Dear Members of GeoForAll,

We are proud to announce that our Newsletter has become bilingual from this issue. That was a target we had from the first time we established the English version of the Newsletter. The new version is in Spanish and became a reality thanks to a lot of Spanish speaking people. I would like to thank Sergio Acosta Y Lara and the newly established Iberoamerica Group for their initiative to make this happen; Paulo Cesar Coronado from Universidad Francisco José de Caldas, Colombia; and our colleagues from OSGeoLab UD (http://comunidad.udistrital.edu.co/osgeolabud/) who are pleased to collaborate with the translation to Spanish of our newsletter. Also I would like to thank Nikos Voudrislis, our Production Designer, for sharing his job with our colleagues from OSGeoLab UD. The templates he has formed will be the guide for the production of the Spanish edition which will be identical to the English version. This is because we don’t want to have a new Newsletter but an “extension” in Spanish of the existing.

The Spanish version will be uploaded onto the GeoForAll site in pdf and HTML format and you may read or download whichever you want.

I can say that this a kind of test. We are going to test if we will be able to publish both editions in the same time and with the same quality. If we succeed (it will take time and few issues to find out) then I hope that we may have it in another language as well. As long as we have more volunteers we can produce more.

Finally, there is no “Lab of the Month” article in this issue not because there are no Labs left to introduce, but because it was difficult to have an article in August. Fortunately, there are many Labs which are doing an excellent job for G4A and OSGeo, and we will start introducing them in the next issue.

Have a nice reading,

Nikos Lambrinos
## Editorial Board

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GeoForAll Regional Chairs and Contact Information

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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.

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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)
  - 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: https://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-geocrowd
  - Website: http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/Geocrowdsourcing_CitizenScience_FOSS4G

- AgriGIS
  - Chairs: Didier Leibovici (U.K.) and Nobusuke Iwasaki (Japan)
  - Mail list: https://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-agrigis
  - Website: http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/Agrigis
1. Activities of the Network

- **Ottawa, Ontario, OSGeo Meetup Group** meets on the third Thursday of each month. If you are located in the area, go to the link to sign up to the group and get updates about future events. ([http://www.meetup.com/OttawaOSGeo/](http://www.meetup.com/OttawaOSGeo/)).

- Dr. Bastian Drees (The German National Library of Science and Technology (TIB), Communication and Marketing/Competence Center for non-textual Materials, Department for Research and Development) informed our community that they added the videos from FOSS4G 2014 and 2015 to their collection of FOSS4G videos in the AV-Portal. All videos can be found via these links:
  2014: [https://av.tib.eu/series/336/foss4g+2014+portland](https://av.tib.eu/series/336/foss4g+2014+portland)
  2015: [https://av.tib.eu/series/169/foss4g+seoul+2015](https://av.tib.eu/series/169/foss4g+seoul+2015)

  This increases the total number of FOSS4G videos to 658 videos from the years 2013 to 2016 with the videos of 2017 coming soon. Moreover there are 45 “historical” videos from the 2002 FOSS4G predecessor Open Source GIS – GRASS user conference in Trento, Italy, that can be found at:

  All videos are assigned a digital object identifier (DOI) and a media fragment identifier. This allows viewers to cite videos as a whole or single segments separately.

  The videos of all FOSS4G Conferences in the AV-Portal are available here:


2. B) GeoAmbassador of the Month

Bridget Fleming

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

Dear Colleagues,

It is my great pleasure to introduce Bridget Fleming from South Africa as our GeoAmbassador of the Month. Bridget Fleming is the regional chair of GeoForAll Africa and has been actively expanding geospatial education opportunities for all. Bridget is a passionate advocate for using Geotechnologies in the classroom. She is the IEB (Independent Examination Board) geography national moderator and has authored a number of textbooks and digital classroom resources. She has recently returned to the classroom after a few years of running a start-up GIS company where she was involved in Geospatial education and training. She is on the National GIASSA council (Education portfolio) and is the Chair of the Southern African Geography Teachers’ Association (SAGTA). She is presently HOD Geography at St John’s College in South Africa.

