

# Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Latin America and the Caribbean Newsletter

SDI-LAC

October 2009

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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.



[GSDI Definition](#)

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

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## Message from the Editor

Now, SDI-LAC Newsletter is available in Portuguese! Portuguese Translation of SDI-LAC is possible thanks to Eduardo Freitas-Oliveira, a cartographic engineer, MSc in GIS, editor of MundoGEO Web Portal and InfoGEO Magazine.

Due to an increasing volume of information on events, the respective section will be restricted to those events taking place in the Americas. However, for "The Rest of the World: Conferences, SDI Events", please find a link to upcoming events of global or major international interest in GSDI webpage at: <http://www.gsdi.org/events/upcnf.asp>

We kindly inform that SDI-LAC Newsletter is taking correspondent members in each country of the LAC region. Next issues will include their contributions. If you would like to become a correspondent for your country please contact Nancy Aguirre [cnaguirre@ipgh.org](mailto:cnaguirre@ipgh.org). In principle the only requirement is that you are an active member in the Spatial Data Infrastructure activities of your country.

If you have news or information related to GIS, remote sensing, and Spatial Data Infrastructure that you would like to highlight (e.g., projects, conferences, workshop announcements, publications, reports, websites of interest, etc.), kindly send them in. We would be happy to include them in the newsletter. We also encourage you to send to the editor your comments and suggestions for the continuous improvement of SDI-LAC Newsletter. **PLEASE share this newsletter with colleagues who may find the information useful, and ideally they will subscribe themselves.**

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](mailto:cnaguirre@ipgh.org)

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## Input to this Issue

### Thank you for their contributions to this issue of the SDI-LAC newsletter to:

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Carmelle J. Terborgh	Federal/Global Affairs Team Lead and Account Manager, ESRI, Washington DC, USA
Éamonn Ó Tuama	Senior Programme Officer, Inventory, Discovery, Access (IDA), Global Biodiversity Information Facility Secretariat, Copenhagen, Denmark
Dawn Wright	Professor, Department of Geosciences, Oregon State University, USA
Kenneth Young	Professor and Chair, Department of Geography and the Environment, University of Texas at Austin, USA

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## SDI News, Links, Papers, Presentations

### [Brazil chairs PC-IDEA during the 2009-2013 period](#)

Fuente: <http://www.concar.ibge.gov.br/>



At the meeting of the Permanent Committee for Geospatial Data Infrastructure for the Americas ([PC-IDEA](#)) held during the "Ninth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas (UNRCCA)" on August 10-14, 2009 in New York, was elected the new Steering Board for the next four years:

President: Luiz Paulo Souto Fortes (Brazil)

Vice President: Mario Alberto Reyes Ibarra (Mexico)

Vocal in South America: Cristian Aqueveque Iglesias (Chile)

Vocal in Central America: Ronald Estuardo Arango (Guatemala)

Vocal in the Caribbean: Eloy Luis Alum Ortiz (Cuba)

Vocal in North America: Ivan Deloatch (USA)

It is increasingly important SDIs support in the Americas to achieve solutions to regional problems, consequently, it was acknowledged the need of having a Regional Data and Themes Policy Document similar to that of the European Union's initiative INSPIRE. For more information please log on to:

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/METHODS/CARTOG/unrcca.htm> and <http://www.cp-idea.org/nuevoSitio/indice.html>

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## Central American countries exchanged experiences on Regional Environmental Information Strategy

Source: CATHALAC Communication



Countries participating in the Environmental Cooperation Agreement (ECA) of the FTA between the United States, Central America and Dominican Republic (DR-CAFTA) advanced in the development of the Regional Strategy for Environmental Information Systems, whose overall objective is to support the citizen's participation in environmental management processes, enhancing information systems in the countries of the region. The results of this regional project include the Citizens Guide for Access to Environmental Information, Monitoring System for Environmental Impact Assessment for the National Environmental Technical Secretariat (SETENA) in Costa Rica, and the

Regional Strategy Proposal on Environmental Information Systems for countries participating in the Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA). These products were presented at a Regional Workshop in San Jose, Costa Rica on 21 and 22 September, with participation of environmental focal points and experts in environmental information systems. More information at:

[http://www.cathalac.org/CAFTA\\_DR\\_sistema\\_información\\_ambiental](http://www.cathalac.org/CAFTA_DR_sistema_información_ambiental)

[http://www.cathalac.org/DR\\_CAFTA\\_environmental\\_information\\_system](http://www.cathalac.org/DR_CAFTA_environmental_information_system)

Contact: Jennifer Croston, International Cooperation and Development Officer, CATHALAC, E-mail: [jennifer.croston@cathalac.org](mailto:jennifer.croston@cathalac.org) Telephone+ 507-3173200 ext. 245, Fax +507-3173299

## Regional SDI Forums are being installed, Brazil

Fuente: <http://www.concar.ibge.gov.br/>



During the months of September to October in the context of the National Commission of Cartography (in Spanish CONCAR) of Brazil, the installation of Regional Forums are taking place. Since August 1, 2008 regional representatives became members of CONCAR, one from each geographical region of the country. In addition to participating in discussions and plenary sessions of CONCAR these representatives should be the link of CONCAR with the states of the respective regions. For this to happen effectively the installation of regional forums began after the five first representatives were appointed by the National Council of State Planning Secretaries (in Portuguese CONSEPLAN). Thereafter, each forum will define its rules of procedure, among other things, the form of election of the Coordinator of the Forum. On September 15 the first installed forum was the Northeast Region. The meeting was held in Aracaju - Sergipe (SE) and was attended by the states of Alagoas, Bahia, Pernambuco, Bahia, Ceara, Rio Grande do Norte, Sergipe, and SE CONCAR's team, and highlighted the importance of the region's integration to participate in discussions and creation of documents and regulations that guide mapping in the country, as well as the construction of SDIs. The Executive Secretary of CONCAR, Luiz Paulo Souto Fortes, attended the meeting and left very satisfied by engaging in the Northeast to be the first region to deploy the Forum and contribute to the goals of CONCAR aimed at updating and ensuring the integrity of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (in Portuguese INDE). The seven states who attended proved to be acting in the geospatial information. The city of Natal was chosen to host the next meeting of the region, that will be held during the second half of October.

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## Now available Report on the First Belize National Spatial Data Infrastructure Conference

Source: Report on the First BNSDI Conference by way of Santiago Borrero

On July 29th and 30th, the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment through the Land and Surveys Department held the First Conference on Belize's National Spatial Data Infrastructure (BNSDI) in San Ignacio, Belize. The event, which marks the start of a 21-months process, was co-sponsored by the Pan American Institute of Geography and History, Galen University, The Water Center for the Humid Tropics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Institute of Statistics and Geography from Mexico. The goal was to establish a functioning NSDI with clearly articulated policies, standards, and procedures for the maintenance of data quality and data sharing, and the people and technologies to enable the use of the quality data in decision making and workflows across the public, private, and non-government sectors. The report details



the objectives of the conference, namely, to prepare the participating organizations for the formulation of an implementation plan for the Belize National Spatial Data Infrastructure, and to get their commitment to engage the process. All presentations may be downloaded from [www.belizensdi.org](http://www.belizensdi.org). After the presentations, four workgroups were established inside the conference to address different themes and subthemes concerning the BNSDI (i.e. Metadata design and creation; Data ownership and security; Infrastructure design and implementation; and System maintenance and oversight), which prepared a PowerPoint presentation of their discussions that may be obtained at [www.belizensdi.org](http://www.belizensdi.org) along with the other presentations. The final component of the conference was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and the establishment of working committees. The MOU provides a way to document commitment to the plan development process and the implementation of a viable plan, while the working committees provide an opportunity to help to develop aspects of the implementation plan. The MOU outlines a 21 month timeline for the establishment of a functional NSDI for Belize. To sign the MOU on behalf of your organization or on your own behalf, please contact Mr. Edgar Ek at the Land Information Center, Lands and Survey Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment of Belize [lic@mnrei.gov.bz](mailto:lic@mnrei.gov.bz). The original copy of the MOU will be lodged in the files of the Land Information Center, and a copy will be furnished to all signatories. There is no deadline to sign on to the MOU, though the target date for completion of the draft implementation plan is the end of October 2009. During the conference it was decided the establishment of four working committees and an executive committee. The working committees are: (i) Data Quality and Data Standards; (ii) The NSDI Network Architecture and Platform Standards; (iii) Maintenance and Oversight; and (iv) Data Ownership, Access and Security. Terms of reference are being prepared for each committee that will build on the work done by the workgroups during the conference. Some participants of the conference volunteered for the working committees but there are still room for members. The complete Report on the First Belize National Spatial Data Infrastructure Conference, including the current memberships of the various committees, and the MOU on Partnership and Cooperation in the Creation of Belize NSDI may be found [here](#).

