4. Conferences

Europe

March 2024

1. 20-24: FAIR Digital Objects: From Theory to Practice
   Venue: Berlin, Germany

April 2024

2. 14-19: European Geosciences Union General Assembly 2024
   Venue: Vienna, Austria

September 2024

3. 9-10: QGIS User Conference 2024
   Venue: Faculty of Civil Engineering, Slovak Technical University, Bratislava, Slovakia

South America

December 2024

4. 01-08: FOSS4G (stay tuned for more news in the future)
   Venue: Belém, state of Pará, Brazil

Asia

November 2024

5. 17-21: The 2nd Ramon International Geospatial Intelligence 360 Conference Geospatial Intelligence for Sustainable and Resilient Future
   Venue: Tel-Aviv, Israel

North America and Central America

April 2024

6. 8-11: GIS/Valuation Technologies Conferences
   Venue: Charlotte, NC, USA

7. 10-12: PA GIS Conference
   Venue: State College, PA, USA

8. 15-18: MidAmerica GIS Consortium – 2024 Symposium
   Venue: Omaha, NE, USA

9. April 30 – May 1: GIS in Action
   Venue: Portland, OR, USA

May 2024

10. 5-8: GEOINT 2024 Symposium
    Venue: Kissimmee, FL, USA

11. 22-24: 38th Conference of Latin American Geography (CLAG)
    Venue: Old San Juan, Puerto Rico

June 2024

12. 2-4: 2024 IMAGIN Annual Conference
    Venue: Thompsonville, MI, USA

August 2024

13. 14-16: CPGIS; 2024 - The 31st International Conference on Geoinformatics
    Venue: Toronto, Ontario, Canada
# Editorial Board

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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:bulbul@grel.ist.edu.pk">bulbul@grel.ist.edu.pk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:ranyaalsayed@gmail.com">ranyaalsayed@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>Scandinavian countries, Denmark, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, UK, Ireland, Iceland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Northumbria University, Newcastle NE1 8ST, United Kingdom.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:s.alvanides@gmail.com">s.alvanides@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Computer Sciences and Multimedia Department <a href="mailto:aperezn@uoc.edu">aperezn@uoc.edu</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-editor</td>
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</tr>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-editor</td>
<td>Sergio Acosta Y Lara, Departamento de Geomática</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:sergio.acostaylara@mtop.gub.uy">sergio.acostaylara@mtop.gub.uy</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>Design and final formation of the newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:nvoudris@gmail.com">nvoudris@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translator and designer of the Spanish Edition</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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▪ OpenCity Smart
  Theme under revision

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▪ CitizenScience
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  ➢ Website: http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/Geocrowdsourcing_CitizenScience_FOSS4G

▪ AgriGIS
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Author and Affiliation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 2016, Vol.2, no.7</td>
<td>Prof. Georg Gartner, Vienna University of Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 2016, Vol.2, no.8</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 2016, Vol.2, no.10</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 2016, Vol. 2, no. 11</td>
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</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 2017, Vol.3, no. 2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2017, Vol.3 no.3</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2017, Vol.3 no.4</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2017, Vol.3 no.5</td>
<td>Dr. Peter Mooney, Maynooth University, NASA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2017, Vol.3 no.6</td>
<td>Patrick Hogan, NASA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2017, Vol.3 no.7</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Josef Strobl, Salzburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2017, Vol.3 no.9</td>
<td>Bridget Fleming, South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 2017, Vol.3 no.10</td>
<td>Sven Schade, Joint Research Centre, Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2017, Vol.3 no.11</td>
<td>Luciene Stamato Delazari, Universidade Federal do Paraná in Brazil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2017, Vol.3 no.12</td>
<td>Charlie Schweik, Univ. of Massachussetts, USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2018, Vol.4 no.1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2018, Vol.4 no.2</td>
<td>Barend Köbben, Department of Geo-Information ProcessingUniversity of Twente</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2028, Vol.4 no.3</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Lab of the Month, Content table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Lab and Affiliation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 2015, Vol.1 no.1</td>
<td>Open Source Geospatial Lab, Kathmandu University, Nepal (Asia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 2015, Vol.1 no.2</td>
<td>FOSS4G Lab, University of Colorado Denver (USA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 2015, Vol.1, no.3</td>
<td>Open Source Geospatial Lab, University of Southampton, UK (Europe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 2015, Vol.1 no.4</td>
<td>The Northeast Institute of Geography and Agroecology of Chinese Academy of Science, China (Asia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 2016, Vol.2 no.1</td>
<td>Centre for Geoinformation Science, University of Pretoria, South Africa, (Africa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 2016, Vol.2 no.2</td>
<td>Open Source Geospatial Lab, University of Newcastle, UK, (Europe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 2016, Vol.2 no.3</td>
<td>SMART Open Source Geospatial Lab, University of Wollongong, (Australia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 2016, Vol.2 no.4</td>
<td>Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development, Nairobi, Kenya (Africa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2016, Vol.2 no.5</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2016, Vol.2 no.6</td>
<td>Direccn Nacional de Topografía – MTOP Montevideo, Uruguay, (South America)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2016, Vol.2 no.7</td>
<td>SIGTE – University of Girona, Spain (Europe)</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 2016, Vol.2 no.8</td>
<td>Open Source Geospatial Lab, Department of Geodesy and Surveying, Budapest Univ. of Technology and Economics, Hungary (Europe).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2016, Vol.2 no.9</td>
<td>Open Source Geospatial Lab, Faculty of Geodesy, University of Zagreb, Croatia, (Europe)</td>
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<td>January 2017, Vol.3 no.1</td>
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</tr>
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</tr>
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<tr>
<td>May 2017, Vol.3 no.5</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2017, Vol.3 no.6</td>
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<td>Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC), Spain</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 2021, Vol.7 no.01</td>
<td>gvSIG Uruguay Community, Uruguay</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. Webinars