Bridget is also one of the key organizers behind the success of the recent SAGTA+FOSS4G Africa conference hosted by St John’s College in Houghton, Johannesburg. Bridget kindly sent the summary and photos which are included below to give the bigger idea of the amazing work that she and colleagues are doing.
From 26-30 June 2017 for the SAGTA, OSGeo Africa and the QGIS South Africa User Group held the FOSS4G Africa 2017 conference at the school, hosted by the geography department. GIS is a burgeoning industry and is part of the school curriculum in South Africa. However, many schools do not have the facilities to teach it, and most teachers don’t have the training. The first two days of the conference saw over forty geography teachers and academics gather to address these issues, share their insights, and get some hands-on training. GIS is a small component of the curriculum, yet its greatest impact is through using it to teach geography and other subjects. It can play a major role in improving spatial literacy in learners.

Highlights included talks and a workshop by Malcolm McInerney, the Australian keynote speaker; demonstrations of the tangible landscape in Mrs Jones’ geography classroom; and hands-on QGIS workshops.

On the Tuesday, SASDI (South African Spatial Data Infrastructure) held a successful workshop for fifty GIS professionals, academics and government officials in the Jeffrey auditorium.
On the Wednesday, another thirty members of the GIS industry arrived for their three-day technical conference, along with seventy members of GIS Society of South Africa (GISSA) for their quarterly general meeting. This was the big day of the conference, intended as an overlap between education and industry. Among several excellent education-related and technical GIS presentations were two panel discussions. In one, educators discussed their requirements and how industry could help. In the other, industry discussed career paths and the skills required from the education system.

Some of the geekier delegates moved off-campus on the Saturday for a GIS software code-sprint at the Johannesburg Centre for Software Engineering in Braamfontein, a great new IT innovation hub opened recently by Wits. More details at https://foss4g-africa.org/en/home/

I am sure Bridget and colleagues will expand these ideas for the future. We are looking forward to building strong research and teaching collaborations worldwide in Open Geospatial Science. We are proud to honour Bridget as our GeoAmbassador, and we are extremely grateful for her contributions to GeoForAll.

Best wishes
Suchith Anand

4. Conferences

Asia
September 2017
1. 18-22 September: WebMGS 2017 (during the ISPRS Geospatial Week).
   Venue: Wuhan, China.

December 2017
2. 9 December: SIGOPEN 2017 Developmental Workshop for Research on Open Phenomena, collocated with ICIS 2017
   Venue: Seoul, South Korea
   Submission Date: October 4th
   Notification of Acceptance to the Workshop: October 20th

Europe
September 2017
3. 6-8 September: INSPIRE Conference 2017
   Venue: Strasbourg, France

4. 7-8 September: 2nd Geoprocess Global Forum.
   International Conference on Sustainability and Energy Issues
Venue: Brussels
For more information write to: info@geoprogress.eu

5. 16 September: GeoCamp
Venue: Almeria, Spain

6. 25-28 September: Third Earth Observation Open Science community consultation
Venue: ESRIN (Frascati, Rome, Italy)

October 2017
7. 2-3 October: 2nd International Conference on GIS and Remote Sensing
Theme: Mapping the Future with GIS & Advancement in Remote Sensing
Venue: Vienna, Austria

8. 18-20 October: gvSIG International Conference
Venue: Valencia, Spain.
Inscription are open

November 2017
9. 20-22 November: 7th National Meeting of Open GIS of Portugal (in Portuguese)
Venue: Porto.
Contact person: Dr. Jorge Gustavo Rocha (jgr@di.uminho.pt)

10. 28-30 November: BiDS’17
Venue: Centre de Congrès Pierre Baudis, Toulouse, France

June 2018
Venue: Lund, Sweden

North and Central America and the Caribbean

September 2017
13. 14-15 September: HOT Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team Summit 2017
Venue: Ottawa ON, Canada.
More details soon.