## [ONE launches maps of the National Cartographic Digitization and Update Project, Dominican Republic](#)



Source: <http://www.one.gob.do/>

The National Statistical Office (in Spanish ONE) launched new Urban Municipal-Administrative and National Political 2009 digital maps, of the National Cartographic Digitization and Update Project. The goal is to complete by the end of the year, 100% of 384 urban areas of the country. Since 2005, ONE has been conducting census maps in order to update, digitize and make them interoperable, as to obtain the required products for planning, operation and dissemination of the Ninth National Population and Housing Census 2010. "Parallel to this effort, we continue to work with

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procedures for a continuous updating of digital mapping, which relies mainly on the Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI), a tool that we are working with other state institutions, envisioning to have a single source of updated territorial data for the Dominican State in the medium term, thus avoiding higher costs on maintenance, systems implementation, and upgrades, among others," said Pablo Tactuk, Director of the National Statistics Office during his speech. Tactuk also pointed out that the ONE is working on the implementation phase of a map server with interactive mapping information by the end of this year, which will allow greater functionality between users and georeferenced statistical information, making it easier for local governments and state institutions to use this information for better management and territorial planning; this will also allow the community to have an integrated view of their cities. More information: <http://www.one.gob.do/>

### Province of Tucumán's SDI, Argentina

Source: Newsletter IDE Iberoamerica Volume 5 No. 8



Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) of the Province of Tucumán is a tool that allows all users to access georeferenced information from different sources, thus creating a basis for searching, viewing, analyzing and applying spatial data. Thanks to Web Map Server (WMS) technology, it was developed a platform for dynamic operation of spatial information via Internet, available to all users anytime and anywhere. Thus, the Tucumán province complies with its commitment on ensuring the citizen's right of access to information by making available to the entire society the information produced by its various divisions. More information: <http://estadistica.tucuman.gov.ar/idetucuman/index.php>

### Chile and Argentina sign Space Cooperation Agreement

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

The National Commission on Space Activities of Argentina (in Spanish CONAE) and the Natural Resource Information Center (in Spanish CIREN) of Chile signed a cooperation agreement aimed at boosting capacity building on transforming spatial information into high value added products, and to transfer these products to different economic sectors. "This agreement will allow the joint development of research on natural and productive assets, and opens a means for exchanging satellite images, and for Chilean professionals to be trained at the "Mario Gulich" Institute for Space Studies" said Rodrigo Alvarez, executive director of CIREN. In order to implement these cooperation programs, both parties will give priority to spatial information applications, particularly remote sensing and GIS, emergency management, natural resource administration, agricultural and forestry applications, environment, Andean resource monitoring, world and national heritage conservation, human health, recreation and tourism.

### District University and National Parks join ICDE, Colombia

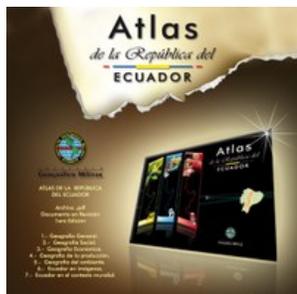
Source: <http://www.icde.org.co/>

By the end of August, 2009 two important organizations officially joined the Colombian Spatial Data Infrastructure (in Spanish ICDE). These organizations are the Special Administrative Unit of the National Parks System of Colombia, responsible for administering the National Parks System and the coordination of the National Protected Areas System (in Spanish SINAP), and the



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University "Distrital Francisco Jose de Caldas", one of most prestigious in the country. This is a major effort being conducted within ICDE to produce, share and optimize the use of geographic information to support Colombia's development.



### [National Atlas of Ecuador for online review](#)

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

The Military Geographic Institute through the Thematic Studies Management Office and supported by the National Secretariat of State Planning has developed the Atlas of the Republic of Ecuador, which includes social, economic and environmental topics. The purpose of the Atlas is to publish a document by maintaining and organizing a large number of systematized (digital) thematic cartographic information. Since this is accomplished with support of several institutions, the Atlas is shared with the wider community for obtaining comments or suggestions in order to improve the final publication. The various components of the Atlas are arranged on-line [here](#).

### [Experts from Chile and Canada Discussed Establishment of a Geomatics Research Center](#)

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

In order to create a Research and Development Center on Geomatics for Chile, a delegation of GEOIDE, an agency of the University of Laval, Canada, visited the country for over a week. Along with showcasing the work of research groups in the regions, they held workshops with representatives of scientific and public agencies, and with solution-developer-based technology products and geomatics industries. This project is based on the association of Chilean scientific organizations and the financing of Innova Chile for the creation of excellence centers to support the country's competitiveness. GEOIDE's Scientific Director, Nicholas Chrisman, highlighted specific benefits that may be offered by geomatics to the Chilean economy and society. "This is a technology that requires local information and local skills. It is not a science that can be done in a laboratory located anywhere: our basic principle is to meet the local needs of each country," he said. More information on the following link: [http://www.geoide.ulaval.ca/home\\_EN.html](http://www.geoide.ulaval.ca/home_EN.html)

### [Geomatics Week 2009, Colombia](#)

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

The Geographic Institute "Agustin Codazzi" will host on October 26-30 in Bogota, Colombia the Geomatics Week 2009: Geospatial Knowledge Access. This event is free. More information: <http://www.cce.gov.co/web/guest/geomatica2009>. Contact: [semanageomatica2009@igac.gov.co](mailto:semanageomatica2009@igac.gov.co)



### **Pedro Corrêa - Invited to Participate in Training on the GBIF Integrated Publishing Toolkit**

Source: Bonnie C. Carroll



free and open access to biodiversity data

**GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION FACILITY**

We are pleased to announce that Doctor Pedro Luiz Pizzigatti Corrêa, a Professor at the Computer Engineering Department, School of Engineering of the University of São Paulo, has been invited to attend the IPT Helpdesk Experts Workshop on the Global Biodiversity Information Facility's Integrated Publishing Toolkit (IPT), that was held in Copenhagen (DK), 14-16 September 2009. The GBIF IPT is a software platform developed by the GBIF Secretariat to facilitate efficient publishing of three kinds of biodiversity data onto the Internet using the GBIF Network: (1) taxon primary occurrence data (information on the distribution of species), (2) taxonomic names and checklists and (3) dataset metadata (descriptions of datasets, its contents, contact information, etc.). The IPT improves on the existing

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tools and services in terms of ease of use, data quality assessment, new data interfaces and increased visibility for the resources published, among other advantages. This Workshop is a contribution to the creation of a distributed helpdesk system, as stated in the GBIF Work Programme 2009-2010 (<http://www2.gbif.org/WP2009-10.pdf>). The participants in the Workshop will take part in discussions in the IPT mailing list and provide assistance in their own regions and languages by disseminating the knowledge acquired through remote communications, presentations, courses and workshops. Contact Information: Prof. Dr. Pedro Luiz Pizzigatti Corrêa, Agricultural Automation Laboratory (LAA), Computer Engineering Department, School of Engineering of University of São Paulo (USP), Brazil; e-mail: [pedro.correa@usp.br](mailto:pedro.correa@usp.br) São Paulo-SP, Brazil. Zip:05508-900. Phone: 55+11+3091-5366 Fax: 55+11+3091-5294

### Public Review of TAPIR Commenced

Source: Éamonn Ó Tuama by way of Santiago Borrero

The group on Biodiversity Information Standards (TDWG) has announced the commencement of the Public Review of the TDWG Access Protocol for Information Retrieval TAPIR, a method for sharing biodiversity information. Since being officially put forward as a draft, TAPIR has undergone a peer review, a review by the TDWG Executive and multiple revisions. TDWG invites all who may contribute and/or consume biodiversity information to examine this proposed standard during the Public Review period until the **10th November** 2009. For more information on how to participate please log on to [GBIF Website](#).

