

Global Spatial Data Infrastructure

Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

SDI-LAC

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



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 updates: The **Global and Regional SDI** section comprises notes on UN-GGIM Initiative about Hydrography; OGC's Health Mapping Webinar; OCTs Regional Risk Reduction Initiative (R3I); ESRI "Presidential Award" to GeoSUR Program; Philippines' "One Map" Journey; Ordnance Survey to Provide Expertise Internationally; and key conferences taking place worldwide. The **IGS section** includes a short call for membership. The **National SDI** segment informs on the Open Call for Argentinean SDI Visual Identity; Chilean SDI National Seminar; Both Colombia's ICDE Involvement in Internet Governance Workshops, and new IDESC Geoportal Design; and the Dominica's Geospatial Data Base Community. **Articles and Publications** of the month include a new Book on "*Fundamentals of Spatial Data Infrastructures*"; a Book on "*Risks and Environmental Disaster Areas Management*"; New Report on Forest Cover Monitoring in Belize ; EUROCLIMA's Newsletter #5 on Economics of Climate Change in Latin America; a recent Handbook on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; and two articles: *The Brokering Approach for Multidisciplinary Interoperability*, and *Building a Caribbean GeoNode Platform in Support of Climate Risk Management*. **Geospatial Research and Applications** underline Cathalac's Launching of PortalGIS; the Tobago Ecosystem Mapping Project; Cbers-3 Brazilian Satellite and its Innovative Camera; ArcGIS for AutoCAD Interoperability; The KoBo Platform for Data Collection; and the Ocean Health Index. The **Training and Funding Opportunities** section encompasses calls for international and national initiatives, among them relevant course programs

including the Master's Degree on Applied Technology in Geomatics in Spain. Finally, several **Events taking place in the Americas** are listed in the last section.

Translation of SDI-LAC Portuguese is possible thanks to undergrad students from UNESP **Mateus de Barros Manhani** and **Esrom A. Rissate Júnior**, from UFPE **Caroline Martins** and the cartographic engineers: **Alexandre Scussel**, editorial assistant MundoGEO. **Annette Pic**, MSc in Remote Sensing; **Camila Bassetto Guedes**, advisor of the Operations Department of the DECEA; **Edilce Figueiredo Burity**, Technologist of IBGE/PE Geographic Information and Statistics; **Edmilson Martinho Volpi**, Natural Resources Secretary in SP; **Eduardo Freitas**, editor of the MundoGEO portal and magazine; **Flávio Porfírio**, UGP-Dam of the ITEP; **Juan Carlos Girona Mamani**, a consultant in Geotechnology and IT solutions for Geoinformation; **Rodrigo Quirino** Technologist of IBGE/RJ Geographic Information and Statistics; **Silvana Camboim** Professor at UFPR; **Silvane Paixão**, PhD in Land Administration and Land Information Management. Under the general coordination of Silvane Paixão and review of Eduardo Freitas.

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

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

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Input to this Issue

Sergio Acosta y Lara	Department of Geographic Information, Bureau of Surveying (MTO), SDI Working Group (GTIDE-AGESIC), Uruguay
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Santiago Borrero	Secretary General, Pan-American Institute of Geography and History, PAIGH, Mexico
Arturo Brun-Martinez	Architect, Colombia
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Emil A. Cherrington	Senior Scientist, Division of Applied Research and Development, Panama
James Clinton	WCST-2012
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Boris Ramirez	Expert on Communication and Outreach, EUROCLIMA Program
Luz Angela Rocha	Associate Professor, Faculty of Engineering, Director SDI Research, hotbed of Spatial Data Infrastructures, District University FJC, Bogota, Colombia
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Eric van Praag	Coordinator, GeoSUR Program
Kenneth Young	Professor, Department of Geography and the Environment, University of Texas at Austin, USA

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Global and Regional SDI, News, Presentations

[UN Informed about Hydrography](#)

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



UN-GGIM | United Nations Initiative on
Global Geospatial Information Management

On August 2012, the second meeting of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) took place in New York, USA. The GGIM has invited the IHO), through the International Hydrographic Bureau (IHB), to provide information that can be incorporated into the continuing work on the GGIM report on the status of mapping in the world. This provided an opportunity to inform senior representatives of UN Member States of the current global situation regarding hydrography. It also emphasizes the importance of continuing to improve the information and the use of IHO publication C-55 titled "Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting Worldwide". Following a discussion on international standards, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), IHO, and the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) were invited to develop proposals on issues related to standard setting in the international community for consideration by the next session of GGIM. This is another important development for the IHO because it will highlight the role that the IHO is playing in global geospatial standards setting, and in particular its recent work on establishing the S-100 standard. The work of the UN-GGIM is



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becoming increasingly relevant to the IHO. There is now an acknowledgement of hydrography and the maritime domain in its work. This, in turn, provides an opportunity to bring the work of the IHO Member States' Hydrographic Services to the attention of the top levels of the UN system. Also, an active discussion is taking place at UN-GGIM on the development of Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDI) around the world. The IHO MSDI Working Group can so monitor world developments in SDI and to promote the role that Hydrographic Offices can play in the provision of fundamental data and information covering the maritime domain. The third session of the GGIM will take place from 24 to 26 July 2013 in Cambridge, UK. A UN high-level forum on geospatial information management will be held in Doha, Qatar from 4 to 6 February 2013.

Trevor Taylor joins the OGC as Director, Services for the Americas

Source: OGC Press Release by way of Santiago Borrero



The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC®) has appointed Trevor Taylor to the position of Director, Services for the Americas. "The OGC community is indeed fortunate to have Trevor Taylor now on our staff," said Jeff Burnett, Vice President Operations and Finance, OGC. "As a member representative, he was a tremendous contributor, and now he will be working full time to ensure that all of our members in the Americas get the most out of their membership." Trevor Taylor has over 24 years of private sector experience in the international Earth Observation community. With a background in Geography (Carleton University, Canada), Mr. Taylor has worked with Dipix Technologies, Interra (now InterMap) Technologies and, for the last 18 years, PCI Geomatics where his last position was Director, Business Development with a focus on Central and South America. Mr. Taylor has significant global experience in a wide variety of technical, client services, project, business and strategic planning activities. Mr. Taylor was PCI Geomatics' business contact to OGC for the past decade, representing PCI and OGC interests at the technical, principal, principal plus and strategic levels, particularly in South America, India, China and Western Europe. In addition, Mr. Taylor was involved at the start up phase of the OGC Global Advisory Council. Visit the OGC website at <http://www.opengeospatial.org/>

OGC Announces Health Mapping Webinar

Source: info@opengeospatial.org

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC®), in cooperation with Directions Media, invites the international health mapping community to participate in a free one-hour webinar on **26 September** 2012, at 4:00 pm UTC (11:00 a.m. EST). This is the fourth GovFuture (<http://www.ogcnetwork.net/node/1568>) webinar presented by the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) and Directions Media. In this webinar, we look at how improved sharing of geospatial information plays an important role in improving public health. Our featured presenter is Eddie Oldfield, BA, Director, NB Climate Change Hub at the New Brunswick Lung Association. He will describe his work in coordinating implementation of geospatial interoperability standards to exchange, integrate, and visualize distributed health and environmental information. Applications he has studied have addressed chronic illness, public health resources, critical infrastructure, pollution, meteorological information, and pandemic surveillance and control. Eddie Oldfield's current work involves creating a national portal to bring together climate and health resources for decision-makers in public health, municipal emergency management, and local climate adaptation. The portal will aid in expanding public health heat alert and response, community resilience / disaster risk reduction, and modeling of historical and forecast impacts from climate on public health. The portal will enable decision-makers to use diverse data sources through services that implement the OGC Web Map Service (WMS), Web Feature Service (WFS), and Web Processing Service (WPS) standards. Webinar details and registration are available at: <http://www.directionsmag.com/webinars/>. The webinar will be in English. This webinar is part of the OGC's GovFuture program for local and subnational governments. The OGC's affordable GovFuture-Local Government and GovFuture-Subnational Government membership levels offer local and sub-national governments unique online resources and an insight into global geospatial policy and technology developments. This OGC membership level focuses on the value of using standards to support civil government activities. GovFuture members have an opportunity to network with their peers worldwide, with representatives from other levels of government, and with suppliers and universities through OGC events and communication channels.

