAO databases accessible through the Land Portal, the global reference point for land related information on the internet. FAOLEX, the FAO’s database of treaties, laws and regulations governing food, agriculture and renewable natural resources from all over the world, and the FAO Corporate Document Repository, a rich online library of FAO materials and publications, have been integrated into the Land Portal country and topic pages. For the first time, this comprehensive information on land governance will be easily accessible. This system bypasses the need to perform complex database queries and offers an immediate overview of laws and publications from these extensive databases by country. Madiodio Niassé, International Land Coalition (ILC) Director, said “Making the laws, regulations and FAO publications on land accessible is a major support to efforts to improve land governance, a key asset at the disposal of land experts and communities in countries where the availability of high-quality land-related information is limited. The ILC is grateful to the FAO for this important contribution.” As a partner of the Land Portal and as a member of the ILC, the FAO made integration of its data possible through full disclosure of its databases and sharing access to information in a structured format. Alexander Mueller, FAO Assistant Director-General for Natural Resources, said “The FAO is committed to working with the International Land Coalition and the other partners of the Land Portal project to help achieve tangible improvements in the lives of people through improved land governance. Making this information available is an important step in facilitating the operationalization of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure.” This is a hallmark achievement of data integration on the Land Portal. Many other databases with land information are set to be integrated into the Land Portal. To see an example of how the data has been integrated, visit:

<http://landportal.info/area/africa/east-africa/kenya>

About the Land Portal: The Land Portal is the global gateway for land related information, aggregating information on land from multiple sources and building a specialized community of land experts from civil society organisations,



Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

governmental and intergovernmental institutions and academia. The Portal is the result of a partnership among organizations committed to sharing information on land and collaborating. This partnership is open to other land-related organisations aimed to be actively engaged in the Land Portal development.

About the International Land Coalition: The International Land Coalition is a global alliance of civil society and intergovernmental organisations working together to promote secure and equitable access to and control over land for poor women and men through advocacy, dialogue, knowledge sharing and capacity building www.landcoalition.org

Free gvSIG and I3GEO software to join forces

Source: gvSIG Association by way of Eduardo Freitas

The free software gvSIG and I3GEO join forces, a sum of efforts that are based on similar ways of understanding the free software as something that goes beyond technical issues. This agreement is a collaborative approach at the model level. With integration, the association aims to mature gvSIG technically, economically and organizationally through collaboration between projects that are committed to free software as the foundation for technological independence, who understand the software as a means and not an end. In the area of free geomatics, I3GEO is undoubtedly the technology reference within Latin American. I3GEO comes from the Ministry of Environment of Brazil, in the context of the National Environmental System (in Spanish SINIMA) implementation. In 2006 it changed its license to GPL, and became part of the Brazilian Public Software Portal. I3GEO, meaning "Integrated Interface for Internet Geoprocessing" born with the aim of creating a software that allow web-based dissemination of geographic data and advanced analysis options to end users. The software has been evolving, integrating new functions; the software now allow users to access layer attribute tables, loading data, connecting to OGC services, changing legends of layers, interact with data from Wikipedia, Confluence, Metar, ..., vector editing, geoprocessing ... Also I3GEO offers direct access to services and downloads, WMS, WFS, KML and KMZ, facilitating the implementation of SDI. This dynamics also led to the integration of I3GEO with gvSIG in two ways. First, it was developed a plugin that allows that the same organization of data to be displayed on the geo-portal, may be displayed in a gvSIG project. Second, gvSIG projects can be read by I3GEO, functioning as a desktop application to create maps that will be published on the web. Under this agreement, Edmar Moretti, a leading developer of I3GEO, becomes part of the Professional Structure of gvSIG. In conclusion, the integration between gvSIG community and I3GEO community will bring growth opportunities for both.

