

# GeoForAll

Monthly Newsletter



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## Editorial

*Dear all,*

Among many other emails I receive every day, there was one that contained an article which is quite informative and interesting for our community (and not only). The email was from Directions Magazine, the latest Newsletter issue, and the article was about the FOSS4G Conference in Seoul. The article contains many details about the Conference and gives the whole atmosphere that prevailed through the various activities of the Conference. One major issue that is mentioned in the article is the FOSS4G awards (see our Newsletter, Vol. 1, no. 3) with lots of information and some photos. Also, in the article you can find the internet address where the Proceedings of the Conference are uploaded, and you can easily download the whole book (you can find the same information at the "Free Books" section). I highly recommend this article to those who did not have the opportunity to attend the Conference physically.

Another important theme that is under discussion in the mailing list is the so called GIS Certification.

The idea is not new. It always lies behind a group of people who usually have a long history on a subject they serve and they would like to see other people do the same thing in a professional way, just to keep a high level. It seems that the discussions have just begun among the members of GeoForAll community. Although it is quite early to come up with a conclusion, I can say that there are some interesting ideas in some of these emails. Before we proceed with this, my opinion is that we have to answer two questions: a) why someone would need a GIS Certification if he/she can prove his/hers GIS knowledge through a university degree (do we question the value of a university degree?) and b) how can we make it differ from what is given so far, so that people would bother to deal with it.

I think that in the future I will have more to say about these discussions as they have just started.

Have a nice reading  
Nikos Lambrinos

## 1. Activities

- Siberian State University of Geosystem and Technologies (SSGUST) has announced the opening of a business incubator for students based on Siberian OpenSourceGeospatial Lab. <http://sgugit.ru/news/the-opening-of-the-workshop-projects-shuga/>. Visit <http://sgugit.ru/en/> for more information on SSGUST.



## Editorial Board

Please refer to the appropriate person according to the following table:

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<p>Production Designer</p> 	<p>Nikos Voudrulis, Principal of the 1<sup>st</sup> Primary School of Asvestochori, Thessaloniki, Greece, MSc, PhD candidate in geography education. <a href="mailto:nvoudris@gmail.com">nvoudris@gmail.com</a></p>	Design and final formation of the newsletter



## GeoForAll Regional Chairs and Contact Information

### North America Region

Chairs: Helena Mitsova (USA), Charles Schweik (USA), Phillip Davis (USA) Subscribe at mail list <http://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-northamerica>

Email: [na.gfa.chair@osgeo.org](mailto:na.gfa.chair@osgeo.org)

### South America Region

Chairs: Sergio Acosta y Lara (Uruguay) and Silvana Camboim (Brazil) Subscribe at mail list <http://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-southamerica>

Email: [sa.gfa.chair@osgeo.org](mailto:sa.gfa.chair@osgeo.org)

### Africa Region

Chairs: Rania Elsayed Ibrahim (Egypt), Serena Coetzee (South Africa) and Bridget Fleming (South Africa) Subscribe at mail list <http://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-africa>

Email: [africa.gfa.chair@osgeo.org](mailto:africa.gfa.chair@osgeo.org)

### Asia Region (including Australia)

Chairs: Tuong Thuy Vu (Malaysia/Vietnam) and Venkatesh Raghavan (Japan/India) Subscribe at maillist <http://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-asiaaustralia>

Email: [asia.gfa.chair@osgeo.org](mailto:asia.gfa.chair@osgeo.org)

### Europe Region

Chairs: Maria Brovelli (Italy) and Peter Mooney (Ireland) Subscribe at mail list <http://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-europe>

Email: [eu.gfa.chair@osgeo.org](mailto:eu.gfa.chair@osgeo.org)

## GeoForAll Themes

### OpenCity Smart

- Chairs: Chris Pettit (Australia), Patrick Hogan (USA)
- Mail list: <http://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-urbanscience>
- Website: <http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/OpenCitySmart>

### Teacher Training & School Education

- Chairs: Elżbieta Wołoszyńska-Wiśniewska (Poland), Nikos Lambrinos (Greece), Adrian Manning (UK)
- Mail list: [geoforall-teachertraining@lists.osgeo.org](mailto:geoforall-teachertraining@lists.osgeo.org)
- Website: [http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/GeoForAll\\_TeacherTraining\\_SchoolEducation](http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/GeoForAll_TeacherTraining_SchoolEducation)

### GeoForAll (GeoParaTodos) Themes in Spanish

- Chairs: Sergio Acosta y Lara (Uruguay), Antoni Pérez Navarro (Spain)
- Mail list: Spanish : [geoforall-spanish@lists.osgeo.org](mailto:geoforall-spanish@lists.osgeo.org)
- Website: [http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/GeoForAll\\_Spanish](http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/GeoForAll_Spanish)