### ESRI International UC

Source: Carmelle J. Terborgh

The dates for the future ESRI International User Conferences are the following: July 12–16, 2010; July 11 – 15, 2011; July 23 – 27, 2012; July 8 – 12, 2013; July 14 – 18, 2014; and July 20 – 24, 2015

All conferences will be held in San Diego, California, USA. For more information please log on to : [www.esri.com](http://www.esri.com)



### FIG Congress 2010 - Deadline for abstract submission has been extended until 8 October 2009

Source: <http://www.fig2010.com/> by way of Santiago Borrero

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A promotional banner for the XXIV FIG International Congress 2010. The left side features a photograph of the Sydney Opera House and the Sydney Harbour Bridge. The right side has a red background with white text and graphics. The text includes "FIG SYDNEY 2010", "XXIV FIG International Congress 2010", "Facing the Challenges - Building the Capacity", "Sydney Convention &amp; Exhibition Centre", and "11-16 April 2010 Sydney, Australia". There are also several white stars of varying sizes scattered across the red background.

XXIV FIG International Congress 2010: Facing the Challenges - Building the Capacity; Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Sydney Australia, 11 - 16 April 2010.

Deadline for abstracts extended until 8 October 2009: You can still attend this main FIG Congress and the biggest surveying congress in Asia and the Pacific in 2010 as a speaker. The deadline for submitting abstract proposals for non peer review papers has been extended until **8 October** 2009. Please send your abstract now! The FIG 2010 Congress is the perfect opportunity for you to publicise your project or research, or promote your ideas or institution, or

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discuss your ideas before a global audience from 100 countries. For more details on submitting a paper for the Congress, please [click here](#) or submit the abstract directly [here](#)  
Congress Prize: Under 36? Thinking of submitting a paper? Don't forget about the substantial and generous FIG Congress Prize for Young Surveyors! [Click Here](#) for details (Application Deadline: **November 30**, 2009).

### AAG-sponsored sessions on place names and gazetteers

Fuente: UCGIS list



The Association of American Geographers (AAG) is sponsoring a special set of sessions at its upcoming Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, to held on April 14-18, 2010, on the geography of place names and the related topic of gazetteers. Place names and the geographies attached to them evolve over time and space and are of great interest - and importance- to geographers, historians, archeologists, census takers, and anyone working with place-based data over time. This special sequence of sessions will open with a panel session led by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names and will follow with other related sessions.

#### AAG Special Sessions on Geography and Place Names:

- U.S. Board on Geographic Names – Current Needs and Future Trends
- The international coordination of place names
- Private sector and web-based place name trends
- Historical GIS and temporally-enabled global gazetteers

The AAG welcomes paper abstracts on these topics and others, including: Place name conventions, Place names and history, Place names and the construction of identity, Technology and place name gazetteers, Place names and censuses, Place name struggles. If you are interested in participating in these sessions, please submit a 250 word abstract no later than October 28, 2009 to Megan Overbey at [moverbey@aag.org](mailto:moverbey@aag.org)

### 10th UNGIWG plenary meeting

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



The 10th UNGIWG plenary meeting will take place in Bonn, Germany (19-21 October 2009). For more information about this meeting please consult: <http://www.ungiwg.org/meeting2009.htm>

### 100 Years “The Photogrammetry Week Series”

Source: <http://www.vector1media.com/>

1909: In June, Dr. Carl Pulfrich sent out a call in the German Zeitschrift fuer Vermessungswesen (ZfV) to participate in a first “Vacation Course in Stereo Photogrammetry”. He, the founder of the stereo comparator realized that after the introduction of this versatile instrument for mapping (1901), some stimulus was needed to broaden the applications of terrestrial photogrammetry. The first course was organized by himself on a private basis and attracted 46 participants. It took place in Jena/Germany, from October 4th to 9th and offered lectures and Carl Zeiss’ instrument training for mapping applications. This first Photogrammetric Week started an amazing series of events, which is today the oldest symposium in geospatial technologies and attracts more than 400 participants from over fifty countries. Photogrammetry as scientific discipline has undergone several paradigm shifts – its methods and systems have changed completely over the last 100 years. Once called the science to avoid computing, today we may state the science of High Definition imaging and geospatial computing. The photogrammetric Week Series is a story of success,

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since 100 years! for this reason, the Photogrammetric Week '09, which is held traditionally in Stuttgart, from September 07 to 11. Following the structure of previously published proceedings of this biennial Scientific Symposium and Further Education Course, the following three topics are discussed at the 100th Anniversary: Image-based data collection; LiDAR: Airborne, terrestrial and mobile applications; and Value-Added photogrammetry. These main topics structure the event's book into four chapters (including an introductory chapter). We offer the book content on the IFP Web Server for Open Access.

### [FOSS4G in Australia: publication of presentations and early registration](http://www.mundogeo.com.br/)

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



A complete list of conference presentations for Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial (FOSS4G) to be held in Sydney, Australia on October 20-23, 2009 was announced. Abstracts by the world's best developers, policy makers, sponsors and professionals include the latest geospatial applications, standards, government programs, business processes and case studies. To view the complete abstracts' list please log on to: <http://2009.foss4g.org/presentations>.

### [On-line access to final program of the 6th ISDE](http://unsdihu.blogspot.com/)

Source: <http://unsdihu.blogspot.com/>



The final program of the 6th International Symposium on Digital Earth is available online at [www.ISDE6.org](http://www.ISDE6.org). The session on Spatial Data Infrastructure for Digital Earth took place on September 10, 2009. In this session devoted to SDI, Prof. Max Craglia and Alessandro Annoni, two of the prominent authors of the Discussion paper of the Vespucci Initiative delivered a lecture entitled From Today's SDI to the Next Generation Digital Earth(s). The original study, published in the IJSDR, is downloadable here:

<http://ijmdir.jrc.ec.europa.eu/index.php/ijmdir/article/viewFile/119/99> In the same session, HUNAGI-eSDI-NET+ representatives, Joachim Rix and SG of HUNAGI presented the SDIs evaluation methodology elaborated by the eSDI-NET+ project entitled International Networking and Exchange of Best Practices in SDIs

### [4th ISPRS Student Consortium Summer School - Downloads](http://isprs-ss.wl.sggw.pl/)

Source: <http://isprs-ss.wl.sggw.pl/>



The last International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) Student Consortium (SC) was held in Warsaw, Poland, from 13th to 19th July 2009. Its topic was: "Natural Environment Management, Monitoring and Conservation". Lecturers presentations and other files are now available for download at: <http://isprs-ss.wl.sggw.pl/node/130>

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## [World's First GeoDesign Summit to Explore GIS Technology and Design](#)

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

Professionals and academics will gather at ESRI headquarters in Redlands, California, January 6–8, 2010, for the first GeoDesign Summit. GeoDesign brings geographic information system (GIS) technology into any type of design process such as developing a community project or conducting scientific research. Participants will introduce the first generation of GeoDesign concepts, technologies, and tools, drawing from the international group's experience in a variety of disciplines. For more information, visit [www.geodesignsummit.com](http://www.geodesignsummit.com)

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## Articles and Publications of the Month

### [E-Government Forum OAS - Bulletin No. 48 September 2009](#)

Source: e-Government Forum OAS by way of Sergio Acosta y Lara



The online version of this Newsletter arises from an initiative of graduate students of the online course "Basic Concepts for Developing e-Government Strategies" offered by the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development of the Organization of American States in collaboration with different public and private institutions.