- If you want to start learning how to use QGIS, there are some excellent free resources at [https://www.gislounge.com/free-ways-to-learn-qgis/](https://www.gislounge.com/free-ways-to-learn-qgis/)

7. Training programs

- GeoForAll educational materials have been transferred to our new web site. GeoForAll educational inventory system, a place to search and share educational materials

- Satellite Application Course for African Users
  Start Date: March 11, 2024
  End Date: March 15, 2024
  Country: South Africa
  City: Pretoria
  Organizer: EUMETSAT
  Host: South African Weather Service
  Language: English
  Contact email: training@eumetsat.int

- International Summer School on Applications with the Newest Multi-Spectral Environmental Satellites
  Start Date: June 17, 2024
  End Date: June 26, 2024
  Country: Italy
  City: Bracciano
  Organizer: Italian Air Force – Met Service
  Host: NMS regional course, EUMETSAT
  Language: English
  Contact person: Ivan Smiljanic
  Contact email: training@eumetsat.int

11. Free books, educational materials, etc.

- Visit the YouTube QGIS channel at [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGS162t4hkaOA0b35ucf1yng/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGS162t4hkaOA0b35ucf1yng/videos) to get videos of QGIS applications, representations and ideas.

- You can download the full proceedings of the OSM Science 2023 conference from [https://zenodo.org/records/10443403](https://zenodo.org/records/10443403)

12. Article

Acronyms

by Nikos Lambrinos, Chief Editor, and Michael Finn.