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SDI in the Americas Diagnosis 2012 (PC-IDEA-GTplan)

Source: Santiago Borrero



In its 9th Plenary Meeting, GTplan, the Planning Group of PC-IDEA presented the "Diagnosis on relevant topics of geospatial information management and development of Spatial Data Infrastructures – SDI in countries of the Americas." This new publication is available [here](#).

44th Meeting of the Directing Council of PAIGH

Source: Santiago Borrero

The 44th Meeting of the Directing Council of PAIGH will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina on November 14-16, 2012. Within the scientific activities that will take place in parallel, are the 5th GeoSUR Program Meeting, and a new IDERA (Spatial Data Infrastructure of Argentina) meeting. Likewise, the Directing Council Working Committee for Science Policy agenda includes a Report of the pro tempore Working Group (Resolution 4, 43-RCD, Dominican Republic 2011) of the Cartography Commission Committee on Geospatial Data Infrastructure for the Americas (PC-IDEA). More information at www.ipgh.org



OCTs Regional Risk Reduction Initiative (R3I)

Source: Arturo Brun-Martinez



Barbados and the OECS

The OCTs R3I covers the English and Dutch Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) in the region, a total of 7 territories (Anguilla, Aruba, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos, and the Netherlands Antilles [Bonaire, Curaçao, St. Maarten, Saba, and St. Eustatius]). They are highly vulnerable to various natural hazards and climate change impacts, also having fragile ecosystems and concentrations of settlements and major functions in low lying coastal areas and other hazard prone locations. This project seeks to address the risk and exposure of these small islands by providing a network of regional infrastructure, programmes, policies and protocols to strengthen their capacity to predict and prepare for natural hazards, thus improve resilience and reduce risk and subsequent loss. R3I is funded by the European Commission to the tune of €4.932m covering a period of 4 years (2009-2012). By the end of the project it is expected that there will be:

- Increased capacity in hazard mapping and associated vulnerability assessments, to further be incorporated into spatial information systems to inform planning and development processes
- A regional Early Warning Systems (EWS) pilot for the OCTs, based on an automated alert protocol for warnings
- Capacity built in response, rescue and recovery, in order to shorten recovery periods through the use risk assessment and mitigation practices for development planning
- Strengthened local disaster management structures and capacities in terms of tools and best practices to support comprehensive disaster risk management
- Greater cooperation and coordination between the OCTs, with documentation and dissemination of best practices

The R3I emphasises intra-regional learning and sharing of tools, knowledge and best practices to enhance the territories' individual and collective capacities. It will, among other activities, support OCT disaster management and Geographic Information System (GIS) departments with modelling, simulation and planning; and build on the related experience and knowledge in the Cayman Islands. Further plans are to integrate results of modelling into quantitative multi-hazard vulnerability maps to support investment in hazard mitigation strategies; and complete and/or initiate building vulnerability studies and improve quantitative risk assessment of critical infrastructure to support the investment in hazard mitigation strategies.

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GeoSUR Program Awarded the "Presidential Award" ESRI

Source: Eric van Praag

ESRI, the leading GIS software company worldwide, has granted the recognized "Presidential Award" to GeoSUR Program. This is the highest honor granted by ESRI and delivered during an executive seminar that takes place before the opening of its annual conference in San Diego, USA. The prize was awarded to CAF and the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) for development of the Latin American Portal driven by the GeoSUR Program. This is an important recognition of these two institutions and also to more than 60 institutions participating in this program. Likewise, ESRI Venezuela GeoSUR awarded its annual prize during a ceremony in Caracas during the month of July, which is also an important recognition of the efforts of CAF to integrate geographic information network in Latin America.



Coordinator GeoSUR linked OGC and GSDI

Source: Eric van Praag

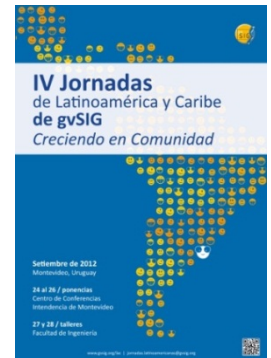
Eric van Praag, GeoSUR Program Coordinator, has accepted the appointment of the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) to form part of its Global Advisory Board. The Board provides support for OGC organization to establish its organizational strategies and Global Communications Program. Mr. van Praag has also agreed to exercise the coordination of the Technical Committee of the International Association GSDI. This Committee keeps track of various technical aspects that influence the development of SDIs at local, national and global. Notably, Mr. van Praag is the South American representative on the Governing Board of the Association for the current period. Both appointments are in recognition of the achievements of the program GeoSUR regional and international level.

4ths Latin America and Caribbean gvSIG Workingdays-Workshops

Source: Sergio Acosta y Lara

On September 27 and 28, at the end of the 4ths Conference of Latin America and Caribbean gvSIG, eight workshops will be held at the premises of the Faculty of Engineering, University of Uruguay, Montevideo (Uruguay). The list of workshops follows: (1) Advanced Users, (2) Batoví, (3) Basic Users, (4) Extensions, (5) Development, (6) Publishing maps, (7) Models of Sanitation, and (8) Sanitation: Applications in gvSIG.

Registration is free, independent of registration to the conference, and may be done from the conference site (<http://www.gvsig.org/web/community/events/jornadas-lac/2012/workshops/>). For reasons of capacity, shall be allowed a maximum of two workshops entry per person (the second subject to confirmation).



IGNITE Stage in the Regional Platform

Source: UNISDR -The Americas by way of Santiago Borrero

Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas Investing for Resilience - Session III - Buenos Aires, Argentina, October 29-31, 2012.

The Regional Platform is a participatory knowledge sharing, which promotes the planning, monitoring and collective and strategic decision-making, as well as actions to advance the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2010-2015 (HFA), linking international and national efforts. The Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas 2012 includes an "open space", called IGNITE Stage (small podium with chairs), where participants will have the opportunity to present their initiatives or projects on disaster risk reduction. In the special Regional Platform space called IGNITE stage, participants may present during 15 to 30 minutes themes or initiatives on disaster risk reduction. IGNITE stage will be open at the following times: October 29 and 30 from 10:00 to 13:00 and 14:00 a 19:30; on October 31 only from 10:00 to 13:00.



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The selected proposals will be allocated a space of 15 or 30 minutes in the IGNITE Stage. Preference will be given to short, interactive sessions, and new topics. The deadline to apply is **September 30** and those selected will be notified by October 10. The daily program of IGNITE Stage will be published in the conference venue and on the website of the Regional Platform. However, it is suggested to participants to promote their presentations and to encourage attendance. To express your interest, please download the form at <http://eird.org/pr12/index.html> and send it to eird@eird.org

The Philippines Embarks on “One Map” Journey

Source: Arturo Brun-Martinez

The National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA) is embarking on a multiagency project that seeks to establish a web portal where users can have access to geospatial information generated by various public sector organisations. The web portal, which is aptly called “The Philippine Geoportal”, is the realisation of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure. It stems from the “One Map” principle which is one set of consistent, multiscale basemaps that can be used for thematic mapping by many users working on Philippine geospatial data. Linda Papa, Deputy Administrator in NAMRIA said “Information which is visually presented gives decision makers heightened situational awareness and helps users have greater appreciation and understanding of their value. What we are doing with the Philippine Geoportal is that we are integrating data from relevant government agencies and organisations to make geospatial data more meaningful and relevant.” The project's



key stakeholders are the National Government Agencies (NGA), Local Government Units (LGU), the academe and the general public. The stakeholders, especially those from NGA's and LGUs shall prepare the inventory, metadata, and the actual data of their organisation worth deploying on the web; develop the thematic layers and attributes associated to their agency using the standard multi-scale base map; and set-up a training program for participating agencies and other potential users to facilitate data integration and fusion. Papa reveals that since the project is still in its beta testing phase, the pilot area for the project will be in Metro Manila which would automatically make the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) a major stakeholder in the project.