#### Excerpts from the Editorial:

This issue of OAS Forum on e-Government, dedicated to e-Government and Geographic Information Systems, includes testimony from executives, managers and experts, as well as contributions and references for comparative and articulated analysis. We hope that the content provides a better understanding of the remarkable potential of GIS to enhance capacities of governments to service citizens in the countries of the Americas. [It includes interviews with representatives of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Spain, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela. It also contains links suggested to those interested on Electronic Government and Geographic Information Systems. The full newsletter is available at [http://www.suboletin.com/contentsoea/docs/Boletin\\_48/PDF48.htm](http://www.suboletin.com/contentsoea/docs/Boletin_48/PDF48.htm)]

### [SNIT presents Interactive video on the National Spatial Information Catalog of Chile](#)

Source: <http://snitchile.blogspot.com/>

SNIT presents [interactive video](#) of the National Geospatial Information Catalog. It shows this tool, and its main uses and benefits. It also has instructions and recommendations regarding the creation of fact sheets and access to associated documentation.



### **UNOOSA/UN-SPIDER Promotional Movie**

Source: Michele Kasdano

We invite you to view our UNOOSA/UN-SPIDER promotional movie now posted on YouTube. Produced in April of this year, the movie embodies yet another step in the burgeoning UN-SPIDER awareness-raising campaign, capturing the essence of what UN-SPIDER is all about. It taps into our efforts and activities as part of the U.N. Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) framework, providing valuable insight into our programme and highlighting the ways in which we go about implementing our mandate. Additionally, it offers a brief overview of the disaster management and space

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communities, depicting ways in which these two can be brought together. Throughout this short video, you will also witness theory morph into practice, as it guides you through the sequence of events and UN-SPIDER's response following the Namibia 2009 floods. Moreover, it familiarizes the viewer with the unfolding version of the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal and with the means to navigate through the prospective Space Application Matrix. Finally, the movie introduces the people and minds behind UN-SPIDER and illustrates the ways in which their work has been contributing to the prominence and success of the UN-SPIDER Programme. You can locate it by accessing the link directly: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pAnEZU5BIXM> Those of you with a good internet connection (bandwidth) are encouraged to choose and view the High Definition (HD) version of the movie.

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### Geospatial Research and Applications

#### [Intra-Americas Study of Climate Processes](#)

Source: Kate Lance



The Intra-Americas Seas Climate Program (IASCLIP) is proposed for 2009-2014, as a new component of CLIVAR VAMOS (Climate Variability and Predictability -Variability of the American Monsoon System). The overarching goal is to estimate and exploit potential predictability of warm-season weather and climate in the region, mainly on intraseasonal to interannual time scales, based on improved understanding and modeling of relevant physical and dynamical processes. IASCLIP will also seek to link research to societal applications in the region. The Intra-Americas Sea (IAS) includes the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico. In this document, the IAS region is defined as a broad area covering the IAS itself, the adjacent lands, and the ocean off the west coast of Central America and northernmost South America. Understanding and predicting climate variability in the IAS region are important for a number of reasons. A Science and Implementation Plan for the Intra Americas Study of Climate Processes Prepared for the VAMOS Panel (March 2008) may be found at: [http://www.eol.ucar.edu/projects/iasclip/documentation/iasclip\\_prospectus\\_latest.pdf](http://www.eol.ucar.edu/projects/iasclip/documentation/iasclip_prospectus_latest.pdf)

#### Central America Fosters Tourist Information System

Source: Press Release CATHALAC



The Central American Tourism Integration Secretariat (in Spanish SITC) and the Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean (CATHALAC) signed an agreement to strengthen capacities of the National Tourism Administration (in Spanish NTA) on developing an online interactive mapping system for member countries of the Central American Tourism Council (in Spanish CCT). The interactive system is aimed at creating GIS-based query

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tools and tourist information services supported by The Mesoamerican Visualization and Monitoring System (SERVIR) established at CATHALAC with support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). "The tourism sector in Central America will have the opportunity to use resources provide by Earth Observation Systems in order to boost economic development in the region," said Africa Flores, Scientist Researcher and project manager, CATHALAC. For more information, visit:

[http://www.cathalac.org/turismo\\_centroamerica](http://www.cathalac.org/turismo_centroamerica); and [http://www.cathalac.org/tourism\\_central\\_america](http://www.cathalac.org/tourism_central_america). Contact: Jennifer Croston, International Cooperation and Development Officer, CATHALAC, E-mail: [jennifer.croston@cathalac.org](mailto:jennifer.croston@cathalac.org), Telephone + 507-3173200 ext. 245, Fax +507-3173299

### [New Atlas of the Patagonian Sea: Species and Spaces \(online\)](#)

Source: <http://snitchile.blogspot.com/>

Patagonia is a geographical region located in the southernmost part of South America, shared by Argentina and Chile. The sea that bathes these shores, is one of the richest marine areas of the Earth. The NGO's Wildlife Conservation Society and BirdLife International has recently published [Atlas of the Patagonian Sea: Species and Spaces](#). 25 scientists belonging to 13 organizations contributed to the Atlas. The database that underpins the maps contains more than 280,000 satellite locations for 16 species of birds and marine mammals.



### [That sinking feeling: world's deltas subsiding, says study](#)

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

Two-thirds of the world's major deltas, home to nearly half a billion people, are caught in the scissors of sinking land and rising seas, according to a study recently published. The new findings, based on satellite images, show that 85 percent of the 33 largest delta regions experienced severe flooding over the past decade, affecting 260,000 square kilometers (100,000 square miles). Worst hit will be Asia, but heavily populated and farmed deltas on every continent except Australia and Antarctica are in peril.

### [New W3C Group to Standardize Relational Database to RDF Mapping](#)

Source: <http://www.w3.org/>

W3C announces the new RDB2RDF Working Group, whose mission is to standardize a language for mapping relational data and relational database schemas into RDF and OWL, tentatively called the RDB2RDF Mapping Language, R2RML. From the beginning of the deployment of the Semantic Web there has been increasing interest in mapping relational data to the Semantic Web. This is to allow relational data to be combined with other data on the Web, to link semantics directly to relational data and to aid in enterprise data integration. The creation of this Working Group follows the work of a previous W3C Incubator Group in this area.

### [Innovation Honored by Harvard Kennedy School's Ash Institute for Improving Understanding of Water Usage in Agriculture](#)

Source: <http://ashinstitute.harvard.edu/>

The Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University today announced Idaho's [Mapping Evapotranspiration](#) program as a 2009 Innovations in American Government Award winner. Because over 90 percent of Idaho's water is used for irrigating agriculture and rainfall amounts remain low, regional water supply disputes continue to grow. In collaboration with the University of Idaho, Idaho's Department of Water Resources is the first government agency in the nation to develop and use satellite-based evapotranspiration imagery to enhance the understanding of agricultural water usage in the state. Such data is integral to settling water demand conflicts and offers more accurate and detailed mapping than previous estimates.

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## [GIS and Agent-based modeling Blog](#)

Source: <http://www.gisagents.blogspot.com/>

GIS and Agent-based modelling is written by Dr. Andrew Crooks, assistant professor at the Department of Computational Social Science which is part of the Krasnow Institute for Advanced Study at George Mason University; also a honorary research member at the Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis (CASA), University College London. It aims at highlighting and examining the latest advances in the fields of agent-based modelling and GIS. Research interests related to exploring, understanding and the communication of urban built and socio-economic environments using geographic information systems, spatial analysis, geovisualisation and agent-based modelling methodologies are included. For more information please log on to: <http://www.gisagents.blogspot.com/>

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## GIS Tools, Software, Data

## [Now available latest version of gvSIG](#)

Source: <http://snitchile.blogspot.com/>



This new version, 1.9, though unstable, is released for users' evaluation in order to detect possible errors. Main novelties of this version are: Advanced symbology, advanced labeling, raster extension tools, and CAD extension tools. You may download the new version of gvSIG at: <http://www.gvsig.gva.es/index.php?id=2115&L=0&K=1>

## [GeoTools 2.5.7 Released](#)

Source: <http://geotoolsnews.blogspot.com/>



The new version of GeoTools 2.5.7, is now available for download. While there are a number of new features included in this release, such as ArcSDE versioning and non-spatial table support and improvements to the performance and stability of filters and the next-generation JDBC datastores, there is more exciting news for this release. GeoTools is an open source (LGPL) Java code library which provides standards compliant methods for the manipulation of geospatial data, for example to implement Geographic Information Systems (GIS). The GeoTools library implements Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) specifications as they are developed.

