Volume 10, No. 03 March 2024







Monthly Newsletter





# Be part of "Geo for All"

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# 4. Conferences

#### Europe

#### March 2024

20-24: <u>FAIR Digital Objects: From Theory to Practice</u>
 Venue: Berlin, Germany

#### April 2024

 14-19: <u>European Geosciences</u> <u>Union General Assembly 2024</u>
 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

 01-08: <u>FOSS4G</u> (stay tuned for more news in the future)
 Venue: Belém, state of Pará, Brazil

#### Asia

#### November 2024

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

#### **North America and Central America**

#### **April 2024**

**6.** 8-11: <u>GIS/Valuation Technologies</u> 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: <u>GEOINT 2024 Symposium</u>

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 31<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Geoinformatics

Venue: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Translator and designer of the Spanish Edition











# **Editorial Board**

Diagramatanta tha annuanciata			والمامة ممانيونا
Please refer to the appropriate	person according	to the lo	nowing table.

and OSGeoLabUD research Group. Bogotá, Colombia

paulocoronado@gmail.com

Please refer to the appropriate person according to the following table:				
Chief Editor	Nikos Lambrinos, Professor, Dept. of Primary Education, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece. President of the Hellenic digital earth Centre of Excellence <a href="mailto:labrinos@eled.auth.gr">labrinos@eled.auth.gr</a>	Oceania		
Co-editor	Rizwan Bulbul, Assistant Professor of GIScience Head of Geospatial Research and Education Lab Department of Space Science, Institute of Space Technology, Islamabad, Pakistan bulbul@grel.ist.edu.pk	India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal, Burma, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Syria, Israel, Lebanon, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Yemen, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Islands of S. Pacific.		
Co-editors	Pavel Kikin, Senior Lecturer "Department of applied informatics and IT", Siberian State Univer. of Geosystems and Technologies Alexey Kolesnikov, Senior Lecturer "Department of cartography and GIS", Siberian State Univer. of Geosystems and Technologies <a href="mailto:it-technologies@yandex.ru">it-technologies@yandex.ru</a>	Russia, Mongolia, China, Japan, S. Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, Laos, Myanmar, Cambodia, Singapore, Brunei, Indonesia, Philippines, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.		
Co-editor	Rania Elsayed, Computers & Information Researcher, Division of Scientific Training & Continuous Studies, National Authority for Remote Sensing & Space Sciences, Cairo, Egypt.  ranyaalsayed@gmail.com	Africa		
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Co-editor	Sergio Acosta Y Lara, Departamento de Geomática Dirección, Nacional de Topografía, Ministerio de Transporte y Obras Públicas, URUGUAY sergio.acostaylara@mtop.gub.uy	South America		
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Production Designer	Nikos Voudrislis, MSc, PhD in geography education.  nvoudris@gmail.com	Design and final formation of the newsletter		
	Paulo César Coronado Sánchez, Professor of computer sciences at Universidad Distrital Francisco José de Caldas, Head of GISEPROI			











# **GeoForAll Themes**

OpenCity Smart

Theme under revision

Teacher Training & School Education

Chairs: Elżbieta Wołoszyńska-Wiśniewska (Poland), Nikos Lambrinos (Greece)

➤ Mail list: geoforall-teachertraining@lists. osgeo.org

➤ Website:

http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/GeoForAll TeacherTraining SchoolEducation

CitizenScience

Chairs: Peter Mooney (Ireland) and Maria Brovelli (Italy)

➤ Mail list: <a href="https://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-geocrowd">https://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-geocrowd</a>

Website:

http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/Geocrowdsourcing CitizenScience FOSS4G

AgriGIS

➤ Chairs: Didier Leibovici (U.K.) and Nobusuke Iwasaki (Japan)

➤ Mail list: <a href="https://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-agrigis">https://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-agrigis</a>

Website: <a href="http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/Agrigis">http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/Agrigis</a>

# **GeoForAll Regional Chairs and Contact Information**

#### **North America Region**

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

Email: na.gfa.chair@osgeo.org

#### **Iberoamerican Region**

Chairs: Sergio Acosta y Lara (Uruguay) and Silvana Camboim (Brazil) and Antoni Pérez Navarro (Spain). Subscribe at mail list:

https://lists.osgeo.org/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-iberoamerica

Email: geoforall-iberoamerica@lists.osgeo.org.