Ordnance Survey Provides Expertise Internationally

Source: WALIS August 2012 eNews



The national mapping agency of Great Britain stands at the forefront globally of advances in geospatial management. And now, supporting the Government's drive to share and promote the nation's knowledge and expertise overseas, Ordnance Survey is set to help other countries to enjoy similar benefits. From September 2012, Ordnance Survey will be launching a new international organisation, Ordnance Survey International. It will harness the vast range of skills and expertise within Ordnance Survey to primarily support other national mapping agencies and their countries. The aim is to provide expert advice and services across the full spectrum of Ordnance Survey's expertise, including data collection and maintenance, product development and geospatial data management. Over the past decade there has been a global realisation of the significance of geospatial information by both governments and businesses. However, the quality, accuracy and use of the mapping data varies from country to country. The global recognition of the importance of reliable and trusted geographic information has in turn resulted in greater customer demand on national mapping agencies to collect and maintain accurate location data. Web link to full article: <http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite/news/2012/07/ordnance-survey-provides-expertise-internationally.html>

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Call For Papers World Congress on Sustainable Technologies (WCST-2012)

Source: James Clinton

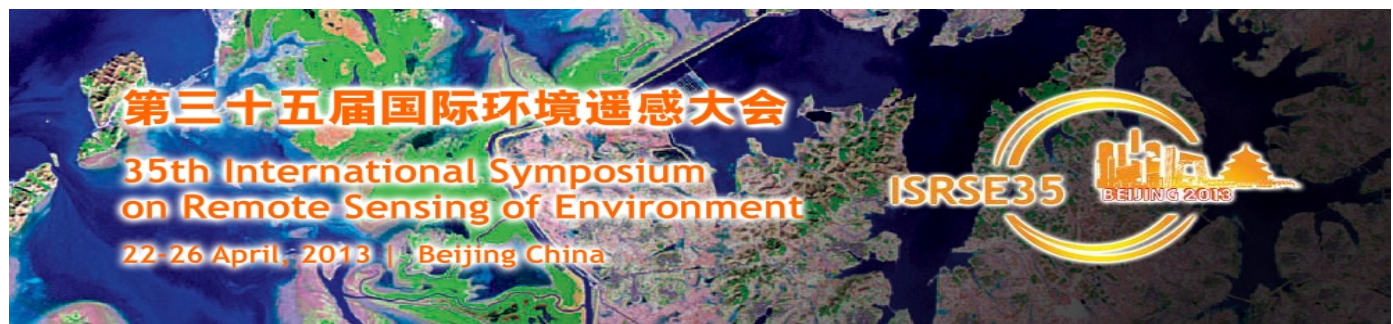


The World Congress on Sustainable Technologies (WCST-2012) is a multidisciplinary congress, bridging efforts across the natural, social and engineering sciences, the environment and development of communities. The Congress covers a wide spectrum of topics that relate to sustainability, which includes technical and non-technical research areas. It also encourages sharing new knowledge in the field of sustainable technologies and the environmental impacts. The mission of WCST-2012 is to provide the opportunities for collaboration and reflection that have the potential to greatly enhance the infrastructure and capacity for conducting and applying art, science and technology for sustainability. The WCST bridges the gap between academia and industry by creating awareness of current development in sustainable technologies. The topics in WCST-2012 include but are not confined to the following areas: Sustainable Energy Technologies; Renewable Energy Managements, Economics and Environmental Impact; Education; Green Computing; Sustainable Building Design; Sustainability and Policy; Waste Management. All the accepted papers will appear in the proceedings and modified version of selected papers will be published in special issues peer reviewed journals. To submit a paper, please visit <http://www.wcst.org/Paper%20Submission.html>. Full Paper Submission Date: **September 20, 2012**. For further details, please visit www.wcst.org

35th International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment

Source: <http://english.ceode.cas.cn/>

The 35th International Symposium for Remote Sensing of the Environment (ISRSE35) is to be held in Beijing from 22-26 April, 2013. This is the first symposium in the series to be held in China. The first ISRSE was convened in 1962, and brought together scientist from around the world to exchange technical information on an emerging technology called remote sensing, a technology that provided the capability to view the Earth from high-altitude aircraft and, ultimately, spacecraft. In its 50 years of development, Earth observation has advanced significantly, and remote sensing has become a mature technology for observing the Earth and monitoring global environmental change. In this symposium, we will focus on the theories and applications that make Earth observation a crucial element in the study of phenomena related to global environment change. This symposium will also review the progress of the remote sensing and prospects for its future development, and celebrate its half-century history. Submissions are open for oral presentations, poster presentations and plenary sessions (by invitation only). Submit your abstract before Sunday, **30 September, 2012**. For detailed information on abstract submission, themes, and the abstract template, please visit our website at: <http://www.isrse35.org> or contact the symposium organizers, ISRSE35 Secretariat: isrse35@ceode.ac.cn



第三十五届国际环境遥感大会
35th International Symposium
on Remote Sensing of Environment
22-26 April, 2013 | Beijing China

ISRSE35 BEIJING 2013

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IGS News, Links, Publications



International
Geospatial Society



The International Geospatial Society (IGS) is the individual membership arm of the GSDI Association and seeks individuals for membership that have geospatial, Spatial Data Infrastructure, Geographic Information System or related professional or specialist interests. The Society enhances communications globally among individuals that are actively involved in promoting, developing, or advancing spatial data infrastructure and related concepts. Check out the benefits of joining ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#))

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National SDI, News, Links,
Presentations

ARGENTINA

Open Call – Visual Identity of Spatial Data Infrastructure of the Republic of Argentina

Source: Dissemination IDERA

The Institutional Dissemination and Communication of Spatial Data Infrastructure of the Republic of Argentina (in Spanish IDERA) Working Group launches an "Open Call" for designing of the logotype intended to be representative of the IDERA image and to generate visual identity. The contest is free and open, establishing a single category of participation. Objective: Provide the IDERA with a visual image in line with its current work area. Subscription and Delivery Date: until **September 7, 2012**.

[Registration form](#) / [Terms and Conditions](#)



CHILE

SDI National Seminar Attracted more than 200 Representatives of the Geospatial Information Community

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

A wide call was the seminar "Spatial Data Infrastructure of Chile (Chile IDE)" held on June 28. The main event was aimed at disseminating relevant aspects of geospatial information management and how they are dealt with in an orderly and systemic geospatial data infrastructure. The seminar organized by the Executive Secretariat of the National Territorial Information Coordination (in Spanish SNIT), unveiled experiences and national and international best practices in the management and access of public geospatial information. Now available the poster and presentations [here](#).