## [RAPIDEYE Constellation First 100 Days](#)

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



imaged, often several times. All of the highest quality multi-spectral data acquired by the RapidEye system is now available in their Library. [www.rapideye.de](http://www.rapideye.de)

RapidEye, the only geospatial solutions provider to own and operate their constellation of Earth observation satellites, announced today that they have collected more than 69 Million square kilometers of at least 80% cloud-free images during their first 100 days of operation. The imaging campaigns were concentrated in Europe, the U.S., Brazil and China. More than 36 Million square kilometers of the Earth's surface, or about one quarter of the total landmass were

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## Training Opportunities

### [Fourth Congress on Cyber Society: Analog Crisis, Digital Future](#)

Source: OAS e-Government Forum



On November 2009 it will be held the Fourth Online Congress of Cyber Society, with the theme "Analog Crisis, Digital Future." The working group on "Challenges and opportunities for e-government in Latin America: the role of institutions", coordinated by Mila Gasco, J. Ignacio Criado, J. Rodrigo Córdoba and Carlos E. Jimenez, will aim to: a) review the development of e-Government in the Latin American countries, with special emphasis on the role of institutions; and b) increase the production, exchange and dissemination of knowledge and its potential beneficial effects in the region. More information at:

<http://www.cibersociedad.net/congres2009/es/gts/retos-y-oportunidades-para-el-gobierno-electronico-en-iberoamerica-el-papel-de-las-instituciones/19/>

### **Courses at the SIT, Argentina**

Source: Newsletter IDE Iberoamerica Volume 5, No. 8



Territorial Information System of Santa Cruz (SIT), will conduct the following courses during the month of October 2009 in Rio Gallegos, Santa Cruz, Argentina:

- Course on Metadata for Documenting Geographic information, October 23, 2009
- Course on Free software for Geographic Information Management, October 26-30, 2009

For more information and registration please contact: SIT Project Santa Cruz, Secretary General - Ministry of the Interior, Mariano Moreno 135 (9400), Rio Gallegos (Santa Cruz, Argentina), Tel: 02966-438258 int. 119 to 122, Fax: 02966-438258 int. 122 [www.sitsantacruz.com.ar](http://www.sitsantacruz.com.ar), e-mail: [sitsantacruz@santacruz.gov.ar](mailto:sitsantacruz@santacruz.gov.ar)

### **Lincoln Institute of Land Policy - Course on Informal Land Markets and Regularization in Latin America**

Source: Program on Latin America and the Caribbean

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy announces the seventh edition of the Course on Informal Land Markets and Regularization in Latin America, which will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from 29 November to 4 December, 2009 (Sunday to Friday), in collaboration with the Ministério das Cidades, as part of the National Capacitação das Cidades, and the Prefeitura Municipal da Cidade de Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Application is **October 11, 2009**. For more information, please log on to the course website at: <http://www.lincolninst.edu/education/education-coursedetail.asp?id=645>. Contact for questions and more information: Course contents: Claudio Acioly [Claudio.Acioly@unhabitat.org](mailto:Claudio.Acioly@unhabitat.org)/ General Inquiries: Marielos Marín [marielosmarin@yahoo.com](mailto:marielosmarin@yahoo.com)

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## University of West Florida – GIS Online Certificate Program

Source: <http://www.uwf.edu/>

The University of West Florida UWF ([www.uwf.edu/gis/gisonline](http://www.uwf.edu/gis/gisonline)) is accepting applications for its 100% online undergraduate and graduate GIS certificates.

This 24 credit hour/one year program is designed for students to learn a cutting-edge technology and gain practical experience working with GIS

related software 100% online. Students "go to class" on their own time to view lectures and complete weekly assignments through UWF eLearning. Now Accepting Applications for the 2010 Cohort.



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## Funding Opportunities, Awards, Support

### **2010 Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers (CLAG) meeting in Colombia: Student Awards**

Source: Eric Perramond by way of Kenneth Young and Gregory Knapp



These awards, are aimed at supporting field and archival work in Latin America, as well as to offset cost for attending the conference. The description, application form, and requisite supporting materials are all at the CLAG Website. Students must be members of CLAG to be eligible for these awards (but membership is very cheap). Application deadline is February 1, and February 15, 2010, respectively. For more information please see the CLAG website where the pdf version of these calls are available for download:

<http://sites.maxwell.syr.edu/clag/clag.htm>. The Center for Development Studies (CIDER) and the Department of History at Universidad de los Andes will be hosting the [2010 Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers \(CLAG\)](#) meeting in Bogotá from May 26th to May 28th 2010. It is in the process of setting up a webpage with information regarding the meeting, the University and the city. Please mark your calendars.

### **2009 URISA Student Paper Competition**

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



*The Association For* **GIS** *Professionals*



URISA is pleased to announce the winners of its 2009 Student Paper Competition. All three students will present their papers during [URISA's 47th Annual Conference in Anaheim](#). First Place was for Ko Ko Lwin, University of Tsukuba; Second place was for the Colombian Ph.D. student Diana María Contreras Mojica; and Third Place was for Calvin Tribby, University of New Mexico. Their articles may be found at <http://www.urisa.org/node/1291>.

Designing a Spatial Planning Support System for Rapid Building Damage Survey after an Earthquake: The Case of Bogota D.C., Colombia

By Diana María Contreras Mojica, Salzburg University

ABSTRACT: Damage assessment determines the safe condition of houses and buildings that were affected in a disaster. These elements must be inspected to determine if they can be occupied by people. The objective of the present research is to design a model for the planning of a rapid building damage survey after an earthquake and

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manage the spatial information collected. The model is built on by three sub-models aiming to estimate the number of trained people required, their spatial allocation and the right information flow. The combination of cadastral data and organizational issues will be the input, to estimate the number of trained people required. To allocate the trained people, five methods were applied: average number of parcels or blocks, euclidean allocation, multiple-ring-buffer, network analysis (service area), and route allocation. All the data required to respond in an emergency must be collected, updated and shared in order to have informed decisions. The results show wide ranges of values that can be utilized in the preparedness or in the response phase; the allocation methods can be used according to the data that every city has, but the highest level of accuracy comes from the route allocation method. The data must be available, updated and accessible to all the entities involved in the emergency response task, due to these reasons the research recommends the implementation of a Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) to manage the information and to predefine the meeting points to compile the collected information by using methods as mean center. Read Contreras paper at: <http://www.urisa.org/node/1291>

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### Employment Opportunities

#### [Census 2010: IBGE opens 33,012 positions for agents](#)

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



The Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (en portugués IBGE) released the announcement of the simplified selection process with jobs for 33,012 census agents, divided into: 400 vacancies for Regional Census Agents (RTAs), 558 for Administrative Census Agents (ACA), 6,722 for Municipalities' Census Agents (ACM), 23,900 for Census Agents' Supervisors (ACS), and 1,432 for Census Agents on Informatics (ACI), distributed in all 5,565 municipalities of Brazil. Table of vacancies by towns and work areas is available at the Foundation Cesgranrio website (<http://www.cesgranrio.org.br/eventos/concursos/ibge0509/ibge0109.html>). 5% of total vacancies are reserved for people with special needs. Registration will be open until **October 6**, 2009, and may be filed via Internet (<http://www.cesgranrio.org.br/eventos/concursos/ibge0509/ibge0109.html>) or by visiting the Municipalities' Registration Offices / Working Areas where candidate wish to job.

#### **IABIN Catalog Metadata Specialist and Resource Professional/**

Source: Luisa Fernanda Neira

Terms of Reference (ToRs) for the "IABIN Catalog Metadata Specialist and Resource" consultancy may be found [here](#). Please note that the deadline for submitting CVs is **October 30**, 2009. We would appreciate if you could please send the ToRs to interested individuals in your country. For questions, please contact Mike Frame ([mike\\_frame@usgs.gov](mailto:mike_frame@usgs.gov)) or Luisa Neira ([lneira@oas.org](mailto:lneira@oas.org)).

