

# Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

## Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

SDI-LAC

October

2011

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



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# GSDI

[GSDI Definition](#)

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

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## Message from the Editor

This SDI-LAC issue highlights the following news among others: The **Global and Regional SDI** section comprises notes on GSDI 13 Call for Abstracts and Papers, and 2011-2012 GSDI Small Grants Program Announcement; the 7<sup>th</sup> PC-IDEA Meeting; Mesoamerican SMIT; GGIM High Level Events; FGDC Metadata Summit; and World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty 2012. The **IGS section** includes a message on Free Memberships for Individuals in Developing Nations. The **National SDI** segment covers activities of Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Panama, and Venezuela including local and thematic SDIs, Awards, Capacity Building Initiatives, and launching of the Panamanian Spatial Data Infrastructure Project. **Articles and Publications** of the month comprise an infoDev Report on the Brazilian SDI; FOSS related papers; and First Newsletter of the LAC-ENGOV Project, among others. **Geospatial Research and Applications** underline the National Forum on the Adaptation of Agriculture to Climate Change in Belize; the Risk Management and Emergency Information System of Bogotá; a novel New Urban Network Analysis Toolbox; and new FOSS version releases. The **Training and Funding Opportunities** section encompasses calls for international and national initiatives, among them the CDKN second global research call; Seminars on "New Developments in Geomatics", and "SDI latest trends and research"; and a PhD Scholarship in Barcelona. Finally, several **Events taking place in the Americas** are highlighted in the last section.

The SDI-LAC Newsletter is available in Portuguese! Translation of SDI-LAC Portuguese is possible thanks to undergrad students from UNESP **Matthew 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 InfoGNSS and InfoGEO Geomatics; **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 (DECEA), **Juan Carlos Gironda 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.

Back issues of the newsletter are at the GSDI website: <http://www.gsdi.org/newsletters.asp>

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### Input to this Issue

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Baruch Levy	Chairman of the Board, Galilee International Management Institute
Zofia Mizrachi	Director of Hispanic Programs Strategic Studies Center, Galilee International Management Institute, Israel
Harlan Onsrud	GSDI Executive Director
Fabián Reyes	Teacher-Researcher at the Center for Integrated Environmental Geomatics, Project Coordinator, USC FI UNL, Universidad Nacional de Loja, Ecuador
Mark Shortis	ISPRS2012 Technical Program Director
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### Global and Regional SDI, News, Presentations



CANADIAN  
GEOMATICS  
CONFERENCE



GSDI 13  
WORLD  
CONFERENCE



GEOIDE  
SCIENTIFIC  
CONFERENCE



#### [GSDI 13: Call for Abstracts and Papers](#)

The joint GSDI 13 World Conference, GEOIDE Annual Scientific Conference and Canadian Geomatics Conference offers numerous opportunities for oral presentations and refereed and non-refereed publication outlets. The joint conference invites presentations covering the full range of practice, development and research experiences that advance the practice and theory of spatially enabling government, industry and citizens. Consult the suggested [Conference Topics](#). The submissions accepted through this call for abstracts and papers will be orally presented in the parallel session tracks shown in the [Program Overview](#).

This call supports three primary forms of publication:

1. A normal [conference proceedings](#) with abstracts and full non-refereed and refereed articles published on a CD or USB drive and archived on the web,
2. A [pre-conference published book](#) of fully refereed articles titled "Spatially Enabling Government, Industry and Citizens: Research and Development Perspectives" to be distributed to all conference participants and archived on the web, and
3. A [pre-conference selection of articles](#) for publication in the [International Journal of Spatial Data Infrastructures Research](#) (IJSDIR) to be selected, refereed, revised and published prior to and in affiliation with the conference.

In addition, two separate calls arising from the joint conference are being issued for chapter submissions to two additional books:



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1. *The Added Value of Scientific Networking: GEOIDE Network Experiences* ([call for chapters](#)) to be distributed to all conference participants, and
2. *"3DGeo Info Conference Proceedings" (Springer)* ([call for papers](#)) to be mailed after the conference to all 3DGeo Conference participants (a single track on Wednesday and Thursday).

Deadline for submission of abstracts, and full papers for consideration in the Conference Proceedings, the Book, or Journal: **15 November** 2011. Detailed information if found at: <http://www.gsdi.org/gsdiconf/gsdi13/index.html>

### [2011-2012 GSDI Small Grants Program Announcement](#)

Source: Harlan Onsrud

The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association is pleased to announce its Small Grants Program for the year 2011-12.

#### *Summary*

Awards for Spatial Data Infrastructure or Earth Observations Systems (EOS)-related activities in economically disadvantaged nations. Application deadline of **31 October** 2011. 4,000 words maximum. Awards of US\$2500 in cash and/or contributed volunteer professional services for the project

#### *Background*

The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure (GSDI) Association is dedicated to international cooperation and collaboration in support of local, national, and international Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) developments that would allow nations to better address social, economic, and environmental issues of pressing importance. We are committed to bringing about an infrastructure that will allow users globally to access spatial data at a variety of scales from multiple sources that ultimately will appear seamless to all users. The GSDI Association supports the work of organizations to develop their own Web-enabled Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) initiatives, nationally and regionally, and collaborates with local, national, and international organizations to ensure that spatial data, services, and metadata are accessible through interoperable standards-based services, systems, software, and products that operate in a web-enabled environment. The success of the GSDI Association depends on the quality of its partnerships with public, private, academic, and non-governmental organizations. Through adoption of common, international standards, key architecture principles, and approaches for capacity building in developing countries, the GSDI initiatives also link national SDI efforts with the vision and goals of the Group on Earth Observation (GEO) and its Global Earth Observations System of Systems (GEOSS).

#### *Additional information*

Overview of GSDI - [http://memberservices.gsdi.org/files/?artifact\\_id=844](http://memberservices.gsdi.org/files/?artifact_id=844) (in MS PowerPoint)

GSDI Strategic Plan - [http://portal.gsdi.org/files/?artifact\\_id=544](http://portal.gsdi.org/files/?artifact_id=544) (in PDF)

Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) and the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) - <http://www.earthobservations.org/>

The GSDI is being advanced through the leadership of many nations and organizations represented by a GSDI Association Council and Board of Directors. The multi-national Board includes representatives from all continents and all sectors: government, academia, and the private sector as well as the following regional SDI initiatives:

- *Africa*: United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Committee on Development Information, Science and Technology (CODIST) – GeoInformation Sub-committee
- *Americas*: Pan-American Institute for Geography and History (PAIGH)
- *Europe*: European Umbrella Organization for Geographic Information (EUROGI)

Please visit the GSDI Association website (<http://gsdi.org>) to familiarize yourself with the mission, goals, programs, accomplishments and priorities of the organization.

The GSDI Association, along with partners and participants, has allocated resources from the U.S. Federal Geographic Data Committee and the GISCorps of The Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA), to fund a small grants program to support national or sub-national activities that foster partnerships, develop in-country technical capacity, improve data compatibility and access, and increase political support for spatial data infrastructure and earth



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observations application development. The GSDI is also a Participating Organization of the intergovernmental Group on Earth Observation (GEO) and encourages the registration of SDI data and services in their registry system.

*These resources will be used to offer two types of grants this year:*

1. Cash up to 2,500 USD
2. Professional Services to be determined

Professional Services will be coordinated by the GISCorps, an international initiative that offers volunteer GIS services ([www.GISCorps.org](http://www.GISCorps.org)). It is possible to request a combination of cash and professional services.

Support may be used for technical or institutional projects, as long as tangible outputs are achieved and several institutions collaborate on the effort. Please clearly indicate the staffing expected to perform the work and whether additional expertise from GISCorps may be useful. If GISCorps assistance is needed indicate the type that is needed. A list of typical projects follows - but this list is not exhaustive:

- Convening of national or sub-national seminars or workshops related to SDI
- Producing SDI- and EOS-related training manuals and modules (these materials must not duplicate existing materials)
- Establishing metadata and clearinghouse nodes (catalog services)
- Establishing standards-based web mapping and data access services
- Accomplishing geospatial data and/or SDI surveys or inventories
- Producing and disseminating newsletters and awareness-raising materials about SDI
- Drafting policy and legislation related to SDI
- Priority will be given to projects in developing nations and countries with economies in transition.

Grants can be awarded to SDI coordinating bodies (councils, committees) and GIS user groups, but the GSDI Association asks that one institution take responsibility for receiving/depositing the funds. Grants cannot be used to cover organization overhead expenses.

*Proposals should include information under the following headings:*

1. Title of Project/Activity
2. Focal Point Institution
3. Contact Person (business street address, phone/fax, email, and website)
4. Introduction and Background (include a description of the national or local institutional framework and what has been achieved thus far)
5. Project Description
6. Project staff including their responsibilities and skills (Indicate here whether GISCorps assistance may be needed and what staff and skills are needed)
7. Summary of Deliverables
8. Period of Performance (time-line for overall project, deadline dates for deliverables, date of final project report to be submitted to [grants@gSDI.org](mailto:grants@gSDI.org))
9. Indicate your preference for an award of cash or professional services or combination
10. Budget (itemize how the money is to be spent or the predicated extent of services needed for specific tasks)
11. Details of additional or in-kind funds to co-finance the activity
12. List of Collaborators (with contact information)
13. Envisioned Follow-up Activities
14. Appendix: May include the Final Reports from any previous GSDI Small Grant Awards

Proposals must be submitted digitally to [grants@gSDI.org](mailto:grants@gSDI.org) in English and should be preferably two pages in length but no more than five pages or 2500 words (excluding any appendices). Please submit your proposal as a .pdf file (or alternatively .doc, docx or .rtf file) using 12-point Times Roman or Arial font.

We anticipate funding up to 14 Grants in Cash and up to 4 Grants in Professional Services. Grant funds will be issued as paper checks in US dollars drawn on U.S. Banks or as wire transfers. If the recipient chooses to receive a paper check, up to US\$100 will be deducted from the award amount to cover the delivery charge for the check payment. If



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the recipient chooses to receive funds by wire transfer, US\$50 will be deducted from the award amount to cover the processing costs for the wire transfer. The recipient institution will be required to provide a project report and an expense report upon completion of the project. The GSDI Association may include excerpts of the project reports in GSDI newsletters and/or on its website. Awardees are encouraged to publish a local press release highlighting the award from the GSDI Association as well as the proposed activities, and to send copies of these to the GSDI Association.

