



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



SDI-Asia/Pacific Newsletter

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Spatial Data Infrastructure – Asia and the Pacific (SDI-AP) is a free electronic newsletter for people interested in GIS, remote sensing, and data management issues in Asia and the Pacific. It aims to raise awareness and provide useful information to strengthen national SDI initiatives and support synchronization of regional activities. The Permanent Committee on Geographic Information for Asia and the Pacific ([PCGIAP](#)) is a regional forum that is promoting SDI development. The newsletter is sponsored and prepared by the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association ([GSDI](#)) with input from PCGIAP.

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If you have news or information related to GIS, remote sensing, and spatial data infrastructure that you would like to highlight (e.g., workshop announcements, publications, reports, websites of interest, etc.), kindly send us the materials by the 25th of the each month to chan@usgs.gov, sdi-ap@gsdi.org, so that we can include the items in the next newsletter.

PLEASE share this newsletter with colleagues and encourage them to subscribe themselves.

Back issues of the newsletter are at the GSDI website: <http://www.gsd.org/newsletters.asp>
Best regards, Changsup Han, Editor, chan@usgs.gov.



Have you signed up for the [GSDI News List](#)? It only takes a minute, and then GSDI can alert you of special news and announcements, and you will be notified when a new issue of the SDI-AP newsletter is available. The GSDI Association also hosts an [SDI-AP Discussion List](#) with intermittent announcements.

Input to this Issue

Thank you to Kate Lance, ITC (USA/the Netherlands), Alex de Sherbinin, CIESIN, Columbia University (USA), and Al Stevens, USGS/GSDI Secretariat (USA) for their contributions to the issues of this Newsletter.

SDI News, Links, Papers, Presentations

[GSDI 10: Tenth International Conference for Spatial Data Infrastructure](#)

GSDI 10 invites presentations covering the full range of practice, development and research experiences that advance the practice and theory of spatial data infrastructure development. Submissions relating to the GSDI-10 theme of "Small Island Perspectives on Global Challenges: The Role of Spatial Data in Supporting a Sustainable Future" are particularly attractive. [Call for workshop: 1 June 2007](#), [Call for paper: 15 September 2007](#).

GSDI Small Grants Program 2006-07

The current program is being consolidated to one RFP for 2006-7. A total of 85 proposals were received, forty-seven were accepted as being responsive to the types of projects the grant program is designed to support (38 were rejected in the first review as not being responsive). The 47 proposals were distributed to the regional committees for review (Africa, Asia-Pacific, Americas, Europe). The regional committees made their recommendations and a committee of FGDC and the GSDI secretariat made the final recommendations as follows:

Recommended as winners (for \$2500 grant) without questions (10 and they all have been notified):

- ✓ Jamaica --Fostering a Culture of Metadata Production
- ✓ Belize -- Promoting the use of Metadata Standards in Belize
- ✓ Pakistan - - Environmental Spatial Metadata Archive of Pakistan
- ✓ Mongolia -- Establishing web mapping services and applications



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



- ✓ Africa -- Integration of Metadata in current MadMappers web archive
- ✓ Niger -- Niger National SDI Plan
- ✓ Kenya - - Mau Watershed (Sub-region) Spatial Data Infrastructure
- ✓ Kenya -- Metadata training for Kenyan government and non-profit cooperators
- ✓ Burkina Faso -- Technical Workshop on the Production of Metadata
- ✓ Moldova ?Geospatial Data Standardization

Recommended for contributions of volunteer services from URISA's GISCorp

- ✓ Mongolia -- Establishing web mapping services and applications (also cash grant)
- ✓ Kenya -- GIS on Indigenous Population & Occupations in Kenya
- ✓ Thailand -- Development of a Web-based Microbial Information Toolkit
- ✓ West Africa -- Web-map Services for Vulnerability Monitoring and Food Security in Sub-Sahara Counties

Others will be announced on the [GSDI](#) and [FGDC](#) homepage in the next few weeks. The whole lists will be reported on the next Newsletter(July).

Geological Survey of India (GSI)'s Vision 2020

Geological Survey of India (GSI) established Vision 2020 as a government's policies to discover, assess and augment natural resources through intensive and extensive exploration, to monitor past, present and future demands for natural resources and reorient activities accordingly, to continuously update geological database of the land and offshore areas and so on. Main strategies are following:

<Natural resource assessment>

- ✓ Intensify specialized thematic mapping
- ✓ Intensify regional level assessment of mineral resources and standardize methods of exploration
- ✓ Integrate geological, geophysical and geochemical data in resource prognostication.
- ✓ Improvement of geoscientific database by making it denser, broader and deeper with higher level of precision.
- ✓ Prioritized but systematic coverage of the country through ground geophysical and geochemical survey.
- ✓ Delineate sub-alluvial and sub-trap geology through ground and airborne geophysical surveys to increase possible target areas.
- ✓ Induct high-resolution offshore surveys for assessment of marine resources.
- ✓ Develop viable interaction in collaborative activities with sister organizations, research institutes and universities to focus on exploration strategies in priorities.
- ✓ Creation of database on natural resources.

<Environment and earth system studies>

- ✓ Develop comprehensive geoenvironmental database for usage in impact assessment and monitoring.
- ✓ Studies on hazards both natural (earthquake, landslides, floods etc.) and anthropogenic (pollution, waste disposal etc.) focused on impact on the earth system.
- ✓ Studies on quaternary climatic changes.
- ✓ Enhanced studies in the field of solid earth geology and geophysics as Inter-institutional venture including seismic and geodetic monitoring.
- ✓ Geotechnical consultancy services for power, irrigation, transportation and various construction projects.

<Information services>

- ✓ Increase the visibility of the department to the outside world.
- ✓ Computerization of database at all levels of activity.
- ✓ Switch over to digital technology for production of documents and maps.
- ✓ User friendly ways and means for dissemination of knowledge products.
- ✓ Pro-active role in earth-science education in the country.

Center for Malaysian Geospatial Data Infrastructure study tour in Western Australia

A delegation from the Malaysian Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment recently visited Western Australia Land Information System ([WALIS](#)) and [Landgate](#), as part of a study tour to learn more about the spatial data infrastructure initiatives in Western Australia. The Ministry is responsible for the maintenance of the Centre for Malaysian Geospatial Data Infrastructure ([MaCGDI](#)). A representative from the WALIS Office gave two half-day presentations on WALIS, in particular the Shared Land Information Platform ([SLIP](#)) activities at present, whilst Landgate staff gave presentations on products and services offered through the



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



Landgate website, as well as an overview of the image production process and the [State Land Information Capture Program](#). The delegation showed a high level of interest in the work being done in Western Australia and look forward to applying their new-found knowledge to the MaCGDI. [Source: WALIS website]

[Creating a land information system in Afghanistan](#)

Two decades of war have destroyed Afghanistan's land titling and registration system. To rebuild the system, information needs to be exchanged among the courts, municipalities, the cadastre, rural land management agencies, and tax offices. A major problem is that the limited number of cadastre survey records of rural areas is more than 35 years old. Property identifications are not included on title deeds, although a boundary might be described as the distance one can hear a villager call out. It can take months to retrieve information and land records are not easily accessible to the public. As it stands today, landowners lack the state's protection of their land rights while the state lacks accurate data for tax collection. The availability of accurate land information promotes tenure security, a basic building block for peace. The coordination of accurate land information increases security and stimulates economic development. USAID/LTERA has designed a land information system which addresses in part the shortcomings in the land registration and land titling system in Afghanistan. An educational program also has been launched together with Polytechnic University in Kabul (training materials developed for the Polytechnic University can be [downloaded](#)). See also: [Land Titling and Economic Restructuring in Afghanistan](#), presented at 1st Geo-Conference in Afghanistan, April 24, 2007, Kabul.

[Indonesian government's Spatial Information & Mapping Centre \(SIM-Centre\)](#)

In February 2006, the GIS software, data, and expertise of the United Nations Information Management System (UNIMS), developed for post-tsunami emergency response in Indonesia, were successfully transitioned from UNIMS to the Indonesian government. The Indonesian government's Spatial Information & Mapping Centre (SIM-Centre) was established. Partially funded by a grant from the Norwegian government and United Nations, the SIM-Centre is part of a temporary building and reconstruction arm of the Indonesian government in the province. Badan Rehabilitasi dan Rekonstruksi (BRR) NAD-Nias oversees the work of the humanitarian agencies and ensures the needs of the local population are met. It will function until the middle of 2008, when its activities will be absorbed into the standard departments of the Indonesian government. SIM-Center's online metadata catalog is a free service available to cooperating agencies that provides information and access to necessary datasets. SIM-Centre has also created and continues to support a GIS user group and GIS consortium to advance the use of GIS in the area. A user group meeting is held every six weeks, and all GIS users in Aceh Province are invited to attend. The consortium is a voluntary group of GIS users from more than 20 agencies who discuss the current and future use of GIS in the province. Contact: sim.centre@brr.go.id. [Source: ArcNews Spring 2007]

[The OGC Seeks Comment on Proposed Access Control and Image Positioning Specifications](#)

The Open Geospatial Consortium, Inc. (OGC®) seeks public comment on two draft OpenGIS® Implementation Specifications:

- ✓ The OpenGIS Geospatial eXtensible Access Control Markup Language (GeoXACML) Draft Implementation Specification (OGC Document 07-026) defines a geo-specific extension to the eXtensible Access Control Markup Language (XACML) OASIS standard. "Access control systems" enable management of access to information only until it is obtained by the user and stored locally, as opposed to "rights management systems" that remain in force regardless of where the content of the original resource is located or reproduced. This draft specification can be [downloaded](#).
- ✓ The OpenGIS Image Geopositioning Service (IGS) Draft Implementation Specification defines an Image Geopositioning Service (IGS) interface to services that perform triangulation. (NOTE: The name of this service has not yet been formally agreed upon.) Accompanying this draft specification is a separate OpenGIS Image Geopositioning Metadata Geography Markup Language (GML) Draft Application Schema, which is structured to provide consistency between the IGS and other OGC Web Services (OWS) specifications. This draft specification can be [downloaded](#).