#### **Post-Doctoral Research Associate, University of Nebraska**

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

Applications are invited for a two-year post-doctoral position in the Community and Regional Planning Program at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, beginning immediately. This position is funded by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, and the major duty of this position is to develop a comprehensive area-specific habitat conservation plan for the federal endangered Salt Creek tiger beetle in Nebraska. The responsibilities include the development of a formal Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) following the guidelines and requirements outlined by the U.S. Fish and

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Wildlife Service. An HCP is an extensive planning process that encompasses data collection, spatial and statistical analysis, GIS mapping, zoning and regulatory evaluations, professional training, and preparation of technical reports. Applicants must have completed a Ph.D in planning, or wildlife biology, or conservation biology, or a related field prior to December 31, 2009. Review of applications will begin September 30, 2009 and continue until the position is filled. If you have any questions, please contact: Zhenghong Tang, Ph.D. Assistant Professor, Community and Regional Planning Program, College of Architecture, University of Nebraska–Lincoln, E-mail: [ztang2@unl.edu](mailto:ztang2@unl.edu); Webpage: <http://www.unl.edu/ztang2/>

### Software developer opening at Ecotrust

Source: Sea-GIS list by way of Dawn Wright

Ecotrust, an environmental organization in Portland, Oregon, is hiring a software developer as well as a Marine Planning Project Manager. The software development post includes a great deal of programming related to GIS and web, modeling and analysis. Solid development skills are key, but interest/experience in marine sciences/ planning, forestry and the other areas we work are great too. The Marine Planning Project Manager post requires familiarity with marine resource policy/management, GIS, data management principles, gathering local knowledge to inform nature resource management. See more info at <http://www.ecotrust.org/about/jobs.html>



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## Other

### CDERA is now CDEMA

Source: NEMO News



The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) will formally become the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) on September 1, 2009. This change brings to fruition months of planning and represents the concretization of an organizational transition and strategic shift in focus from disaster preparedness and response to comprehensive disaster management. The primary evidence of the transition is reflected in the organization's structure and mandate which has been widened to include the adoption of disaster loss reduction and mitigation policies and practices, at the national and regional level and cooperative arrangements and mechanisms to facilitate the development of a culture of disaster loss reduction. Apart from a shift in mandate the new agency's governance structure will also be amended. The institution will be governed by a Council constituting the Heads of the Participating States, or their designate, but will be strengthened through the establishment of a Management Committee of Council (MCC). The technical platform of the agency will be strengthened through the involvement of specialized Regional Institutions in the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), who will provide diversified expertise in a variety of areas related to the science and policy of disaster management. The Agency will now function with an increased membership of eighteen (18) Participating States to include Haiti and Suriname who have recently signed on to the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency Agreement. For further information on the CDERA to CDEMA transition go to: [http://www.cdera.org/cdera\\_to\\_cdema.pdf](http://www.cdera.org/cdera_to_cdema.pdf)

### Presidential statement on humanitarian assistance from MERCOSUR

Source: ISDR Highlights August 2009

The member states of MERCOSUR agreed to promote the "Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015", allowing for a comprehensive approach to disasters, prevention, mitigation and recovery efforts. They decided to strengthen national systems for prevention, mitigation and disaster management, by promoting multisectoral, interdisciplinary, interagency risk management policies at local,



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national and regional levels through the establishment of an institutional mechanism for prevention coordination and cooperation. For more information, please contact Ricardo Mena at [eird@eird.org](mailto:eird@eird.org)

### **New regulation to promote better alignment of the Andean Strategy for Disaster Prevention and Emergency Response with the Hyogo Framework for Action**

Source: ISDR Highlights August 2009



The Andean Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, through Decision 713, approved the revision of the Andean Strategy for Disaster Prevention and Emergency Response (EAPAD) to promote better alignment with the Hyogo Framework for Action. This decision is one of four new regulations aimed at strengthening political, social and environmental cooperation among the countries of the Andean Community of Nations (CAN) approved during the XIV extraordinary meeting of the Andean Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, held in Lima, Peru with delegates from Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. For more information: [www.comunidadandina.org/prensa/notas/np20-8-09.htm](http://www.comunidadandina.org/prensa/notas/np20-8-09.htm)

### **UNESCO-IHP for Latin America and the Caribbean publish second issue of Aqua-LAC**

Source: Kate Lance

The International Hydrological Programme (IHP) of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) publish second issue of Aqua-LAC. PHI-LAC, is found in Montevideo, Uruguay. Aqua-LAC, is a journal whose aim is to establish an international frame of reference of scientific quality and relevance, utilizing scientists and water professionals from Latin America and the Caribbean. This second issue of Aqua-LAC represents an interesting example of some of the multiple features to be considered in addressing the water issue, and the various approaches and methods used to focus it. The journal Aqua-LAC contains scientific, policy-related, legislative, educational, social, and communication articles and revisions related to water sciences and water resources topics. The content of the journal is aimed to meet the requirement of the scientific community, water resources managers, decision-makers, and the public in general.



### **NASA Lunar Satellite Begins Detailed Mapping of Moon's South Pole**

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



NASA reported that its Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter, or LRO, has successfully completed its testing and calibration phase and entered its mapping orbit of the moon. The spacecraft already has made significant progress toward creating the most detailed atlas of the moon's South Pole to date. Scientists released preliminary images and data from LRO's seven instruments. "The LRO mission already has begun to give us new data that will lead to a vastly improved atlas of the lunar south pole and advance our capability for human exploration and scientific benefit," said Richard Vondrak, LRO project scientist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md. LRO is scheduled for a one-year exploration mission in a polar orbit

of about 31 miles above the lunar surface, the closest any spacecraft has orbited the moon. During the next year, LRO will produce a complete map of the lunar surface in unprecedented detail, search for resources and safe landing sites for human explorers, and measure lunar temperatures and radiation levels. The south pole of the moon is of great interest to explorers because potential resources such as water ice or hydrogen may exist there. For more information about LRO and to view the new images, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/lro>

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## Americas: Conferences, SDI Events – Year 2009

[Year 2009](#) January February March April May June July August September [October](#) [November](#) [December](#)  
[Year 2010](#) [January](#) [February](#) [March](#) [April](#) [May](#) [June](#) [July](#) [August](#) [September](#) [October](#) [November](#) [December](#)