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

- 3DEP: 3-D Elevation Program
- AAG: Association of American Geographers
- AGI: Ambient Geographic Information
- AGS: American Geographical Society
- AGU: American Geophysical Union
- AI: Artificial Intelligence
- AM/FM: Automated Mapping/Facilities Management
- AOSP: African Open Space Platform
- API: Application Programming Interface
- ASPRS: American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing
- AURIN: Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network
BBSRC: Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council
BDS: BeiDou Navigation Satellite Demonstration System
BIM: Building Information Modelling
CAADP: Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme
CAD: Computer Aided Design
CaGIS: Cartography and Geographic Information Society
CCGI: Collaboratively Contributed Geographic Information
CEGIS: Center of Excellence for Geospatial Information Science
CEOSS: Committee on Earth Observation Satellites
CHIRPS - Climate Hazards Group InfraRed Precipitation with Station data
CI: CyberInfrastructure
CLGE: The Council of European Geodetic Surveyors
CODATA: Committee on Data for Science and Technology
COGO: Coordinate geometry
CRC: Census Research Centre
CRS: Coordinate Reference System
CSA: Canadian Space Agency
CSSTEAP: Center for Space Science & Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific
CUDA: Compute Unified Device Architecture
DAAC: Distributed Active Archive Center (of NASA)
DEM: Digital Elevation Model
DSM: Digital Surface Models
DWG: Design file format
DXF: Drawing Interchange File
ECMW: European Center for Medium range Weather Forecasting
EOS: Earth Observation Science
EOSDIS: Earth Observing System and Data Information System
EPA: Environmental Protection Agency
EPSG: European Petrol Survey Group (used in projection IDs)
ESA: European Space Agency
ESERO: European Space Education Resource Office
EUROGI: European Umbrella Organisation for Geographic Information
EuroSDR: European Spatial Data Research
FDO: FAIR (Find, Access, Interoperate, and Reuse) Digital Objects
FOSS: Free and Open Source Software
FOSS4G: Free and Open Source Software For Geospatial
GCP: Ground Control Point
GDAL: Geospatial Data Abstraction Library
GEO: Group on Earth Observations
GEO: Geosynchronous Earth Orbits
GloFAS: Global Flood Awareness System
GNSS: Global Navigational Satellite System
GODAN: Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition
GPS: Global Positioning System
GPX: GPS Exchange Format
GRACE: Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment (satellite program)
GRASPgfs: Geospatial Resource for Agricultural Species and Pests and Pathogens with workflow integrated modeling to support Global Food Security
GSsoC: Google Summer of Code
HLPF: High Level Political Forum (of UN)
HOT: Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team
HPC: high-performance computing
ICA: International Cartographic Association
ICIMOD – International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
ICSU-WDS: International Council for Science – World Data System
IDE: Spatial Data Infrastructure
IFAD – International Fund for Agricultural Development
INSPIRE: Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe
IPCC – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPGH: Pan American Institute of Geography and History
ISO: International Organization for Standardization
ISPRS: International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing
ISRO: Indian Space Research Organization
JAXA: Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency
KML: Keyhole Markup Language
LBS: Location-Based Service
LEO: Low Earth Orbits
LiDAR: Light Detection and Ranging
LOC: Local Organizing Committee
LOD: Level Of Detail
MEO: Medium Earth Orbits
MIL: Media and Information Literacy
MoU: Memorandum of Understanding
MSS: Multispectral Scanner
NAD: North American Datum
NARSS: National Authority for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences of Egypt
NCSA: National Center for Supercomputing Applications
NDVI - Normalized Difference Vegetation Index
NDWI - Normalized Difference Water Index
NED: National Elevation Dataset
NEPAD: NEw Partnership for African Development
NGA: National Geospatial Intelligence Agency
NHD: National Hydrologic Dataset
NIR - Near-Infrared
NLCD: National Land Cover Dataset
NOOSA: United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs
NRSA: Indian National Remote Sensing Agency
NSDI: National Spatial Data Infrastructure
NSF: National Science Foundation
OECD: Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development
OER: Open Educational Resources
OGC: Open Geospatial Consortium
OHI: International Hydrographic Office
OSGeo: Open Source Geospatial Foundation
OER: Open Educational Resources
OSM: OpenStreetMap
OTB: Orfeo Tool Box
PPGIS: Public Participation in Geographic Information Systems
PPSR: Public Participation in Scientific Research
RBV: Return Beam Vidicon
RCMRD: Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development
RDA: Research Data Alliance
ROSCOSMOS: Russian Federal Space Agency
ROSHYDROMET: Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring
RUFORUM: Regional Universities Forum for capacity building in agriculture
SaaS: Software as a Service
SAR: Synthetic Aperture Radar
SDG: Sustainable Development Goal
SDI: Spatial Data Infrastructure
SIG: Geographic Information System
SIGTE: The GIS and Remote Sensing Service of the University of Girona, Spain
SPIDER: open SPatial data Infrastru ctenEtwoRk
17. Ideas / Information

1. If you are interested in educational material, then go to https://www.osgeo.org/initiatives/geo-for-all/in-your-classroom/ where you can find software resources for your classroom. Also, go to “Resources” https://www.osgeo.org/resources/ to get a guidance on how to use open source projects and tools.

2. From Dr Suchith Anand
Senior Adviser to Governments and International Organisations | Scientist | AI Ethics | AI Governance | Policy | Consultant in Data and AI Ethics | Global Citizen | SDG Volunteer and Advocate

Thanks to UNESCO and the Government of Slovenia for organising the 2nd Global Forum on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence: Changing the Landscape of AI Governance in Slovenia on 5-6 February 2024. This Forum brought together the experiences and expertise of countries at different levels of technological and policy development, for a focused exchange to learn from each other, and for a dialogue with the private sector, academia and a wider civil society.

Day 1 Recordings
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=okgVwczLTUc
Day 2 Recordings
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3V4mCmxAAvM

UNESCO produced the first-ever global standard on AI ethics – the ‘Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence’ in November 2021. This framework was adopted by all 193 Member States. Details at: https://www.unesco.org/en/artificial-intelligence/recommendation-ethics

3. CARLOS LÓPEZ-VÁZQUEZ, Head of the Academic Liaison Committee, Cartography Commission, Pan American Institute of Geography and History

I am pleased to contact you to announce the Call for Applications to the tenth edition of the “Prize for the Outstanding Master’s thesis in Cartography, Geodesy and/or Geographic Information” organized by the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH). The call will open 1st June 2024 and
will close 30th June 2024. In a few words, Master’s level students graduated between 1st January 2019 and 31st December 2023 can apply. In addition, they should satisfy one of two conditions: a) be a citizen of any PAIGH member state, irrespective of the granting university, or b) have a degree granted by an accredited university in any PAIGH member state, irrespective of the student’s citizenship. The candidates must write a scientific paper summarizing their work, a fact that justifies an early announcement well before June.