[Chinese space agency joins the International Charter 'Space and Major Disasters'](#)

The China National Space Administration has become the newest member of the International Charter 'Space and Major Disasters', a joint initiative that works to provide emergency response satellite data free of charge to those affected by disasters anywhere in the world. Each member of the International Charter 'Space and Major Disasters' has demonstrated its commitment to using space assets when it is most needed, such as when disasters of natural and human origin strike the world's communities or wreak havoc on the



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



environment. To date, the Charter has been activated more than 125 times. With CNSA's addition, disaster management authorities will now not only have access to Chinese satellite data archives but also to data from new CNSA missions. The European and French space agencies (ESA and CNES) initiated the International Charter 'Space and Major Disasters' following the UNISPACE III conference held in Vienna, Austria in July 1999. The Canadian Space Agency (CSA) joined the Charter on 20 October 2000. Other members currently include the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Argentine Space Agency (CONAE), the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), the British National Space Centre/Disaster Monitoring Constellation (BNSC/DMC) and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS).

[India and Brazil Set Up Work Team for Space Program](#)

Representatives of Brazil's Space Agency (AEB) and India's Space Department (ISRO) have set up a team to study cooperation in the space sectors of both countries, the AEB announced on Thursday. The two countries' team space study will be presented in September, in India, at the 58th International Space Congress sponsored by the International Space Federation. Satellite projects, such as satellite tracking, satellite launching and development projects, are the main areas the two countries will focus on. Brazil has shown an interest in tele-medicine and tele-education programs, interchange of scientists. India's space activities are mainly focused on satellite programs linked to food safety, management of natural resources and disaster monitoring.

[Indonesian Government Partners visually Identify Taxable Property](#)

The Indonesian government will acquire imagery from DigitalGlobe that will serve as a base map for the PBB's property tax surveys. "DigitalGlobe's QuickBird imagery provides a practical solution for the challenges we face in our property tax appraisals," said Agung Budibowo, head of subdirector of the Indonesian Tax Directorate General. "Access to the imagery will vastly improve tax collection by allowing us to correctly assess the appropriate tax rate on properties that are difficult to survey using traditional land-based methods." In addition to its work in Indonesia, DigitalGlobe assists governments and businesses around the world in leveraging the benefits of satellite and aerial imagery in their projects and decision-making process. "The Indonesian government has a responsibility to fairly evaluate land value, something that can be tremendously difficult to accomplish in isolated, rural areas using traditional surveying methods," said Marc Tremblay, vice president and general manager of DigitalGlobe's commercial business unit. "By using remote sensing data from DigitalGlobe's satellite, the Indonesian government is able to get an accurate measurement of property boundaries and land characteristics, leading to a fair and equitable tax assessment."

[ProLAND Project: cadastral development in China to protect farmers' land and property rights](#)

The unbridled urbanization in China is accompanied with the illegal eviction of small, poor farmers without proper financial compensation and housing. The Chinese government has accorded the highest political priority to solving the land question. This has resulted in the [ProLand project](#), for research into cadastral development in China. The project brings together a multi-disciplinary consortium of Dutch and Chinese institutes in land planning and cadastral development. In addition, the project will also actively involve representatives of the Chinese and Dutch private sector (real estate developers) in the delegation meeting, and the international conference on land planning and cadastral development. The long term strategic objectives are two-fold: to strengthen small-scale and poor farmers' rights to land; and to safeguard a stable agricultural land property and urban real estate market in the project sites. [Source: GIM International]

[Interview with Singapore Land Authority covering Land Data Hub \(LDH\) of Singapore and NSDI](#)

The Singapore Land Authority (SLA) manages the Land Data Hub (LDH) of Singapore which is a collaborative national land data sharing program. It is a one-stop centre for digitized land data, operating successfully since 1989. These digitized land data include data on buildings, roads, utilities networks, urban planning, addresses, street directory and topographical maps. It also has a system called Land Information Network (LandNet) which rides on high speed government intranet and facilitates online data sharing. LDH is managed by a Steering Committee (LDH SC) comprising Senior Management representatives from various data provider agencies. The LDH SC is chaired by CEO of SLA. The committee provides overall leadership and guidance to the program. As far as LDH's likeness to NSDI is concerned, LDH has many elements necessary for NSDI. However, the primary objective of LDH is to support current operations at various land related agencies. NSDI on the other hand is more holistic. That said, an NSDI is vital for Singapore. It is something Singapore needs to evaluate. "Since we already have LDH, it may be relatively easy to transform



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



it to an NSDI using the same platform rather than starting from scratch." [Source: GIS Development, April 2007]

Papers from 2nd National GIS Symposium of Saudi Arabia, an event organized by The High Committee of Geographic Information Systems at the Eastern Province in Saudi Arabia, 23-25 April 2007

- ✓ Change Management Strategies for GIS Implementations
- ✓ Applying Multidiscipline Enterprise GIS System for Urban Development Authorities: A Case Study on ArRiyadh Development Authority
- ✓ The Roles of GIS in the Planning, Implementation and Management of University Environmental Management System, Case of KFUPM, Saudi Arabia
- ✓ Sea Bed Topography Mapping Using Landsat TM Imagery
- ✓ Assessment of Poverty Incidence Using GIS, Case study: Rosetta, Egypt
- ✓ Experience with the Establishment and Operation of the Bahrain Permanent RTK Network
- ✓ Geospatial Information Modeling and Implementation for Navigation, Tracking and Address Location Services in Jordan

Presentations from GEOSS Symposium on Integrated Observations for Sustainable Development in the Asia-Pacific Region (GEOSS AP Symposium) held in Tokyo, Japan, 11-12 January 2007.

See also: Presentations from [2nd Asian Water Cycle Symposium](#), 9-10 January 2007.

Global Roads Workshop: Developing Useable Data for Tomorrow's Needs, October 1-2, 2007, Palisades, NY, USA

There is an urgent need for a free, improved, and well-documented global roads data set among professionals working in the development, disaster response & recovery, transportation, biodiversity conservation, and allied fields. As a first step towards addressing this gap, CIESIN's Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center (SEDAC) is organizing a workshop on global roads data October 1-2, 2007, at the Lamont Campus of Columbia University (Palisades, NY). The workshop is co-sponsored by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research - Consortium for Spatial Information (CGIAR-CSI), the international Council for Science's Committee on Data for Science and Technology (ICSU-CODATA), and the World Resources Institute. This will be an active planning workshop to launch an initiative to develop a global roads data set with a consortium of partners. The workshop is by invitation only; interested individuals may contact Alex de Sherbinin at adesherbinin (a) ciesin.columbia.edu.

International Workshop on Cities, Science and Sustainability, Trieste, Italy, 20-22 September 2007

Institutions in developing countries are invited to respond by 1 July 2007 indicating their interest in participating in the workshop and presenting a report highlighting successful initiatives in using science and technology in solving problems of sustainability associated with large urban areas, including (but not limited to) access to safe drinking water, sanitation, air pollution, housing and construction, land use planning, transport, traffic congestion and waste disposal in a city in the developing world. The project 'Cities, Science and Sustainability' is a collaborative effort between TWAS, the Consortium for Science, Technology and Innovation for the South (COSTIS) and the United Nations Development Program's Special Unit for South-South Cooperation (UNDP-SSC). See the [relevant abstract](#) form. Project sponsors will cover the costs of transportation and lodging for one representative from each institution selected to attend the workshop.