Proposals are due on **31 October** 2011. Please e-mail them to: Societal Impacts Committee / GSDI Association / [grants@godi.org](mailto:grants@godi.org)

For more information about the GSDI or to subscribe to the GSDI News List, please see <http://www.godi.org>. For questions about this request for proposals, please contact [grants@godi.org](mailto:grants@godi.org)

Note: The Small Grants Program is intended as a benefit of "full membership" in the GSDI Association. Because the GSDI Association is fairly young, we are making this opportunity available currently 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 US\$100 or documented in-kind contributions in lieu of dues. Please see <http://www.godi.org/joinGSDI>

### [Seventh Meeting of the Standing Committee on Spatial Data Infrastructure in the Americas \(PC-IDEA\)](#)

Source: <http://www.snit.cl/> ; <http://www.ign.gov.ar/>

Parallel to the "Latin America Geospatial Forum (LAGF)", which took place in the city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil between August 16 and 19, it was held the Seventh Meeting of the Permanent Committee for Geospatial Data Infrastructure of the Americas (PC-IDEA), aimed at sharing progresses of the 2010-2013 Action Plan, designed to support national implementation of SDIs. It should be noted that in this instance Chile played the role of vocal to the South American region, a charge that rests with the SNIT's Executive Secretary that also leads the coordination of the Planning Working Group (PC-IDEA GTplan), by way of Alvaro Monett. Themes of the action plan are directed at identifying capacity building needs, the dissemination of technical standards and specifications, diffusion of good practices, implementation of tools to access relevant SDI topics, and the monitoring of national processes in the field of geospatial information. SNIT participation in this Latin American Forum included a presentation by Alvaro Monett on PC-IDEA's work progress. Pertinent activities closed with an evaluation of the GTplan meeting where activities were planned for the second half of 2011.



[IGN Argentina in the American Geospatial Forum 2011](#): more than 17 Latin American countries participated in LAGF. The National Geographic Institute (IGN) of Argentina was represented by its Deputy Director, Julio Cesar Benedetti, who presented highlights of the institutional policy, its implementation and achievements to the date. This presentation included the state of the art of the Spatial Data Infrastructure in Argentina (IDERA) and ongoing activities, followed by comments on the upcoming annual IDERA Workshop, to be held on October 13-14 in the town of San Miguel de Tucumán. During the PC-IDEA meeting, it was reviewed the progress of the work plan 2010-2013 in response to resolutions of the Ninth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas. This work plan was drafted at the Conference that took place in Rio de Janeiro in 2010, and was subject of an initial PC-IDEA assessment in April 2011 in New York City.

### **Mesoamerica Already Counts with SMIT for Natural Disaster Prevention Spatial Information Management**

Source: CATHALAC News

Last August 31 and September 1 in San José, Costa Rica it was successfully held the Fifth Regional Meeting of the Mesoamerican Territorial Information to Reduce Disaster Risk (in Spanish SMIT) ([Video courtesy of the CNE](#)) with support of the National Emergency Commission (in Spanish CNE) in Costa Rica. This initiative is promoted under the Mesoamerican Integration and Development Project coordinated by the Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean (in Spanish CATHALAC), with participation of Mesoamerican national civil protection agencies, and financial support of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) through its Regional Public Goods

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program (in Spanish BPR). This regional event was attended by specialized personnel of CATHALAC, the representation of the Presidential Commissioner of Costa Rica, national focal points of Civil Protection agencies in Belize, Costa Rica, Colombia, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico, Panama and the Dominican Republic, and thematic regional experts and national experts hired by the project to help national platforms on feeding the SMIT. The SMIT regional platform and its many functions and benefits were presented. It is worth noting that SMIT also takes advantage of existing capacity in CATHALAC on Earth observation through the Regional Visualization and Monitoring System (in Spanish SERVIR.). By the end of the meeting, necessary agreements to strengthen the platform at this stage and to build a second project phase of regional benefit were established. This meeting's results will be key inputs to presenting SMIT at the Summit of Mesoamerican Presidents of the Mechanism of Tuxtla Dialogue to be held on October in Tuxtla Gutierrez, Mexico. The SMIT project is driven in compliance with resolutions adopted by the Presidents and Heads of State in the region during the Tenth Summit of the Mechanism of Tuxtla Dialogue and Agreement in 2009.

### [SERVIRGlobal.net is in Beta Testing](http://www.servirglobal.net)

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



SERVIRGlobal.net is under development and is currently in the Beta testing phase. SERVIRGlobal.net moved from Alpha testing into Beta testing beginning on 1 April, 2011. SERVIRGlobal.net is undergoing

a complete front-end redesign in Fiscal Year 2011, and the Beta testing period will involve the evaluation of design concepts and strategies for a brand new user interface for the SERVIR "One-Stop" shop for geospatial information. During Beta testing, users are invited to provide feedback to the webmaster. In formulating the front-end One-Stop design, the SERVIR web design team is conducting in-depth user testing and gathering detailed feedback from SERVIR stakeholders. It is also continuing to develop the metadata holdings in its Geospatial Data Catalog and to refine Interactive Web Maps and other interactive content. In the meantime, please send your comments and keep a look out for the new site design.

### [Indonesia Develops NSDI Using Cloud](http://www.futuregov.asia/)

Source: <http://www.futuregov.asia/>

Indonesia's National Coordinating Agency for Survey and Mapping, BAKOSURTANAL, is taking its GIS initiatives to a whole new level by developing its NSDI using cloud computing technology – an initiative which stemmed from the agency's thrust to provide accurate and reliable geospatial information to government agencies and the general public. Cloud computing can provide seamless sharing of information between different agencies, and also provide various opportunities for BAKOSURTANAL to become more cost-effective, productive, flexible, and efficient. "In order to be spatially enabled, Indonesia will make spatial data acquisition complete on every scale as mandated in Indonesia's geospatial Information Laws – thus the development of the Indonesian Spatial Data Infrastructure is very critical," said Dr. Asep Karsidi, Chief of BAKOSURTANAL. "For the next three years we will continue to develop the NSDI to focus more on geospatial data and as well as build on capacity building for our human resources who will be custodians of our geospatial data." [By Clarice Africa | 15 September 2011]



### [GGIM High Level Events](http://ggim.un.org/)

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



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Exchange Forum with Business Leaders on GGIM, Seoul, Republic of Korea, 23 October 2011, co-organized by the Korean National Geographic Information Institute and the Statistics Division of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA). [Concept note](#).

High level forum on Global Geospatial Information Management, Seoul, Republic of Korea, 24-26 October 2011, co-organized by NGII Korea and UN-DESA, supported by the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP), the Permanent Committee for Geospatial Data Infrastructure of the Americas (PC-IDEA) and the Committee on Development Information, Science and Technology (CODIST) for Africa. [Documentation for the meeting](#).

First meeting of the UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, Seoul, Republic of Korea, 26 October 2011. The main objectives of the UN Committee are to provide a forum for coordination and dialogue among Member States, and between Member States and relevant international organizations and to propose work-plans and guidelines with a view to promoting common principles, policies, methods, mechanisms and standards for the interoperability and inter-changeability of geospatial data and services. [Documentation for the meeting](#).

Seminar on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, Seoul, Republic of Korea, 27 October 2011, co-organized by Statistics Korea, U.S. Census Bureau, Eurostat and UN-DESA. [Draft program](#) (as of 15 September 2011)

### [FGDC Metadata Summit](#)

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



The FGDC Metadata Summit will be held on October 27, 2011 at USGS Headquarters Building in Reston, Virginia, USA (with optional ISO training session on October 26). The Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) is hosting a one day meeting intended to bring NSDI Stakeholders up to date on International Organization for Standardization (ISO) metadata, identify challenges, and set a course for implementation. The meeting includes:

- ISO and ISO North American Profile (NAP) Metadata Standards Status Update
- Group Discussions: Issues Related to ISO Implementation
- Group Discussions: Common Solutions to Address Issues
- Group Discussion: Priorities and Recommendations

Registration and additional summit information will be available soon through the FGDC website at <http://www.fgdc.gov/site-events/metadata-summit>. For more information, contact: Viv Hutchison, USGS, [VHutchison@usgs.gov](mailto:VHutchison@usgs.gov) or Jennifer Carlino, USGS, [jcarlino@usgs.gov](mailto:jcarlino@usgs.gov)

A one day ISO metadata training class will be held on October 26, 2011 (the day before the Metadata Summit) at the USGS Headquarters Building in Reston, Virginia, USA, from 8:30 to 16:30 hours. This class will introduce the ISO standard, its components, and provide information on its use. This class is not a prerequisite for the Summit. However, participants in the training should plan to attend the Summit. Attendance is limited to 20 participants and pre-registration is required. For More Information and to Register: Contact Jacqueline Mize, NOAA [Jacqueline.Mize@noaa.gov](mailto:Jacqueline.Mize@noaa.gov)

### **The OGC and CEN/TC 287 Announce Smart Grid Location Interoperability Workshop**

Source: OGC Press Release

The OGC and CEN/TC 287 invite participation in a workshop, "Smart Grid and Spatial Data Infrastructure -Interoperability Challenges Now and in the Future," to be held 6-7 October 2011 in Ispra, Italy. This workshop, sponsored by Sparx Systems (<http://www.sparxsystems.co>), will be part of the EnviroInfo Ispra 2011 (<http://www.ec-gis.org/Workshops/EnviroInfo2011/index.cfm>)

conference at the European Commission's Joint Research Centre. Meeting European energy and climate change targets for 2020 requires a comprehensive program to make the electric power grid more reliable, flexible, secure, efficient and environmentally sustainable through the use of digital technologies. Communicating geospatial information related to the grid must become much easier if Europe is to meet those targets. This workshop will review the current status of geospatial standards in the electric utility industry. It will provide an opportunity for members of this industry and the standards community to discuss a path forward to a standards framework that will leverage the



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significant contributions of the geospatial information technology industry in accelerating the critically important commercial rollout of smart grid systems and components. For more information and to register for the workshop, see <http://www.ec-gis.org/Workshops/EnvirolInfo2011/?page=register>. Technical Committee 287 of the European Committee for Standardization (CEN/TC 287 Geographic information <http://www.gistandards.eu/MWS/>) focuses on standardization in the field of digital geographic information for Europe.

#### World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty 2012: Call for Proposals

Source: The 2012 Land Conference Team by way of Santiago Borrero



The 2012 Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty will take place in Washington, D.C., USA, on April 24-25, 2012. Held under the theme of "Land governance in a rapidly changing world", the conference aims to bring together a broad range of stakeholders to share experience on issues of relevance to the land sector. It aims to foster dialogue on how different actors can help improve land governance and how doing so can contribute to equitable growth and poverty reduction. For its 2012 session, the World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty is launching a Call for Proposals, details of which are included at [www.landandpoverty.com](http://www.landandpoverty.com). Please note that abstracts must be submitted electronically at [www.landandpoverty.com](http://www.landandpoverty.com) before the deadline of **October 31, 2011**.