### CitizenScience

- Chairs: Peter Mooney (Ireland) and Maria Brovelli (Italy)
- Mail list: <https://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-geocrowd>
- Website: [http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/Geocrowdsourcing\\_CitizenScience\\_FOSS4G](http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/Geocrowdsourcing_CitizenScience_FOSS4G)

### AgriGIS

- Chairs: Leibovici (U.K/France) and Venkatesh Raghavan (Japan/India)
- Mail list: <https://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-agrigis>
- Website: <http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/AgriGIS>



## 2. Lab of the Month

Northeast Institute of Geography and Agroecology of Chinese Academy of Science, China

By Suchith Anand



Suchith Anand,  
Nottingham Geospatial  
Institute, University of  
Nottingham, UK

Dear GeoForAll Colleagues,

It is my great pleasure, to introduce our colleagues at Northeast Institute of Geography and Agroecology of Chinese Academy of Science (CAS) located in Changchun City, Jilin Province, China, as our "Geo4All" lab of the month.

Their key research areas are in agro-ecology, wetland ecology, regional development, environmental science, and technology. GIS is one of their main research themes, and they have done a lot of research in the past few decades to expand this. Currently, there are about 30 researchers engaging in GIS research, and they also have doctorates and masters programs in Cartography and GIS. In addition, the Institute has established international partnerships with Indiana University, University of Wisconsin, University of Maryland, University of Georgia, University of Toronto, and the Pacific Institute of Geography of Far East Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences to carry out research in GIS.

The Open GIS research team members in the Institute are very interested in work related to the Open Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGeo). They have greatly contributed to the development of Open Source GIS in China and have helped improve geospatial technologies by making contributions to the benefit of the wider community. The Institute has fully taken over the OSGeo China Center website since 2014 by communication and consultation with Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research.

CAS has also spent efforts on developing a network platform, including document translation, website establishment, education and training. The institute has established the "Open Geospatial Laboratory," supported by the Information Centre of the Institute and Jingyuetan Remote Sensing Experiment Station. The laboratory is equipped with latest technologies, which can serve as a model for the use of OSGeo software in China. The Open Geospatial Laboratory works on the theory, methods, technology, and application of Open Source GIS. It will help in the development of Open Source GIS in China and improve the technology of GIS. The lab is led by Dr. Bu Kun (Email -[bukun@osgeo.cn](mailto:bukun@osgeo.cn)). The key members of the lab are Huang Chao, Hou Wei, Li Xiaofeng, Liu Huanjun, Liu Wenxin, Xue Zhenshan, and Zheng Xingming.

The OSGeo lab in China welcomes collaborations from all interested in GIS and making contributions to the wider community. Their Website (in Chinese) is at <http://lab.osgeo.cn> and in English is at <http://lab.osgeo.cn/en>. They also run courses in Open Source GIS and Geospatial technologies in Chinese ranging from introductory level to more advanced courses covering GIS in greater depth. Details of their training programs are available at <http://www.osgeo.cn/page/course.html>. We are looking forward to building strong research and teaching collaborations in China and worldwide in Open Geospatial Science. On behalf of the Geo4All community, we thank Bu Kun and all colleagues of the Northeast Institute of Geography and Agroecology of Chinese Academy of Science for their contributions to the Geo4All initiative, and we look forward to working and building more collaborations with all interested in this education mission.







## 3. Events (Past and Future)

- From 21 to 23 September at SGUGiT, Dr Sisi Zlatanova had a lecture about using GIS and open GIS for 3D modeling. <http://sgugit.ru/news/lectures-in-the-field-of-3d-modeling-from-professor-delft-technical-university-netherlands-phd-cece/> (in Russian).
- The [National States Geographic Information Council \(NSGIC\)](#) conference occurred October 5 through 9 in Kansas City, MO, USA. Open data and open mapping were major themes of the conference discussions. NSGIC is an organization whose mission is “to promote statewide geospatial coordination activities in all states and to be an effective advocate for states in national geospatial policy and initiatives, thereby enabling the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI).” This annual conference aims to bring state representatives from across the USA together to discuss national GIT agenda that can be implemented at the state level. View more about this year’s conference [here](#).
- [FedGeoDay](#) occurred on October 15 in Washington, DC, USA. Andrea Ross would like to thank “the sponsors Azavea, Boundless, CartoDB, DigitalGlobe, RadiantBlue, and LocationTech. Thanks to the speakers. Special thanks to Robert Cheetham and Chris Tucker for being such great MC’s. And to Eddie Pickle, Sophia Liu, and Michael Turner, and others for helping pull together the program.” Discussions about planning next year’s event have already begun on the [LocationTech mailing list](#) if you are interested in participating.
- North American Co-Editor Emma Strong presented an introduction to the OSGeo community and GeoForAll to the Mississippi Geospatial Conference, October 22 and 23, in Long Beach, MS, USA. Several projects, including transportation and local government, are in early stages within the state using QGIS and other OSGeo software.
- The University of Jaén (Spain), through the Higher Polytechnic School of Jaen has announced the XVI edition of the "Francisco Coello International Award," aimed at final year projects and theses (graduate and post-graduate) in the field of Cartography and Geomatics.