COLOMBIA

The ICDE Involved in Internet Governance Workshops

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

The Colombian Spatial Data Infrastructure (in Spanish ICDE) participated in the Internet Governance Workshops that were conducted in preparation for the Fifth Preparatory Meeting of Latin America and the Caribbean for the Internet Governance Forum (www.intgovforum.org) to be held in Bogotá between 24 and 26 September 2012. Considering directives of the Ministry of Information and Communications Technologies, the aim of the workshops is to consolidate

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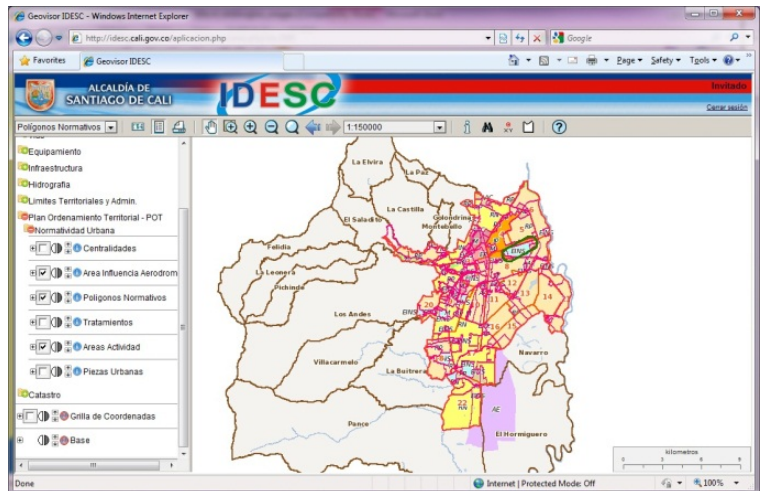
the Colombian contributions, proposals and issues to be discussed, which Colombia will present at the aforementioned preparatory meeting that will contribute to the regional results to be presented by Latin America in the Global Forum on Internet Governance, in Baku, Azerbaijan, in November 2012. The topics of Colombian participation focused on access, openness and privacy, as well as those pertaining to intellectual property.

IDESC Launches Geoservices and Premieres Geoportal Design

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

Some maps and layers of Municipal Administration may now be viewed and downloaded as an image or file, through the portal of the Spatial Data Infrastructure of Santiago de Cali (in Spanish IDESC), which can be accessed via the link: <http://idesc.cali.gov.co>.

In a continuous improvement process on geographic information management of the Municipality, the IDESC offers users Geoservices based on the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) standards. Geoservices available include WMS (Web Map Service), WFS (Web Feature Service) and the Catalog. In addition, the portal has been redesigned to facilitate information access, and contents have been updated. It is possible to download maps and information in the portal (Territorial Ordering Plans, Partial Plans, Standards sheets, etc.). Similarly, through the portal it may be accessed other information on the IDESC (e.g. regulations, presentations, news, goals, etc.) and Geoservices. The commissioning of the Geoservices is a breakthrough in the consolidation of IDESC, because they make more efficient the management of geographic information in Santiago de Cali, the easy reference and access. It should be noted that the information published has been documented as geographic metadata compliant with national standards defined in the Colombian technical standard NTC4611.



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DOMINICA

[Dominica Closer to Realizing a Vibrant Geospatial Data Base Community](http://news.caribseek.com/)

Source: <http://news.caribseek.com/> by way of carib-gis-users



Dominica is one step closer to realizing a vibrant geospatial data base community with the introduction of the Geonode technology. GeoNode is a platform for the management and publication of geospatial data. This new system will allow national ministries and agencies to populate, catalog, view, and share data on a central depository. On August the Physical Planning Division in collaboration with the World Bank convened a consultative meeting with data collection practitioners to discuss the technical challenges of geospatial management and data sharing in Dominica. Minister responsible for Physical Planning, Hon. Dr. Kenneth Darroux, welcomed the initiative saying that Geographic Information Systems (GIS) databases already established on the island have lacked management and information sharing. Hon. Darroux is hopeful that this new GeoNode platform will address that concern. "One of Dominica's shortcomings has

been insufficient collaboration and data sharing due to a number of reasons mainly protective data policies, technological limitations and lack of capacity. All the GIS systems have been operating independently and data collection has been specific to the organizations' needs. This situation has hindered the growth and development of a vibrant geospatial database community in Dominica". The minister highlighted further that other issues include the lack

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of awareness among departments and agencies about what geo-data bases exists, duplication of data collection efforts, outdated databases and the general utilization of geospatial data in decision making. The minister notes that this initiative to form an open source geospatial data management platform in Dominica is timely as it will facilitate increased data accessibility provide a central data depository and will allow for the management and sharing of geospatial data on the Internet. A number of International Organizations have identified Dominica as one of the countries in the world most vulnerable to natural disasters. The Minister is confident that this new system will better assist the island's decisions makers in making decisions about reducing disaster risk. "Because Geospatial data is recognized internationally as a critical component of disaster risk assessment and management practices, this management platform will provide the opportunity to manage the relevant geo databases in a central location making it more accessible to policy makers, practitioners and the wider population for informed and timely decision making" the minister noted. The new data management platform is expected to support two strategic initiatives by Government to mainstream disaster risk reduction and adaption to climate change into development planning.

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Articles and Publications of the Month

Book "Fundamentals of Spatial Data Infrastructures"

Source: Miguel-Angel Bernabe

Is now available the book "Fundamentos de las Infraestructuras de Datos Espaciales" (Fundamentals of Spatial Data Infrastructures) at <http://redgeomatca.rediris.es/libroide>. This Book, with 39 chapters, is 75% written by Latin-American authors of most countries to the "south of Rio Grande." The writing of the book is simple and avoids technical terms that are difficult to understand by those who are not computer related. It pretends to be a text to informing all SDI stakeholders, from technicians to the politicians. The official presentation of the Book will take place in the framework of the 4th gvSIG Latin America and Caribbean Conference taking place from 24 to 28 September in Montevideo (Uruguay).



Book on "Risks and Environmental Disaster Areas Management"

Source: Solange T. Lima Guimaraes by way of Susana Barrera

The book "Risks and Environmental Disaster Areas Management", can now be accessed both for reading or free download via the homepage of the Graduate Program in Geography IGCE-UNESP, Rio Claro campus: please click *Productions > books of Teachers* [teachers' books are in alphabetical order].

http://www.rc.unesp.br/igce/newpos/new_geo/sum_gestao.php or at

PLURIDOC International Platform: www.pluridoc.com / OLAM:

<http://www.periodicos.rc.biblioteca.unesp.br/index.php/olam/index> /

<http://www.periodicos.rc.biblioteca.unesp.br/index.php/climatologia/index>



New Report on Forest Cover Monitoring in Belize, Central America

Source: Emil A. Cherrington

A new publication examines deforestation in the Central American nation of Belize: In collaboration with the Forest Department of the Ministry of Forestry, Fisheries, and Sustainable Development of the Government of Belize, Lancaster University, and the Environmental Research Institute of the University of Belize, Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and The Caribbean (in Spanish CATHALAC) has just released a study assessing: (i) Belize's current [2012] forest cover, and (ii) national deforestation estimates for the period 2010-2012. "Forest Cover and Deforestation in Belize, 2010-2012," follows up an earlier, 2010 assessment, "Forest Cover and Deforestation in Belize: 1980-2010." Where both studies are based on NASA / USGS Landsat imagery, the 2012 assessment estimates Belize's 2010-2012 deforestation rate to be approx. 28,839 acres / year (0.8%), compared to the estimated deforestation rate of 24,395 acres / year (0.6%) for the period 1980-2010. Current (early 2012) forest cover is estimated at approximately 61.6%, down from a revised estimate of 62.8% for early 2010. The current study also serves as a proof of concept that forest



CATHALAC 20 AÑOS
CIENCIA, EDUCACIÓN Y POLÍTICAS PARA LA GENTE

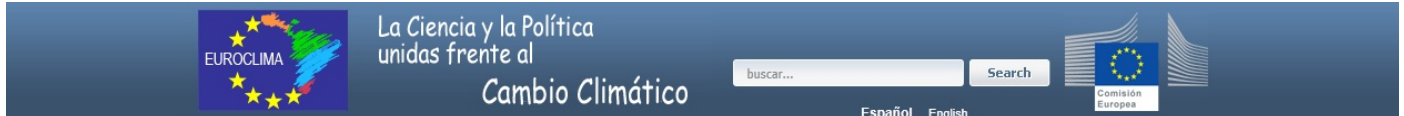
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cover data for monitoring and reporting for small tropical forest nations like Belize can be generated at sufficient detail (1:100,000), and at regular intervals. The information generated will feed decision-making processes within the Government of Belize, as well as serve as an input to Belize's planning for activities in the context of the Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) initiative. Download the study's executive summary from: http://maps.cathalac.org/Downloads/data/bz/bz_forest_cover_deforestation_2010-2012_summary.pdf (the 1980-2010 assessment is also available from: http://www.servir.net/servir_bz_forest_cover_1980-2010.pdf).