[\(Back to top\)](#)

Training and Funding Opportunities, Awards

Inspiration – German Initiative on Recruitment of Students in Geodesy and Surveying

Source: FIG e-Newsletter July/August 2012



Many countries experience that young people have a lack of knowledge in the field of Surveying and Geodesy and face a decrease in the number of student. A German initiative has resulted in a web site which is now also published in English. The web site gives a broad overview about Geodesy and its diverse disciplines. Furthermore it provides rich information regarding the study courses (focused on Germany). Promote the profession in your country. More at: <http://www.arbeitsplatz-erde.de/index.php?id=1&L=1>.

Saint Lucia at CERT Training

Source: NEMO News

Saint Lucia took part in the 2nd Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) certification course in Grenada at the Special Services Unit (SSU) Training Camp conducted by the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA). The program ran from 16th -20th July 2012. The first programme of its kind was held in Monsterrat in 2009. The focus of the programme is to develop a cadre of leaders who are competent in facilitating instruction in the CERT programme. The Programme was conducted by regional facilitators and financed by the Italian Government and is ongoing as part of the Africa Caribbean Pacific - European Union (ACP- EU) Disaster Risk Management Sub regional Programme and Enhancing the Resilience to reduce Vulnerability in the Caribbean Region (ERC) Project. Saint Lucia was represented by Mr. David Jordan, a member of the Gros Islet Disaster Preparedness Committee and National Emergency Management Organisation. As result Mr. Jordan is now a regionally and Internationally recognized member of the CERT. The Course was geared towards full time professional National Emergency Centres as well as Community leaders, and volunteers; Jordan participated as a volunteer. Currently the Bahamas, Trinidad and Tobago and the United States Virgin Islands (USVI) are the only known countries in the region to have developed CERT programmes.



Call for Course on "Landscape Scale Management"

Source: Alessandra Lobo P., by way of Andres Guhl

The Organization for Tropical Studies (in Spanish OET), the Tropical Andes Alliance (in Spanish AAT) and the Foundation for Forest Conservation Chiquitano (in Spanish FCBC) announce the course "Landscape Scale Management: Tropical Andes," 2012. The course aims to build and strengthen participants skills for integrated landscape management and ecosystem goods and services, thus ensuring biodiversity development and

conservation, and generation of social benefits. The course will run from September 25th to October 15th, 2012, in Santa Cruz and Cochabamba, departments of Bolivia, and is intended for technical professionals and government agencies, NGOs, academia and other sectors that are directly linked to land management for development and conservation of the tropical Andean region. You can access the course page by clicking the following link: www.alianzaandes.org. The course will be certified by [NUR University](http://www.nur.edu.bo) Academic and financial support for partial scholarships from the MacArthur Foundation and the Moore Foundation.

Lincoln Institute Accepting Applications for David C. Lincoln Fellowships in Land Value Taxation

Source: Lincoln Institute Fellowships

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy hereby invites applications for the David C. Lincoln Fellowship Program. This year's program offers fellowships in two categories:

- (1) David C. Lincoln Fellowships in Land Value Taxation: The goal of this program is to develop academic and professional interest in land value taxation through support for major research projects. Projects may address either the basic theory of land value taxation or its application to specific domestic or international issues. Research funding for each approved project will be between US\$20,000 and US\$30,000 a year, and may be renewed for up to three years. If you are interested in applying for the fellowship, please visit the institute's website at http://www.lincolninst.edu/education/dcl_fellowships.asp to review the Application Guidelines and to see a list of past fellowship recipients.

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

(2) Special David C. Lincoln Fellowship in Land Value Taxes and Sales Taxes: In addition to the general David C. Lincoln Fellowships in Land Value Taxation, the Institute invites applications for one additional special fellowship for research on the feasibility and desirability of using land value tax revenue to reduce sales taxes. Research funding for this project will be between US\$20,000 and US\$30,000. This special fellowship will be awarded on a one-time basis in 2012 for one year. If you are interested in applying for this special fellowship please review the Application Guidelines on the website: <http://www.lincolnst.edu/education/david-c-lincoln-fellowship-land-value-taxes-2012.asp>. Email applications for the David C. Lincoln Fellowships must be submitted to fellowships@lincolnst.edu by **September 15**, 2012. If you have questions about the application process, please contact fellowships@lincolnst.edu.