- La Universidad de Jaén (España), a través de la Escuela Politécnica Superior de Jaén ha convocado la XVI edición del “Premio Internacional Francisco Coello”, dirigido a Proyectos y Trabajos Fin de Carrera, Trabajos Fin de Grado y Trabajos Fin de Máster en el ámbito de la Cartografía y la Geomática. [http://coello.ujaen.es/coello/triptico\\_XVI\\_coello.pdf](http://coello.ujaen.es/coello/triptico_XVI_coello.pdf).
- OSM Geo Week - Teach, learn and discover Geography with OpenStreetMap during Geography Awareness Week, Nov 15-21 <http://osmgeoweek.org/>
- On November 7th, 2015 starting 8:30 am at the National University of Lanus (29 de Septiembre 3901, Remedios de Escalada, Lanús) will take place the First Conference of Free Geotechnologies
- El 7 de noviembre de 2015 a partir de las 08:30 hs, en la Universidad Nacional de Lanús (29 de Septiembre 3901, Remedios de Escalada, Lanús) tendrán lugar la I Jornada de Geotecnologías Libres <https://eventioz.com.ar/e/i-jornada-de-geotecnologias-libres>.
- November 25th, Dr. Christian Strobl from German Geodata Centre (DLR), will give a lecture at the Stuttgart University of Applied Sciences. The title of the lecture is “An introduction into the application of Python for geospatial data processing.” For more details, please contact Franz-Josef Behr ([franz-josef.behr@hft-stuttgart.de](mailto:franz-josef.behr@hft-stuttgart.de)).

## 4. Conferences

### Asia

1. 2-3 November 2015: 8th annual Geospatial Intelligence for National Security (GINS) APAC 2015 conference. Amara Sanctuary Resort, Sentosa, Singapore. Includes Daniel Honaker’s speech about 3D Geospatial Analysis and Visualization on the Web using open source software.
2. International Conference on Radar and Imaging Technology (ICRIT 2016). March 2-4, 2016. Beijing, China. [www.engii.org/conf/ICRIT/2016Mar/](http://www.engii.org/conf/ICRIT/2016Mar/). The paper submission deadline of ICRIT 2016 has been extended to December 14, 2015.

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## 4. Conferences

### North and Central America and the Caribbean

#### November

3. 10-12: [Latin America Geospatial Forum](#)  
Mexico City, Mexico
4. 11-13: [Group on Earth Observations Plenary & Mexico City Ministerial Summit](#)  
Mexico City, Mexico
5. 19-20: [Geography 2050](#)  
New York City, NY, USA

#### December

6. 9-11: [Spatial Information for Human Health](#)  
Santa Barbara, California, USA
7. 14-18: [American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting](#)  
San Francisco, California, USA.

#### January 2016

8. 5-8: [Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences](#)  
Kauai, Hawaii, USA

#### February 2016

9. 22-25: [URISA GIS/CAMA Technologies Conference](#)  
Savannah, Georgia, USA
10. 22-25: [NSGIC Midyear Conference](#)  
Annapolis, MD, USA

#### March 2016

11. 19-20: [LibrePlanet](#)  
Boston, Massachusetts, USA

#### May 2016

12. 2-5: [FOSS4G North America](#)  
Raleigh, North Carolina, USA

### Europe

13. 7 November 2015: "Educating the Future Spatial Citizens". The [GEOTHNK Project](#), the National Technical University of Athens - [OntoGeo Research Group](#), and [Ellinogermanki Agogi](#) invite you to participate at the GEOTHNK International Closing Conference. The conference will be held at the facilities of Ellinogermaniki Agogi in Pallini (Attica - Greece) in conjunction with the [8th International Conference in Open and Distance Learning \(ICODL2015\)](#). More details in <http://www.geothnk.eu/index.php/es/news/events/92-geothnk-closing-conference>