EUROCLIMA's Newsletter #5, on Economics of Climate Change in Latin America

Source: Boris Ramírez

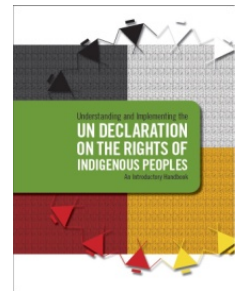


Is now available the EUROCLIMA's newsletter #5, on the subject of Economics of Climate Change in Latin America. This newsletter has been prepared with the help of various researchers from ECLAC (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations), who contributed with several articles on this issue. The newsletter can be found at the homepage of EUROCLIMA portal (<http://www.euroclima.org>) or download directly from: [English] <http://www.euroclima.org/newsletter5> [Español] <http://www.euroclima.org/boletin5>

New Handbook on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Source: <http://law.robsonhall.ca/>

Understanding and Implementing the United Nations (UN) Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, an Introductory Handbook was made possible thanks to the support of the Indigenous Bar Association and Faculty of Law, along with financial backing from the Canadian Bar Association's Law for the Future Fund. The handbook provides an introductory overview of the UN Declaration. It is divided into themes covering various areas of Indigenous peoples' rights. Each themed section includes a description of the rights, the articles of the UN Declaration that correlate, and examples that are consistent with the UN Declaration's spirit and intent. [Click here](#) to access the online version in PDF.



The Brokering Approach for Multidisciplinary Interoperability: A Position Paper

By Stefano Nativi, Massimo Craglia, Jay Pearlman. Article Published in the *International Journal of Spatial Data Infrastructures Research*, Vol. 7 (2012)

Abstract: Global sustainability research requires an integrated multi-disciplinary effort underpinned by a cyber infrastructure able to harness big data and heterogeneous information systems across disciplines. Two approaches are possible to achieve the interoperability desired across such systems and data: federating, and brokering. This position paper argues that the former is appropriate to single discipline or domain environments, but that brokering is more scalable and effective in complex multi-disciplinary domains. The paper identifies the principles of brokering, and gives examples of practical implementation relating to data discovery, semantic searching, and data access achieved in the EuroGEOSS project. The value of the EuroGEOSS brokering approach has been demonstrated in extending the data resources available through the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) from a few hundred to over 28 million in a matter of 3 months. Brokering offers therefore a real chance to facilitate truly multi-disciplinary big data science and address the scientific challenges of our time [The full article may be reached at: <http://ijsdir.jrc.ec.europa.eu/index.php/ijsdir/article/view/281>]

Building a Caribbean GeoNode Platform in Support of Climate Risk Management

Source: CIVIC by way of carib-gis-users

By Jacob Opadeyi, PhD, Department of Geomatics Engineering and Land Management, Faculty of Engineering, The University of the West Indies

The Caribbean is the second most vulnerable region in the world that is highly expose to the harsh impacts of natural hazards and climate variability. The small islands of the region are located in the midst of vast ocean waters. They are exposed to hurricane storms, earthquake, tsunamis, flooding, landslides, and drought hazards. The incidence of these hazards has caused enormous leakages in the social and economic development of the region. The ability of the region to effectively develop risk management responses for these hazards is however hampered by inadequate

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policy, data, tools and skilled personnel. Strategic climate resilience programmes within the region are challenged with inadequate data and risk model to guide policy decisions and monitor policy effectiveness. In response to these challenges, the Caribbean GeoNode (Carib_GeoNode) is designed as a platform that facilitates the collection, management, dissemination, and analysis of climate risk related data in an open environment and free of cost to end-users. It is designed with the aim of improving access to climate and exposure data with tools that will help improve the knowledge-base of policy makers, professionals, and the general public. This presentation will share the design parameters of Carib_GeoNode, as well as the technical and managerial issues that need to be address in order to ensure the sustainability of the platform. [This presentation may be found at:

http://www.understandrisk.org/ur/sites/default/files/files/useruploads/3_ur2012_session_opadeyi_1.pdf



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Geospatial Research, Applications, Software, Data

Cathalac Launch PortalGIS: Geographic Viewer for Mesoamerica and the Caribbean

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

The Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean (CATHALAC) launched PortalGIS, a new GIS tool to support the region of Mesoamerica and the Caribbean on environment, disaster risk and climate change. PortalGIS is Web-friendly geographic information tool, which through an interactive portal, provides visual thematic data, the various efforts and regional needs, to share geospatial information and make it available through the Web to the entire community region. This useful tool allows users to view and share geospatial information without the need for specialized software. The portal allows you to view data on threats to Disaster, Infrastructure, Climate Change and Socio-economics. It is backed by a robust internal infrastructure that ensures users availability, reliability of processes as well as navigating the site easy and effective. Additionally, PortalGIS offers to the users a set of tools to facilitate the implementation of various analyzes and studies, from consulting population statistics, see the amount and location of hot points and the interactive delimitation of national and trans boundary water basins. The system works in conjunction with SERVIR for Mesoamerica that CATHALAC has been implementing since 2005. As part of the development and continuous improvement of this new tool, the CATHALAC team will be updating and increasing periodically the number of layers and information available to the user, and the introduction of new features, tools and processes to PortalGIS.

You can check the PortalGIS directly to:

<http://portalgis.cathalac.org/cathalac/maps/>.

A detailed technical manual on the use of the system also is available at:

<http://portalgis.cathalac.org/cathalac/manual>



Tobago Ecosystem Mapping Project - Four Years of Effective Conservation Science

Source: [Carib-coral-reefs list](http://www.carib-coral-reefs.org/)

Coral Cay Conservation (www.coralcay.org) has released its final report, summarizing scientific results and community work achieved during the Tobago Coastal Ecosystem Mapping Project (TECMP) which ran between April 2007 and June 2011. The full document can be found [here](#). Jan-Willem van Bochove, Head of Science for Coral Cay commented: "In the face of some significant challenges to this project, an outstanding team of scientists, volunteers, scholars and concerned Tobagonian citizens proved time and time again that with commitment, enthusiasm and resourcefulness, great things can be achieved. One of the ambassadors for Tobago's environment was Peter Trotman, who led the establishment of the Speyside Eco-Marine Park Rangers but sadly passed away last year. This report is dedicated to him." A comprehensive database, based on over 900 detailed surveys, is now available. The extensive survey effort was done by trained volunteers using expanded Reef Check surveys. Coral Cay also provided Reef Check training to local scholars, including the Speyside Eco-Marine Park Rangers who are now leading the implementation of a marine park around some of Tobago's best biodiversity sites. The outcomes of these surveys

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highlight Tobago's incredible diversity of marine life but also raise serious concerns about the continued degradation of coral reefs that has taken place within the last decade.