1st Geo-Conference in Afghanistan, April 24, 2007, Kabul

The first Geo-Conference in Afghanistan was jointly organized by AIMS, Liwal Ltd, Afghanistan Engineering District and ISAF. The conference was held on 24 April 2007 attended by almost 170 participants from the Government of Afghanistan, the UN, ISAF and the development community. The conference's main purpose was to bring NGOs, the Government of Afghanistan, and International community together to share information regarding projects and spatial data. The conference commenced with speeches by H.E Mr. Amirzai Sangin, Minister of Communication, Mr. Neal Bratschun, UNDP-AIMS Project Manager, Mr. Abdul Rauf Yari, Director of Afghan Geodesy and Cartography Head Office (AGCHO), Mr. Haseeb Kabir Chief Technical Advisor in United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Following the speeches a series of presentations were given by expatriates from Government of Afghanistan (GoA) institutions, UN, USAID, Liwal Ltd, Afghanistan Engineering District and other agencies. These presentations provided an overview of the current GIS related projects within the country. The first session of the conference focused on USAID/ISAF/AIMS database and the National Data standards for the country. The awareness of the programs was crucial in order to help track and report on the progress of projects in the country. The second session of the conference included several Questions



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



and Answers sessions, where a lot of useful information was exchanged on the current status of spatial data and GIS based projects in the country. The overall objectives behind this conference were to:

- ✓ Provide an overview and awareness of GIS projects in the country to all the participants
- ✓ Create methods of sharing information of similar projects
- ✓ Create template for MoU between those organization who are willing to share data
- ✓ Awareness on similar projects between organizations that will result in avoiding duplication
- ✓ Create more understanding between organizations to share data and work together if projects are the same.
- ✓ Create an executive committee to take serious actions on creating Afghanistan Spatial Data Infrastructure
- ✓ Educate decision makers in specific Ministries to take a stronger role in supporting the Afghanistan Spatial Data Infrastructure

The participants included senior officials from the Government of Afghanistan (GoA), ISAF, United Nations, NGOs, diplomatic missions and the donor community. [Source: Afghanistan Information Management Services ([AIMS](#)) Monthly Update April 2007]

[WALIS International Forum 2008 call for papers](#)

The call for papers is now open! WALIS Forum is one of the premier GIS events in Australia, attracting over 650 participants from a diverse range of professions. WALIS Forum is one of the premier GIS events in Australia, attracting over 650 participants from a diverse range of professions. If you are interested in presenting at the WALIS International Forum 2008, abstracts should be no more than 250 words and can be submitted online. Please note that authors of any abstracts submitted may be offered to present orally or as a poster. Closing date: 28 September 2007

[13th PCGIAP meeting](#), Seoul, Korea, 12-15 June 2007

The 13th Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia & the Pacific (PCGIAP) meeting will be held on 12-15 June 2007 in Seoul, Korea ([Preliminary program](#)). The meeting starts off on the first day with an International [Workshop](#) on Spatial Enablement of Government and National SDI - Policy Implications.

GIS Tools, Software, Data

[The Development Asia Pacific Fundamental Dataset](#), Global Mapping Newsletter No 45

The development of fundamental dataset for Asia and the Pacific region was based on the PCGIAP resolutions issued in 12th UNRCC-AP Conference in Okinawa Japan in 2002. Since then, PCGIAP implements activities such as the development of Asia Pacific fundamental dataset specification and the development of fundamental dataset covering countries hit by 2004 tsunami around Indian Ocean. This pilot project forms as a base for the development of Asia Pacific Fundamental Dataset and also as a PCGIAP reaction to such event at the regional level. The pilot project is implemented by the team consisting of countries of Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam. The pilot project, started in 2006 is updating step and is targeted to be finalized in 2007. Followings are the specification of Tsunami Fundamental dataset.

- ✓ Resolution: 1 : 1,000,000
- ✓ Horizontal accuracy: 1,000 meter
- ✓ Data format: ESLI shape file
- ✓ Data Source: Global Mapping data, GMver0
- ✓ Datum: WGS84
- ✓ Map projection: Geographic Projection
- ✓ Area coverage: Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand.
- ✓ Attribute information complying with the Global Mapping Specification for the rivers, roads and populated places and with the ones of the second Administrative Level Boundaries Dataset Project(SALB) for the administrative boundaries

PCGIAP Working Group 2 will continue the development of the Asia Pacific Fundamental Dataset in 2008 after the Tsunami Dataset completed. By Bebas Purnawan, Head of Center for Network System and Spatial Data Standardization National Atlas Center, BAKOSURTANAL, Indonesia

[Geoscience Australia has recently initiated a New National Elevation Database Project](#)

Australian government agencies at all levels, the community and industry are driving significant increases in the demand for high quality spatial data. Issues such as climate change, coastal vulnerability, water and



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



natural resource management, emergency management, health and safety issues all require fundamental spatial data at a range of scales to meet specific requirements. Fortunately in some instances a few key datasets, such as elevation data, can help meet a range of needs. Geoscience Australia has recently initiated a New National Elevation Database Project in conjunction with the Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying and Mapping (ICSM). Though the project is in the early stages of development, recent consultation with a wide range of users has identified a number of requirements which will drive its development. These include the need for:

- ✓ very high resolution DEMs with vertical accuracies of approximately 25 centimeters in low-lying coastal areas and floodplains
- ✓ seamlessly integrated DEMs which include both topography (land) and bathymetry (water depth)
- ✓ a single point-of-truth framework with appropriate consistency in standards, license conditions and access
- ✓ a multi-resolution approach which recognizes that different areas will have different data requirements
- ✓ the database to be dynamic and allow continual improvement rather than a 'snap-shot'
- ✓ Opportunities for private industry involvement using a range of technologies and methods.

Over the coming months Geoscience Australia will be working with the Australian and New Zealand Land Information Council (ANZLIC), state jurisdictions and Australian Government agencies to refine user needs and technical and administrative frameworks. A detailed implementation strategy will be developed over the next 12 months. For more information contact: Philip Tickle, phil.tickle@ga.gov.au

[Interactive Data Mapper - Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information and Mapping System \(FIVIMS\) for Asia](#)

The Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information and Mapping System for Asia has been developed in support of the Key Indicators Data System (KIDS) and National FIVIMS initiatives in Asia. Dynamic mapping modules for Regional, Cambodia, Philippine and Sri Lanka FIVIMS applications are currently available.

[GIS database for youth related information in Sri Lanka](#)

A Geographical Information System (GIS), which produces statistical (attributes) and location (spatial) data, was completed in early 2005. The GIS relates to youth employment (including rates of unemployment, facilities such as schooling, vocational education, business development services etc) covering all the districts, with attention to gender. The System was established in collaboration with the University of Colombo. The information from the System could be obtained from the Youth Employment Network - Sri Lanka (YEN-SL), ceoyen@sltnet.lk.

[ADB Launches Online Version of Statistical Database System](#)

ADB on 16 May 2007 rolled out the online version of its [Statistical Database System](#) (SBDS), a key database of social, economic and financial indicators of its developing member countries. The database, developed and maintained by ADB's Economics and Research Department, contains data from 1988 onwards and will be a major resource and analytical tool for policymakers, academics, researchers and journalists interested in issues and challenges facing Asia and the Pacific. The launch of the online version of SBDS underscores ADB's role as a key knowledge bank for developing member countries in the region. To help users in navigating the website, an easy access online facility has been developed.

[ITC's free GIS software ILWIS migrates to open source](#)

The [Integrated Land and Water Information System](#) (ILWIS) is PC-based GIS & Remote Sensing software, developed by ITC. ILWIS comprises a complete package of image processing, spatial analysis and digital mapping. It is easy to learn and use; it has full on-line help, extensive tutorials for direct use in courses and 25 case studies of various disciplines. ILWIS software is renowned for its functionality, user-friendliness and low cost, and has established a wide user community over the years of its development. Even after its last release in 2005, its user community remained vivid, both within and outside ITC, however without a common base for further system development. The migration has the following implications: ILWIS software will be made freely available ('as-is' and free of charge) as open source software (binaries and source code) under the initiative (GPL license) as per July 1st, 2007. The current ILWIS [download](#) page will be directed to a page in due time.

[Geology of Iran](#)



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



Iran covers an area of 1 648 000 km², situated between latitudes 25° and 39° N and longitudes 45° and 61° E. It is bounded by Turkey, Iraq and the Persian Gulf to the W and SW; the Gulf of Oman to the SE; Pakistan and Afghanistan to the E; and Turkmenistan, the Caspian Sea, Azerbaijan and Armenia to the N. Its capital, Tehran, is also the headquarter of the Geological Survey of Iran. This issues national and regional maps and reports. It consists of Morphology, History of exploration, Structural units, Zagros, Zagros Thrust Zone, Sanandaj – Sirjan metamorphic belt, Urumiyeh –Bazman volcanic belt, Central – East Iran microplate, Makran and Zabol –Baluch Zone, SE Iran, Alborz, Kopet Dagh, Precambrian basement, Paleozoic of platform area, Precambrian –Cambrian boundary, Infracambrian –Ordovician, Silurian to Lower Devonian, Middle Devonian to Carboniferous, and Central Iran.