### Europe

14. 21-22 November 2015. Moscow. Open GIS Conference  
Open GIS Conference: a unique event in the field of public geoinformation technologies gathers active participants from the Russian community of open GIS users and developers. The main goal: the popularization of open geodata and technologies in various fields of business, science, and education. Conference website: <http://gisconf.ru/>
15. 25-27 May 2016: The 14th International Conference of the Geological Society of Greece, in Thessaloniki, northern Greece. The conference addresses all subjects of Earth Sciences: GIS, geoinformatics, Remote Sensing, etc. More details at [www.ege2016.gr](http://www.ege2016.gr)
16. 12-19 July 2016: ISPRS XXIII Congress, in Prague. More details at <http://www.isprs2016-prague.com/>. There are two sessions of particular interest by our community:  
Submission for papers is now open!  
ABSTRACT type submission for the ISPRS Archives (deadline) 13th December 2015  
FULL PAPER type submission for The ISPRS Annals (deadline) 30th November 2015.  
For details please see here: [http://www.isprs2016-prague.com/program/calls/paper\\_submission](http://www.isprs2016-prague.com/program/calls/paper_submission).  
a) Special Session: SpS10 - FOSS4G: FOSS4G Session (chairs: Maria A. Brovelli, Helena Mitsova, Krishnan Sundara Rajan).  
*Keywords:* Free and Open Source Software for Geoinformatics (FOSS4G), geospatial research platform and systems for developing new applications crossing the new frontiers towards the Internet of Places, Big Geospatial Data processing and analytics, and complex simulations essential for understanding and managing the earth systems, human societies, and their interactions.  
b) Theme session: THS16: Recent Developments in Open Data (chairs: Maria A. Brovelli, Hae-Kyong Kang, Hiroichi Kawashima).  
*Keywords:* Open data, Linked open data, e-Government, Geospatial, Web  
For those who need more information, contact Maria Brovelli (maria.brovelli@polimi.it)  
c) Session THS17: Smart cities (Chairs: Chris Pettit & Arzu Coltekin)  
*Keywords:* Geodesign, urban planning, visualization and spatial analysis of urban phenomena, energy use, walkability, pollution, health, infrastructure, population, aging.

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## 4. Conferences

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### South America

#### December

17. 2-4 December: International gvSIG Conference: "It's possible. It's real". The 11th International gvSIG Conference, organized by the gvSIG Association, will be held at La Petxina Sports-Cultural Complex (Valencia - Spain).

11as Jornadas Internacionales gvSIG: "Es posible. Es real". Del 2 al 4 de diciembre de 2015 tendrán lugar en el Complejo Deportivo-Cultural Pechina (Valencia - España), bajo el lema "Es posible. Es real", las 11as Jornadas Internacionales gvSIG, organizadas por la Asociación gvSIG.

#### March 2016

18. Third Call to participate in the "9th International Congress of Geomatics," GEOMÁTICA 2016 to be held in Havana Cuba, from 14 to March 18, 2016. GEOMÁTICA 2016 will be held as part of the 16th International Convention and Fair Informática 2016, which this year has the theme "Connecting Societies" Important!!! Send your papers. We count on your participation.

<http://www.informaticahabana.cu/en/eventos/show/91>.

Tercera Circular para participar en el IX Congreso Internacional de Geomática, que tendrá lugar en La Habana Cuba, del 14 al 18 de Marzo del 2016. GEOMÁTICA 2016 se desarrollará en el marco de la XVI Convención y Feria Internacional Informática 2016, que en esta Edición tiene como tema central "Conectando Sociedades" Importante!!! Enviar las Ponencias. Contamos con su participación.

<http://www.informaticahabana.cu/eventos/show/91>

## 6. Courses

1. If you are interested in exploring opportunities of using Open geospatial technologies, open standards, open data in your work and operations, then apply to be considered to take part in the free Workshops on Open Source, Open Standards, Open Data in Geospatial for government organisations, SMEs and startups on the 23rd Nov 2015 at the University of Nottingham. The aim is to bring together all interested players to learn, share, and discuss ideas for future collaboration opportunities in Open Source,

Open Standards, Open Data in the Geospatial field, including exploring opportunities for participating in joint H2020 and other bids.

Details at

<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/grace/events/eventstables/open-geo-info-workshop.aspx>

2. Online courses CNIG IGN (Spain) 2015 (2nd call): The National Geographic Institute and the National Geographic Information Center released the second edition of their online courses for 2015 (in Spanish). More details (in Spanish) at: <http://cursos.ign.es/>. Cursos en línea de IGN-CNIG 2015 (2ª convocatoria): El Instituto Geográfico Nacional y el Centro Nacional de Información Geográfica lanzan la segunda convocatoria de cursos en línea para el año 2015:

- Teledetección, Fotogrametría, LIDAR y Ocupación del suelo (3ª edición), del 5 de octubre al 13 de noviembre.

- Sistemas de Información Geográfica (12ª edición), del 5 de octubre al 13 de noviembre.

- Infraestructura de Datos Espaciales II (1ª edición), del 19 de octubre al 27 de noviembre.

- Cartografía Temática (11ª edición), del 19 de octubre al 27 de noviembre.

Los cursos se desarrollarán a través de Internet y cada alumno contará con el apoyo de un tutor para resolver las dudas relacionadas con el contenido teórico y práctico. Además, el tutor realizará el seguimiento de la formación, calificará y corregirá las actividades programadas.