The announcement can be downloaded from https://comisiones.ipgh.org/CARTOGRAFIA/Premio/Tesis_Msc_2024/Poster_Premio_Cartografia_MSc_2024_EN.pdf

Updates will be available soon at https://comisiones.ipgh.org/CARTOGRAFIA/PremioMSc_EN.html

Member states of PAIGH are Argentina, Belice, Bolivia, Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, United States of America, Guatemala, Haití, Honduras, México, Nicaragua, Panamá, Paraguay, Perú, Dominican Republic, Uruguay and Venezuela.

4. From Dr Suchith Anand

Senior Adviser to Governments and International Organisations | Scientist | AI Ethics | AI Governance | Policy | Consultant in Data and AI Ethics | Global Citizen | SDG Volunteer and Advocate

Happy “AzaadiSAT-2” 1st anniversary. A satellite built by 750 girl students from 75 government schools across India.

AzaadiSAT was created to mark India’s 75th year of independence. This anniversary was being marked by the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations https://amritmahotsav.nic.in throughout the country, and the CubeSat was part of this campaign. AzaadiSAT was built by girl students from 75 schools across India. 10 girl students from each school were involved, for a total of 750 students involved. The mission was created to give girl students from lower-income backgrounds the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of spaceflight.

More details at:
https://www.isro.gov.in/mission_SSLV_D2.html
https://spacekidzindia.in/azaadisat-1/
https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Sh1YCJ4m7aE
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ey1pxYo6Ct4
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A60m4BHx8KI

5. From Dr Suchith Anand

Senior Adviser to Governments and International Organisations | Scientist | AI Ethics | AI Governance | Policy | Consultant in Data and AI Ethics | Global Citizen | SDG Volunteer and Advocate

The UN AI Advisory Body has launched its interim report. The report calls for a closer alignment between international norms and how AI is developed and rolled out. The central piece of the report is a proposal to strengthen international governance of AI by carrying out seven critical functions such as horizon scanning for risks and supporting international collaboration on data, and computing capacity and talent to reach the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It also includes recommendations to enhance accountability and ensure an equitable voice for all countries.

Individuals, groups, and organizations are encouraged to provide feedback via the online submission form at https://www.un.org/en/ai-advisory-body.

The deadline for the online submission process is 31 March 2024

6. From Dr Suchith Anand

Senior Adviser to Governments and International Organisations | Scientist | AI Ethics | AI Governance | Policy | Consultant in Data and AI Ethics | Global Citizen | SDG Volunteer and Advocate

In recognition of the vital role of satellite observations, WMO will reinvigorate its relationship with space
agencies to strengthen cooperation in an era of rapid climate, societal and technological change. Space-based observing systems constitute approximately 90 percent of the data used in global numerical weather prediction models. They are the backbone of operations of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services, providing invaluable insights that safeguard lives and property worldwide, 24/7.

Details at: https://wmo.int/media/news/wmo-reinvigorates_relations-space-agencies

So it is very timely the upcoming launch of INSAT-3DS, India’s most advanced meteorological satellite. Scheduled for lift-off on Feb 17th, 2024 aboard GSLV-F14 from Sriharikota spaceport in India, this satellite is a game-changer for weather forecasting and disaster warning. The mission is fully funded by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India.

INSAT-3DS is not just a technological marvel; it’s a crucial tool for enhanced meteorological observations, monitoring land and ocean surfaces, and improving our disaster preparedness. Its state-of-the-art payloads, including a 6-channel Imager, 19-channel Sounder meteorology payloads, and communication features like the Data Relay Transponder (DRT) and Satellite-aided Search and Rescue (SAS&R) transponder, highlight its versatile capabilities.

INSAT-3DS Satellite is a Third Generation Meteorological Satellite from Geostationary Orbit. It is designed for enhanced meteorological observations and monitoring of land and ocean surfaces for weather forecasting and disaster warning. The satellite will augment the Meteorological services along with the presently operational INSAT-3D and INSAT-3DR satellites.

https://space.oscar.wmo.int/satellites/view/insat_3ds

By leveraging better Earth observations, we can substantially bolster the effectiveness of these endeavours, ensuring more timely and accurate warnings for vulnerable communities and facilitating informed decision-making in addressing climate change challenges.

ISRO satellite mission for enhanced meteorological observations, monitoring land and ocean surfaces and study the effects of a changing climate for the benefit of humanity.