[New site launched as the first stage of project to create Russian territory satellite-based imagery database](#)

The [New.Kosmosnimki site](#), enables viewing of Moscow and Moscow Regions imagery mosaics. In the future, the area covered with satellite imagery will be increased, first by including St-Petersburg and Leningrad Region, then European part of Russia and later on of the entire territory. An increased resolution up to 1m will be available for towns (currently 6m resolution images are presented). At the next stage the internet-shop section will be added where one could order images by selecting the required fragment on the map and by getting it as a jpeg-file with map fragment and georeference files or as printed posters. The developers plan to extend the New.Kosmosnimki geo-portal functionality by adding different social services to allow the users to introduce and edit the inputs themselves: to lay routes, add photos and GPS-tracks on the map, etc. The services to lay out itinerary points, to measure distances and square areas, as well as to search for towns by their names, are already available on the site. The basic difference of the New.Kosmosnimki project from its equivalents is in the use of more detailed and updated imagery of the Russian territory. [Source: GIM International]

Geospatial Research, Applications, Reference Material

[Advanced 3D GIS Engine exceeding Google Earth capabilities Erects Urban Planning Information System in Seoul](#)

Seoul ([capital city of South Korea](#)), following successful utilization of 3D technology in its development of Urban Planning Information System, is taking notice from related industries. With various 3D map services already available from major internet portals like Google and MS, it's another indication of the 3D technology being used by professionals in critical decision makings. The key features of 3D Geographic Information System (GIS) engine include High performance real-time 3D rendering, data quality for gaining a sense of location and place, comprehensive search with location editing capability, handling level of detail for seamless operation (re-centering, zoom in or out), and modeling landmarks such as buildings, bridges, historical sites, landscapes, street legends and other objects. The project designed with these technologies having resource of High-Def images and extensive database that can be utilized for urban planning in real-time by Urban Planning Committee was highly praised over the other competing products; the Google Earth, TerraExplorer (Skyline Software System) and 3D City (GeoSim systems).

✓ 3D helped erecting global city environment

Envisioning creating a clean, attractive urban environment as world class global city, the Seoul metropolitan government launched the Urban Planning Information System (UPIS) project. Its initial four phase plan began with \$60mil from 1999 to 2002 and second-two phase plan from 2005 to present which ran up additional \$10 mil. The current two phase UPIS plan includes integration of infrastructure management system and 3D Virtual landscape system upgrade for the entire Seoul.

✓ 3D giving new business opportunities to web 2.0

The 3D technology with GIS information not only helped the City of Seoul but grafting it into internet has created new business opportunities for web 2.0. Adaptation of the 3D technology by internet service companies is flourishing more than ever. For example, 3D satellite image location search service now also provides things like online restaurant reservation, real time live traffic info service, which are allowing new advertisement markets.



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



Other areas of prospective opportunities among many include real-estate service with satellite images, 3D imagery modeling on the buildings and pictures, [e-commerce linked to 3D map](#), virtual 3D website like [Second life](#).

Satellite Images Aid Implementation of Agricultural Reforms

An ESA-backed project has demonstrated how Earth observation satellites can assist in the cross compliance measures - a set of environmental and animal welfare standards that farmers have to respect to receive full funding from the European Union - included in the 2003 reforms of the Common Agricultural Policy. Using very high resolution (VHR) satellite images for monitoring whether land is safeguarded in Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition (GAEC), as outlined within the cross-compliance framework, ensures subsidies are distributed in a fair and timely manner and helps farmers complete subsidy applications more accurately. High resolution satellites as well as aerial photography have been used for some time to monitor areas where subsidies are provided. VHR Earth observation (EO) satellites, however, offer more detail compared with HR satellites and are capable of identifying various landscape features and detecting potential erosion, tillage practices and maintenance of pastures. By using special classification procedures on VHR satellite images, identification of these landscape features is possible. In combination with digital aerial images, even single trees can be delineated. By comparing older and recent images of these same areas with the processed 'reference landscape feature' layer, the removal of these features can be detected.



Research and Theory in Advancing Spatial Data Infrastructure Concepts, By Harlan J. Onsrud, professor in the Department of Spatial Information Science and Engineering at the University of Maine and a research scientist

Spatial data infrastructures (SDIs) have come a long way in the last two decades. In this timely scholarly volume, Harlan Onsrud, past president of the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association, presents the latest research by renowned international experts and offers insights into possible directions in which SDIs may be headed. Firmly rooted in a broad societal context, the studies take technical, legal, economic, and institutional challenges head-on, with a strong emphasis on the needs of developing nations. The research analyzes models for planning, financing, and implementing SDI initiatives and assesses the extent to which established SDI projects in Australia, India, and the European Union are contributing to national economic competitiveness and social well-being. The book includes examples of how instrumental SDIs can be in disaster preparedness and poverty management, and it examines the integration of intellectual property rights within the framework of international SDI collaboration



Huge waves that hit Reunion Island tracked from space

The origin and movement of waves reaching up to 11 meters that devastated France's Reunion Island in the Indian Ocean on 12 May 2007 have been detected with ESA's Envisat satellite. The waves that thrashed the southern port of Saint Pierre, leaving two fishermen missing, causing several piers to collapse and flooding several homes and businesses, originated south of Cape Town, South Africa, and traveled northeast for nearly 4000 km over a period of three days before slamming into Reunion Island. A typical SAR satellite images a swath of 400 km, enough to capture complete 'mesoscale' phenomena such as tropical storms. While optical satellite images show the swirling cloud-tops of a hurricane, a SAR image pierces through the clouds to show the sea surface roughness and its modulation through the combination of wind wave and currents. As part of the Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES), a joint initiative of the European Commission and ESA, the space agency has undertaken the development of Sentinel-1, a European polar-orbiting satellite system for the continuation of SAR operational applications. The Sentinel-1 SAR instrument will have a dedicated wave mode allowing the Near Real Time tracking and forecasting of swell for European users.



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



[100% Pure New Zealand Layer on Google Earth](#)

Tourism New Zealand has teamed up with Search engine Google to develop a 100% Pure New Zealand layer on the popular Google Earth™ product. This is the first time that a tourism authority has developed an official "layer" for Google Earth. Google Earth combines Google Search with satellite imagery, maps, terrain and 3D buildings to provide in-depth, easily accessible geographic information. The 100% Pure New Zealand layer introduces and graphically illustrates Visitor Centers, 'Points of Interest' (towns) and 'Bubbles' (scenic highlights) on Google Earth and provides a [link](#) for more extensive information, maps, links to accommodation, transport and activities. Google Earth users can choose to view all or some of the three sets of information presented in the Google Earth 100% Pure New Zealand layer.



[Sat-nav in 3D makes cities come alive](#)

European sat-nav users will soon be able to navigate through cities with 3D models of buildings and landmarks displayed life-like onscreen. Digital map provider Tele Atlas is set to release detailed 3D maps of nearly 50 cities for use in navigation devices and location-based applications. The first detailed 3D city maps from Tele Atlas will become available in July, with cities such as London, Berlin, and Rome included. Further European, US and Asian city maps will follow over the next year. Tele Atlas provides mapping information for many major sat-nav and location-based product and service developers, including market leader TomTom . The 3D maps will make navigation easier in cities, Tele Atlas managing director and COO Jack Reinelt told Tech.co.uk. They will present onscreen images that look more like the user's surroundings as they're moving through a city. As well as displaying prominent landmarks in 3D, Tele Atlas maps will feature textured cityscapes rather than flat representations.

[Papers from XXX FIG General Assembly and Working Week](#), 13-17 May 2007, Hong Kong

- ✓ [Enhancement of Urban Spatial Data Infrastructure to Support Land Administration in City Sanya, China](#)

This paper reports on the investigation of the developments of urban land cadastral and land information systems in Sanya, Hainan, the Peoples' Republic of China in the recent decade, and discusses ways for enhancement of these systems particularly in the aspects of data ownership, copy right arrangement, data contents and quality control.

- ✓ [Spatial Data Exchange within the HKSAR Government - from a Perspective of a Data Agent](#)

Under the Digital 21 Information Technology (IT) Strategy, the HKSAR Government has been making substantial progress towards making Hong Kong a leading e-business community and digital city in the globally connected world. The Lands Department (LandsD), as the primary digital map data supply agency in Hong Kong, is in the position to help the establishment of the Hong Kong Spatial Data Infrastructure (HKSDI). This paper shares the experiences gained in spatial data exchange within the HKSAR Government from a perspective of a Data Agent.

- ✓ [Australian Spatial Data Policy: Legal issues arising from data delivery via the Internet](#)

This paper discusses the need for mechanisms to control to some extent, the dissemination of spatial data via the internet and limit the liability of data providers and minimize the probability of these incidents occurring.

- ✓ [National Mapping - Funding the Public Good](#)

This paper explores the changing role and context for national mapping agencies and the consequences of developments in funding models; it then uses Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland as a case study of a successful national mapping agency and examines how it is responding to and shaping its environment.

- ✓ [Good Governance in Land Administration](#)

This paper outlines the World Bank's support for improving governance in land administration development projects. Specific emphasis is given to government-driven good governance initiatives.

Training Opportunities

[PCGIAP workshop: Spatial Enablement of Government](#), Seoul, Korea, 12 June 2007



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



The 13th Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia & the Pacific (PCGIAP) meeting will be held on 12-15 June 2007 in Seoul, Korea ([Preliminary program](#)). The meeting starts off on the first day with an International [Workshop](#) on Spatial Enablement of Government and National SDI - Policy Implications. To attend 13th PCGIAP, You will be encouraged to [register](#) via on-line registration system on the official website of the 13th PCGIAP.