OCTOBER 2009		
4-7	Campos Do Jordão, São Paulo, Brazil	<a href="#">Latin American Conference IALE 2009</a> / “Landscape Ecology in Latin America: Challenges and Perspectives” Contact: Congress Secretariat and Information <a href="mailto:ialebr2009@eventus.com.br">ialebr2009@eventus.com.br</a>
4-8	Cleveland OH, USA	<a href="#">2009 NSGIC Annual Conference</a>
5 <b>*NEW*</b>	By Internet	<a href="#">Mastering the ArcGIS Server JavaScript API</a>
5-6	Naperville IL, USA	<a href="#">Illinois GIS Association Fall Conference 2009</a>
5-6	Silver Spring MD, USA	<a href="#">GeoTech 2009: The Premiere Mid-Atlantic Imagery and GIS Conference</a>
5-7	Curitiba, Brazil	<a href="#">Meeting of the Global Partnership on Cities and Biodiversity</a>
5-7	Westin Westminster CO, USA	<a href="#">Location Intelligence 2009</a>
5-9	Antigua, Guatemala	<a href="#">Iberoamerican Workshop on Geographic Information Systems applied to Renewable Energy</a>
6-7	Toronto, Ontario, Canada	<a href="#">ESRI Regional User Conference</a>
6-9	Santa Maria RS, Brazil	<a href="#">7<sup>th</sup> Working day on Remote Sensing Education in the frame of Mercosur</a> , <a href="http://www.ltid.inpe.br/selper/">http://www.ltid.inpe.br/selper/</a> <a href="mailto:tania@ltid.inpe.br">tania@ltid.inpe.br</a>
6-10	Bogotá D.C., Colombia	<a href="#">IV Ibero-American Congress on Development and Environment</a> / Contact: <a href="mailto:infocisdaiv@javeriana.edu.co">infocisdaiv@javeriana.edu.co</a> , <a href="mailto:documentocisdaiv@javeriana.edu.co">documentocisdaiv@javeriana.edu.co</a> , <a href="mailto:cursocisdaIV@unal.edu.co">cursocisdaIV@unal.edu.co</a>
7	Washington DC, USA	<a href="#">Emerging Technology Summit V: Spatial Law</a>
7-9	Bogotá, Colombia	<a href="#">ESRI Latin American User Conference</a> / <a href="http://www.procalculo.prosis.com/lauc09/">www.procalculo.prosis.com/lauc09/</a>
8 <b>*NEW*</b>	By Internet	<a href="#">Webinar - Oil and Gas Production</a>
8-9	West Palm Beach FL, USA	<a href="#">16th Annual South Florida GIS Expo</a>
10-15	Winnipeg, Canada	<a href="#">ESRI Regional User Conference</a>
11-14	Atlanta GA, USA	<a href="#">2009 Electric &amp; Gas User Group (EGUG) Conference</a>
11-15	San Francisco CA, USA	<a href="#">Oracle Open World</a>
12-16	Sunriver OR, USA	<a href="#">2009 NW GIS User Group Conference</a>
13-16	SJ Campos, SP, Brazil	<a href="#">Workshop on Space Weather</a> / Information: Hisao Takahashi / <a href="mailto:hisaotak@laser.inpe.br">hisaotak@laser.inpe.br</a>
15-16	Winnipeg MB, Canada	<a href="#">ESRI Regional User Conference</a>
16-17	Miami FL, USA	<a href="#">Mapping Florida Communities: An Introduction to GIS &amp; Community Analysis - One Day Workshops</a>
16-19	San Antonio TX, USA	<a href="#">ASPRS/MAPPS 2009 Fall Conference</a>
18-21	San Antonio TX, USA	<a href="#">GEOINT 2009</a>
18-23 <b>*UPDATED*</b>	Buenos Aires, Argentina	<a href="#">13<sup>th</sup> World Forestry Congress</a>

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19-20	Caracas, Venezuela	<a href="#">WG VI/5 Workshop "Airborne Laser Scanning &amp; Data Processing"</a> / <a href="http://www.fii.org/fii/html/jornadas.html">http://www.fii.org/fii/html/jornadas.html</a> / Contact: Emmanuel Baltasvias(Chair WG VI/5) / <a href="mailto:manos@geod.baug.ethz.ch">manos@geod.baug.ethz.ch</a>
19-23	Aguascalientes, México	<b>2009 National Geography Convention</b> , Further information: <a href="http://mapserver.inegi.org.mx/geografia/espanol/eventos/cng2009/convencion.geografia@inegi.org.mx">http://mapserver.inegi.org.mx/geografia/espanol/eventos/cng2009/convencion.geografia@inegi.org.mx</a>
19-23	Pueblo CO, USA	<a href="#">ESRI Southwest User Group Conference 2009</a>
19-23	Florianópolis SC, Brazil	<a href="#">Geography: Teaching and Performance</a> / <a href="http://www.simgeo2009.cjb.net/simgeo2009@gmail.com">http://www.simgeo2009.cjb.net / simgeo2009@gmail.com</a>
20-21	Ottawa, Ontario, Canada	<a href="#">ESRI Regional User Conference</a>
21	São Paulo, Brazil	<a href="#">InfoGEO and InfoGPS Seminar – Transportation Management</a> / <a href="http://www.mundogeo.com/seminarios/GF/">http://www.mundogeo.com/seminarios/GF/</a> - <a href="mailto:seminario@mundogeo.com">seminario@mundogeo.com</a>
21-22	Bogotá, Colombia	<a href="#">2<sup>nd</sup> International Congress on Environment and Water</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
21-22	Caracas, Venezuela	<a href="#">3<sup>rd</sup> National Working Days on Geoinformatics</a>
21-23	Pueblo CO, USA	<a href="#">ESRI Southwest User's Group Conference - 2009</a>
21-23	Duluth MN, USA	<a href="#">19th Annual Minnesota GIS/LIS Annual Conference and Workshops</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
23-24	Tallahassee FL, USA	<a href="#">Mapping Florida Communities: An Introduction to GIS &amp; Community Analysis - One Day Workshops</a>
25-27	Lake Placid NY, USA	<a href="#">25th Annual New York State GIS Conference</a>
25-29	Washington, DC, USA	<a href="#">8th International Semantic Web Conference (ISWC 2009)</a>
26-29	Québec QC, Canada	<a href="#">Defense Security Innovation (DSI) 2009</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
26-30	Bogotá Colombia	<a href="#">Geomatics Week 2009</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
26-30	Quito, Ecuador	<a href="#">19<sup>th</sup> General Assembly and Technical Consultative Meeting of PAIGH</a> / <a href="http://www.ipgh.org/19-Asamblea-General/default.htm">http://www.ipgh.org/19-Asamblea-General/default.htm</a>
27-28	Austin Texas , USA	<a href="#">Smart Grid America Forum</a>
27-30	Popayán, Colombia	<a href="#">XVIII Colombian Congress of Geography</a> / Contact: <a href="mailto:ccgeografia2009@unicauca.edu.co">ccgeografia2009@unicauca.edu.co</a> / <a href="mailto:ccgeografia2009@gmail.com">ccgeografia2009@gmail.com</a> .
28-29	Halifax NS, Canada	<a href="#">ESRI Regional User Conference</a>
28-31	Chihuahua, Mexico	<a href="#">6th Symposium on Geography Teaching in Mexico, Chihuahua 2009</a> Contact: Álvaro Sanchez Crispin / <a href="mailto:asc@igg.unam.mx">asc@igg.unam.mx</a>

## NOVEMBER 2009

2-6	Quebec, Canada	<a href="#">ISO/TC 211 Meeting week</a>
2-13	Foz do Iguazu, PR, Brazil	<a href="#">International Summer School on Climate Change of Land Cover and Hidroclima the River Plate Basin</a>
3-6	Villavicencio, Colombia	<a href="#">First International Congress on Biodiversity at the Orinoco Basin</a>
<b>*NEW*</b>		
3-4	Calgary, Alberta, Canada	<a href="#">2009 GIS for Oil &amp; Gas Calgary Conference</a>
3-4	St. John's NL, Canada	<a href="#">ESRI Regional User Conference</a>
3-4	Baltimore MD, USA	<a href="#">Smart Grid Road Show</a>
4-6	Tucson AZ, USA	<a href="#">AGIC 2009: Geospatial Education and Training Symposium</a>
4-6	Seattle WA, USA	<a href="#">17th ACM SIGSPATIAL International Conference on Advances in Geographic Information Systems (ACM GIS 2009)</a>
5	Orlando FL, USA	<a href="#">Mapping Florida Communities: An Introduction to GIS &amp; Community Analysis - One Day Workshops</a>