14. 19-21 September: Research Data Alliance (RDA) 10th RDA Plenary meeting
Venue: Montreal, Canada.

15. 20-22 September: AGIC Education and Training Symposium
Venue: Prescott, Arizona, USA

Venue: Havana Libre Tryp Hotel, Havana, Cuba.

October 2017
17. 4-6 October: 2nd International Conference on Smart Data and Smart Cities
Venue: Puebla, Mexico.
For a pdf in English please write to Sergio Acosta Y Lara (sergio.acostaylara@mtop.gub.uy)

March 2018
18. 19-23 March: 10th International Congress of Geomatics GEOMÁTICA 2018
Venue: Havana, Cuba
Convention Website: http://www.informaticahabana.cu/es

South America

October 2017
19. 4-6 October: gvSIG days in Latin America
Venue: Santa María (Rio Grande do Sul – Brasil)

October 2018
12. 1-5 October: ISPRS Com IV Symposium
Venue: Delft, The Netherlands
6. Courses


- Learn GIS for free: The complete course

- A beginner level free GIS course is available at the following link: https://blog.gvsig.org/2017/08/01/learn-gis-for-free-the-complete-course/. This course uses gvSIG 2.1 to explore GIS tools, concepts, terminology, how to analyze and symbolize data, make your own maps, working with projections, etc.

7. Training programs

- GeoForAll educational inventory system, a place to search and share educational materials

8. Key Research Publications

From Dr. Suchith Anand, Nottingham Geospatial Institute, University of Nottingham, UK

Dear Colleagues

I would like to invite you to join the GeoForAll AgriGIS thematic that is lead by Dr. Didier Leibovici and Dr. Nobusuke Iwasaki (National Institute for Agro-Environmental Sciences, Japan) and contribute your expertise to globally advance Agriculture knowledge sharing.

Building upon the research that my colleagues and I did for “Geospatial binding for transdisciplinary research in crop science: the GRASPgfs initiative” http://rdcu.be/yRi6 [1], I would like to invite all interested to join us for expanding AgriGIS research based on open philosophy. Geospatial genetic-trait variations and associations with environmental forecasting were the main focus of the GRASPgfs. Designing the platform achieving this objective generated a transdisciplinary vision of modeling and forecasting for sustainable agriculture. Based on interoperability principles, seamless access, as well as sharing for data, metadata, and processing models, the design is described in this paper. This geospatial binding facilitates and supports new types of hypotheses and analyses, as illustrated in the paper, with a landscape genetic case study (bambara groundnut) and a crop disease model (eyespot disease). The approach and the eGRASP platform are generic enough to accommodate further complexity into the integrated modeling that this geospatial binding enables.

You can get some overview of GRASP from AgriGIS workshop that we held at Nottingham https://rd-alliance.org/sites/default/files/AgriGIS2014.pdf

We are also contributing to RDA’s Agriculture Data IG, and I have presented our work at the RDA Agriculture IG sessions looking into Geospatial interoperability in Agriculture research. https://rd-alliance.org/sites/default/files/GRASP_GFS_for_RDA_Dublin2014.pdf

Geospatial interoperability and open source standards-based GIS and open data will help deliver holistic solutions in geospatial technologies in AgriGIS by enabling the ready integration of separate location-relevant technologies and lowering costs. The expanding range of open source GIS tools and open data will greatly enhance the use of geospatial technologies in agriculture and facilitates the sharing of information across various stakeholders and collaborative work.

BBRC Funded GRASP is a good example of open philosophy (open source, open standards, open data, open access) in AgriGIS research, and now with over 100 dedicated Open Source Geospatial Labs already established in universities and research organisations around the world as part of the "Geo for All" initiative, we are now expanding research in AgriGIS through our global research labs for this. Please join...
us at https://lists.osgeo.org/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-agrigis and let us work together to support open principles in agriculture research to deal with the urgent challenge of ensuring world food security.