Los cursos tendrán una duración de 6 semanas y el precio de la matrícula es de 100 euros. La inscripción en los cursos se puede realizar a través de la Tienda Virtual del CNIG hasta que se complete el cupo de cada curso y en todo caso, hasta una semana antes del inicio del curso. Para inscribirte debes registrarte de forma gratuita en la Tienda Virtual, seleccionar el curso que deseas y el medio de pago. Para más información consultar el manual.

Más información sobre los cursos: <http://cursos.ign.es>

Para realizar cualquier consulta sobre estos cursos dirigirse a: <http://cursos.ign.es>

3. [Mississippi State University's Geosystems Research Institute](#) provides 2 day QGIS workshops, including Introduction, Intermediate, and Advanced. It is free to local government employees (\$25 for others), and two locations are offered in the state.
4. [Triangle Area GIS](#) is a "collaboration site for multidisciplinary GIS users in the Triangle" area in North Carolina. They offer free webinars throughout the year in many GIS and mapping areas, as well as paid training and group meeting planning space.



## 7. Training programs

- MOOC usuarios: <http://web.gvsig-training.com/index.php/es/quienes-somos-2/noticias-2/145-the-free-mooc-cycle-gvsig-for-users>.  
This free (open in continuous form) MOOC cycle "gvSIG for Users" (in English) is offered by gvSIG Association, in collaboration with GISMAP, and it is made up of three different Modules:  
Module 1: "Introduction to GIS"  
Module 2: "Layer Editing"  
Module 3: "Raster Analysis" (starting in Autumn 2015).
- MOOC scripting: <http://web.gvsig-training.com/index.php/es/quienes-somos-2/noticias-2/140-massive-online-open-course-de-introduccion-a-scripting-en-gvsig-2-1>  
Massive Online Open Course (MOOC-free and continuously open enrollment) about "Introducción a Scripting en gvSIG 2.1" 2nd. edition (Spanish only).  
Curso Abierto Masivo en línea (MOOC-modalidad de inscripción gratuita y abierta continuamente) de "Introducción a Scripting en gvSIG 2.1" 2a. edición (en español solamente).
- Geoforall educational inventory system, a place where to search and share educational materials: [http://www.osgeo.org/educational\\_content](http://www.osgeo.org/educational_content).
- Registration for online gvSIG Training courses is now open. They are part of the ones offered by the Certification Program of the gvSIG Association. Unlike previous editions, the registration mode becomes open for most of the courses' enrollment, so students can enroll and start the courses at any time they want. The courses currently available are:  
General gvSIG courses (1)  
Applied gvSIG courses (5)  
Geoprocessing and Spatial Analysis courses in Spanish and Portuguese (5 in Spanish 5 Portuguese)  
gvSIG extensions/addons (6)  
Geospatial DataBases (1)  
Free i3Geo course (1)  
By participating in any of these courses you get credits for the gvSIG Certification Program that allows you to qualify for "gvSIG User" and "Expert gvSIG User" certification.

Ya están abiertas las inscripciones para los cursos a distancia de [gvSIG-Training](#), que forman parte de la oferta del Programa de Certificación de la Asociación gvSIG. A diferencia de las convocatorias anteriores, la modalidad de inscripción pasa a ser de matrícula abierta para la mayoría de los cursos, por lo que el alumno podrá matricularse y comenzar el curso cuando lo desee. Los cursos disponibles actualmente son:

- Cursos gvSIG general (1)
- Cursos gvSIG aplicado (5)
- Cursos Geoprocetamiento y Análisis Espacial, en español y portugués (5 en español 5 en portugués)
- Extensiones gvSIG (6)
- Bases de Datos Geoespaciales (1)
- Curso i3Geo gratuito (1)

Al participar en cualquiera de estos cursos obtienes créditos del programa de certificación gvSIG que te permite optar a la certificación "gvSIG Usuario" y "gvSIG Usuario Experto".

## 9. Funding opportunities

- Visiting Professor Position at the University of Salzburg, Austria. Summer term 2016.  
The Department of Geoinformatics – Z\_GIS at the University of Salzburg offers a non-tenure-track lecture & research position for the Summer Semester 2016. Z\_GIS is one of the leading European Geoinformatics institutions and provides world-class training for doctoral researchers. In addition to the existing Doctoral degree programs in Geography and Geoinformatics, the Doctoral College "GIScience" organizes a coherent 'training through research' program. Teaching will include one to two classes with typically three contact hours per week each. The semester runs 01 March to 30 June 2016. Application deadline: 16 November 2015. More details in: <http://dk-gis.science.zg.ac.at>
- Post-Doctoral Fellow in Deep Time Spatial Analysis of Language.  
The Geographic Information Systems Unit at the University of Zurich (UZH) invites applications for a post-doctoral fellow position in spatial and statistical analysis of deep time processes. The position is associated with the interdisciplinary Swiss National Science Foundation project "Linguistic Morphology in Time and Space" (LiMiTS), a collaboration of groups in general and comparative linguistics. The position is housed in the UZH Department of Geography and its internationally known GIScience Center. The appointment will be made for 3 years (starting 01 February 2016). More details about this position at <http://www.geo.uzh.ch/gis>