[Introduction to ArcGIS](#), 3 days, Australia and New Zealand

This hand on three day course provides participants with a comprehensive introduction to the ArcGIS desktop software, equipping them with the necessary skills to be able to utilize the core functionality of the ArcGIS package. The exercises will introduce participants to the applications that comprise ArcGIS; ArcMap for visualizing and editing data, ArcCatalog for data and metadata management, and ArcToolbox for geoprocessing. On completion, participants will have a sound understanding of basic geospatial concepts and the skills to create, edit and work with geospatial data using the ArcGIS software package. No previous experience with ArcGIS software is required, although experience with using Microsoft Windows is essential. Duration: June 25 – 27, September 3 – 5, November 19 – 21.

[Advanced ArcGIS Short Courses](#), 5 days, Perth, Sydney, Australia

The Advanced ArcGIS Shortcourse structure offers a scalable, flexible training solution for novice to intermediate ArcGIS users. A different short course will be held for each day of the week, whereby participants are able to select and pay for only the short courses they are interested in attending. Choose from the below ArcGIS short courses, selecting any mixture to customize your training.

- ✓ Creating and editing data in ArcGIS (Monday)
- ✓ Map production (Tuesday)
- ✓ ArcToolbox, geoprocessing and querying (Wednesday)
- ✓ Model builder (Thursday)
- ✓ Utilising Imagery with ArcGIS (Friday)

Duration: June 18 – 22, 2007, August 13 – 17, 2007, October 15 – 19, 2007

[ADPC Regional Training Course](#), Contact: tedadpc@adpc.net

- **Disaster Management Course:** Disaster Management Course is the core course of ADPC, which has been delivered since the ADPC's inception. The course provides comprehensive disaster management knowledge and skills to enhance the capabilities of executive managers who have key disaster management responsibilities. It is designed to enable professionals working in disaster management, development and donor agencies to effectively integrate disaster management into their development programs and policies. The course will promote the sharing of relevant technical and managerial skills and knowledge and will equip participants with appropriate decision making, strategic and analytical processes.
 - ✓ 5-7 June 2007, Hyderabad Pakistan
 - ✓ 13-23 June 2007, Islamabad Pakistan
 - ✓ 6-24 November 2007, Bangkok, Thailand
 - ✓ 12-20 November 2007, Bangkok, Thailand
- **Flood Disaster Risk Management (FDRM):** Flood Disaster Risk Mitigation Course is an integrated approach to development of flood risk reduction strategies that involves engineering, settlement, development, public administration, community-based strategies and land use planning (with environmental considerations). This multi-disciplinary treatment of the flood problem and of the requirements of flood risk management is expected to enable a holistic view of the situation and the needed preparedness measures. The course is linked to a number of current ADPC flood-related initiatives, including the Flood Preparedness Information Network (FINE) in South Asia; the Extreme Climate Events (ECE) program; and the cooperation between ADPC and Mekong River Commission. Participants will be exposed to these endeavors, to learn from their experience and to establish linkages with them.
 - ✓ 16-27 October 2007, Bangkok or Bangladesh
- **Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM):** Community Based Disaster Risk Management provides an opportunity for participants to acquire skills and obtain knowledge on "how to" design and implement programs to reduce disaster risks and vulnerability and build community capacity to promote a 'culture of safety.'
 - ✓ 16-27 July 2007, Bangkok, Thailand
 - ✓ June (1week) 2007, Indonesia



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



[Proposal Writing and Fund Raising Training W/shop](#), June 28, 2007 - July 1, 2007, Darjeeling, India

This was based on the demand made by the NGOs for explore local resources. This training workshop is only for Project Partners of Transboundary Biodiversity Conservation in the Eastern Himalayas. Contact: Dr. Nakul Chettri, nchettri@icimod.org

[Mid-term Training Course on Applications of Remote Sensing and GIS for Natural Disaster Management](#), Cibinong-Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 3 July - 6 August 2007

The UNESCAP website indicates that there are fellowships through the Information, Communication and Space Technology Division, but no details are given. General contact: Space Technology Application Section, Information, Communication and Space Technology Division, ESCAP, escap-stas@un.org.

[Remote Sensing for Ecosystem Assessment - An International Field Course](#), 26 July - 10 August 2007, Moscow State University Field Station, Kola Peninsula, Russian Arctic

This **[intensive two week field course](#)**, has been created within the framework of the British Degrees in Russia (BRIDGE) continuing professional development program, funded by the UK's Department for Education and Skills and administered by the British Council. It aims to provide the essentials of fieldwork and remote sensing training quickly and efficiently. It is designed for a wide range of international graduate students and professionals who use or would like to use remote sensing techniques as part of ecosystem assessment, environmental impact assessment or similar applications. The course's location means it would be of particular interest for those whose work concerns sub-arctic and arctic environments (for example the environmental impact of hydrocarbon and other industrial developments in Russia). Application deadline extended to: 14 June 2007.

Funding Opportunities, Awards, Support

[2007 Queensland Spatial Excellence Awards are now open](#)



Invitations to sponsor the 2007 Queensland Spatial Excellence Awards are now open. Numbers of entrants for this year look promising already, with several expressions of interest registered before nominations have been officially called. Sponsors can expect a full field of competitors to challenge for the awards, which will offer optimum prospects for guests, participants and other observers to identify the sponsor's brand and associate it with excellence and peak performance. QSEA offers a valuable opportunity to build and enhance business relationships. Not only does it provide sponsors with a vehicle for increasing recognition and visibility, it offers sponsors and guests the opportunity to network with peers and potential clients. The goodwill associated with supporting the peak bodies in the spatial information industry is also highly prized and, in 2007, QSEA hosts expect the gala dinner to seat up to 300 guests, all of whom will identify the sponsor's corporate profile and equate it with excellent achievement. There are five

separate sponsorship packages available --

- Platinum Sponsor (1)
- Gold Sponsor (2)
- Silver Sponsor (3)
- Table Sponsor (unlimited number)
- Keynote Speaker Sponsor (1)

[Download the Sponsorship Brochure](#), Contact: Jack de Lange, jdelange@asiba.com.au

[Call for Concept Notes: Action Research on "Value Chains and the Rural Poor in Disadvantaged Regions"](#)

Researchers, civil society and entrepreneurs are invited to submit applications for four action research projects under the theme of "Value chains and the rural poor in disadvantaged regions." These studies will start in September 2007. The research must be located in a disadvantaged region in one of the following four RPE priority regions: the Sahel Belt of West Africa; the Nile Basin; South Asia; the Mekong Delta; or the Philippines. Deadline: 16:00hrs (UK time), June 29, 2007.

[Swedish South Asian Studies Network Grants 2007](#) (for Swedish researchers and teachers)

Swedish South Asian Studies Network (SASNET) invites proposals for grants to network in research/education programs or projects in the field of South Asian studies or in studies relevant to South



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



Asian development. In this round, priority will be given to applications for a) collaboration with new partners in South Asia; b) education cooperation projects, in which new courses and programs are developed and in which Swedish and South Asian institutions collaborate; and c) interdisciplinary projects involving the “hard” sciences (natural, technical and medical sciences) and the “soft” sciences (humanities and social sciences). Applications can only be made by researchers and teachers based at Swedish universities and university colleges. The applicant must belong to a network, including at least five named Swedish researchers and/or teachers, from more than one department, and a minimum of two different universities. The application must target at least two countries in South Asia. The maximum amount is SEK 150 000 and the grant can be used over a period of one year, starting September 2007. Deadline: June 15, 2007. See also: [SASNET Interdisciplinary Workshop Grants 2007](#) and [SASNET Guest Lecture Program 2007](#), also with June 15, 2007 deadline.

Employment Opportunities

[Lecturer in Pacific Studies](#), Otago University, New Zealand

Applications are invited for a full-time, confirmation path position as Lecturer in Pacific Studies in Te Tumu, the School of Maori, Pacific and Indigenous Studies. The role of the appointee will be to teach at undergraduate and postgraduate levels in the University's rapidly expanding Pacific Islands Studies program, provide thesis research supervision to postgraduate students, and engage in personal research in an area of relevance to Pacific studies. Applicants should have a completed research degree (preferably a PhD) in some aspect of Pacific Studies, a commitment to ongoing research, and some experience of tertiary teaching. Exceptionally well-qualified applicants may be appointed at a higher level. The position will be available from 1 July 2007. Contact: Professor Alistair Fox, alistair.fox@stonebow.otago.ac.nz, Closing Date: 19 June 2007.