International Course: Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Remote Sensing for Environmental Monitoring

Source: Education CATHALAC through Kate Lance

The course will be held from **13 to 17 August** 2012 in the City of Knowledge, Republic of Panama. Within the objective of the course are:

- Develop skills for implementing and using GIS tools techniques and remote sensing for environment integrated analysis and natural resources.
- Interpretation and manipulation of images and satellite data and spatial models for environmental monitoring (classification of land cover, deforestation, environmental degradation, fires and burned areas).
- Evaluation and interpretation of results of spatial data processing.

Online registration can be done at: <http://www.cathalac.org/en/education/education-news/register-now>



Projects Financed with OGC Standard WMS

Source: Eduardo Freitas

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) is receiving implementations for software users using the OGC Web Map Service (WMS) 1.3. The initiative is being carried out to support the testing of standard compliance as part of OGC Compliance Program (CITE). Projects financed with OGC standard WMS WMSEI provides an interface standard for requiring georeferenced images and maps from one or more geospatial databases. To participate in the selection for funding, applicants must submit a two-page proposal containing a description of their implementation and an estimate of its development / costs for testing. Responses should be sent to techdesk@opengeospatial.org until **5 August**. For more information about this opportunity, contact Luis Bermudez, Director of OGC's Interoperability: lbermudez@opengeospatial.org

MundoGEO online Seminars have an International Dimnesion

Source: Eduardo Freitas

MundoGEO, a leader in the organization of events, magazine and portal for the geospatial industry in Latin America, and the gvSIG Association, responsible for maintaining the gvSIG project -Free Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Software- on June 26 promoted an online seminar on open source solutions for GIS and Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDI). The event was presented in Spanish and included 648 online participants. For Álvaro Anguix, general manager of the gvSIG Association and lecturer of this online seminar, the number of questions concerning technical aspects, and the organization and community participation, reflects a public interest, which demonstrates good responsiveness to this webinar." This event is continuation of a previous one that focused on technological aspects and on the initial phases of a project. This time, organizational and sustainability issues were discussed around the new production model presented; as well as growth in the community work taking place as the foundation of gvSIG" says Alvaro. During the webinar were analyzed different Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) standards that are supported by gvSIG, one of the advanced and comprehensive software for SDIs. Access to data search and location services has shown a possible extension for WMS, WFS and WCS publication. Since 2009, MundoGEO have conducted over 60 webinars with an average of 1,200 registrants and 600 participants per event. Last webinar was the second held in Spanish. Topics presented as PDF files and video in MundoGEO online seminars, are available for those unable to participate in these events: <http://mundogeo.com/webinar>. See also videos of main webinars already conducted at the exclusive Vimeo channel: <http://vimeo.com/mundogeo>

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

Postdoc in Human Dimensions of Earth System Science/Geography

Source: Hannah Gosnell

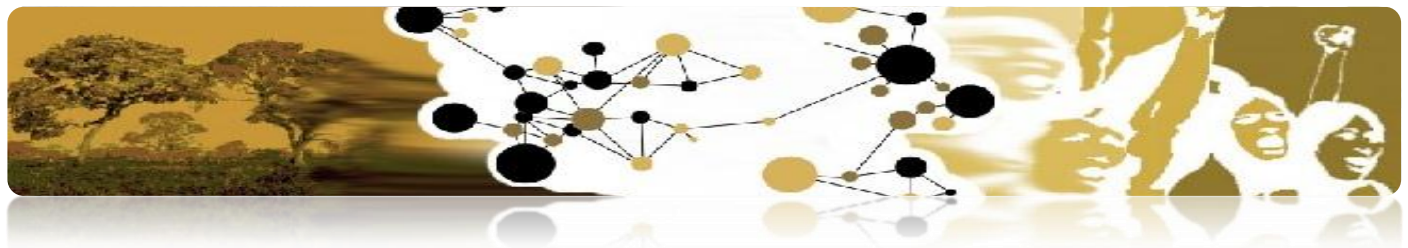
The College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences (CEOAS) at Oregon State University is inviting applications for two Institutional Postdoctoral Research Associate positions. One of these positions will focus on the human dimensions of Earth System and Geographical Sciences. Please send your application candidature at:

http://ceoas.oregonstate.edu/employment/files/PRA_Announcement0009314.pdf

<http://ceoas.oregonstate.edu/profile/gosnell/>

International Seminar on Open Environmental Data in Latin America

Source: Pierre Gautreau by way of Santiago Borrero



The seminar "Sharing Environmental Information: Issues of Open Environmental Data in Latin America", will be held in Porto Alegre (Brazil) the 23 and 24 of August.

The definitive program is available at: <http://baguala.hypotheses.org/seminar-porto-alegre-2012>

For any question, please contact : HHasenack@ufrgs.br or pierre.gautreau@univ-paris1.fr

[\(Back to top\)](#)

Employment Opportunities

Little Cayman Research Centre Postdoctoral Fellowship at Central Caribbean Marine Institute

Source: EU Overseas Forum

The Central Caribbean Marine Institute is seeking to appoint an outstanding Postdoctoral Researcher who will advance our understanding of how changing climate scenarios may impact the tropical ocean's carbon cycle and ultimately biodiversity. The Fellowship research will be part of a broader effort aimed at examining links between climate change and coral reef stress. Research carried out by the successful candidate will be focused on an evaluation of ecosystem-level effects of ocean acidification and may address a suite of ecological questions related to biophysical and chemical processes that influence corals and other calcifying organisms as well as other reef associated fauna. The Postdoctoral Fellow will have the primary responsibility for designing and implementing field and laboratory experiments. The Postdoctoral Fellow will work year-round in residence at the Little Cayman Research Centre where are established an ocean acidification laboratory, a wet lab, a small fleet of research vessels, and SCUBA facilities. The fellow will work under the supervision of the Director of Research and Conservation, Dr. Carrie Manfrino, and will receive some field assistance from research interns. It is sought an early career scientist whose PhD degree was awarded within the past three years. This position will suit a well-rounded research scientist who is comfortable in the field and in the laboratory and who is capable of developing a collaborative research agenda that will attract researchers to the field station. We seek a fellow who will: (1) make an original contribution to understanding the impacts of climate change on coral reef ecosystems, (2) integrate the work into a longer-term research strategy for the Central Caribbean Marine Institute, and (3) make substantial and effective use of Little Cayman Research Centre facilities. Application form must be submitted to Dr. Carrie Manfrino, Director of Research and Conservation, CCMI. ccmiapplications@reefresearch.org Please follow the [link for an application form](#). Please include in the application: (1) a curriculum vitae, (2) examples of 3 scholarly works and 3 scholarly activities (research papers, symposia/workshop development, presentations to scientific and stakeholder communities), and (3) Completed application form. Applications will be assessed against the selection criteria as indicated above. Deadline: **September 1st 2012**.