#### 2011 Invitation for Projects for the Advancement of Operational Policies, Standards and Best Practices for the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure

Source: info-geoconnections

This invitation for projects will advance the operational policies, standards and related best practices required by organizations developing, contributing to and using the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI). Written Expressions of Interest (EI) will be accepted from Canadian organizations, international organizations, and private companies. GeoConnections is soliciting interest for projects that will:

1. Increase awareness of the benefits of using geospatial data and tools to achieve goals for social, economic and environmental priorities
2. Facilitate the integration and use of geospatial data to support effective decision making
3. Coordinate the development of national policies, standards and mechanisms and support their implementation to ensure maintenance and updating of geospatial data and compatibility with global standards
4. Keep Canada at the leading edge of accessing, sharing and using geospatial information via the Internet

Deadline for Expression of interest: **October 14, 2011**. For more information click [here](#). Contact: [info@geoconnections.nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:info@geoconnections.nrcan.gc.ca)

#### European LiDAR Mapping Forum Launch 2011 Conference Programme

Source: Ludo Engelen by way of Santiago Borrero





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The organizers of the 2nd European LIDAR Mapping Forum (ELMF) to be held in Salzburg, Austria on November 29-30, have launched the 2011 programme. The programme promotes a truly international theme where speakers in the international LIDAR community represent nearly 20 countries from all over the world: UAE, Russia, Australia, USA, Canada and several European countries including Hungary, Poland, Denmark and Belgium. The conference is supported by a Showcase of more than 50 of the world's leading companies in the LIDAR industry market. ELMF11 Conference Chairman Alastair MacDonald noted: "We are at a watershed in the development of the LIDAR industry, where some sectors of the expanding LIDAR user community, intrigued by the easier access to acquired LIDAR data, are in danger of considering themselves experts, without the knowledge or education of the technology and its use in mapping. There are important trends towards greater use of mapping data derived from LIDAR for intelligent mobile devices, and open sourcing and easy access to vaults of LIDAR data. These will have a fundamental effect on the way LIDAR mapping, data processing and management will be conducted in the near future and may well influence the survival of a number of technology and service companies. The organizers of ELMF also run the International LIDAR Mapping Forum, an annual event in the US. The next ILMF will take place in Denver in January 23 - 25, 2012 [www.lidarmap.org](http://www.lidarmap.org). For further information please contact [info@lidarmap.net](mailto:info@lidarmap.net) or go to [www.lidarmap.org](http://www.lidarmap.org) For more information contact: Caroline Hobden, Event Manager, European LIDAR Mapping Forum [caroline.hobden@intelligentexhibitions.com](mailto:caroline.hobden@intelligentexhibitions.com)

#### Submit Your Abstract for ISPRS2012

Source: Mark Shortis by way of Santiago Borrero



The XXII International Society for Photogrammetry & Remote Sensing Congress will take place from August 25 to September 1, 2012 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Australia. The [online submission](#) system for abstracts is now open. The deadline for submission of abstracts of papers for presentation at the ISPRS 2012 Congress is Monday, **24 October** 2011. An abstract must be submitted for all papers, including plenary and invited papers, papers by young authors, oral and poster presentations, and full papers that will

be submitted to the double blind, peer review process. All papers accepted for presentation will have the associated abstract published in the Book of Abstracts distributed at the ISPRS 2012 Congress. A broad overview of the technical program is available on the [Congress website](#) and the detailed schedule of presentations in the technical program will be available from April 2012. If you have any questions regarding the technical program or presentations, please contact [technicalprogram@isprs2012.org](mailto:technicalprogram@isprs2012.org). If you have any general queries regarding the conference, venue, registration, transport, accommodation or visas, please visit the web site or contact the conference organiser, ICMS, at [isprs2012@icms.com.au](mailto:isprs2012@icms.com.au)

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International  
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#### International Geospatial Society (IGS) Free Memberships for Individuals in Developing Nations

Source: Harlan Onsrud

At its recent meeting, the GSDI Board of Directors passed a motion that allows individuals in low and very low income nations to join the International Geospatial Society (IGS) by providing specific information of value to the global community in lieu of annual cash dues. To join, simply add your professional profile to the growing interconnected network of geospatial specialists across the globe. Benefits of membership in IGS are listed at <http://www.igeoss.org/benefits>.

If you are a citizen of and resident in an economically disadvantaged nation and wish to take advantage of this free membership offer, simply follow these three steps:

1. Register as an individual in the Geographic Information Knowledge Network at <http://giknet.org> (Click login in the upper right hand corner and Register for an Account if you do not have one).

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2. After establishing an account, login and under My Submissions submit your Profile for an Individual. Don't forget to upload your photo. It may take a day for the moderator to approve your submission.
3. After completing the form, fill out the International Geospatial Society Membership Application at <http://www.igeoss.org/join>. If you are located in a qualifying nation, the application form will expand to ask for the URL for your GIKNet Individual Profile. Upon acceptance you will be listed on the membership roster at <http://www.igeoss.org/members> and your Bio will be automatically linked.

The listing of low and very-low income nations may be found at <http://www.gsdi.org/RankingTable>. To maintain your free membership, simply update your professional profile each year on or about December or January. You have the ability to view, edit, or delete your individual profile at any time.

The International Geospatial Society is a global community of individual specialists and professionals with geospatial, spatial data infrastructure, Geographic Information System (GIS), mobile technology, mapping and related interests. The goal of the organization is to engage and enhance communications internationally among individuals who are actively involved in promoting, developing, or advancing geospatial and affiliated concepts. Please help us all to better communicate with each other. For further information, contact Harlan Onsrud, Executive Director, GSDI Association, [onsrud@gsdi.org](mailto:onsrud@gsdi.org)

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### National SDI, News, Links, Presentations

#### **SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA (IDERA) - UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

##### **Chaco Provincial SDI Day**

Source: <http://etisig.chaco.gov.ar/>

The second Chaco Provincial SDI Day will be held on November 2011 in Resistencia, Chaco, Argentina. Although the event is free, space is limited. For more information please log on to: <http://etisig.chaco.gov.ar/>



##### **Provincial Geographic Information and Digital Mapping Producers Being Trained**

Source: <http://portal1.chaco.gov.ar/>

During September 10, 17 and 24 and October 8 and 15, a refresher and advanced course on "Geographic Data and Metadata Production" is being held, organized by the Inter-Agency Task Chaco Geographic Information System (ETISIG - Chaco) and the Laboratory of Geographic Information Technologies, Faculty of Humanities of the Universidad Nacional del Nordeste. The aim is to develop basic skills related to geographic data acquisition and management, and on the importance of multidimensionality and appropriate documentation thereof. As explained by the coordinator of ETISIG - Chaco, Daniel Sanguinetti, training is specifically aimed at geographic information producers engaged in the development of digital and thematic cartography for integrating the ETISIG, as well as all those working within provincial agencies that wish to build the Spatial Data Infrastructure of the Chaco (Chaco SDI) integrating the Chaco ETISIG. "This initiative dates in the province since September 2005 and upon Decree 1565/08 ETISIG Chaco was created, giving rise to the Chaco SDI project aimed to enable the collection, use and access of geographically referenced information of provincial coverage through information and communication technologies and skilled human resources," said Sanguinetti. ETISIG Chaco from 2007 to the date, has participated in national conferences for the establishment of the Spatial Data Infrastructure of the Republic of Argentina (IDERA), which have been held in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, Catamarca, Chaco, Neuquén and Santa Fe, with participation of national, provincial and municipal organizations. Contact: [etisig@chaco.gov.ar](mailto:etisig@chaco.gov.ar)

#### **NATIONAL TERRITORIAL INFORMATION SYSTEM OF CHILE (SNIT)**

##### **Ministry of National Assets Wins the "Geospatial Excellence" Award**

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

The Ministry of National Assets represented by the Executive Secretary of the National Territorial Information System (in Spanish SNIT), Esteban Toha, was awarded the "Geospatial Excellence" award to the tool "Geonodo" developed in Chile with open source to provide an information publishing platform to organizations



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that have no budget for implementing closed solutions. This award was presented in the framework of the "Latin America Geospatial Forum (LAGF)" activities, which took place in the city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on August 16-19. On the occasion, Stephen Toha, valued the work developed in Chile by various public institutions participating enthusiastically in the national coordination of SNIT under the Ministry of National Assets. He also participated in the pre-conference event aimed at having a dialogue between representatives of national mapping organizations and industry leaders of the geospatial information technologies. In this activity, he explained the current state of the Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) technology platform in Chile, emphasizing the need for public institutions to do more in depth analysis of solutions offered by the industry when implementing geospatial information management tools.

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

#### **IDEC@ and the Map of Bogotá**

Source: <http://mapas.bogota.gov.co>; <http://www.catastrolatino.org/>



The Special Administrative Unit of District Land Registry (in Spanish UAECD), as coordinator of the Integrated Spatial Data Infrastructure for the Capital District (IDEC@), makes available to all entities of the Mayor and citizens in general the [Map of Bogota Portal](#), a tool designed to provide Internet consulting and geographic information produced by the district institutions, necessary for planning the city's development. The Map of Bogota Portal allows displaying data grouped by specific topics of interest for the city: Cadastre, Mobility, Heritage, Planning and Risks. The Integrated Spatial Data Infrastructure for the Capital District (IDEC@), is defined as the set of data, standards, policies, technologies and institutional arrangements, that in a supportive and integrated way, facilitate the Capital District geographic information production, availability and access, in order to foster their social, economic and environmental development. Likewise, the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), honored the UAECD with the "Special Achievement in GIS" award ([http://www.catastrolatino.org/documentos/20110804\\_premio\\_UAECDF.pdf](http://www.catastrolatino.org/documentos/20110804_premio_UAECDF.pdf)). The Cadastre of Bogotá has designed and built a strong spatial database to manage and produce the city's spatial information in a safe and reliable way. The greatest progress has been in better managing the reference map of Bogota, by incorporating 28 layers of information. This tool offers a unique access to a unified geographic information based on data provided by the various municipal services for the District of Bogotá. The Administrative Unit has been working to provide users with other services such as WMS and WFS to improve access to, and use of, geographic information and to highlight the public value of the Cadastre and the generated and integrated information. These improvements allowed the capital to win this important award among more than 100,000 experiences presented worldwide. It is the second consecutive year that the Bogotá Information System receives a prestigious award; last year it was granted the Latin American award in Urban Planning and Information Platforms 2010.