[Research Scientist - Several Positions - Web Services - Semantic Integration - Data Management - Search and Delivery Technologies](#), Aust National University, Australia

[CSIRO](#)(Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization) ICT Centre is building a role for Australia as a global ICT innovator by delivering leading-edge Information and Communication Technology solutions for industry and society. The Centre has over 250 researchers across Australia working on a wide range of ICT technologies and application areas. You will be a member of a team of 40 in the Information Engineering Laboratory, who are actively engaged in state of the art data and information-related research and are helping to build the effective and leading edge tools to manage floods of heterogeneous information rapidly and effectively. Often our technologies require cross-disciplinary teams and involve strong involvement with leading customers who care about our technology. The successful applicant will possess a PhD in Computer Science, Engineering or related discipline, be a competent and experienced user of computers to support research and will be proficient in at least one programming language – probably C, C++, Java or prolog. You will have research experience in at least one of: web services, knowledge representation and reasoning, data integration, information retrieval or information delivery. Applications Close: 3 June 2007, Contact: Dr Ross Wilkinson, ross.wilkinson@csiro.au.

[Soil Scientist – Pedometrics](#), Black Mountain, Australia

[CSIRO](#)(Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization) is seeking an outstanding young scientist with a primary interest in developing new methods of rapid soil measurement that are essential to provide basic information on soil condition and trend. The research may pursue several lines of enquiry, ranging from basic soil spectroscopy through to error propagation and implementation in digital soil mapping for land planning and management. The individual must have a working knowledge of contemporary pedometrics, a good understanding of Australian soils and landscapes, and a strong commitment to interdisciplinary research that provides clear benefit to Australia. Applications Close: 10 June 2007, Contact: Dr Neil McKenzie, Neil.McKenzie@csiro.au.

[Spatial Technical Consultant-Sydney](#), Australia

[NGIS Australia](#) is seeking a Spatial Technical Consultant who has minimum of five years experience with GIS technologies, in particular spatial databases, architectures and web based systems and has a degree in Computer Science, GIS or related field. His role will include the delivery of high level technical consulting services in main stream IT and GIS systems integration and system implementation. He will be able to assist with tender preparation, highly capable of technical presentations and report writing. You will be able to demonstrate and recommend appropriate client solutions. Contact: Richard Bentley, info@ngis.com.au, Closing date: not indicated.



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



[GeoDatabase specialist](#), Manama, Bahrain

MicroCenter, in Manama, Bahrain is seeking a GeoDatabase specialist to work as Geodatabase and Oracle administrator and consultant. Job requires: Should have relevant degree, Should have total minimum 5 years & 2 years on Oracle/ArcSDE Administration, Preferably have 9i/10g Oracle DBA Certification, Should have excellent working knowledge of Arc GIS. Application deadline: 27 June 2007, Contact: R D Ranjan, rdranjan@microcentergulf.com

[Alumni Coordinator \(m/f\)](#), ITC

In the position of Alumni Coordinator you are responsible for further developing and carrying out the alumni policy. You identify possibilities for improvement and make proposals with regard to this policy. You are responsible for maintaining and expanding the alumni network, with the aim of attracting new students, stimulating communication between alumni, providing aftercare to alumni and their employers and involving them in the evaluation and execution of ITC's core activities. Contact: [Janneke Kalf](#), Closing date: 8 June 2007

[Assistant Professor \(m/f\), Multi-scale data integration](#), Enschede, The Netherlands

Working for the Department of Geo-Information Processing of the International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC), the selected candidates will conduct education and research, and will provide project services. S/he will be active in performing educational tasks within the broad scope of geoinformatics, and will assist and supervise MSc students. S/he will develop educational material, prepare lectures regarding the aggregation and generalization of framework data, and be involved in developing distance learning materials and Internet applications. Candidates should hold a PhD in geoinformatics, computer science, geography or geodesy; have demonstrable knowledge and skills in at least one of the areas of geo-computation, spatiotemporal data integration, generalization or multi-representations; have expertise in dealing with spatial data at different scales and preferably in working with students and/or on relevant research and consulting projects in less developed countries; and have demonstrable potential in the areas of research publication and grant acquisition. Deadline: 28 June 2007. You will conduct education and research, and will provide project services. You will be active in performing educational tasks within the broad scope of geoinformatics, and will assist and supervise MSc students.

[Organizational Development Adviser](#), Australia

Land Equity International Pty Ltd. (LEI) were awarded a 5 year contract to implement the AusAID funded Lao-Australia Property Rights and Land Titling Project (PRLTP). PRLTP is part of a long-term commitment by the Government of Lao to Land Administration and Management reform. LEI are now seeking an Organizational Development Adviser for a 6 week position in the Lao, commencing mid July 2007.

- ✓ Team Leader : 16 month position, [Click here](#) to download application
- ✓ Organizational Development Adviser : 6 week position, [Click here](#) to download application

The closing date for applications for this position is 12 June 2007. All applications must be submitted electronically to home@landequity.com.au.

[Geochemist Postdoctoral Scientist](#), Townsville, Australia

CSIRO(Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization) Land and Water is seeking a highly motivated postdoctoral scientist with a growing record of research achievement in geochemistry to join the CSIRO Land and Water group in Townsville. The person appointed will play a key role in helping improve understanding of the geochemistry of groundwater systems, and the impact on the transport and fate of solutes (nutrients, agrochemicals & salts) via groundwater systems to downstream ecosystems and receiving waters (including the marine environment). Applications Close: 15 Jun 2007, Contact: Dr. Keith Bristow via email keith.bristow@csiro.au or phone 07 4753 8596.

Other

[Nepal scientists warn of glacier flood threat](#)

Climate scientists in Nepal have warned that poor coordination of research and an inactive early warning system are putting Nepal's people at risk of flooding caused by melting glaciers. Glacial lakes created by melting glaciers can overflow, releasing several thousand cubic meters of water per second along stream channels. These flooding events are called glacier lake outburst floods. There have been more than 15 of these floods in Nepal, occurring at a frequency of one every two to five years, according to the Nepalese



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM). This has been attributed to global warming, which, according to DHM research, is increasing temperatures in the Nepalese Himalayas by 0.04 degrees Celsius per year. Remote sensing and satellite imaging have been used to identify potentially dangerous lakes, but field studies are limited, according to Pradeep Mool, a remote sensing specialist at ICIMOD. Tsho Rolpa is one of the biggest and potentially dangerous glacier lakes in Nepal. Scientists predict that an outburst flood would endanger thousands of lives and cost millions of dollars in economic losses.

[Best Practices in Financial Mechanisms for ICT for Development in Asia and the Pacific](#) (2006)

This report, "Best Practices in Financial Mechanisms for ICT for Development in Asia and the Pacific" offers examples of successful financing mechanisms for Information and communication technology (ICT) for development by government, private organizations, foundations, venture capitals and entrepreneurs, in order to further improve education, open source development, e-business, e-health and expand localized content.

[Asia-Pacific Countries Endorsed Regional MDG Road Map](#)

Asia-Pacific countries endorsed a regional road map aimed at helping poor countries falling behind to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. The endorsement came as the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) concluded its annual high level meeting on 23 May 2007 in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Member governments also adopted the *Almaty Declaration* on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the founding of UNESCAP. The Declaration "marks a milestone in reaffirming the central role of ESCAP in fostering regional and sub-regional cooperation," said Mr. Kim Hak-Su, Under-Secretary-General of United Nations and Executive Secretary of UNESCAP. In proposing the MDG road map, UNESCAP says that "not all developing countries are making adequate progress towards achieving the goals; and none are presently on track to meet all the goals by 2015". The road map aims to help countries get on-track by providing assistance in five areas: knowledge and capacity building; expertise; resources; advocacy; and regional cooperation in delivering public goods such as trans-boundary infrastructure and energy security.

Conferences, Events		
Date	Location	Event
Items newly added to this listing of events since the last SDI-AP issue are marked *NEW*		
June 2007		
2-9 June	Seoul, Korea	<u>International Association for Impact Assessment Conference 2007 (IAIA07)</u> , Abstract deadline: <u>January 31, 2007</u> .
3-6 June	St. Petersburg, Russia	International Conference on Globalization of Landscape Architecture: issues for education and practice , Contact: <u>imelnichuk@peterlink.ru</u> or <u>ignatiem@lincoln.ac.nz</u> . Abstract deadline: November 1, 2006.
5-7 June	Kazan, Russia	<u>GEOFORM+</u>
6-8 June	Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia	<u>Rivers 2007: 2nd International Conference on Managing Rivers in the 21st Century Solutions Towards Sustainable River Basins</u> , Deadline for papers submission: <u>January 31, 2007</u> . Contact: <u>rivers2007@gmail.com</u> .
6-9 June *NEW*	London, UK	<u>EUREF 2007 Symposium</u>
7-9 June	Prague, Czech Republic	<u>FIG Commission 2 Workshop – Scientia Est Potentia – Knowledge is Power</u>
11-13 June *NEW*	Rosemont, IL, U.S.A.	<u>GPS World Conference & Expo</u> , Contact: <u>pchan@questex.com</u>
12-13 June	Bangalore, India	<u>Location India 2007, 3rd International Conference and Exhibition on Vehicle Tracking, Location Intelligence and Surveying</u>
12-15 June	Seoul, Korea	<u>13th PCGIAP meeting</u> , Contact: PCGIAP Secretariat: <u>sec@pcgiap.org</u>