[\(Back to top\)](#)

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

Other

Territory Represented at Caribbean Challenge Initiative in Jamaica

Source: EU Overseas Forum

The Virgin Islands is among the countries represented at the First Senior Officials Meeting of the Caribbean Challenge Initiative (CCI) in preparation for the 2013 Summit of the Caribbean Political and Business Leaders in the British Virgin Islands. The two-day workshop, July 10 -11, hosted by the Governments of Jamaica and Grenada, is intended to reach a common understanding of the value of the marine and coastal resources of the region, and the threats to these resources. During the workshop participants will (1) agree on the overall purpose of the summit, (2) review a framework for the Leaders Declaration that would be signed at the summit and (3) agree on the steps necessary to raise public awareness, through media efforts, regarding marine and coastal resources issues. The CCI is intended to galvanize leadership around the marine and coastal environment, and has four major objectives as its focus. The objectives are (1) to catalyze high-level political will needed to protect and better manage marine and coastal resource, (2) to mobilize funding for marine and coastal conservation, (3) to put in place sustainable funding mechanisms, and (4) to accelerate and support on-the-ground action to implement the various marine and coastal conservation commitments made by governments.

[\(Back to top\)](#)

Americas: Conferences, SDI Events

[First Latin America Congress of Free and Open Source GIS \(Latin OSGIS\)](#)

Source: Susana Barrera



The First Latin America Congress of Free and Open Source GIS (LatinOSGIS) will be held on October, 22-23, 2012 in Guayaquil, Ecuador. The event is organised by Escuela Superior Politécnica del Litoral (Ecuador) and Politecnico di Milano (Italy) and supported by the International Cartographic Association (ICA), International Association for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) and the OpenSource Geospatial Foundation. The First Call for Papers is now available at:

<http://www.fiec.espol.edu.ec/LatinOSGIS/index.php/en/en-latinosgis-conference/en-conference-call-papers>.

Important dates: Deadline for abstract submission: **August 17**. Notification of acceptance: September 17
Details at:

<http://www.fiec.espol.edu.ec/LatinOSGIS/index.php/en/>
For further details please contact Indira Nolivós Alvarez (Local Coordinator, Latin OSGIS, Escuela Superior Politécnica del Litoral).

[Invitation to VII IDERA](#)

Source: IDERA distribution list



The Government of the Province of Jujuy and the Coordination Team of the Spatial Data Infrastructure of the Republic of Argentina (in Spanish IDERA) call for participation to the 6th Conference of the Spatial Data Infrastructure in Argentina (VII IDERA) that will take place on September 27-28, 2012 in San Salvador de Jujuy, Argentina. IDERA is an interagency agreement of governmental agencies at different government levels, and academic and research institutions. Participation of all jurisdictions is essential to ensure national and federal features of IDERA. Among the Conference objectives are: to offer a meeting place for sharing and discussing initiatives, projects and ideas for the development of the Argentinean NSDI; to establish a new IDERA Coordination team; to foster a National and Federal SDI Norm (Act) to be discussed during the Assembly; and to discuss issues relating to: NSDI, SDI initiatives of various government levels and different organizations, basic technology for its implementation, standards required for integration and interoperability, and ways of knowledge and experience dissemination and sharing. Registration: <http://www.idejujuy.gob.ar>.

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

4th Latin American and Caribbean gvSIG Working Days: Registration Period Opened

Source: Sergio Acosta y Lara



Registration period is now opened for the [4th Latin American and Caribbean gvSIG Working Days](#), to be held from 24 to 28 September 2012 in Montevideo (Uruguay), under the theme "Growing in Community." These days have been declared of interest by the Ministries of Transport and Public Works, and Industry, Mining and Energy, and the

Government of Montevideo. Registration is free (limited capacity) and must be made via the form available at the [website of the conference](#). Immediately following the registration you will receive an email with a confirmation code. This code may be used to query and update the registration data. Deadline for receipt of proposals is **August 6**.

[URISA's 2012 Caribbean GIS Conference](#)

Source: Caribbean GIS blog



URISA announce its Sixth Caribbean GIS Conference taking place on November 12-16, 2012 in Montego Bay, Jamaica. The inaugural URISA Caribbean Conference took place in Montego Bay.