### [Spatial Data Infrastructure of Ecoregion "Eje Cafetero"](#)

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



The Regional Information System (SIR <http://www.sirideec.org.co/>) is an articulated joint effort of public and private institutions and the organized civil society; and of technical and organizational processes directed to gathering, storing and distributing required information for the sustainable development of the "Ecorregion Eje Cafetero (Coffee Axis)." In 2010 the SIR produced added value of the information throughout five regional nodes and a central node, and strengthened as a regional Spatial Data Infrastructure gaining national and international acknowledgement. The region is located in the center of the triangle of Bogota - Cali - Medellín; the Coffee Axis is located within this important economic triangle with an extension of only 2.4% of the national territory, it generates 9% of the country's gross

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internal product, and cares for 58% of the total national coffee production. Current Regional Projects Advanced by the SIR include the following:

**Biodiversity Information System (in Spanish SIB)** (<http://www.sirideec.org.co/bio>): A System intended to managing data on the knowledge, conservation and sustainable use of the Colombian biological diversity.

**GUADUA Information System (SIG GUADUA)** (<http://www.sigguadua.gov.co>): Is a distributed system, designed for allowing access, requests and distribution of structured and standardized data among the different users who conform SIG GUADUA, defining administrative procedures to guarantee an agile and efficient flow of the information around this resource.

**Information system about the Coffee Cultural Landscape** (<http://www.sirideec.org.co/paisaje>): This system stands out the culture of coffee in de Coffee Ecoregion: customs, coffee production, and maps of the region, among others.

### SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE OF PANAMA (IPDE) – UNDER CONSTRUCTION

#### Panamanian Spatial Data Infrastructure Project

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

The project aims to develop and implement the Panamanian Spatial Data Infrastructure (in Spanish IPDE) that provides society with updated geographic information based on current national and international standards to achieve interoperability between systems that use geographic data; and to facilitate geographic information use and distribution, thus promoting social, economic and environmental development. Specific project objectives include: producing a geographic information inventory; development and implementation of rules, procedures, guidelines and instructions for geographic information management; implementation and enforcement of an institutional metadata profile and promoting metadata collection applications for the SDI area; construction of training programs; establishment of geographic information access and safety policies; and development of a geographic information publishing portal together with building capacity for its maintenance. The project is scheduled for one year and will be developed under coordination of the National Geographic Institute "Tommy Guardia." The development and implementation of IPDE Work Plan 2011-2012 is available [here](#). Among the project's main expected benefits are: contributing to geospatial information organization, planning, management and distribution; formalization of geographic information standardization processes; and providing validated information required on special projects on issues such as coastal and border security, transportation, public criminology and security, flood plains, forestry and agricultural studies, among others.



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### SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE OF VENEZUELA (IDEVEN)

#### Inception Workshop on Automated Measurement and Monitoring of the Coastal-Marine System

Source: <http://www.igvsb.gov.ve/>



On September 14 and 15 the Geographic Institute of Venezuela Simon Bolivar (in Spanish IGVSb), was the setting for the development of the Inception Workshop on Automated Measurement and Monitoring of the Coastal-Marine System. The workshop was conducted for starting-up one of key activities of the project "Strengthening of the

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Venezuelan Marine-Coastal Protected Areas System", which is consolidating the Venezuelan Coastal-Marine Region Real Time Measuring and Monitoring System, aimed at having continuous real time measurements in different coastline areas allowing to identify variations in marine conditions that may affect the country's coastal-marine protected areas (PA). Main objectives of this Technical Workshop were to evaluate the system's technical requirements, define parameters to be measured and functionality of the information obtained, identify and validate stations, and define an appropriate strategy for checking, testing and analyzing historical oceanographic and tide gauge data. This monitoring system will allow area supervisors to manage Protected Areas (PA) adaptively, responding to changes over time that result, for example, from climatic and oceanographic factors; and equally to allow PA planners on future PA siting and designing under changing conditions. Collected real time data will be seamless and accessible to planners and supervisors; it will support local, national and international oceanographic research projects. The availability of this real time information will significantly facilitate adaptation to climate change (associated with the variability of mean sea level behavior), both for its use by PA planners and supervisors, natural resource management planners, and development initiatives in general. During this workshop, management views were exchanged for consolidating real time measuring and monitoring system techniques for the Venezuelan Coastal-Marine Region, which will allow the government agencies integration for implementing the system.

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### Articles and Publications of the Month

#### [infoDev Report: National Spatial Data Infrastructure: The Case of Brazil](#)

Source: Kate Lance



This report, part of the Spatial Data Infrastructure for Development (SDI4MDGs) project, explores the potential use and long-term sustainability of SDI in achieving Millennium Development Goals in Brazil. *NSDI: The Case of Brazil* navigates the current SDI landscape, addressing both the challenges and the opportunities for development presented by these technologies. The authors rely on interviews with stakeholders, early studies of SDI projects, and first-hand experiences of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) that help shape the country's National Spatial Data Infrastructure. The report also makes recommendations indicating which areas need funding and where are the strengths that should be encouraged, also providing arguments for the generalization of Brazilian initiatives by other countries. In a large country with many pressing environmental issues, geographic information made broadly available and competently used is a fundamental tool towards achieving the millennium development goals.

#### **Building an SDI as a Community Project – Challenges in Emerging Economies**

By Josef Strobl, Mariana Belgiu, Ainura B. Nazarkulova. Article under review of the *International Journal of Spatial Data Infrastructures Research (IJS DIR)*, Vol 6 (2011).

**Abstract:** This paper is focused on the entire framework of establishing national and regional Spatial Data Infrastructures in regions undergoing fundamental administrative, economic and societal restructuring. Based on experience from a GSDI small grants project aimed at developing prototype demonstrator SDI components for the Kyrgyz Republic and Central Asia, recommendations and guidelines are proposed and complemented with observations of organizational and other success factors to be considered. Lessons learned are based on the premise that in environments where state institutions like National Mapping Agencies or Cadastral Offices are not in a position to establish an inclusive and open SDI, there still is a (maybe even bigger) need for Spatial Data Infrastructures. GIS user organizations like Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs), United Nations Organizations, international development and funding organizations, grassroots initiatives and academic institutions all are dependent on a broad range of geospatial data, and multiple acquisition / redundant data holdings are rampant. Cooperating across institutional boundaries is the key to reaping the benefits of an integrated infrastructure, giving all participants the chance to focus more on their core business and less on base maps in a narrow as well as wider sense. The authors have established a demonstrator geoportal intended as the hub for fostering such cooperation, and as a communication and education resource to build a broad understanding of potential SDI benefits [Full text may be found at: <http://ijsdir.jrc.ec.europa.eu/index.php/ijsdir/article/view/258/304>]

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### The Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial (FOSS4G) Conference Wrap Up

Source: <http://www.directionsmag.com/> ; <http://2011.foss4g.org/>

By Joe Francica. Article of *Directions Magazine*, September 19<sup>th</sup> 2011.

**Concluding paragraph:** "The open source community is maturing. There are now many people engaged in development of code and code support. OSGeo will need to come to grips with how it commercializes itself because it needs to promote the good works of its global community if it wants to make the association, as a whole, grow and thrive. In turn, it must promote its members as viable alternatives to commercial software because, let's face it, that IS the competition. Attendees shouldn't think that they'll leave Denver singing Kumbayah unless they feel that the business model and the community as a whole have been advanced. It can no longer sit back and bask in the notion that it is the independent breed striking out against the forces of proprietary solutions." [The complete article may be found at: <http://www.directionsmag.com/articles/foss4g-2011-opening-plenary-session-recap/200064>] Videos of FOSS4G presentations are now going online at <http://t.co/9sxMsw8X>

### The Use of Free Software in Academia: the Case of Geomatics

By André Mendonça. Article of *FOSSGIS Brazil Magazine* - Issue 02 - June 2011

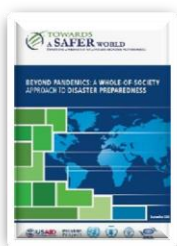
**Conclusions:** The reasoning developed in this article occurred in order to measure the relevance (in Brazil) of GFOSS (Geospatial Free and Open Source Software) applications within the field of scientific research in geomatics. Through this activity it was possible to measure empirical results obtained using a search engine with terms related to this field and the main projects of existing applications; and to produce the tables presented in this paper. Results indicate that the participation of these applications in support of research is still small compared to other countries as well as in relation to the total research produced in the field. We must also consider that scientific work in the area are largely concentrated in events of application of the technologies developed: Applications used in various markets have little or no insertion in the Brazilian scientific research; this leads us to think about the role of Brazil in the development of applications and technologies based on scientific knowledge of GFOSS, currently focused on developing applications of the SPRING family, advanced by the National Institute of Space Research (in Portuguese INPE). Other solutions in the market are still the subject of few scientific research and are rarely used as support. [Full text may be found at: [http://fossqisbrasil.com.br/wp-content/downloads/Revista\\_FOSSGIS\\_Brasil\\_Ed\\_02\\_Junho\\_2011.pdf](http://fossqisbrasil.com.br/wp-content/downloads/Revista_FOSSGIS_Brasil_Ed_02_Junho_2011.pdf)



### IBGE Releases Manual for Geosciences of Brazil on Base Cartography 1:250,000

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

IBGE (Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics) launched on September the Technical Manual of Geosciences used in the construction of Seamless Base Cartography at scale of 1:250,000, which may be accessed at: [ftp://geoftp.ibge.gov.br/documentos/cartografia/Manual\\_Procedimento\\_Tecnico.pdf](ftp://geoftp.ibge.gov.br/documentos/cartografia/Manual_Procedimento_Tecnico.pdf). Seamless Base Cartography (BC250) is a digital mosaic of Brazil at scale of 1:250,000 (where 1 inch on the map represents 2.5 km on the ground), is available as shape file (which allows its use in GIS programs) at: [ftp://geoftp.ibge.gov.br/mapas/base\\_vetorial\\_continua\\_250mil](ftp://geoftp.ibge.gov.br/mapas/base_vetorial_continua_250mil) for 89% of the country. Its completion is scheduled for first half of next year. This base is a cartographic reference for planning, monitoring and updating the country's natural resource information.