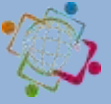
## 10. New free and open software

9. IREA (Institute for the Electromagnetic Sensing of the Environment) has developed a free and open software suite, called GET-It (GeoEnable Toolkit) Starter Kit, which supports environmental and marine researchers in the creation of autonomous, distributed nodes of a Spatial Data Infrastructure and uploading research results in the form of maps/observations (and related metadata). GET-It supports domain researchers in the creation of OGC standard services like WMS, WFS, WCS, CSW, and SOS. GET-It is based on GeoNode, contains pyCSW, Geoserver and is accessible on GitHub at the address <https://github.com/SP7-Ritmare/starterkit>.
10. GET-It also contains another open and free piece of software developed by IREA, i.e. EDI, a general purpose, customizable, template-driven metadata editor. EDI is composed of a backend web service and an HTML5/javascript client. It can be customized for managing the creation of different types of metadata. Once set up for a specific format, EDI can present to the user a web form for the editing of metadata. EDI is mainly meant to help users in compiling metadata, not only supplying more humanly readable information than XML, but also providing all the invariant parts of the metadata ("profile"), allowing the user to concentrate only on the parts related to the specific deployment. EDI is also accessible on GitHub at the address [https://github.com/SP7-Ritmare/EDI-NG\\_client](https://github.com/SP7-Ritmare/EDI-NG_client).
11. New version of [QuickMapServices](#) is out. QuickMapServices is a QGIS plugin for painlessly adding basemaps as layers ([more about the plugin](#)). Update it in QGIS to have new version. <http://nextgis.ru/blog/quickmapservices-in-gray/#more-3326>.
12. NextGIS Mobile 2.2 is released <http://nextgis.ru/blog/nextgis-mobile-2-2/#more-3145> (in Russian) <http://nextgis.ru/en/blog/ngm-2-2/> (English version).
13. Open spatial data bank supplemented by a map of the Netherlands, in a scale of 1: 1 000 000 <http://www.gisinfo.ru/newspages-news-1765-0> (in Russian) <http://www.gisinfo.net/> (English version).
14. Preliminary version of Axioma GIS is released [www.axioma-gis.ru](http://www.axioma-gis.ru) (in Russian).

## 11. Free books, newsletters, etc.

1. You can find a free GIS book, written in Spanish, at the following address:
2. <http://www.tysmagazine.com/libro-gratuito-sistema-de-informacion-geografica-sig-teoria-y-aplicacion/>
3. Free book in Spanish: Geography, geotechnology and spatial analysis:
4. [http://www.uahurtado.cl/pdf//Fuenzalida\\_et\\_al.\\_2015\\_Geografa\\_Geotecnologa\\_y\\_Analisis\\_Espacial.pdf](http://www.uahurtado.cl/pdf//Fuenzalida_et_al._2015_Geografa_Geotecnologa_y_Analisis_Espacial.pdf)
5. A free publication in Spanish about teledetection and environment: [http://www.aet.org.es/files/guia\\_teledececcion\\_medio\\_ambiente.pdf](http://www.aet.org.es/files/guia_teledececcion_medio_ambiente.pdf)
6. Proceedings of the FOSS4G Conference that took place in Seoul in September, 14-19, 2015. You can download the book from <http://www.meci.co.kr/societyevent/FOSS4G2015/download/FOSS4G%20PROCEEDINGS%20ver2.pdf>
7. 7th Latin American and Caribbean gvSIG Conference: Speeches and articles - presentations and papers presented at the conference, held from 26 to 28 August at the Autonomous University of the State of Mexico under the slogan "free software development as an engine of change" are now available (in Spanish). Among the topics presented were environmental chemistry, climate change, location of distribution centers, a geoportal for health, among others, with speakers from several countries including Argentina, Brazil, Spain, Mexico, and many more. 7as Jornadas de Latinoamérica y Caribe de gvSIG: Ponencias y artículos - Ya están disponibles las ponencias y artículos presentados en las 7as Jornadas de Latinoamérica y Caribe de gvSIG, que se celebraron del 26 al 28 de agosto en la Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México, bajo el lema "Desarrollo en software libre como motor de cambio". Entre los temas que se presentaron hubo ponencias sobre química ambiental, cambio climático, ubicación de centros de distribución o un geoportal sobre salud entre otras, contando con ponentes de varios países como Argentina, Brasil, España o México. <http://www.gvsig.com/es/eventos/jornadas-lac2015/comunicaciones>.
8. Geography, geotechnology, and spatial analysis: trends, methods and applications (in Spanish).