Previous conferences have taken place in Jamaica (2001), Barbados (2004), the Bahamas (2006), the Cayman Islands (2008) and Trinidad and Tobago (2010). Detailed information at: <http://www.urisa.org/conferences/caribbean/info/>

[SELPER Symposium 2012](#)

Source: SELPER Board, Chapter Colombia



The XV Latin American Symposium on Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Systems: Earth

Observation for a Greener and United World, will take place in French Guyana from 19 to 23 November 2012. SELPER Symposium 2012 aims to showcase works of Remote Sensing and GIS in Latin America, to assist in defining and monitoring new targets for global environmental governance, the eradication of poverty and the green economy. More information at the symposium website www.selper2012.com

[GIS Conference 2012](#)

Source: http://www.ungs.edu.ar/s_ico/?p=912

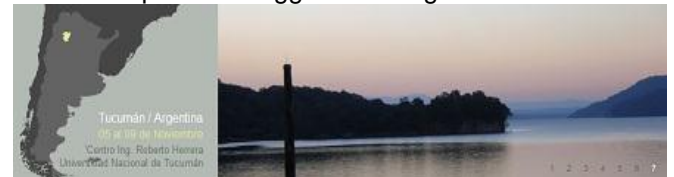


The National University of General Sarmiento, with the collaboration of the National Universities of Luján and Tres de Febrero, invite to participate in this event which will take place in the province of Buenos Aires from 1 to 3 October 2012.

http://www.ungs.edu.ar/ms_ico/?p=912

[26 Scientific Meeting \(AAGG2012\) and First International Workshop on Geomatics](#)

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



The Argentina Association of Geodesy and Geophysics is pleased to invite you to the Twenty-sixth Scientific Meeting (AAGG2012) and the First International Workshop on Geoinformatics and Earth Sciences, that will take place in the city of San Miguel de Tucuman, Tucuman Province, Argentina. The workshop will take place between November 5 and 6, and the AAGG2012 meeting will be held on November 7-9, 2012. Historically, during the last 54 years, AAGG has made contributions in the field of Scientific Research in the context of Earth Sciences, atmosphere and hydrosphere, through scientific meetings held regularly every two years, enabling researchers and professionals to creating links, networks, and interdisciplinary interactions.

[\(Back to top\)](#)

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

YEAR 2012

[Year 2012](#) January February March April May June July [August](#) [September](#) [October](#) [November](#) [December](#)
[Year 2013](#) [January](#) [February](#) March [April](#) May June [July](#) August September October November December

AUGUST 2012

2 *NEW*	Chesterfield MO, USA	10 Ways to Improve Public Safety
2 *NEW*	Chesterfield MO, USA	GIS Manager's Workshop
6-9	Memphis TN, USA	URISA/NENA Addressing Conference . For more information, visits www.nena.org .
8-10	San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina	9th Biennial Colloquium on Territorial Transformations Footprints and uncertainty in the processes of territorial development
13-15	UN NY, USA	Second Session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
13-17	Fortaleza, Brazil	Workshop on Integrated Management of Ecosystems and Water Resources in Latin America
14-17	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	Latin America Geospatial Forum 2 nd Annual Latin American Conference and Exhibition on Geospatial Information, Technology and Applications.
16-17	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	Conference on Geospatial for Defense and Homeland Security: Geo-Intelligence Latin America
23-24	Porto Alegre, Brazil	Seminar "Sharing Environmental Data in Latin America"
27-31	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	3rd International Congress from Center for the Study of the Americas