#### **Africa Region**

Chairs: Msilikale Msilanga (Tanzania), Serena
Coetzee (South Africa) and Bridget Fleming (South
Africa) Subscribe at mail list
<a href="http://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-africa">http://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-africa</a>

Email: africa.gfa.chair@osgeo.org

#### Asia Region (including Australia)

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

Email: asia.gfa.chair@osgeo.org

#### **Europe Region**

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

Email: eu.gfa.chair@osgeo.org











# **GeoAmbassador Content table**

July 2016, Vol.2, no.7	Prof. Georg Gartner, Vienna University of Technology
Aug 2016, Vol.2, no.8	Prof. Silvana Philippi Camboim, Federal University of Paraná, Brazil
Sep 2016, Vol.2, no.9	Nimalika Fernando, Sri Lanka
Oct 2016, Vol.2, no.10	Sergio Acosta Y Lara, Montevideo Uruguay
Nov 2016, Vol. 2, no. 11	Victoria Rautenbach, Centre of Geoinformation Science Univ. of Pretoria, South Africa
Dec 2016, Vol.2, no.12	Dr. Daria Svidzinska, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Ukraine
Jan 2017, Vol.3 no.1	Dr. Mark Ware, University of South Wakes, UK
Feb 2017, Vol.3, no. 2	Dr. Rafael Moreno Sanchez, Department of Geography and Environmental Sciences, University of Colorado Denver, USA
March 2017, Vol.3 no.3	Dr. Tuong Thuy Vu, School of Environmental and Geographical Sciences, University of Nottingham, Malaysia campus
April 2017, Vol.3 no.4	Michael P. Finn, U.S. Geological Survey
May 2017, Vol.3 no.5	Dr. Peter Mooney, Maynooth University, NASA
June 2017, Vol.3 no.6	Patrick Hogan, NASA
July 2017, Vol.3 no.7	Prof. Dr. Josef Strobl, Salzburg
September 2017, Vol.3 no.9	Bridget Fleming, South Africa
October 2017, Vol.3 no.10	Sven Schade, Joint Research Centre, Italy
November 2017, Vol.3 no.11	Luciene Stamato Delazari, Universidade Federal do Paraná in Brazil
December 2017, Vol.3 no.12	Charlie Schweik, Univ. of Massachussets, USA
January 2018, Vol.4 no.1	Julia Wagemann, European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts
February 2018,	Barend Köbben, Department of Geo-
Vol.4 no.2	Information ProcessingUniversity of Twente
March 2028, Vol.4 no.3	Kurt Menke, Birds Eye View
April 2018, Vol.4 no.4	Dr. Clous Rinner, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada
June 2018, Vol.4, no.6	Martin Landa, Department of Geomatics, Faculty of Civil Engineering, Czech Technical University (CTU) in Prague

# Lab of the Month, Content table

	·
Aug 2015, Vol.1	Open Source Geospatial Lab, Kathmandu
no.1	University, Nepal (Asia)
Sep 2015, Vol.1	FOSS4G Lab, University of Colarado Denver (USA)
no.2	
Oct 2015, Vol.1,	Open Source Geospatial Lab, University of
no.3	Southampton, UK (Europe)
Nov 2015, Vol.1	The Northeast Institute of Geography and
no.4	Agroecology of Chinese Academy of Science,
lan 2016 - Val 2	China (Asia)  Centre for Geoinformation Science, University of
Jan 2016 , Vol.2 no.1	Pretoria, South Africa, (Africa)
Feb 2016, Vol.2	Open Source Geospatial Lab, University of
no.2	Newcastle, UK, (Europe)
Mar 2016, Vol.2	SMART Open Source Geospatial Lab, University
no.3	of Wollongong, (Australia)
Apr 2016, Vol.2	Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for
no.4	Development, Nairobi, Kenya (Africa)
May 2016, Vol.2	GeoDa Centre – Arizona State University, (USA)
no.5	,,,
June 2016, Vol.2	Direccion Nacional de Topografia – MTOP
no.6	Montevideo, Uruguay, (South America)
July 2016, Vol.2	SIGTE – University of Girona, Spain (Europe)
no.7	
August 2016,	Open Source Geospatial Lab, Department of
Vol.2 no.8	Geodesy and Surveying, Budapest Univ. of
	Technology and Economics, Hungary (Europe).
September 2016,	Open Source Geospatial Lab, Faculty of Geodesy,
Vol.2 no.9	University of Zagreb, Croatia, (Europe)
October 2016,	Hellenic digital earth Centre of Excellence,
Vol.2 no.10	Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece, (Europe)
November 2016,	Department of Geoinformatics, Palacký
Vol.2 no.11	University in Olomouc, Czech Republic
December 2016,	Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkog, Thailand
Vol.2 no.12	
January 2017,	Spatial Lab, Texas A&M, Corpus Christi, USA
Vol.3 no.1	
February 2017,	Open Source Geospatial Lab, Faculty of Civil
Vol.3 no.2	Engineering, Belgrade, Serbia
March 2017, Vol.3	Geomatics and Earth Observation Laboratory
no.3	(GEOlab) , Politecnico di Milano, Italy
April 2017, Vol.3	Faculty of Civil Engineering, Department of
no.4	Geomatics, Czech Technical University in Prague,
	Czech Republic
May 2017, Vol.3	the Laboratory of socio-geographical research of
no.5	the University of Siena, ITALY
June 2017, Vol.3 no.6	A World Bridge program
July 2017, Vol.3	Department of Civil, Environmental and
no.7	Mechanical Engineering of the University of
1.5.7	Trento, Italy
August 2017,	Institute of Geography, Faculty of Science, Pavol
Vol.3 no.8	Jozef Šafárik University in Košice, Slovakia
November 2020,	Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC), Spain
Vol.6 no.11	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
January 2021,	gvSIG Uruguay Community, Uruguay
Vol.7 no.01	