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Geography has become essential for the development of science and the welfare of society. This book delivers updated prospects of this discipline in order to be discussed and incorporated into a multidisciplinary approach of Social Sciences in order to add the spatial dimension in their studies.

[Geografía, geotecnología y análisis espacial: tendencias, métodos y aplicaciones](#)

La Geografía se ha vuelto indispensable para el desarrollo de la ciencia y el bienestar de la sociedad. Este libro entrega nuevas perspectivas actualizadas de esta disciplina con el objetivo de ser discutidas e incorporadas en un enfoque multidisciplinario de las Ciencias Sociales y así sumar la dimensión espacial en sus estudios.

## 12. Articles

Opensource GIS technologies help to internet development (in Chinese)

<http://www.ccidnet.com/2015/0910/10023350.shtml>.

### Abbreviations

by Nikos Lambrinos, Chief Editor

More abbreviations are added thanks to those sent by Siki Zoltan from Hungary.

For those who would like to support this effort, please send any abbreviations to the Chief Editor ([labrinos@eled.auth.gr](mailto:labrinos@eled.auth.gr))

AAG: Association of American Geographers

AGS: American Geographical Society

AM/FM: Automated Mapping/Facilities Management

ASPRS: American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing

AURIN: Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network

CAD: Computer Aided Design

CLGE: The Council of European Geodetic Surveyors

COGO: Coordinate geometry

CRS: Coordinate Reference System

DAAC: Distributed Active Archive Center (of NASA)

EOS: Earth Observation Science

EOSDIS: Earth Observing System and Data Information System

DEM: Digital Elevation Model

DXF: Drawing Interchange File

EPSG: European Petrol Survey Group (used in projection IDs)

ESA: European Space Agency

EUROGI: European Umbrella Organisation for Geographic Information

FOSS: Free and Open Source Software

FOSS4G: Free and Open Source Software For Geospatial

GCP: Ground Control Point

GNSS: Global Navigational Satellite System

GPS: Global Positioning System

GPX: GPS Exchange Format

HOT: Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team

ICA: International Cartographic Association

INSPIRE: Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe

ISPRS: International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing

KML: Keyhole Markup Language

LiDAR: Light Detection and Ranging

LOC: Local Organizing Committee

LOD: Level Of Detail

MoU: Memorandum of Understanding

NAD: North American Datum

NGA: National Geospatial Intelligence Agency

OER: Open Educational Resources

OGC: Open Geospatial Consortium

OSGeo: Open Source Geospatial Foundation

OSM: OpenStreetMap

RCMRD: Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development

SDI: Spatial Data Infrastructure

SQL: Structured Query Language

STSM: Short Term Scientific Missions

TIN: Triangulated Irregular Network

UAV: Unmanned Aerial Vehicle

USGIF: United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation

WCS: Web Coverage Service

WFS: Web Feature Service

WGS: World Geodetic System

WMS: Web Map Service

WMTS: Web Map Tles Services

WPS: Web Processing Service

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- A Guide To Building SVG Maps From Natural Earth Data <http://www.smashingmagazine.com/2015/09/making-svg-maps-from-natural-earth-data/>
- Current development of Open Source GIS <http://www.osgeo.cn/post/554.html>
- President of the hypergraph Institute of Lishao Jun: I see the open source project Hypergraph has announced the open source GIS, SuperMap iDesktop Cross 8C <http://udn.yyuap.com/article-5349.html>
- Download world map tile based on golang data <http://www.opengiser.com/ji-yu-golangxia-zai-tian-di-tu-wa-pian-shu-ju/>
- QGIS Application in assessing the current state of forest resources in Quang Ninh <http://introford.com/index.php?f=news&do=detail&id=473>

## GeoForAll and Education: The Challenge and Opportunities

by Suchith Anand

Dear colleagues,

I would like to share some of the things i learned from our colleagues globally.

1. There are fast paced developments happening in the Geospatial domain, and it is important that all countries should take advantage of the new opportunities. It is good to see countries like China are well tuned to global developments.
2. Establishment of dedicated Open Source Geospatial Labs is a good opportunity for bringing together key people from government and academia to discuss ideas and good practices.
3. Education and Capacity building are keys for expanding opportunities.

I am fully confident that if we are able to focus and bring together the amazing energies and reach of the wider community for our education mission, it will be a game changer not just for Geoeducation, but for broader Education also.

In spite of all the economic & technological developments, it is a sad fact that thousands of schools globally (esp. in developing countries) even today do not have access to even a single computer. Many of these poor schools do not even have a proper library. But thanks to the unique convergence of some key developments (hardware costs will keep decreasing, internet access will keep increasing

even in developing countries, availability of free and open source software, open education resources, etc.), we for the first time in history truly have a real opportunity for making quality education opportunities accessible for all.