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7	Jacksonville FL, USA	<a href="#">Mapping Florida Communities: An Introduction to GIS &amp; Community Analysis - One Day Workshops</a>
7-11	Corumbá MS, Brazil	<a href="#">2° GeoPantanal – Symposium on Swamp Geo-technologies</a>
9-12	Gramado, Brazil	<a href="#">3rd International Workshop on Semantic &amp; Conceptual Issues in GIS (SeCoGIS2009) in conjunction with the 28th International Conference on Conceptual Modeling (ER2009)</a> / Contact: Prof. Esteban Zimanyi / <a href="mailto:estebanzimanyi@gmail.com">estebanzimanyi@gmail.com</a>
9-13 <b>*NEW*</b>	Curitiba, Brazil	<a href="#">Iberoamerican and Caribbean Congress on Ecological Restoration</a>
9-20	La Antigua, Guatemala	<b>XII Mapping Course</b> / <a href="http://www.cifantigua.org.gt/">http://www.cifantigua.org.gt/</a> / <a href="mailto:cursos.iberoamerica@fomento.es">cursos.iberoamerica@fomento.es</a>
10-12	St. Petersburg FL, USA	<a href="#">2009 GIS in Transit Conference</a>
10-13	Ouro Preto, Brazil	<a href="#">3rd Portuguese-Brazilian Symposium on Historic Cartography</a>
14-19	San Antonio TX, USA	<a href="#">MAPPS/ASPRS Joint Specialty Conference</a>
15-21	Santiago, Chile	<a href="#">ICC2009- 24th International Cartographic Conference 2009</a>
15-21	Kingston, Jamaica	<a href="#">Geography Awareness Week</a>
16	New York NY, USA	<a href="#">GIS 3.0: Geospatial Intelligence, Social Data, and the Future of Public Health Preparedness and Response</a>
16-18 <b>*NEW*</b>	St. Petersburg FL, USA	<a href="#">2009 GIS in Transit Conference: The Route to Success in Transit GIS</a>
16-18 <b>*NEW*</b>	Leticia – Amazonas, Colombia	<a href="#">International Meeting on Wetlands in the High Amazon: Management Perspectives and Knowledge</a>
16-18	Huntsville AL, USA	<a href="#">Rocket City Geospatial Conference 2009</a>
16-19	San Antonio TX, USA	<a href="#">ASPRS/MAPPS 2009 Fall Conference</a>
17-18	Washington D.C, USA	<a href="#">GEO-VI: Sixth Plenary Session of the Group on Earth Observations</a>
18-20	St. Croix, Virgin Islands	<a href="#">5th Annual GIS Conference</a>
23-27 <b>*NEW*</b>	Medellín, Colombia	<a href="#">Introductory Course on Evolutionary Biogeography</a>
19-20	Houston TX, USA	<a href="#">Houston Area GIS Day 2009</a>
Nov. 29 <sup>th</sup> - Dec. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Las Vegas NV, USA	<a href="#">Autodesk University 2009 Exhibition</a>
Nov. 30 <sup>th</sup> – Dec. 4 <sup>th</sup> <b>*NEW*</b>	Lima, Peru	<a href="#">GEOSS Latin America and Caribbean Water Cycle Capacity Building Workshop</a>

## DECEMBER 2009

1-4	Las Vegas NV, USA	<a href="#">Autodesk University</a>
3-4 <b>*NEW*</b>	Mexico City, Mexico	<a href="#">3rd International Conference on Geospatial Semantics (GeoS 2009)</a>
7-11 <b>*NEW*</b>	Seattle WA, USA	<a href="#">URISA Leadership Academy</a>
7-11	Mountainview CA, USA	<a href="#">OGC Technical and Planning Committee Meeting</a>
14-18	San Francisco CA, USA	<b>Fall Meeting AGU</b> / <a href="http://www.agu.org/meetings.shtml">http://www.agu.org/meetings.shtml</a>

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## YEAR 2010

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### JANUARY 2010

5-7	Cuenca, Ecuador	<a href="#">Sixth International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability</a>
6-8 <b>*NEW*</b>	Redlands CA, USA	<a href="#">GeoDesign Summit</a>

### FEBRUARY 2010

10-15	St. Maarten, Netherlands Antilles	<a href="#">2nd International Conference on Advanced Geographic Information Systems, Applications, and Services / GEOProcessing 2010</a>
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### MARCH 2010

7-13 <b>*NEW*</b>	Cancún, México	<a href="#">First International Conference on Environmental Change Awareness (BIOENVIRONMENT 2010)</a>
14-19 <b>*NEW*</b>	Mérida, Mexico	<a href="#">6th European Geosciences Union Alexander von Humboldt International Conference on Climate Change, Natural Hazards, and Societies</a>
22-25 <b>*NEW*</b>	Marbella, Chile	<a href="#">Workshop on Urban Dynamics</a>
22-26 <b>*NEW*</b>	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	<a href="#">World Urban Forum 5</a>
23-25	Tampa FL, USA	<a href="#">DistribuTECH 2010 Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>
29-31 <b>*NEW*</b>	Orlando FL, USA	<a href="#">2010 AWRA Spring Specialty Conference</a>
Mar. 30 – Apr. 1 <b>*NEW*</b>	San Jose CA, USA	<a href="#">Where 2.0 Conference 2010</a>

### APRIL 2010

Mar. 30 – Apr. 1 <b>*NEW*</b>	San Jose CA, USA	<a href="#">Where 2.0 Conference 2010</a>
12-14 <b>*NEW*</b>	Charleston WV, USA	<a href="#">GIS-T 2010</a>
14-18 <b>*NEW*</b>	Washington DC, USA	<a href="#">Association of American Geographers 2010 Annual Meeting</a>
18-21 <b>*NEW*</b>	Huntington Beach CA, USA	<a href="#">16th Annual CalGIS Conference</a>
18-22	Kansas City MO, USA	<a href="#">MAGIC 2010 Symposium</a>
19-23 <b>*NEW*</b>	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">BAE Systems GXP International User Conference and Professional Exchange!</a>
25-29	Phoenix AZ, USA	<a href="#">GITA's 2010 Geospatial Infrastructure Solutions Conference</a>
26-30 <b>*NEW*</b>	Austin TX, USA	<a href="#">2010 NatureServe Conferences: Biodiversity without Boundaries</a>
26-30	San Diego CA, USA	<a href="#">ASPRS Annual Conference / <a href="mailto:asprs@asprs.org">asprs@asprs.org</a></a>

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## MAY 2010

<b>16-18</b> <b>*NEW*</b>	Montego Bay, Jamaica	<a href="#">2010 International Conference on Information Resources Management</a>
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## JUNE 2010

<b>1-4</b> <b>*NEW*</b>	Ithaca NY, USA	<a href="#">36th Annual Conference of the International Association for Social Science Information Service and Technology (IASSIST)</a>
<b>16-18</b>	Calgary, Canada	<a href="#">Commission I Symposium "Image Data Acquisition - Sensors &amp; Platforms"</a> / Contact: <a href="mailto:elsheimy@ucalgary.ca">elsheimy@ucalgary.ca</a>
<b>21-25</b>	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic	<a href="#">International Meeting "Virtual Educa" – 2010</a>

## JULY 2010

<b>3-7</b> <b>*NEW*</b>	Edmonton Alberta, Canada	<a href="#">24th International Congress for Conservation Biology</a>
<b>26-30</b> <b>*NEW*</b>	Honolulu Hawaii, USA	<a href="#">IGARSS'10: IEEE International Geoscience &amp; Remote Sensing Symposium</a>
<b>26-30</b>	Los Angeles CA, USA	<a href="#">SIGGRAPH 2010</a>

## AUGUST 2010

<b>3-6</b> <b>*NEW*</b>	Buenos Aires, Argentina	<a href="#">Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) Open Science Conference (OSC)</a>
<b>8-13</b> <b>*NEW*</b>	Foz do Iguassu, Brazil	<a href="#">American Geophysical Union (AGU) Joint Assembly</a>

## SEPTEMBER 2010

<b>19-24</b>	Montreal, Canada	<a href="#">IWA World Water Congress and Exhibition</a>
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## OCTOBER 2010

<b>4-8</b> <b>*NEW*</b>	Santiago, Chile	<a href="#">Latin American Remote Sensing Week</a>
<b>18-22</b>	Singapore, Singapore	<a href="#">GSDI 12 World Conference 2010: Realizing Spatially Enabled Societies</a>
<b>18-22</b>	Orlando FL, USA	<a href="#">E-Learn 2010</a>
<b>20-22</b> <b>*NEW*</b>	Santiago, Chile	<a href="#">IAOS/Scorus Conference on official statistics and the environment: approaches, issues, challenges and linkages</a>

## NOVEMBER 2010

<b>16-18</b>	Orlando FL, USA	<a href="#">Commission IV Symposium "Geodatabases &amp; Digital Mapping"</a> / Marguerite Madden (President Commission IV) / <a href="mailto:mmadden@uga.edu">mmadden@uga.edu</a>
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