gvSIG Batoví, first Uruguayan distribution giving rise to gvSIG Educa

Source: Sergio Acosta y Lara



gvSIG
BATOVÍ

gvSIG Educa is a free GIS gvSIG Desktop adaptation as a tool for geographic-content education materials. gvSIG Education is directed to educators for providing students with tools for territorial analysis and understanding, with possibility of adaptation to different levels or educational systems. gvSIG Educa facilitates learning by the students' interactivity with information, as it adds the spatial

component to learning materials, and assists concept assimilation through visual tools such as thematic maps, as well as helping to understanding spatial relationships. With "gvSIG Batoví" it is presented a first set of previously designed thematic maps of the Uruguayan territory. The ease of access to these maps allows easy sharing of thematic mapping between teachers and students from across the gvSIG users community. Project URL: <http://www.gvsig.org/web/home/projects/gvsig-educa>

[Cbers-3 Satellite has Innovative Brazilian Camera](http://mundogeo.com/)

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

A presentation about the MUX, the first satellite camera entirely developed and produced in Brazil, was one of the landmarks of the celebration of 51 years of the Brazilian National Institute for Space Research (Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais – INPE), August 10, in São José dos Campos. The camera, already integrated to the China-Brazil satellite Cbers-3, which will be launched in China by the end of this year, was designed in 2005 and its development plays an important role in the Brazilian space program, which is the qualification of the national industry. The MUX is a 20-meter resolution and multispectral camera that records blue, green, red and infrared images. These spectral bands have well calibrated functions aiming its use in different applications, mainly in the control of water resources and forestry. "The primary purpose is to collect images for land resources monitoring. This includes hydrological, forestry, agricultural, urban perimeter and mineral control and monitoring, as well as the planning for sustainable occupation, fires, illegal mining, logging, among others," explains Mário Selingardi, project manager of MUX at INPE.



ArcGIS for AutoCAD Offers Advanced CAD and GIS Interoperability

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

The latest release of [ArcGIS for AutoCAD](#), ESRI's free AutoCAD plug-in, improves the ability to exchange data and information between the ArcGIS and AutoCAD platforms. ArcGIS for AutoCAD users with read/write access to ArcGIS for Server feature services can now edit geodatabases through AutoCAD. This enables easier data dissemination between CAD and GIS users across the enterprise, reduces the duplication of work, and increases efficiency. CAD professionals can use the free downloadable application to add, create, and edit GIS data within AutoCAD drawings. For example, users can add



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maps and map services from enterprise or cloud servers, such as ArcGIS Online, to their drawings, giving the design a geographic context and a common operating picture for the organization. The new release also includes access to image services and a geolocation service for navigating within an AutoCAD drawing. AutoCAD 2010/2011/2012 (32-bit and 64-bit) systems are supported. To learn more about or to download the new release of ArcGIS for AutoCAD, visit esri.com/autocadapp

The KoBo Platform: Data Collection for Real Practitioners

Source: Bruce Potter



KoBoToolbox

KoBo Toolbox <http://irevolution.net/2012/05/08/kobo-platform/> is a field oriented data collection process developed by the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative that has scores of potential uses for planning and management of natural resources, using Android smart phones and ordinary laptops. More information: at: <http://irevolution.net/2012/05/08/kobo-platform/>, and then go to the website for <http://www.kobotoolbox.org>. KoBoForm allows you to build multimedia surveys for data collection purposes, integrating special datatypes like bar-codes, images and audio.

The Ocean Health Index

Source: Carib-coral-reefs list

Conservation International and our partners have created a new, [game-changing way](#) to measure the health of our oceans around the world. It's called the [Ocean Health Index](#), and it's a major step toward making human beings better stewards of our seas.



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Training and Funding Opportunities, Awards

Course on Geo-technologies for Social Science Teachers in Bogota Public Schools

Source: Luz Angela Rocha

The University Francisco Jose de Caldas through the Cadastral and Geodetic Engineering program conducted on July 11, 12 and 13, the workshop-course "Geotechnology and social science education" which was directed to social science graduates with experience on teaching geography at the secondary school. 20 teachers participated, particularly of the Capital District of Bogotá public schools. The course goal was achieved as teachers were aware of the use of geotechnologies, and found in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Remote Sensing, very useful tools for the classroom for teaching and learning processes.

Master's Degree on Applied Technology in Geomatics: Geomatics 2.0, Web, Informatics, Electronics, Automation and Telecommunications

Source: Joaquin Segura Martin



This degree program of the University of Jaén, is aimed to learn skills and abilities to link different parts of a hardware and software mechano (eg. programming, library programming, APIs, web services, mobile devices, sensors, hardware board development, etc.) with the potential of today's data (eg. linked data, VGI, open data, etc.) to develop new and innovative geomatics-base applications. More information at: www.atgeomatics.com.

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Demonstration of Habitat Climate Change Vulnerability Index (HCCVI)

Source: Sarah Carr

The [Ecosystem-Based Management \(EBM\) Tools Network](#) announced that it will host a demonstration of the Habitat Climate Change Vulnerability Index by Pat Comer of NatureServe. This presentation will be held on Tuesday, **September 25**, at 1 pm US EDT/10 am US PDT/5 pm GMT. Space is limited. Reserve your Webinar seat now at: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/998022600> The Earth's rapidly changing climate requires substantial adjustments to existing strategies for conserving natural systems. Managers need a better understanding of factors that contribute to the vulnerability of ecosystems and plant communities in order to formulate new adaptation strategies. The Climate Change Vulnerability Index for Ecosystems and Habitats (HCCVI) documents series of indicators of vulnerability to climate change. Indicators are organized within categories of indirect effects, direct effects, and adaptive capacity. A series of 3-5 indicators for each of these, each requiring a separate type of analysis, produces sub-scores that are then used to generate an overall score or rating of relative vulnerability for the community type. Indirect effects include past, current, and anticipated future changes to ecosystem integrity (e.g. the degree of landscape fragmentation in the landscapes supporting a given habitat type). Direct effects can be addressed through several indicators. For example, analysis of climate forecasts can provide an indication of the relative intensity of climate-induced stress change for temperature and precipitation variables. Adaptive capacity includes attributes of a community that make it inherently more or less resilient to climate change (e.g. the relative breadth of biophysical variability that characterizes its natural distribution). NatureServe recently piloted the HCCVI with major ecosystem types in the Mojave and Sonoran deserts, and applied results in a workshop setting with regional specialists to help identify appropriate strategies for climate change adaptation. For those who cannot make the presentation, a recording of this presentation will be made available on the EBM Tools Network website at www.ebmtools.org/tools_training/presentations.html a few days after the presentation. If you have any other questions about the demonstration, please contact sarah_carr@natureserve.org.



Lincoln Institute of Land Policy - Distance Learning - September to December 2012

Source: Program on Latin America and the Caribbean

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy conducts various education activities in Latin America, including distance courses (free) online. This time announces upcoming courses to be offered from September 29th to December 9th, 2012. The deadline for submissions will close on **September 12th**, 2012. The links listed below lead to the application sites. There you will find the course programs which describes the objectives, work method, content and timing of activities, faculty, and the terms of application and participation.

- [Application of Multipurpose Cadastres in Defining Urban Land Policies](#)
- [GIS Projects Applied to Urban Studies](#)
- [Management of Urban Land Markets](#)
- [Financing Cities with Urban Land](#)
- [Legal Dimensions of Land Policy](#)
- [Urban Land Valuation Techniques](#)
- [Urban Land Market Analysis Techniques](#)
- [Property Taxation and Urban Financing](#)
- [Land Policy Definition in Small Cities](#)
- [Climate Change and Land Policies](#)



The results of the selection will be available from September 24, 2012 in the link: [Selected EAD Communication - EAD Selected FY 1301 \(September 2012\)](#) To access selected lists you may use the same login details (username and password) used to apply. For inquiries and further information, please contact: Miguel Aguila (laconline@lincolninst.edu), Distance Courses Supervisor.