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



12-18 June	Okinawa, Japan	21st Pacific Science Congress , Theme: Diversity and Change: Challenges and Opportunities for Managing Natural and Social Systems in Asia-Pacific. Abstract deadline: <u>January 15, 2007</u> . Contact: PSC Secretariat, psc21@to.jim.u-ryukyu.ac.jp .
13-15 June	Enschede, Netherlands	WG II/7 Workshop 5th International Symposium on Spatial Data Quality Submission of abstract: <u>15 November 2006</u> , Early registration deadline: <u>15 March 2007</u> .
14-16 June	Istanbul, Turkey	RAST 2007 3rd International Conference on Recent Advances in Space Technologies , E-mail: yucel@nik.com.tr
15-16 June * NEW *	Auckland, New Zealand	Electricity Engineers' Association (EEA) Conference 2007
16 June	San Diego, California	5th Annual Survey and GIS Summit
16-19 June * NEW *	San Diego, CA, U.S.A.	ESRI's 2007 Survey & Engineering GIS Summit
18-20 June * NEW *	Ankara, Turkey	"ICT Impact on Municipal Service Development: Towards E-Government" and Exhibition on "ICT and Achievements of Islamic Capitals and Cities Municipalities" - Organization of Islamic Capitals and Cities (OICC) 9th International Scientific Symposium
18-21 June	San Diego, California	27th Annual ESRI International User Conference
18-19 June	San Diego, California	7th Annual ESRI Education User Conference
20-27 June	Yokohama, Japan	Geoinformation Forum Japan 2007 Contact: geoforum@jsurvey.jp .
25-28 June * NEW *	Beijing, China	Second Global Conference On Economic Geography , Contact: geoywc@nus.edu.sg
25-29 June * NEW *	San Jose, Costa Rica	32nd International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment , Contact: isrse_32@conare.ac.cr
27-29 June	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	Good Land Administration – Its Role in the Economic Development, Abstracts deadline: <u>2 April 2007</u>
28-29 June * NEW *	Yokohama, Japan	P2C2 Japan 2007
29 June – 5 July	Huhhot, China	2008 Joint Meeting of the International Grassland Congress and the International Rangeland Congress (2008 IGC/IRC) , Contact: secretariat2008@hotmail.com . Abstract deadline: <u>1 June 2007</u> .
July 2007		
2-6 July	Wellington, New Zealand	Antarctica: 50 Years on the Ice – Just the Tip of the Iceberg
2-13 July	Perugia, Italy	IAG/IUGG Conference. IUGG XXIV General Assembly
4-6 July	Auckland, New Zealand	Pacific Asia Conference on Information Systems (PACIS) , Submission deadline: <u>March 3, 2007</u> .
4-6 July	Porto, Portugal	13th Edition of the EC GI & GIS Workshops , Contact: Rui Pedro Juliao, Prof. Dr. Rui Pedro Juliao
5-7 July	Yokohama, Japan	Geoinformation Forum Japan 2007 , Contact: geoforum@jsurvey.jp
10-12 July	Kuching, Malaysia	5th International Conference on IT in Asia (CITA '07) , Theme: Social computing: engaging communities. Abstract deadline: extended to <u>December 31, 2006</u> .
10-13 July	Hong Kong	4th International Conference on Population Geographies Abstract deadline: <u>20 December 2006</u> .
13 July	Brisbane, Australia	Spatial Information for Water Resource Management Workshop , Abstract deadline: <u>May 7, 2007</u> .



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



15-20 July	Cambridge, England	Cambridge Conference for national mapping organisations
19-20 July	Sydney, Australia	Banksia Forum , Contact: banksiaforumrego@emgevents.com.au
19-20 July	Canberra, Australia	The 2nd Annual GovTech Summit , Contact: registration@informa.com.au
23-27 July * NEW *	Vancouver, BC, Canada	GeoWeb 2007 , Contact: info@geoweb.org
23-27 July * NEW *	Barcelona, Spain	International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium 2007
25-27 July	Christchurch, New Zealand	International Transport Conference 2007
30 July - 4 August	Bangkok, Thailand	Asia Oceania Geosciences Society, 4th Annual Meeting , Abstract deadline: <u>15 February 2007</u> , Contact: info@asiaoceania.org
August 2007		
1-3 August	Beijing, China	7th International Workshop of Geographical Information System , Contact: iwgis@lreis.ac.cn
4-10 August	Moscow, Russia	XXIII ICA International Cartographic Conference Contact: info@icc2007.com .
12-14 August	Khanty-Mansijsk, Russia	INTERCARTO-INTERGIS 13 Sustainable Development of Territories: GIS Theory and Practice , Contact: svv@npc-monitoring.ru
13-16 August	Bangkok, Thailand	4th International Conference on Computer Graphics, Imaging & Visualization 'CGIV07' , Contact: banisse@lsbu.ac.uk
14-15 August	Canberra, Australia	Spatially Enabled Government Conference
14-16 August	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Map Asia 2007 , Abstract deadline: <u>15 May 2007</u> . Contact: info@mapasia.org
14-16 August * NEW *	Canberra, Australia	Spatially Enabled Government
15-21 August	Honiara, Solomon Islands	PacINET 2007 Deadline for registrations of interest: <u>April 30, 2007</u> . Contact: rajnesh.singh@gmail.com
18-24 August	Chun-cheon, Korea	9th Asian Urbanization Conference , Abstract deadline: <u>March 31, 2007</u>
20-24 August	Yellowknife, N.W.T. Canada	IPY GeoNorth 2007 - First International Circumpolar Conference on Geospatial Sciences and Applications
20-25 August	Visby, Sweden	VII International Conference on Easter Island and the Pacific , Includes a session on GIS and Computer Applications in Island Landscapes.
21-22 August	Petaling Jaya, Malaysia	Geography 2007 Conference , Contact: Prof. Dr. Hamirdin Ithnin, geogconference07@um.edu.my .
21-25 August * NEW *	Harbin, China	International Disaster Reduction Conference (IDRC-Harbin) 2007
26-27 August * NEW *	Harbin, China	2nd China Workshop on Information System of Crisis Response and Management (ISCRAM-CHINA 2007)
26-30 August * NEW *	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.	The 2007 International Conference on Computational Science and Its Applications (ICCSA 2007)
28-29 August	Urumchi, Xinjiang, China	ISPRS Workshop on Updating Geo-spatial Databases with Imagery & 5th ISPRS Workshop on DMGIS (1st call) Deadline for abstracts: <u>1 February 2007</u> . Deadline for extended abstracts: <u>February 1, 2007</u> . Contact: Dr. Jie JIANG, jjie@nsdi.gov.cn , jiangjie_263@263.net .
29 August - 1 September	Bakosurtanal; Jakarta	2nd Indonesian Geospatial Technology Exhibition



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



Early August	Beijing, China	7th International Workshop of Geographical Information Systems (IWGIS'07) , Deadline for papers: January 1, 2007.
September 2007		
3-6 September	Brisbane, Australia	10th International River Symposium and Environmental Flows Conference Abstract deadline: 31 January 2007.
3-6 September * NEW *	Portsmouth, United Kingdom	Society of Cartographers Summer School 2007 Contact: soc-summer-school@port.ac.uk
3-7 September * NEW *	Stuttgart, Germany	51st Photogrammetric Week , Contact: Martina Kroma, martina.kroma@ifp.uni-stuttgart.de
5-6 September	Shangri-la, Hongkong	Location Asia 2007 , Contact: info@location.net.in
6-8 September	Helsinki, Finland	Seminar on Compulsory Purchase and Compensation , Organised by FIG Commission 9.
8-11 September	Lijiang, China	1st International Symposium on Geospatial Health , Theme: Geospatial Health and Control of Fish-borne Parasites in Asia
10-13 September	Chengdu, China	The Fourth International Conference on Debris-Flow Hazards Mitigation Organized by ICIMOD. Call for papers (Submittal of manuscripts for peer review): August 15, 2006.
10-17 September	Inner Mongolia, China	International Workshop on Environmental Changes and Sustainable Development in Arid and Semi-arid Regions , Contact: Xiaoping Yang, xpyang@263.net.cn , xpyang@mail.iccas.ac.cn . Abstract deadline: June 1, 2007.
11-13 September	Qingdao, China	2nd Global Conference on Large Marine Ecosystems
12-14 September	Warsaw, Poland	21st ENVIROINFO 2007 Environmental Informatics Meets Systems Research
17-18 September	Beijing, China	5th International Conference on Current and Future Trends in Bridge Design, Construction and Maintenance
17-23 September	Guangzhou and Three Gorges, China	2nd International Conference of GIS/RS in Hydrology, Water Resources and Environment (ICGRHWE'07) & 2nd International Symposium on Flood Forecasting and Management with GIS and Remote Sensing (FM2S'07) , Abstract deadline: March 31, 2007. Contact: hydrolab@zsu.edu.cn .
19-21 September	Munich, Germany	Photogrammetric Image Analysis (PIA) 2007
19-23 September	Melbourne, Australia	2007 Conference on Spatial Information Theory (COSIT) Contact: Stephan Winter, winter@unimelb.edu.au .
21-24 September	Nanjing, China	APAC 2007: The Fourth International Conference on Asian and Pacific Coasts Abstract deadline: December, 15, 2006. Contact: jfge@nhri.cn .
24-27 September	Victoria, Canada	2007 Free Open Source Software For Geospatial (FOSS4G) Conference
24-28 September	Budapest, Hungary	XIII ISM Congress
25-27 September	Chengdu, China	WG VII/6+7 Joint Conference on Techniques & Applications of Optical & SAR Imagery Fusion 'Mapping without the Sun' Contact: Jixian Zhang, zhangjx@casm.ac.cn .
25-27 September * NEW *	Leipzig, Germany	INTERGEO 2007 , Contact: info@hinte-messe.de
26-28 September * NEW *	Stockholm, Sweden	ESRI European User Conference (EUC07) , Contact: info@euc2007.com
October 2007		