### FREE Book from the UN System

Source: NEMO News

The United Nations System for Influenza Coordination (UNSIC), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the World Food Programme have released a book entitled, *Beyond Pandemics: A Whole-of-Society Approach to Disaster Preparedness*, which was distributed at the Towards a Safer World Conference on September in Italy. A free pdf of the book is available at <http://www.towardsasafeworld.org/featured/beyond-pandemics-whole-society-approach-disaster-preparedness>. Towards a Safer World Conference calls for inclusive, Whole-of-Society Approach to Disaster Management (<http://www.pnewswire.com/news-releases/towards-a-safer-world-calls-for-inclusive-whole-of-society-approach-to-disaster-management-129668418.html>)

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### First Newsletter of the Project "Environmental Governance in Latin America and the Caribbean: Developing Frameworks for Sustainable and Equitable Natural Resource Use" (ENGOV)

Source: <http://icta.uab.cat/>



This first issue of the bi-annual ENGOV Newsletter aims to inform readers about the new collaborative research project on "Environmental Governance in Latin America and the Caribbean: Developing Frameworks for Sustainable and Equitable Natural Resource Use". ENGOV started in March 2011 and will conclude in February 2015. It is supported by the European Commission within the 7th Framework Programme. In April 2011, the ENGOV consortium of ten Latin American and European institutions met for the first time in Amsterdam to discuss their cooperation on nine inter-related research themes. The objectives of these research groups are briefly presented in this newsletter; more details can be found at [www.engov.eu](http://www.engov.eu)

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## Geospatial Research, Applications, Software, Data

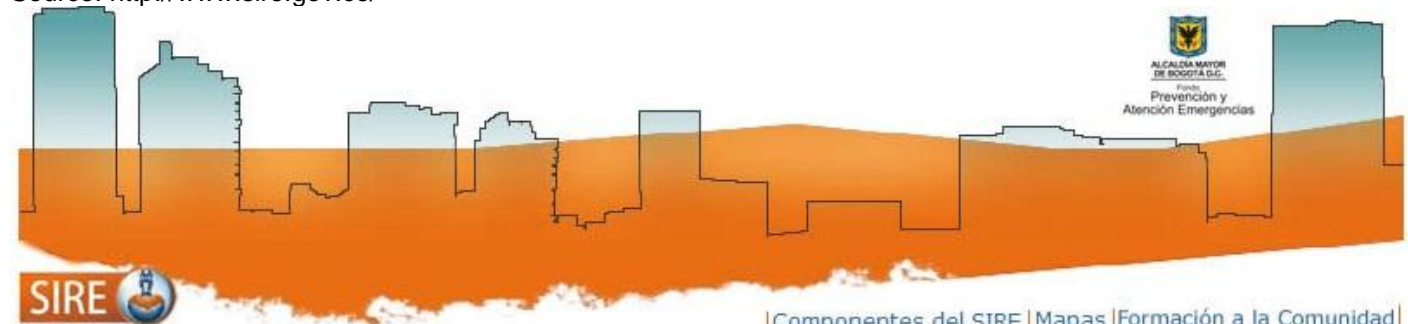
### [National Forum on the Adaptation of Agriculture to Climate Change, Belize](#)

Source: Kate Lance

A "National Forum on the Adaptation of Agriculture to Climate Change" took place at the George Price Centre in Belmopan, Belize, September 8, 2011. The objective of the forum was to initiate the "Intergovernmental Programme for Cooperation on Climate Change: Opportunities and Challenges in Agriculture" (PRICA-ADO) which is an initiative being steered by the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), Mexico office. The programme is a regional effort which includes all Central American countries, Mexico, Colombia and the Dominican Republic. The expected results of the programme are: the creation of an international scientific and technical research network, the development of an interactive Geographic Information System (GIS), the design of land evaluation procedures, the development of methodologies, materials and procedures to strengthen adaptation capacities and the creation of models for public policies, institutional development, and public investment. This forum was followed by an "International Seminar on the Adaptation of Agriculture to Climate Change" held in Mexico City on the 26, 27 and 28 of September, 2011.

### [Risk Management and Emergency Information System of Bogotá \(SIRE\), Colombia](#)

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



This information system supports information management related to the risk management process and emergency response in Bogotá. The SIRE is conceived as tools to collect, integrate, produce and disseminate technical and coordinated information to the District System for Prevention and Emergency Response (in Spanish SDPA) agencies. The system also facilitates awareness on the culture of risk through online information and services available to the

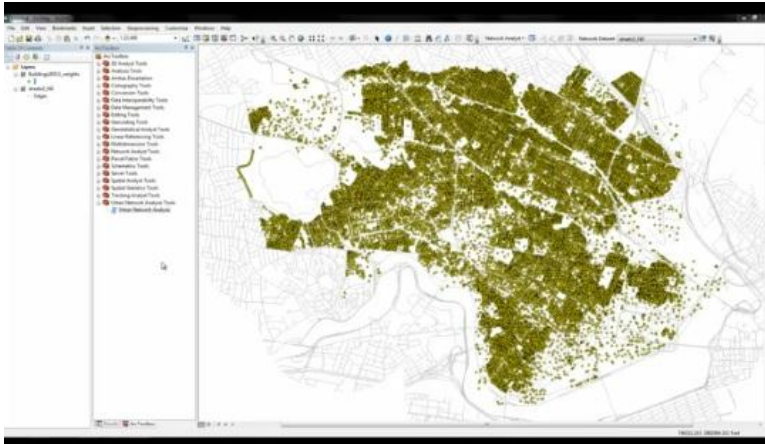
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community. The [Geoportal](#) holds risk management and emergency response geographic information, allowing queries, georeferencing, and spatial analysis of the Bogota Capital District. According to the mission of the Prevention and Emergency Response District System organizations, and based on guidelines of the Spatial Data Infrastructure of Bogota (IDEC @), you may find topographic and thematic information, allowing the creation of maps by selecting information by topic or agency. Digital information contained in the SIRE is presented in various formats (maps, text, images, charts, videos, etc.), allowing the user's access and management without the need of specialized hardware or software.

### [Researchers Create New Urban Network Analysis Toolbox](#)

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



Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) researchers have created a new Urban Network Analysis (UNA) toolbox that enables urban designers and planners to describe the spatial patterns of cities using mathematical network analysis methods. Such tools can support better informed and more resilient urban design and planning in a context of rapid urbanization. The tools incorporate three important features that make network analysis particularly suited for urban street networks. First, they account for geometry and distances in the input networks, distinguishing shorter links from longer links as part of the analysis computations. Second, unlike previous software tools that operate with two network

elements (nodes and edges), the UNA tools include a third network element -buildings- which are used as the spatial units of analysis for all measures. Two neighboring buildings on the same street segments can therefore obtain different accessibility results. And third, the UNA tools optionally allow buildings to be weighted according to their particular characteristics -more voluminous, more populated- or otherwise more important buildings can be specified to have a proportionately stronger effect on the analysis outcomes, yielding more accurate and reliable results to any of the specified measures. The UNA toolbox can be downloaded from the group's website at: <http://cityform.mit.edu/projects/urban-network-analysis.html>

### [Engaging Students to Learn About Their World Through Geography](#)

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

ArcGIS Online



Since 1984, ESRI Canada has helped educators across the country make learning interactive through digital mapping. This school year, take your class up a notch with ArcGIS Online ([ArcGIS.com](http://ArcGIS.com)), a free cloud-based resource from ESRI that allows users to create, edit and share maps. The Web site provides access to a wealth of maps, geographic data and Web lessons that you can use to promote your students' critical thinking and geographic analysis skills. Schools do not need to purchase or install software to use the GIS; you can get started quickly by accessing the Web site

and creating a [free ESRI Global Account](#). Students can easily create, edit and share maps by accessing the Web site from their school or home computers, as well as Web-enabled mobile devices. Read the [case study](#) on Toronto French School's use of ArcGIS Online. For more information on ESRI Canada's GIS solutions for education, visit [edu.esricanada.com](http://edu.esricanada.com).



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### UNOSAT Boosts Partnership for Geographic Information Services

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

The use of specialized software is an important component of advanced geographic information and satellite derived analysis; both need reliable technology for Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and geodatabase management. ESRI, the Geographic Information Company, and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) have moved to strengthen their partnership to better support the work of UNOSAT, the Operational Satellite Applications Programme that has become popular by delivering high-end image analysis and situation maps to a growing audience of international and national entities. In 2011, UNITAR and ESRI decided to strengthen their relationship by signing an agreement for three years defining software and licensing issues and new cooperation in the areas of training, capacity development and e-learning. An important in-kind grant by ESRI is also part of the agreement.



### **GeoConnections - Discovery Portal**

Source: <http://geodiscover.cgdi.ca>



The GeoConnections Discovery Portal (<http://geodiscover.cgdi.ca>) is a metadata catalogue that enables GIS users, developers and data suppliers to find, evaluate, access, visualize and publish Canadian geospatial and geoscience data products and Web services. The Discovery Portal has recently been redesigned and is undergoing further improvements. The GeoConnections program is a national initiative led by Natural Resources Canada that supports the integration and use of the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI). GeoConnections program information and resources have been moved to a new government of Canada web site (<http://geoconnections.nrcan.gc.ca/>). It is

expected that before the end of 2011 anyone accessing the original web site (<http://geoconnections.org/>) will be redirected to the new site. In the interim, both sites will co-exist.

### **GeoNetwork for Dummies, or how to Setup and use an SDI in 3 Hours**

Source: <http://2011.foss4g.org/>

This [workshop](#) was presented by Jeroen Ticheler, GeoCat at the FOSS4G Conference held on September in Denver. The workshop focused on the implementation of a GeoNetwork opensource (<http://geonetwork-opensource.org/>) based catalog to serve and access geospatial data in a Spatial Data Infrastructure. A local catalog was installed and configured. Harvesting of spatial data resources from remote servers were configured and geospatial web map services were set up using the embedded GeoServer and configured for access through the catalog web interface. Participants created INSPIRE compliant metadata and learned how to develop and use custom metadata templates based on the ISO19115/19119 metadata standards. Participants learned to use the various different interfaces that GeoNetwork offers, such as the GUI Web Interface and the OGC CSW/ISO interface. Integration of proprietary and open source software were demonstrated. For that, GeoCat Bridge was used to create metadata and map services in GeoNetwork opensource and GeoServer directly from ESRI ArcGIS Desktop software. Attention was also given to other import and export functionality of the catalog that allow integration of the publishing process in existing workflows.