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Employment Opportunities

Executive Director – Marketing and Communications

Source: www.ogc.org

The OGC seeks to hire an Executive Director for Marketing and Communications. This full time position is responsible for the planning and execution of a broad range of marketing, communications and education program activities to raise awareness and increase application of OGC standards by technology providers and users worldwide. These activities also encourage participation in OGC programs through membership growth and direct sponsorship of/participation in OGC programs. To be considered for this position, send your resume along with salary requirements and references to: jobs@opengeospatial.org

Post-doctoral Research Associate at Center for Applied GIScience, University of North Carolina

Source: Ross K. Meentemeyer



The Center for Applied GIScience at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (<http://gis.uncc.edu>) is seeking a broadly trained post-doctoral research associate in Geographic Information Science with a focus on spatiotemporal simulation of complex adaptive spatial systems. Specific preferred requirements and expectations include 1) expertise in spatiotemporal simulation (e.g., agent-based models and cellular automata) and complexity theory; 2) expertise or experience in quantitative modeling of land use and land cover change (urbanization), and landscape ecology; 3) proficient computer programming skills (C/C++ preferred); and 4) experience using Linux and/or high-performance computing and interest using cutting-edge cyberinfrastructure for complex spatial problem-solving. Knowledge of land use and ecological systems in the southeastern U.S. is a plus. The successful candidate will work in the Center for Applied GIScience under the supervision of Drs. Ross K. Meentemeyer and Wenwu Tang, with an opportunity for significant interactions with faculty, staff, and students. The Center's research mission focuses on resolving large-scale resource and sustainability concerns through the integration of geospatial, natural, and social sciences coupled with advanced modeling techniques and high performance computing. In particular, the post-doctoral associate will have opportunities to utilize the Center's advanced computing infrastructure, including a high-performance computing cluster (the GEM cluster) and a high-end many-core GPU server. Funding for this position is available for up to two years and renewable in the second year pending satisfactory performance. Salary is highly competitive, including health benefits. For qualification, applicants must have a Ph.D. degree in Geographic Information Science or a related field at time of application. Strong background and expertise in geospatial simulation and technologies are expected. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. To apply, please electronically send the following information to Ross K. Meentemeyer (rkmeente@uncc.edu) or Wenwu Tang (WenwuTang@uncc.edu) with "Spatiotemporal Simulation Post Doc" in the email subject line: a cover letter of interest; curriculum vitae; contact information of three references; and writing samples (no more than three). <http://www.gis.uncc.edu>

Remote Sensing Position at USC

Source: Kenneth Young

The Department of Geography at the University of South Carolina invites applications for an open rank (Assistant/Associate/Full) tenure-track position with expertise in Remote Sensing to begin August 16, 2013. Minimum qualifications include a PhD in Geography or a closely related field, demonstration of a strong record of publication in top remote sensing journals, grant activity, and involvement in national and international remote sensing and GIScience organizations. We particularly seek candidates with demonstrated excellence in research and teaching in theoretical and conceptual issues in remote sensing, including photogrammetric, multi- and hyperspectral, thermal infrared, or active microwave (RADAR) sensors. Preferred candidates will have research interests that complement and expand our existing strengths in the theoretical foundations and application of remote sensing, leadership in national/international remote sensing organizations, a record of graduate student mentoring and placement, and have the ability to work with interdisciplinary groups on and off campus. The successful candidate will join a vibrant, high-ranking department that offers bachelors, masters, and PhD degrees with a strong tradition in GISciences. The

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department has excellent, recently renovated facilities that house several specialized activities, including the GISciences Research Laboratory, Climate Research Laboratory, Earth Surface Pattern and Process Laboratory Complex, Center for Excellence in Geographic Education, and the Hazards and Vulnerability Research Institute. To apply, candidates should provide a curriculum vitae, statement of teaching interests and experience, names and contact information (including email addresses) of four referees, and a letter of application that outlines research interests, accomplishments, and potential fit within the USC Geography Department. All materials should be submitted electronically to Dr. Michael E. Hodgson, Search Committee Chair (hodgsonm@sc.edu). For full consideration, completed applications must be received by **October 25**, 2012, but the search will continue until a suitable candidate is appointed.

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Other

Grenada Becomes Third Co-Chair of GLISPA

Source: IISD Reporting Services

Prime Minister Tillman Thomas of Grenada has been tapped to be the third co-chair of the Global Island Partnership (GLISPA). Thomas will join two other co-chairs, James Michel (Seychelles) and Johnson Toribiong (Palau). Thomas will be represented at United Nations (UN) Headquarters in New York, US and in the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) by Dessima Williams, Permanent Representative of Grenada to the UN. Grenada began its service as GLISPA co-chair at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD, or Rio+20), where it co-hosted the high-level event, "Leaders Valuing Nature: A Celebration of Commitments." Grenada is planning to co-host a summit of political and business leaders in 2013 with Richard Branson of Virgin, and Orlando Smith of the British Virgin Islands (BVI), to launch the second phase of the Caribbean Challenge Initiative [[GLISPA Website](#)]



ILC Call for Membership Applications

Source: Madiodio Niase by way of Santiago Borrero

The International Land Coalition (ILC) is pleased to announce that the call for applications to membership is now open. Every two years, ILC provides an opportunity for interested organisations to apply for membership of the coalition. The applications received during the current period will be considered by the ILC Council, and a decision on the acceptance of new members will be made at the next Assembly of Members in April 2013. Intergovernmental organisations and civil society organisations –including farmer's organisations, non-governmental organisations, and research institutes–

that share the ILC vision and would be willing to commit to the ILC mission are encouraged to apply. The vision of ILC is secure and equitable access to and control over land reduce poverty, promote sustainable development, and contribute to identity, dignity and inclusion. The mission of ILC is a global alliance of civil society and intergovernmental organisations working together to promote secure and equitable access to and control over land for poor women and men through advocacy, dialogue, knowledge sharing, capacity building and

empowerment. Individuals, governments, and private sector actors such as corporations are not eligible for ILC membership, although they can engage with ILC as allies and partners on specific issues of common interest. The application procedures and forms can be found [here](#)

Please note that the application deadline is **25 January** 2013. For more information, please contact the ILC Secretariat: Andrea Fiorenza, a.fiorenza@landcoalition.org with copy to info@landcoalition.org/
<http://www.americalatina.landcoalition.org> - www.landcoalition.org

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Americas: Conferences, SDI Events

[Regional Workshop for Caribbean Region](#)

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

This workshop on Updating National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, organized by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) will assist countries from the Caribbean Region in revising and updating their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) in line with the framework of the CBD Strategic Plan. It will take place on September 5-7, 2012 at Saint James (Port-Of-Spain), Trinidad and Tobago. Contact: CBD Secretariat: secretariat@cbd.int Webpage: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2012/nf-2012-093-nbsap-en.pdf>

[Progress of the 4th Digital Earth Summit](#)

Source: ISDE Newsletter Vol.2 No.2 August 2012

The 4th bi-annual Digital Earth Summit in Wellington, New Zealand this September will see over 400 speakers and attendees from around the world gathering to discuss the theme Digital Earth and Technology. Keynote speakers and presentations will concentrate on three key themes within this: Digital Environment, Resilient Cities, and Growing Up Digital. There are still a range of fantastic sponsorship opportunities available that present the chance to get your business in front of an impressive international audience. Registration Information at: <http://digitalearth12.org.nz/registration>

[FIG Annual Meeting and International Symposium](#)

Source: Santiago Borrero

The annual meeting of the Commission 7 will take place in La Plata, Argentina (Province of Buenos Aires) from November 30th to December 5th, 2012. La Plata is located 60 km from the Federal Capital Buenos Aires. The workshops will take place at the headquarter of the Buenos Aires Provincial Professional Land Surveyors Council. This is a very pleasant, old and typical house from this region. www.cpa.org.ar. On December 4th, an international symposium will be organized around the cadastral issues in South America and the open perspectives through the standardization of LADM (Land Administration Domain Model) and the triple A cadastre (Accurate, Authoritative, Assured). The symposium will take place at the Argentinian National Theater in La Plata. The registration fees are of 1,000 USD and include the transportation from Ezeiza airport, the lodging, all meals (lunches and dinners), the gala dinner, and the attendance to the symposium. The fees for the joining company are of 250 USD and include the transportation from Ezeiza airport, the lodging, the evening diners (including the gala dinner), one visit of La Plata city. The information regarding the accounting of the Argentinian Federation of Land Surveyors (in Spanish FADA) will be published on the event website together with the registration form. <http://www.agrimensores.org.ar/> Early bird registration closes **1 October** 2012.