#### 5. Webinars

 If you want to start learning how to use QGIS, there are some excellent free resources at <a href="https://www.gislounge.com/free-ways-to-learn-qgis/">https://www.gislounge.com/free-ways-to-learn-qgis/</a>

# 7. Training programs

- GeoForAll educational materials have been transferred to our new web site. <u>GeoForAll</u> <u>educational inventory system, a place to search</u> 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: <a href="mailto:training@eumetsat.int">training@eumetsat.int</a>

 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/UCGS162t4hk
   OA0b35ucf1yng/videos
   to get videos of QGIS applications, representations and ideas.
- You can download the full proceedings of the OSM Science 2023 conference from <a href="https://zenodo.org/records/10443403">https://zenodo.org/records/10443403</a>

#### 12. Article

#### **Acronyms**

by **Nikos Lambrinos**, Chief Editor, and **Michael** 

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: Cartograhy and Geographic Information

Society

CCGI: Collaboratively Contributed Geographic

Information

CEGIS: Center of Excellence for Geospatial

Information Science

CEOS: 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

ECMWF: 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

GSoC: 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

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

Hydrometeorologyand Enviromental 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 Infrastructure eDucation

nEtwoRk











SQL: Structured Query Language

STISA 2024: Science Technology Innovation

Strategy for Africa

STSM: Short Term Scientific Missions

SWIR: Short Wave Infrared

TIN: Triangulated Irregular Network

**UAV: Unmanned Aerial Vehicle UML: Unified Modeling Language** 

UN-GGIM: United Nations Global Geospatial

Information Management

USGS: U.S. Geological Survey

USGIF: United States Geospatial Intelligence

Foundation

VGI: Volunteered Geographic Information

VNIR: Visible Near Infrared

XSEDE: Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery

Environment

WCS: Web Coverage Service

WFS: Web Feature Service

WGCapD: Working Group on Capacity Building and

**Data Democracy** 

WGS: World Geodetic System

WISERD: Wales Institute of Social & Economic

Research, Data & Methods

WMO: World Meteorological Organization

WMS: Web Map Service

WMTS: Web Map Tiles Services

**WOIS: Water Observation Information System** 

**WPS: Web Processing Service** 

# 17. Ideas / Information

1. If you are interested in educational material, then go https://www.osgeo.org/initiatives/geo-for-all/inyour-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 | Al Ethics | Al 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 More details of the Forum at

https://www.unesco.org/en/forum-ethics-ai



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.

https://www.unesco.org/en/artificial-Details at: intelligence/recommendation-ethics

3. CARLOS LÓPEZ-VÁZQUEZ, Head of the Academic Liason 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 <a href="https://comisiones.ipgh.org/CARTOGRAFIA/">https://comisiones.ipgh.org/CARTOGRAFIA/</a>
Premio/Tesis Msc 2024/

Poster Premio Cartografia MSc 2024 EN.pdf

Updates will be available soon at <a href="https://comisiones.ipgh.org/CARTOGRAFIA/Premi">https://comisiones.ipgh.org/CARTOGRAFIA/Premi</a> oMSc 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 | Al Ethics | Al Governance | Policy | Consultant in Data and Al 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 Ka Amrit Mahotsav Azadi 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 the to learn

fundamentals of spaceflight.

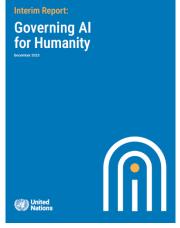
More details at:

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 | Al Ethics | Al Governance | Policy | Consultant in Data and Al 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 | Al Ethics | Al Governance | Policy | Consultant in Data and Al Ethics | Global Citizen | SDG Volunteer and Advocate

In recognition of the vital role of satellite observations, WMO will reinvigorate its relationship with space







# **GeoForAll**



agencies to strengthen cooperation in 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: <a href="https://wmo.int/media/news/wmo-reinvigorates-relations-space-agencies">https://wmo.int/media/news/wmo-reinvigorates-relations-space-agencies</a>



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-theart 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.

More details at <a href="https://www.isro.gov.in/GSLV-F14">https://www.isro.gov.in/GSLV-F14</a> INSAT-3DS mission.html

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.