SEPTEMBER 2012

5-8	Pittsburgh, PA, USA	14th ACM International Conference on Ubiquitous Computing - UbiComp 2012
9-11	Albuquerque NM, USA	IMTA (Americas) 2012 Conference and Member Showcase
9-13	Lake Buena Vista FL, USA	National States Geographic Information Council Annual Meeting
11-14	Bogotá, Colombia	XIV Colombia 2012 ESRI User Conference
11-14	Corvallis OR, USA	ForestSAT 2012: A Conference Promoting Science-based Applications of Remote Sensing and other Spatial Data in Forested Systems
13-14	Philadelphia PA, USA	MAPublisher Training
16-18	Columbus, OH, USA	AutoCarto 2012
17-18	Daytona Beach FL, USA	6th Annual CFGIS Workshop
18-21	Alta Gracia, Cordoba, Argentina	Argentinean Congress of Remote Sensing 2012
18-21	Columbus OH, USA	7th International Conference on Geographic Information Science (GIScience 2012)
19-21	Columbus OH, USA	Ohio GIS 2012
20-21	Denver CO, USA	GIS in the Rockies - 25 Years of Geospatial Collaboration
20-22	San Jose, Costa Rica	12th International Congress on Surveying, Cadastre, Geodesy and Geomatics 2012
24-28	Montevideo, Uruguay	XIX ISTRO Conference and 4th Meeting of the Uruguayan Society of Soil Science . More information: http://www.congresos-rohr.com/istro2012
24-28	Montevideo, Uruguay	4th Latin American and Caribbean qvSIG Working Days "Growing in Community"
26-28	Buenos Aires, Argentina	First Working Days of Latin American and the Caribbean Studies
27-28 *NEW*	San Salvador de Jujuy, Argentina	VII IDERA
27-29	Tunja, Colombia	2nd Conference on Geographic Pedagogy of the Colombian Association of Geographers (ACOGEG) Geographical pedagogy challenges to the XXI century
Sep. 30 – Oct. 3	Long Beach CA, USA	Autovation 2012
Sep. 30 – Oct. 4	Portland OR, USA	URISA's Annual Conference for GIS Professionals

OCTOBER 2012

1	Houston TX, USA	Fall 2012 Meeting: New Positioning Techniques
1-3	Buenos Aires y Luján, Argentina	Geographic Information Systems 2012 Applications in Planning and Land Management
1-3	Bogotá, Colombia	Latin CACS/ISRM Conference
1-5	Medellín, Colombia	Latin American Conference on Informatics
1-4	Portland OR, USA	URISA's Annual Conference for GIS Professionals

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

1-12	Cartago, Turrialba, Costa Rica	First International Course on Using the SWAT Model as a Tool for Hydrographic Basin Management
3-5	Guadalajara, México	WODES 2012
4-5	Buenos Aires, Argentina	19th ESRI Users Latin-American Conference
4-5	Entre Ríos-Concordia, Argentina	26th Forest Working Days of Entre Rios-Concordia
5-6	La Paz, Bolivia	International Conference on Climate Change, Water and Wetlands
8-11 *NEW*	Orlando FL, USA	GEOINT 2012 Symposium
8-12	Guayaquil, Ecuador	Seventh Latin American Conference on Objects and Learning Technologies
10-12	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	8th International Conference Virtual City and Territory
10-13	Oakland CA, USA	North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) 41st Annual Conference
15-17	Dallas TX, USA	Field Service Interactive
15-19	Santiago del Estero, Argentina	14th Humboldt International Meeting – "The Deglobalization Time"
17-20 *NEW*	La Plata - Buenos Aires - Argentina	11th INTI International Conference La Plata 2012
17-20	Medellín, Colombia	Americas Regional Conference IFLA 2012: Border: Landscapes Alert
18-20	Santiago, Chile	UC-ICA Latin-American Conference
22-23 *NEW	Guayaquil, Ecuador	First Latin America Congress of Free and Open Source GIS (Latin OSGIS)
23-24	Punta del Este, Uruguay	34th International Conference on Data Protection and Personal Privacy in Uruguay
23-25	Mérida, Venezuela	2nd Venezuelan Congress of Geographic Information Systems GIS (COVESIG)
23-26	Montevideo, Uruguay	V Congress ALAP 2012, Transitions in Latin America and the Caribbean, Demographic changes and social challenges and future
24-25	Santiago, Chile	2nd ESRI User Meeting Chile
24-26	Buenos Aires, Argentina	3rd International Congress and 10th Latin America and the Caribbean Symposium "The region forehead the challenges generated by the crisis and emerging paradigms in the international and regional levels. Historical analysis, economic and sociopolitical "- CEINLADI
24-26	San Francisco CA, USA	The World Congress on Engineering and Computer Science 2012
24-28	Ibagué, Colombia	6th International Course on Tools for Monitoring Carbon Abduction in Land Use Systems
Oct. 28 – Nov. 1	Tampa FL, USA	MAPPS/ASPRS 2012 Specialty Conference
29-31 *NEW*	Concepción, Chile	SIRGAS Meeting 2012