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SEPTEMBER 2012

3-4 *NEW*	México City, México	International Workshop on Monitoring, Evaluation and Results Based Management
3-4 *NEW*	Bogotá, Colombia	Second Congress of Global Compact Sustainability for an Influential and Globalized Market
4-5	Santiago, Chile	Chilean International Renewable Energy Congress
5-6 *NEW*	Washington D.C., USA	XVI Annual CAF Conference
5-8	Pittsburgh, PA, USA	14th ACM International Conference on Ubiquitous Computing - UbiComp 2012
7-8 *NEW*	Mar del Plata, Argentina	2nd Argentinean Working Days on gvSIG "Releasing data"
9-11	Albuquerque NM, USA	IMTA (Americas) 2012 Conference and Member Showcase

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

OCTOBER 2012

1	Houston TX, USA	Fall 2012 Meeting: New Positioning Techniques
1-3	Buenos Aires y Luján, Argentina	Geographic Information Systems 2012. Applications in Planning and Land Management
1-3	Bogotá, Colombia	Latin CACS/ISRM Conference
1-5	Medellín, Colombia	Latin American Conference on Informatics
1-4	Portland OR, USA	URISA's Annual Conference for GIS Professionals
1-12	Cartago, Turrialba, Costa Rica	First International Course on Using the SWAT Model as a Tool for Hydrographic Basin Management
3-5	Guadalajara, México	WODES 2012
4-5	Buenos Aires, Argentina	19th ESRI Users Latin-American Conference
4-5	Entre Ríos-Concordia, Argentina	26th Forest Working Days of Entre Rios-Concordia
5-6	La Paz, Bolivia	International Conference on Climate Change, Water and Wetlands
8-11	Orlando FL, USA	GEOINT 2012 Symposium
8-12	Guayaquil, Ecuador	Seventh Latin American Conference on Objects and Learning Technologies
9-11	Hanover NH, USA	INTERGEO Conference and Trade Fair 2012
NEW		
10-12	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	8th International Conference Virtual City and Territory
10-13	Oakland CA, USA	North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) 41st Annual Conference
15-17	Dallas TX, USA	Field Service Interactive
15-19	Santiago del Estero, Argentina	14th Humboldt International Meeting – "The Deglobalization Time"
16-18 *NEW*	Athens GA, USA	2012 Georgia URISA Geospatial Conference
17-20	La Plata - Buenos Aires, Argentina	11th INTI International Conference La Plata 2012
17-20	Medellín, Colombia	Americas Regional Conference IFLA 2012: Border: Landscapes Alert
18-20	Santiago, Chile	UC-ICA Latin-American Conference
18	Sao Paulo, Brazil	3rd gvSIG Brazilian Working Days

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NEW		contacto: jornadas.brasileiras@gvsig.org
22	Houston TX, USA	Oil and Gas Pipeline Conference
NEW		
22-23	Guayaquil, Ecuador	First Latin America Congress of Free and Open Source GIS (Latin OSGIS)
23-24	Punta del Este, Uruguay	34th International Conference on Data Protection and Personal Privacy in Uruguay
23-25	Mérida, Venezuela	2nd Venezuelan Congress of Geographic Information Systems GIS (COVESIG)
23-25	Atlanta GA, USA	12th Annual Outage Response and Restoration Management
NEW		
23-26	Montevideo, Uruguay	V Congress ALAP 2012, Transitions in Latin America and the Caribbean, Demographic Changes and Social Challenges and Future
24-25	Santiago, Chile	2nd ESRI User Meeting Chile
24-26	Buenos Aires, Argentina	3rd International Congress and 10th Latin America and the Caribbean Symposium "The region forehad the challenges generated by the crisis and emerging paradigms in the international and regional levels. Historical analysis, economic and sociopolitical"- CEINLADI
24-26	San Francisco CA, USA	The World Congress on Engineering and Computer Science 2012
24-28	Ibagué, Colombia	6th International Course on Tools for Monitoring Carbon Abduction in Land Use Systems
Oct. 28 – Nov. 1	Tampa FL, USA	MAPPS/ASPRS 2012 Specialty Conference
29-31	Concepción, Chile	SIRGAS Meeting 2012

NOVEMBER 2012

1-4	Vancouver BC, Canada	37th Annual Meeting of the Social Science History Association – “Historical Geography and Histories of Capitalism”
5-7	San Diego CA, USA	SI World 2012 - Situational Intelligence
5-7	Las Vegas NV, USA	Trimble Dimensions User Conference
5-9	Santiago and Temuco, Chile	Symposium "Identities in Production: Production and Identified Movements Between Indigenous Peoples and Ethnic Minorities and Race in Latin America" Further Information: Dr. Luis Fernando Angosto Fernández (luis.angosto-ferrandez@sydney.edu.au), and Dr. Sabine Kradolfer (kradolfer.sabine@gmail.com).
5-9	San Miguel de Tucuman, Argentina	26 Scientific Meeting (AAGG2012) and First International Workshop on Geomatics
7-9	Cuenca, Ecuador	IEEE Latincom 2012
8-9	Atlanta GA, USA	MAPublisher Training
11-13	Bogotá, Colombia	III National Scientific Congress on Disaster Management and Administration (in Spanish CONGESAD 2012) . Operational response models.
12-14	San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina	II International Seminar on Micro-territoriality in the Cities
12-16	Montego Bay, Jamaica	URISA's Caribbean GIS Conference
14-15	Bogotá, Colombia	4G Conference and Latin American Exhibition
14-16	Buenos Aires, Argentina	44th Meeting of the Directing Council PAIGH
14-16	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Second National Working Days on Research and Teaching in Geography Argentina (2nd JONIDGA) and 8th Working Days on Research and Extension from Geographical Research Center (8th JIECIG)
16	Santiago de Chile, Chile	Third Colloquium "Geography, Social Movements and Territory" of the 4th Seminar on Critical Geography " Gladys Armijo Zuniga," - "Social Geography and Transformative Critical Pedagogy in Action"
17-19	Berkeley, USA	Fourth International Conference on Science and Society
19-23	Cayenne, French Guiana	Symposium SELPER 2012: Earth Observation for a Green Co-developed World Contact: contact@selper2012.com
26-29	Montevideo, Uruguay	8th FIG Regional Conference
27-29	Las Vegas NV, USA	Autodesk University
Nov. 4 - Dec. 4	Buenos Aires, Argentina	FIG Commission 7th Annual Meeting

DECEMBER 2012

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



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JANUARY 2013

13-14	Vancouver, Canada	Ninth International Conference on Technology, Knowledge and Society
24-25 <i>*NEW*</i>	Redlands CA, USA	Geodesign Summit

FEBRUARY 2013

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

1-5	Havana, Cuba	V Cuban Convention on Earth Sciences - Geosciences 2013 http://www.lagf.org/
9-13 <i>*NEW*</i>	Los Angeles CA, USA	2013 AAG Annual Meeting

JUNE 2013

18-20 <i>*NEW*</i>	Sao Paulo, Brazil	MundoGEO#Connect LatinAmerica 2013
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JULY 2013

To be determined	Lima, Perú	14th Latin American Geographers Meeting (EGAL), Lima 2013. " Latin American Regional Knowledge Gathering "
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