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



1-2 October * NEW *	Palisades, NY, USA	Global Roads Workshop: Developing Useable Data for Tomorrow's Needs , The workshop is by invitation only; interested individuals may contact Alex de Sherbinin at Adesherbinin (a) cieszyn.columbia.edu.
1-3 October	Mandaluyong, Philippines	International Conference on the Millennium Development Goals Statistics (ICMDGS)
1-3 October * NEW *	Geneva (Carouge), Switzerland	ISGI 2007 2nd International CODATA Symposium on Generalization of Information , Contact: Horst Kremers, office@Horst-Kremers.de
2-5 October	Quebec City, Canada	GeoCongress Quebec 2007 Histoire de voir le monde and General Assembly of the Federation des Geometres Francophones
7-12 October	Christchurch, New Zealand	NZIS/South East Asian Survey Conference (SEASC) / CASLE Conference Contact: email: nzis@surveyors.org.nz
8-10 October * NEW *	Santander, Spain	CoastGIS 2007 , Contact: garrigamc@unican.es
15-17 October * NEW *	Sydney, Australia	ESRI Australia's 21st National Client Conference (OZRI 2007)
16-19 October	Dongying City, China	3rd International Yellow River Forum (IYRF) Sustainable Water Resources Management and Delta Ecosystem Maintenance, Abstract deadline: <u>October 31, 2006</u> . Contact: iyrf@yellowriver.gov.cn .
22-24 October	Beijing, China	4th International Conference on Agriculture Statistics (ICAS-4) World Bank Fund Application for this Conference , Contact: icas4@stats.gov.cn . Abstracts deadline: extended to 30 April 2007.
22-26 October * NEW *	Kocaeli, Turkey	International Earthquake Symposium Kocaeli 2007 , Contact: ertanpeksen@kou.edu.tr
28 October – 1 November	Perth, Western Australia	2nd IWA – ASPIRE , Contact: aspire@awa.asn.au
28 October – 2 November	Rajasthan, India	12th World Lakes Conference Contact: dalwani@taal2007.org , info@taal2007.org
28 October - 2 November	Christchurch, New Zealand	9th South-East Asian Survey Congress
29-31 October	Muscat, Oman	2007 ESRI Middle East & North Africa Users Conference Register online prior to October 4, 2007
November 2007		
6-8 November	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	International Symposium & Exhibition on Geoinformation/Global Navigation Satellite System (ISG/GNSS 2007) Contact: Dr. Md. Nor Kamaruddin, md.nor@fksg.utm.my , Deadline for abstracts: 30 April 2007
8-10 November	Hong Kong, SAR, China	4th International Symposium on LBS and TeleCartography . Organised by Department of Land Surveying and Geoinformatics of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and the Vienna University of Technology and co-sponsored by ICA and IAG commissions.
12-15 November	San Jose, Costa Rica	6th FIG Regional Conference
12-16 November	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	28th Asian Conference on Remote Sensing (ACRS 2007) , Abstract deadline: <u>July 16, 2007</u> . Contact: acrs2007@macres.gov.my .
15-17 November	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	WG VII/7 Workshop , Contact: Sultan Al Sultan, rsensing_2004@yahoo.com
20-30 November * UPDATED *	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	WG I/6 Workshop on Earth Observation Small Satellites for Remote Sensing Applications Contact: Mazlan Hashim, mazlan@fksg.utm.my
21-24 November	Cairns, Australia	Hydro 2007 & Trade Exhibition - Focus on Asia : Meeting the Interface Challenges of the Littoral Zone. Ocean Mapping Group – Multibeam Echosounder Course, Contacts: john.maschke@hydro.gov.au



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



27-29 November	Perth, Australia	ESA 2007 Annual Conference
28-30 November * NEW *	Singapore	ESRI South Asia User Conference
29-30 November * NEW *	Berlin, Germany	CODATA International Symposium on LandCover Logic , Contact: office@Horst-Kremers.de
29-30 November * NEW *	Mexico City, Mexico	Second International Conference on Geospatial Semantics (GeoS 2007) , Paper deadline: <u>June 15, 2007</u> .
December 2007		
2-4 December * NEW *	Muscat, Oman	4th International Conference on Wadi Hydrology , Abstract deadline: <u>30 June 2007</u> .
4-6 December	Moscow, Russia	3rd International conference "Earth from space - The Most Effective Solutions" Contact: conference@scanex.ru . Abstract deadline: <u>September 20, 2007</u> .
10-12 December	Bahrain	2007 Middle East Spatial Technology Conference & Exhibition , Abstract deadline: <u>28 February 2007</u> .
12-14 December	Delft, Netherlands	3D Geoinfo07. 2nd International Workshop on 3D Geo-Information : Requirements, Acquisition, Modeling, Analysis, Visualization. Contact: 3Dgeoinfo07@tudelft.nl
17-19 December	Trivandrum, India	Trans Asiatic GIS Society Conference on GIS "b-GIS@Asia" , Contact: bqisasia.info@tagsasia.org
January 2008		
January	Valencia, Spain	Commission 3 Annual Meeting and Workshop "Spatial Information in Environmental Management" , Organized by FIG Commission 3
12-15 January	Jinju, Korea	6th International Symposium on City Planning and Urban Management in Asian Countries , Deadline date of abstract: <u>15 April 2007</u> .
17-18 January * NEW *	Tokyo, Japan	ESRI Asia Pacific User Conference
22-24 January * NEW *	New Delhi, India	Map India
February 2008		
5-8 February	Sydney, Australia	Global Workshop on High Resolution Digital Soil Sensing & Mapping , Contact: viscarra-rossel@usyd.edu.au .
25-29 February * NEW *	St. Augustine, Trinidad	GSDI 10: Tenth International Conference for Spatial Data Infrastructure , Call for workshop: <u>1 June 2007</u> , Call for paper: <u>15 September 2007</u> .
March 2008		
12-14 March * UPDATED *	Perth, Western Australia	WALIS International Forum 2008 - Management of Geographic Information , Contact: David Lee Steere, davidls@walis.wa.gov.au . Abstract deadline: <u>28 September 2007</u> .
May 2008		
10-14 May	Lisbon, Portugal	13th FIG Symposium on Deformation Measurements and Analysis (WG 6.1) with the 4th IAG Symposium on Seodesy for Geotechnical and Structural Engineering (SC 4.2) – Measuring the Change
June 2008		
14-19 June	Stockholm, Sweden	FIG XXXI General Assembly and Working Week Contact: FIG Office, fig@fig.net .
July 2008		
1-5 July	Beijing, China	Spatial Accuracy 2008 Contact: accuracy2008@spatial-accuracy.org .
3-11 July	Beijing, China	XXI ISPRS Congress Contact: Chen Jun, congressdirector@isprs2008-beijing.org .



Spatial Data Infrastructure - Asia and the Pacific Newsletter



3-11 July	Beijing, China	4th International Symposium on Geospatial Information for Disaster Management (Gi4DM 2008) , Contact: Sisi Zlatanova, s.zlatanova@otb.tudelft.nl .
August 2008		
5-15 August	Oslo, Norway	33rd International Geological Congress (IGC)
September 2008		
29 September–3 October	Darwin, Australia	14th Australasian Remote Sensing & Photogrammetry Conference (ARSPC)
October 2008		
13-17 October	Nanjing, China	4th World Urban Forum , Organized by UN-Habitat.
May 2009		
3-8 May	Eilat, Israel	FIG Working Week and XXXII General Assembly – New Horizons across the Red Sea – Surveyors Key Role in Accelerated Development , Contact: fig@fig.net
June 2009		
15-19 June * NEW *	Rotterdam, The Netherlands	11th International Conference on Global Spatial Data Infrastructure (GSDI 11)
August 2009		
2-15 August	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	XXVII General Assembly of the International Astronomical Union
April 2010		
9-16 April	Sydney, Australia	International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) 2010 , Contact: info@isaust.org.au
April/May 2010		
April/May	Marrakech, Morocco	FIG Working Week and General Assembly
May 2010		
May	Hong Kong	FIG Working Week 2012

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