NOVEMBER 2012

1-4	Vancouver BC, Canada	37th Annual Meeting of the Social Science History Association – Historical Geography and Histories of Capitalism
5-7	San Diego CA, USA	SI World 2012 - Situational Intelligence
5-7 *NEW*	Las Vegas NV, USA	Trimble Dimensions User Conference
5-9	Santiago and Temuco, Chile	Symposium "Identities in Production: Production and Identified Movements Between Indigenous Peoples and Ethnic Minorities and Race in Latin America" Further Information: Dr. Luis Fernando Angosto Fernández (luis.angosto-ferrandez@sydney.edu.au), and Dr. Sabine Kradolfer kradolfer.sabine@gmail.com).
5-9 *NEW	San Miguel de Tucuman, Tucuman Province, Argentina	26 Scientific Meeting (AAGG2012) and First International Workshop on Geomatics
7-9	Cuenca, Ecuador	IEEE Latincom 2012
8-9	Atlanta GA, USA	MAPublisher Training
11-13	Bogotá - Colombia	III National Scientific Congress on Disaster Management and Administration (in Spanish CONGESAD 2012) . Operational response models.
12-14 *NEW*	San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina	II International Seminar on Micro-territoriality in the cities
12-16	Montego Bay, Jamaica	URISA's Caribbean GIS Conference
14-15	Bogotá, Colombia	4G Conference and Latin American Exhibition
14-16	Buenos Aires, Argentina	44th Meeting of the Directing Council PAIGH
14-16	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Second National Working Days on Research and Teaching in Geography Argentina (2nd JONIDGA) and 8th Working Days on Research and Extension from Geographical Research Center (8th JIECIG)

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

16	Santiago de Chile, Chile	Third Colloquium "Geography, Social Movements and Territory" of the 4th Seminar on Critical Geography " Gladys Armijo Zuniga." - "Social Geography and Transformative Critical Pedagogy in Action"
17-19	Berkeley, USA	Fourth International Conference on Science in Society
19-23	Cayenne, French Guiana	Symposium SELPER 2012: Earth Observation for a Green Co-developed World Contact: contact@selper2012.com
26-29	Montevideo, Uruguay	8th FIG Regional Conference
27-29	Las Vegas NV, USA	Autodesk University
Nov. 4 - Dec. 4	Buenos Aires, Argentina	FIG Commission 7th Annual Meeting

DECEMBER 2012

5	Buenos Aires, Argentina	FIG Commission 7 International Symposium
27-29	Las Vegas NV, USA	IMTA (Americas) 2012 Strategic Planning Session

YEAR 2013

[Year 2013](#) [January](#) [February](#) [March](#) [April](#) [May](#) [June](#) [July](#) [August](#) [September](#) [October](#) [November](#) [December](#)

JANUARY 2013

13-14 *NEW*	Vancouver, Canada	Ninth International Conference on Technology, Knowledge and Society
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FEBRUARY 2013

11-13	Denver CO, USA	International LIDAR Mapping Forum
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APRIL 2013

1-5	Havana, Cuba	V Cuban Convention on Earth Sciences - Geosciences 2013
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JULY 2013

To be determined	Lima, Perú	14th Latin American Geographers Meeting (EGAL), Lima 2013, " Latin American Regional Knowledge Gathering "
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[\(Back to top\)](#)

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