### **PostgreSQL 9.1 now available**

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

The PostgreSQL Global Development Group announces the release of PostgreSQL 9.1. This latest version of the open source database offers innovative technology, unmatched extensibility, and new features such as synchronous replication, K-Nearest Neighbor indexing, and foreign data wrappers. "PostgreSQL 9.1 provides some of the most advanced enterprise capabilities of any open source database, and is backed by a vibrant and innovative community with proven customer success. PostgreSQL is well positioned for building and running applications in the cloud," said Charles Fan, Sr. VP R&D, VMware. The core of the



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PostgreSQL object-relational database management system is available in several source and binary formats. For detailed information and downloads please log on to: <http://www.postgresql.org/>.

### OSGeo-Live 5.0 Released

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

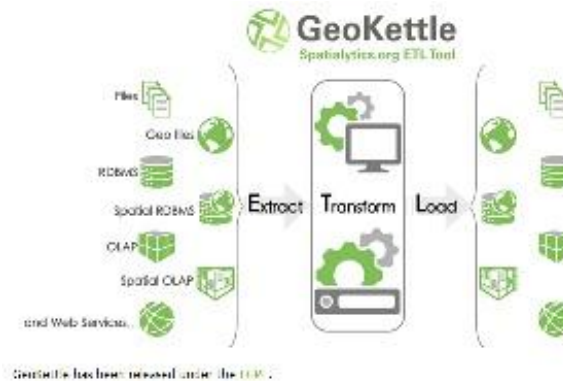


Version 5.0 of the OSGeo-Live GIS software collection has been released. OSGeo-Live is a self-contained bootable DVD, USB flash drive and Virtual Machine based upon Ubuntu Linux that is pre-configured with a wide variety of robust open source geospatial software. The applications can be tried without installing anything on your computer, simply by booting the computer from the DVD or USB drive. A DVD or USB of OSGeo-Live was distributed to every delegate at the international conference for Free and Open Source Software held on September in Denver, <http://2011.foss4g.org> homepage: <http://live.osgeo.org>. A half hour presentation, highlighting all OSGeo-Live applications, is available as a video, along with source slides and script. Details at <http://live.osgeo.org/en/presentation.html>

### GeoKettle, Metadata-driven Spatial ETL Tool

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

During the recent FOSS4G Conference held on September in Denver, it was conducted a [workshop](#) to explore, in a practical manner, all the areas where GeoKettle (<http://www.geokettle.org>) could be useful for automatically feeding and updating a SDI. GeoKettle is a powerful, open source, metadata-driven Spatial ETL (Extract-Transform-Load) tool dedicated to the integration of different spatial data sources for building and updating geospatial data warehouses. GeoKettle enables the Extraction of data from data sources, the Transformation of data in order to correct errors, make some data cleansing, change the data structure, make them compliant to defined standards, and the Loading of transformed data into a target DataBase Management System (DBMS) in OLTP or OLAP/SOLAP mode, GIS file or Geospatial Web Service. GeoKettle is a spatially-enabled version of the generic ETL tool Kettle (Pentaho Data Integration). GeoKettle also benefits from Geospatial capabilities from mature, robust and well know Open Source libraries like JTS, GeoTools, deegree, OGR and, via a plugin, Sextante [Current version: 2.0 // License: LGPL].



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## Training and Funding Opportunities, Awards

### [CDKN announces its second global research call](#)

Fuente: Patricia Solis by way of Santiago Borrero

The Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) announces its second global research call, valued at about £4 million, on the themes of climate compatible development and disaster risk management and resilience. Closing date of 24th October 2011. Proposals on the following subthemes are invited:

Theme 1: Climate Compatible Development, including three subthemes:

1. Designing and delivering climate compatible development
2. Decision paths, tools and processes for climate compatible development
3. Low Carbon Policies on Development and Growth



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Theme 2: Disaster Risk Management and Resilience, including four subthemes:

1. Design of disaster risk management systems
2. Disaster Responses that build resilience
3. Risk financing leading to risk reduction
4. Costs and benefits of risk management strategies

In this call, sub-theme research areas are specified, and researchers are invited to submit research questions of their choice under the subtheme. Applications are invited for projects with a value between £400,000 and £500,000, with exceptional projects able to apply for funding of up to £1 million. Around 8 projects of 18-24 months' duration will be funded, depending on quality of applications and size of funding requested. CDKN funds research of the highest scientific standards with clear policy impact pathways. It is looking for strong theoretical foundations to proposed research that will make a significant contribution to the academic and practitioner communities. It encourages partnerships and capacity building efforts between researchers, policy makers and wider CDKN partners throughout the process. For full details, including research questions, eligibility criteria and application processes, please see the research call documentation on the [CDKN website here](#).

### International Seminar-Workshop on "New Developments in Geomatics"

Source: Fabián Reyes



IDRISI Resource Center in Ecuador (<http://idrisi.unl.edu.ec/>), along with the Center for Integrated Environmental Geomatics (in Spanish CINFA-UNL) invites to attending the next international seminar-workshop on "New Developments in Geomatics" with Dr. Ron Eastman, Director of Clark Labs (Massachusetts, USA), creator of IDRISI software. The event will take place on October 24-27, 2011 at the National University of Loja, Ecuador, aimed specifically at researchers, teachers and professionals involved with issues concerning: land use change, REDD+ processes, spatial-temporal analysis, and integrated water management. The keynote and workshop sessions with Dr. Eastman, will be in English with Spanish translation by Dr. Florence Sangermano, a research associate of Clark Labs. More information at: <http://idrisi.unl.edu.ec/spip.php?article15>

### Seminar "Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDI), latest trends and research"

Source: Ludo Engelen by way of Santiago Borrero

The Seminar is organized by the Leuven University, Brussels and will be held on November 7-11 2011, at the Irish College (The Leuven Institute for Ireland in Europe). The objective of this five-day Seminar is to enhance knowledge about the latest developments and research in the domain of Spatial Data Infrastructures. Target group (of 30 persons) include SDI-practitioners and academics who have some basic knowledge of spatial data infrastructures, and who are interested in the latest SDI-trends and research. The seminar will include lectures, presentations, discussions, and an excursion. Detailed information on Fees, registration, and the Seminar Schedule is found [here](#). Contact person: Joep Crompvoets ([joep.crompvoets@soc.kuleuven.be](mailto:joep.crompvoets@soc.kuleuven.be)) / Janseniusstraat 1, 3000 / Leuven Belgium / Phone: + 32 16 310 430 - Fax: + 32 16 310 431 (<http://www.louvaininstitute.com>). Background literature: Zorica Nedović-Budić, Joep Crompvoets, Yola Georgiadou (Eds.), 2011. *Spatial Data Infrastructures in Context: North and South*. Boca Raton: CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group. ISBN: 978-1-4398-2802-1.



# Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

## Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

### Workshop: GIS-Education in a Changing Academic Environment

Source: Ludo Engelen by way of Santiago Borrero

A one-day workshop on "GIS-education in a changing academic environment" will be held on November 18, 2011 in Leuven, Belgium. More information at: <http://ees.kuleuven.be/legio/index.html>. Registration is now open.

### New DMS Group e-learning Training Courses, Spain

Source: Maria Crespo

DMS Group, specialized in Spatial Data Infrastructure and Geographic Information Systems, launches new e-learning training courses. The Group has accumulated years of experience and conducted works with the Spain National Geographic Institute, Geological Survey, Ministry of Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs, and the CSIC. Courses offered are aimed at obtaining advanced knowledge acquisition, analysis and use of geographic information. For more information and downloading course content sheets please [click here](#). If you are interested on receiving more information please access [DMS website](#) or contact [formación@dmsgroup.es](mailto:formación@dmsgroup.es). DMS Group Training Team may also be followed on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



### Profesional Master on Project Direction and Geospatial Services

Fuente: <http://www.ign.es/>

The Polytechnic University of Madrid (UPM) and the National Geographic Institute (IGN) of Spain jointly organize the professional master in projects direction and geospatial service management, which is scheduled for March, 2012. The Masters program integrates best practices of project and service management methodologies and techniques with the



necessary knowledge about geospatial technologies. With a business and practical approach, the master program intends to contribute to the development of the sector through the revision and updating of standards and quality systems (INSPIRE, OGC, ISO, LISIGE...). For more information on the program please log on [here](#)

### 3rd Latin America and the Caribbean gvSIG Conference Workshops

Source: gvSIG News Office

On October 11, a day before installation of the 3rd Latin America and the Caribbean gvSIG Conference [\[http://www.gvsig.org/web/community/events/jornadas-lac/2011/\]](http://www.gvsig.org/web/community/events/jornadas-lac/2011/), several workshops will take place directed to users in the premises of the International Centre on Hydroinformatics, Itaipu Technological Park. The following workshops will be conducted:

- GvSIG initiation: Information visualization, visual analysis, editing, geoprocessing, graphical output, gvSIG as SDI client
- GvSIG extensions: raster tools, Sextante, extensive networking, gvSIG 3D
- I3Geo + gvSIG: MapServer (installation and configuration), MAPFILE, gvSIG publication extension, i3Geo installation and customization, editing topic trees (menus, groups and subgroups), edition themes, inclusion of items into topics tree from vector data (PostGIS and shapefiles) and raster (GeoTIFF), gvSIG integration module for I3GEO.

Registration is free, and independent of registration to the Conference, and may be done from the Conference website [\[http://www.gvsig.org/web/community/events/jornadas-lac/2011/talleres/\]](http://www.gvsig.org/web/community/events/jornadas-lac/2011/talleres/). For capacity reasons, please register for only one workshop per person.





## Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

### International Programme on Crisis and Mass Disaster

Source: Baruch Levy by way of Zofia Mizrachi



The Strategic Studies Center of the [Galilee International Management Institute](http://www.galilcol.ac.il) invites your participation in the [International Programme on Crisis and Mass Disasters](http://www.galilcol.ac.il). During the program participants will attend study visits to EMS (Emergency Medical Services) and the Control Center for Immediate Response. A workshop on Analysis of LSSD Crisis (Large Scale Sudden Disasters) will be developed. The Conference will address issues such as resilience, emergency preparedness, crisis management and LSSD. Within the agenda of the Center for Strategic Studies also will be conducted a seminar for Advanced Studies in Air Force on November 21-26, 2011. In accordance with the policy of Galilee International Management Institute to promote sustainable development, this institution provides academic scholarships to participants from Latin American countries. If you require further information, the application form or apply for any candidate of your institution, please contact Ms. Zofia Mizrachi, Director of Hispanic Programs for the Strategic Studies Center at: [zmizrachi@galilcol.ac.il](mailto:zmizrachi@galilcol.ac.il)

### PhD Scholarship Barcelona

Source: Rinku Roy Chowdhury

The Institute of [Environmental Science and Technology](http://www.icta.uab.cat) (in Spanish ICTA) at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona offers a Doctoral Fellowship to investigate the ecological, economic and social implications of soy cultivation in Paraguay. The position will be based in Barcelona, under the guidance of [Dr Esteve Corbera](http://www.icta.uab.cat) as principal investigator. The fellow will be part of a larger research project entitled "A Political Ecology of Land-Use Change: carbon forests and agrofuels", funded by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation (RYC-2010-07183) and the European Research Agency through a Marie Curie Career Integration Grant (GA-2011-294234). The fellow will be employed for 36 months, starting the 1st of January 2012 at the latest, and by the end of this period she/he will have to submit a PhD dissertation under ICTA's Doctoral Programme in Environmental Sciences. An additional year of funding may be available subject to the fellow's motivation and achieved results. The annual stipend will be of approximately €14,400 and there will be an additional budget for fieldwork. The research will involve at least 12 non-consecutive months of fieldwork in Paraguay, working across governance scales, from national to village levels. Candidates should have an undergraduate degree in Environmental Sciences, Geography, Biology, Development Studies, Anthropology, Sociology or Political Sciences and an international Master's degree in a related field. They should (1) write and speak fluently in English and Spanish; (2) demonstrate experience in fieldwork-based research, consultancy or development work, preferably in Latin America; and (3) preferably credit some ability of independent thinking and writing through, for example, reports and peer-reviewed publications. We particularly welcome applications from Paraguay and Latin America. Interested candidates should send a full-CV including the name of three referees and a one-page letter of motivation to [esteve.corbera@uab.cat](mailto:esteve.corbera@uab.cat) before the **9th of October**.



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## Employment Opportunities

### Director – Research Administrator, Center for Marine and Environmental Studies (CMES), USVI

Source: Tyler B. Smith by way of Carib-coral-reefs list

The candidate will manage the University of the Virgin Islands' MacLean Marine Science Center facilities for teaching and research faculty, staff, graduate and undergraduate students; coordinate the activities of the University of the Virgin Islands Sea Grant program (VIMAS) located on St. Thomas and St. Croix; and provide oversight for the Virgin Islands Environmental Resource Station (VIERS) on St. John. The candidate will also maintain an active externally-funded research program as well as pursue infrastructure development grants; the Director collaborates with UVI academic programs through lectures, mentoring graduate and undergraduate students and attending faculty meetings.

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University of the Virgin Islands

**Qualifications:** Ph.D. or equivalent in Marine Science or related discipline and three years of experience managing a department and organization of major projects are required. Record of successfully funded grant proposals; demonstrated ability to maintain an externally funded research program and to publish in peer reviewed journals; administrative and budget management skills; excellent people management skills; must be computer literate; knowledge of boats, seamanship and tropical marine coastal systems preferred; ability to form positive collaborative relationships with state and federal government agencies and non-government organizations. In order to be considered please submit an employment application, cover letter that includes a list of three references with names and contact information, curriculum vitae, and official college transcript(s) online through the <https://careers.uvi.edu/>, select Staff Positions link to find posting for CMES Director. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. When applying for this position, the job title and job code number 0600240 must be included on your résumé.

### FEEM - Researcher Position in Land Use, Forestry and Agriculture Economics modeling

Source: Rinku Roy Chowdhury

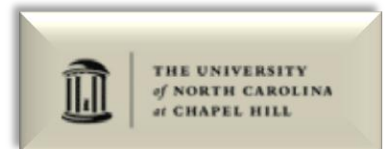
FEEM, a leading research institute on sustainable development ([www.feem.it](http://www.feem.it)) is looking to recruit a motivated and talented researcher for a modeling position in the area of Land Use, Forestry and Agriculture Economics. Candidates should have a Ph.D. in economics, or in engineering/mathematics/physics coupled with a solid economic background, and experience in applied research on Land Use, Forestry and Agriculture issues. The main duties will be related to the global modeling of land use and forestry and its interface with the integrated assessment analysis of energy and climate policies. Knowledge of global land use optimization models and experience with bioenergy is required. Skills in modelling land-forestry-related dynamics either with land use models or with top down economic models (AEZ approach) will be an important even though not mandatory asset. The selected candidate will interact with researchers of different nationalities, and have the chance to present scientific papers at several conferences and workshops. Parts of the activities are realized in the context of European research projects. FEEM offers a truly interdisciplinary workplace, with strong ties with a world-wide network of research institutions engaged in environmental research and in particular on the analysis of climate change issues. The successful candidate is expected to begin his/her assignment in late 2011/early 2012. The appointment period can be up to three years, with an evaluation after the first one. Gross salary is competitive and will be based on qualification and experience. Duties will be carried out at the FEEM premises either in Milan or Venice, Italy. Applicants should send detailed curriculum vitae, a job market paper, and at least one letter of recommendation to: Monica Eberle ([monica.eberle@feem.it](mailto:monica.eberle@feem.it)) Please mention ref: FOREST/09.2011 in your application



### UNC Associate Position in Global Studies

Source: Rinku Roy Chowdhury

The Curriculum in Global Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill invites applications for a tenured faculty position at the Associate Professor level to start July 1st, 2012. The successful candidate will have an outstanding record of research and teaching in global issues and have a Ph.D. in one of the following disciplines: Geography, Political Science, or Sociology. The faculty position will have partial teaching commitments within the Curriculum, alongside their responsibilities to their home academic department. Tenure will be within the appropriate department listed above. Global Studies (GLBL) is an interdisciplinary curriculum which focuses on the ways in which global forces shape and transform political, economic and cultural change (<http://www.unc.edu/depts/ints/>). GLBL is one of the fastest growing undergraduate majors at UNC and draws on faculty expertise from across the university. The Curriculum is proposing a MA in Global Studies degree program, which will offer a course of study designed to train graduate students in issues of contemporary global significance and policy relevance, in which this faculty member would teach. Interested candidates should apply online at <http://jobs.unc.edu/2501738>. Review of



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applications will begin **November 1st**, 2011 and continue until the position is filled. Questions can be directed to Andrew Reynolds, chair of the search committee ([asreynol@email.unc.edu](mailto:asreynol@email.unc.edu)).

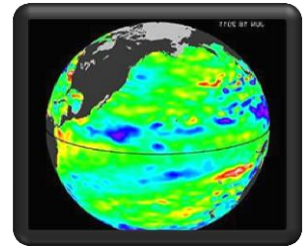
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### Other

#### [La Niña Returns, Bringing More Severe Weather](#)

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

The weather phenomenon known as La Niña is returning for another season, likely bringing more drought, heavy rains and severe weather to some parts of the world, US forecasters said. Experts at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center upgraded last month's La Niña Watch to a La Niña Advisory, the agency said in a statement. "La Niña, which contributed to extreme weather around the globe during the first half of 2011, has re-emerged in the tropical Pacific Ocean and is forecast to gradually strengthen and continue into winter," NOAA said. The June 2010 to May 2011 La Niña "contributed to record winter snowfall, spring flooding and drought throughout the world" it said. Over 12 million people across the Horn of Africa are reeling from the region's worst drought in decades, which led the United Nations in July to declare the first famine this century. The weather pattern was blamed for extremely heavy downpours in Australia, Southeast Asia and South America over late 2010 and early 2011.



#### [Google Earth Outreach trains environmental journalists in the Amazon](#)

Source: <http://google-latlong.blogspot.com/>



In July, a [Google Earth Outreach](#) team traveled from the Ecuadorian Andes all the way to the Amazon basin with a group of journalists who report on environmental issues impacting the Amazon region. They were there at the invitation of [Internews' Earth Journalism Network](#) to train journalists on how to incorporate compelling geographic visualizations into their stories using Google's mapping tools. Over 20 journalists and communications specialists were represented among the newly-

formed Pan-Amazonia journalist network from Amazon region countries, including Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia and Brazil. Internews' Earth Journalism Network and Amazonian journalists plan to use these new tools and techniques to bring the story of the Amazon to the public.

#### [Call for articles to Latin America Journal](#)

Source: Pan American Professional Network

Call to submit articles and reviews to the biannual Journal *Latin America*, which is published by the Research Center on Latin America and the Caribbean (in Spanish CIALC), of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (in Spanish UNAM). Rules for submitting originals are found [here](#).

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### Americas: Conferences, SDI Events

#### [VI Conference of Spatial Data Infrastructure in Argentina - IDERA](#)

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



The Government of the Province of Tucuman and the Coordination Team of the platform for the consolidation of

IDERA organize the VI IDERA Conference, which will take place on October 13-14, 2011, in San Miguel de

Tucuman, Argentina. The conference aims to provide a forum for discussion of initiatives, projects and ideas for the consolidation of the Argentinean SDI over the construction of provincial and local SDIs, as well as the integration of other initiatives. It is addressed to officials and experts from governmental and non governmental organizations, businesses and citizens interested on SDI implementation in Argentina. Contact: [contacto@idera.gob.ar](mailto:contacto@idera.gob.ar)

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### MundoGEO Seminars

Source: Eduardo Freitas

MundoGEO will held on October 27 in Sao Paulo (SP), two seminars: (i) Geomatics for Engineering Works and Infrastructure

(<http://mundogeo.com/seminarios/geomatica2011>) and (ii) Earth Images Solutions for Corporate Use

(<http://mundogeo.com/seminarios/imagens2011>)

On May 29-31, 2012 will take place the second edition of MundoGEO#Connect, under the theme "Sharing information for a better world." Conference site: <http://mundogeoconnect.com/2012>. Contact: [connect@mundogeo.com](mailto:connect@mundogeo.com)



### VIII Conference on Remote Sensing Education in the Framework of Mercosur "Geotechnology and Education: New Interaction Spaces for the Global Society"

Source: <http://www.jornadaseduacion.unlu.edu.ar/>

This event will take place on November 13-16, 2011 in the town of Alta Gracia, Province of Cordoba, Argentina. The Conference emerged as an academic-scientific community need of the remote sensing field, for having a space that allows exchanging experiences between teachers and/or researchers, from state or private institutions of member countries of MERCOSUR. Their aim is to improve and expand the state of education in that field, as well as encourage the gathering of various actors belonging to different

academic levels, in order to disseminate and ensure familiarity with a technology that every day becomes more necessary.