Our focus in addition to Universities and Higher Education is also on "Teacher Training programs" and accelerating the establishment of small Geo4All labs (with access to internet) even in the poorest and remotest schools worldwide to enable quality education opportunities for all. These "Geo4All" labs (tablets or low cost hardware based) in addition to help teach geoeducation will help bring quality teaching and learning opportunities for all. Technology is a big leveler and enabler for the poorer sections of society to also be part of the global economy, and we should not allow the creation of artificial barriers (being forced to buy high cost proprietary software) to deny this opportunity for the bottom billions. It is their right to also be part of the digital opportunities.

I am confident if we keep focus, we can achieve the target to enable digital education opportunities (tablets or low cost hardware based) in many of the poorest schools globally in just 10 years' time; and having strong partnerships with universities, governments, Industry, SMEs, and NGOs is key for this. So even if until now many of these schools did not have access to any proper library or other learning resources, they will now have access to the best digital education resources available globally, from Wikipedia to MOOCs.

We look forward to working and building collaborations with all interested in this education mission. Access to quality education and opportunities is key for getting rid of extreme poverty and enabling broadly shared prosperity for all. Millions of globally connected minds working together on the common mission of enabling Open Education opportunities for everyone will be key for making these developments possible. An idea whose time has come is the most powerful force in the universe, and the time for "Access to quality education opportunities for everyone" has arrived.

Best wishes,  
Suchith Anand



## 13. Scholarships for students and staff

- Call for grant applications for the Information and Knowledge Society Doctoral Programme; Education and ICT (e-learning) Doctoral Programme, and Network and Information Technologies Doctoral Programme coming soon. Prepare your application in advance.

The deadline for applications for the doctoral programmes is 31 January 2016. The UOC is offering grants for these three doctoral programmes for 2016/2017 academic year.

The UOC is offering grants to study on the Doctoral School's different programmes, namely, the Information and Knowledge Society Doctoral Programme; the Education and ICT (e-learning) Doctoral Programme, and the Network and Information Technologies Doctoral Programme. To be eligible for the UOC Doctoral Grants Programme, students must be full-time and physically present at the University's premises.

The conventional duration of the grants is three years, which can in some cases be extended to a fourth year of postdoctoral work. Grants require annual renewal. Renewal is contingent on the students achieving the training and research objectives established in each case. One of these objectives is to complete the doctoral thesis within a maximum of three years, after which students can apply for a further one-year postdoctoral grant.

The programme will offer the possibility to develop Industrial Doctorates, with grants for the best applicants with agreements with companies. Doctoral students undertaking an industrial doctorate will have a university supervisor and a tutor at the company. Prospective applicants can find information on the application procedure and on the content and organization of each doctoral programme on the website. We recommend you contact the researcher who is in charge of the thesis proposal in which you are interested and ask him for advice (e.g. by sending them a draft of the application letter).

Information and Knowledge Society Doctoral Programme:

<http://studies.uoc.edu/web/estudia/en/doctoral-programmes/information-knowledge-society/presentation>

Education and ICT (e-learning) Doctoral Programme:

<http://studies.uoc.edu/web/estudia/en/doctoral-programmes/education-ict/presentation>

The deadline for applications is 31 January 2016. Prepare your application in advance.

Universitat Oberta de Catalunya Doctoral School

For more details you may contact Antoni Perez Navarro [aperezn@uoc.edu].

- LibrePlanet offers scholarships for people who would like to attend the meeting (see Conferences – North America). For more information go to <https://my.fsf.org/civicrm/profile/create?gid=334&reset=1>

## 15. Awards

- Geomatic and cartographic award from the University of Jaén. <http://www.nosologig.com/noticias/577-convocado-el-xvi-premio-internacional-francisco-coello-dirigido-a-tesis-sobre-cartografia-y-geomatica>







## 17. Ideas

### 1. QGIS Manual update and improvement

QGIS developers are seeking one or more experienced individuals to lay the foundation for this work:

- Verify and improve the norms and guidelines of the documentation and especially its update process together with the PSC.
- Update the manual to include all features that are available within the latest QGIS release (2.12).



- Update figures, if necessary, according to the defined guidelines (size, desktop-environment, resolution, etc.).
- Populate the manual with further short examples and improved descriptions, without competing with the training manual.
- Do these in a nice clear and concise writing style, taking inspiration from other software manuals, if available.



2. We are very glad to announce the 103rd Lab of our network at Institute IREA (Institute for the Electromagnetic Sensing of the Environment), of the Italian National Research Council.

Activities of IREA in FOSS are mainly related to research in the management of geo-based data and information, and in the development of free and open software to enable storage, management, view, and access to geodata. You may contact Oggioni Alessandro, [oggioni.a@irea.cnr.it](mailto:oggioni.a@irea.cnr.it)

## 18. Social Contribution

- Interview about open GIS data usage. [http://gisgeo.org/news/open\\_gis\\_survey.html](http://gisgeo.org/news/open_gis_survey.html) (in Russian).