### 6th Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM)

Source: NEMO News



Comprehensive Disaster Management [CDM] was conceptualized by the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) as a new direction for disaster management for the 21st century. It moves away from the relief and response mode to a comprehensive approach which takes disaster and mitigation considerations into account during the planning and development stages (before the disaster). The strategy seeks to expand the partnerships away from the traditional ones and to incorporate as many sectors as possible such as tourism, agricultural, health, financial, educational, economic, social, and environmental, among others. The 6th Annual Conference under the theme "CDM: Reflection, Introspection, Moving Forward" will take place on December 5-9, 2011 in Port-of-Spain, and shall be hosted by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago. A [call for papers](#) has already been made. The Conference website for registration and further details is now at [www.cdema.org/cdmconference](http://www.cdema.org/cdmconference)

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### OCTOBER 2011

3 <b>*NEW*</b>	Sturbridge MA, USA	<a href="#">NEURISA Annual One Day Conference</a>
3-4	Whistler BC, Canada	<a href="#">2011 GITA Pacific Northwest Chapter's 11th Annual Fall Conference</a>
3-7	Morelia, Mexico	<a href="#">XIX National Meeting SELPER-Mexico</a> / Contact: <a href="mailto:selper2011@ciga.unam.mx">selper2011@ciga.unam.mx</a>
5-7	Santiago, Chile	<a href="#">2011 GEOSS in the Americas Symposium</a>
6-7	West Palm Beach FL, USA	<a href="#">18th Annual South Florida GIS EXPO</a>
6-27	New Brunswick NJ, USA	<a href="#">ArcGIS: Introduction Series</a>
7-10	Mar del Plata, Argentina	<a href="#">National Congress of Geography and Geography Week #72</a> Contact: <a href="mailto:informes@gaea.org.ar">informes@gaea.org.ar</a>
8-12 <b>*NEW*</b>	Mar del Plata, Argentina	<a href="#">8<sup>th</sup> Hydrocarbon Exploration and Development Congress</a>
9-11	San Francisco CA, USA	<a href="#">Android Open Conference</a>
9-12	Columbia SC, USA	<a href="#">ESRI Electric and Gas User Conference</a>
10-13	Buenos Aires, Argentina	<a href="#">Argentina Oil and Gas Expo 2011</a>
11-13	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">CTIA Enterprise and Applications</a>
12-13	Montreal, Canada	<a href="#">Geomatics 2011</a>
12-14	Foz do Iguaçu PR, Brazil	<a href="#">3rd gvSIG Latin America and the Caribbean Conference: "We Share the Project"</a>



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12-14	Madison WI, USA	<a href="#">NACIS2011: Cartography and Information Design</a>
13-14	San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina	<a href="#">VI IDERA Conference</a> Email: <a href="mailto:contacto@idera.gob.ar">contacto@idera.gob.ar</a>
13-14	Helen GA, USA	<a href="#">2011 Georgia URISA Workshop</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
16-20	San Antonio TX, USA	<a href="#">GEOINT 2011</a>
17-20	São Paulo, Brazil	<a href="#">Iberoamerican Meeting on Sustainable Development EIMA: 8</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
17-20	Ottawa, Ontario, Canada	<a href="#">GTEC - Ottawa - Canada's Government Technology Event</a>
17-21	León Guanajuato, México	<a href="#">Geography and Environment National Convention 2011</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
18-19	San Jose CA, USA	<a href="#">The 3<sup>rd</sup> Location Business Summit</a>
18-19	Naperville IL, USA	<a href="#">Illinois GIS Association Fall Conference</a>
18-20	Dallas TX, USA	<a href="#">Field Service Interactive</a>
23-26	New Orleans LA, USA	<a href="#">Pictometry FutureView 2011</a>
24-27	Houston TX, USA	<a href="#">GITA's GIS for Oil and Gas Pipeline Conference</a>
24-28	Pasto, Colombia	<a href="#">II National Gathering of Geography Students</a> Contact <a href="mailto:pastoeneg2011@gmail.com">pastoeneg2011@gmail.com</a>
24-28	Denver CO, USA	<a href="#">WCRP OSC Climate Research in Service to Society</a>
26-27	Caracas, Venezuela	<a href="#">6<sup>th</sup> Geomatics National Working Days</a>
<b>*UPDATED*</b>		
26-28	Miami FL, USA	<a href="#">The New American Mainstream Business Summit</a>
27	São Paulo, Brazil	<a href="#">Geomatics for Engineering Works and Infrastructure</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
27	São Paulo, Brazil	<a href="#">Earth Images Solutions for Corporate Use</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
27-29	Panama City, Panama	<a href="#">First International Congress of Geodesy, Topography and Cadastre and General Assembly of the APPA</a>
28	Cali, Colombia	<a href="#">1st Geomatics Meeting</a>

### NOVEMBER 2011

1	San Francisco CA, USA	<a href="#">Locations and Beyond Summit</a>
1-4	Chicago IL, USA	<a href="#">ACM SIGSPATIAL GIS 2011</a>
1-4	Indianapolis IN, USA	<a href="#">GIS-Pro 2011: URISA's 49th Annual Conference for GIS Professionals</a>
2-4	Providenciales, Islas Turcas y Caicos	<a href="#">Simposio SIG 2011 de CARILEC / Contacto: <a href="mailto:slprimus@carilec.org">slprimus@carilec.org</a></a>
3-4	Seattle WA, USA	<a href="#">MAPublisher Training</a>
7-12	Pará - Belém PA, Brazil	<a href="#">V International Symposium on Agricultural Geography and VI National Symposium on Agricultural Geography</a>
8-9	Monterey CA, USA	<a href="#">ENVI Classified User Symposium (ENVIUS West)</a>
8-11	Mar del Plata, Argentina	<a href="#">VIII Congress on Hydrocarbon Exploration and Development</a>
8-11	Rio de Janeiro RJ, Brazil	<a href="#">1<sup>st</sup> Latin American Seminar of Geography and Gender: Space, Gender and Power / Pre-meeting of UGI Regional Conference</a>
8-10	Atlanta GA, USA	<a href="#">11th Annual Outage Response and Restoration Management Conference</a>
<b>*NUEVO*</b>		
9-10	Cypress, TX, USA	<a href="#">Houston Area GIS Day</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
9-11	Villa de Merlo, Provincia de San Luis, Argentina	<a href="#">1st National Workshop on Digital Mapping</a>
Nov. 10 – Dec. 8	New Brunswick NJ, USA	<a href="#">ArcGIS: Editing and Data Development Series</a>
13-16	Alta Gracia, Córdoba, Argentina	<a href="#">8th Conference on Remote Sensing Education in the Mercosur Area</a>
14-17	Herndon VA, USA	<a href="#">Pecora18 - ASPRS Fall Conference</a>
14-18	Santiago, Chile	<a href="#">UGI 2011 Regional Geographic Conference</a>
15-16	Huntsville AL, USA	<a href="#">Rocket City Geospatial and Alabama GIS Conference 2011</a>
16	World wide	<a href="#">GIS Day 2011 Discovering the World through GIS</a>
16-17	New York City NY, USA	<a href="#">New York City GeoSymposium: 2001-2011-2021</a>
<b>*NUEVO*</b>		
17-18	Rio de Janeiro, Brasil	<a href="#">CONIP 2011 - 17<sup>th</sup> Information Technology and Innovation in Public Management Congress</a>
21-23	Valparaíso, Chile	<a href="#">First inter-American Congress on Education in Environmental Engineering of AIDIS</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
Nov. 28 – Dec. 10	La Havana, Cuba	<a href="#">Course: Psychosocial Attention in Disasters</a>



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### DECEMBER 2011

5-9 <b>*NEW*</b>	Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago	<a href="#">6th Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM)</a>
5-9	Washington DC, USA	<a href="#">National BIM Conference</a>
Nov. 10 – Dec. 8	New Brunswick NJ, USA	<a href="#">ArcGIS: Editing and Data Development Series</a>

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### JANUARY 2012

16-18	Los Angeles CA, USA	<a href="#">Eighth International Conference on Technology, Knowledge and Society</a>
23-25	Denver CO, USA	<a href="#">International LIDAR Mapping Forum (ILMF)</a>

### FEBRUARY 2012

24-28 <b>*NEW*</b>	New York NY, USA	<a href="#">Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting</a>
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### MARCH 2012

12-15 <b>*NEW*</b>	San Antonio TX, USA	<a href="#">GIS/CAMA Technologies Conference</a>
14-17	Paraná, Argentina	<a href="#">6th Latin American Geographic Colloquium "The New Latin American Regional Settings from a Geographic Perspective"</a> Contact: <a href="mailto:infomesvicoloquio@uader.edu.ar">infomesvicoloquio@uader.edu.ar</a>
19-23 <b>*NEW*</b>	Sacramento CA, USA	<a href="#">ASPRS 2012 Annual Conference</a>

### APRIL 2012

11-13 <b>*NEW*</b>	Sacramento CA, USA	<a href="#">CalGIS: 18th Annual California GIS Conference</a>
16-18	Loveland CO, USA	<a href="#">GIS-T 2012: GIS for Transportation</a>
16-20	Mar del Plata, Argentina	<a href="#">XIX Latin American Congress and XXIII Argentine Congress the Science of Soil</a>
19-21	Bahia Blanca, Argentina	<a href="#">IX National Conference on Physical Geography</a> / Contact: <a href="mailto:geografiafisica@uns.edu.ar">geografiafisica@uns.edu.ar</a>
22-26	Kansas City MO, USA	<a href="#">MAGIC - 2012: Mid-America GIS Symposium</a>
25-28	Cordoba, Argentina	<a href="#">XI National and VIII Latin American Congress on Surveying</a> Contact: <a href="mailto:seceventos@agrimcba.org.ar">seceventos@agrimcba.org.ar</a>

### MAY 2012

7-9	Rio de Janeiro RJ, Brazil	<a href="#">GEOBIA 2012: Geographic Object-Based Image Analysis</a> E-mail: <a href="mailto:geobia2012@dpi.inpe.br">geobia2012@dpi.inpe.br</a>
8-10	New Orleans LA, USA	<a href="#">CTIA Wireless 2012</a>
14-17	Quebec, Canada	<a href="#">GSDI-13: Spatially Enabling Government, Industry and Citizens</a> Deadline for submission of abstracts: 15 November 2011
29-31 <b>*NEW*</b>	São Paulo, Brazil	<a href="#">MundoGEO#Connect: "Sharing information for a better world"</a> Contact: <a href="mailto:connect@mundogeo.com">connect@mundogeo.com</a>

### JUNE 2012

4-6 <b>*UPDATED*</b>	Rio de Janeiro RJ, Brazil	<a href="#">UN Conference on Sustainable Development (commonly called Earth Summit 2012) or 'Rio+20'</a>
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### JULY 2012

7-12	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">The Survey Summit</a>
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Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

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