9. Funding opportunities

- The call for the third competition of free sig projects is open. There are three categories: for doctoral thesis, final degree projects, and even secondary school projects. More details at: http://gvsig.edu.umh.es/concurso-catedra-gvsig/

10. New free and open software, open data, etc.

- The Open Source Geospatial Foundation is pleased to announce that Orfeo ToolBox (OTB) has graduated from incubation and is now a full fledged OSGeo project. OTB is an open-source project for state-of-the-art remote sensing. It can process high resolution optical, multispectral, and radar images at the terabyte scale. All of OTB’s algorithms are accessible as QGIS plugins or the Monteverdi visualization tool - or for developers Python, command line, or C++. More information at the following links:
  http://www.osgeo.org/news/otb-graduation
  https://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/OTB_Project_Incubation_Status

11. Free Books, educational materials, etc.

- Free book available: “Learning GIS with Game of Thrones”

- Number 22 of Spanish journal of science and technology of geographic information. “Revista Internacional de Ciencia y Tecnología de la Información Geográfica” is published in open:
http://www.geofocus.org/index.php/geofocus/issue/view/22

- Free GeoSUR Newsletter Volume 4, No. 5-6-7, 2017 is now available for download in English and Spanish version. GeoSUR Newsletter seeks to disseminate GeoSUR Program’s achievements and characteristics as well as events, projects, and best practices for the application of GI in sustainable development and decision making in the region, as part of the Geospatial Data Infrastructure of the Americas.

12. Articles

Abbreviations

by Nikos Lambrinos, Chief Editor, and Michael Finn.

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

3DEP: 3-D Elevation Program
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
BIM: Building Information Modelling
CAADP: Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme
CAD: Computer Aided Design
CaGIS: Cartography and Geographic Information Society
CEGIS: Center of Excellence for Geospatial Information Science
CEOS: Committee on Earth Observation Satellites
CI: CyberInfrastructure
CLGE: The Council of European Geodetic Surveyors
CODATA: Committee on Data for Science and Technology
COGO: Coordinate geometry
CRS: Coordinate Reference System
CSA: Canadian Space Agency
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
FOSS: Free and Open Source Software
17. Ideas / Information

1. There is a new YouTube channel where we will be posting the Geo4All webinar recordings and other related videos. Subscribe to it (click on red button on right hand side).
Check it out: YouTube Channel
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL1E2akvCNWP_nC0p5Cp88g

2. To post your FOSS4G educational information go to http://www.osgeo.org/education. There you can find more educational activities posted by members of our community.

3. ISPRS Commission IV (http://www.commission4.isprs.org) is starting the organization of the ISPRS Com IV Symposium, that will take place in Delft, The Netherlands, on October 1-5 2018. It will be jointly organized with 3D Geoinfo (http://3dgeoinfo2017.com), 3D Cadastres (http://www.gdmc.nl/3dcadastres), and UDM-SCSD (http://www.udms.net).
All the ISPRS Working Groups under Commission IV will meet on that occasion, including our WG IV/4 "Collaborative Crowdsourced Cloud Mapping (C³M)" chaired by Prof. Maria Antonia Brovelli (see the ToR at http://www2.isprs.org/commissions/comm4/wg4.html).
As WG IV/4, we are going to organize a one-day event at the Symposium with academic sessions related to the WG topics, and to collect papers (to be published on ISPRS Annals/Archives) accordingly. Optionally, we are also going to organize a workshop with students or professionals.

Despite the meeting happening in more than one year from today, we would like to let you know about it and invite you all to attend. Participation is open to everyone, you don’t need to be a member of an ISPRS Commission. Feel free to contact Marco Minghini (marco.minghini@polimi.it) if you need more information.

4. There is an article on the 2017 FOSS4G Conference in the Directions Magazine where you can find information about the Conference in Boston.

5. We would like to welcome our colleagues from A) School of Science & Technology GeoForAll Lab of The University of Fiji. Contact persons Professor A B M Shawkat Ali and Edwin Liava’a (shawkata@unifiji.ac.fj; edwinl@unifiji.ac.fj);
B) Laboratorio de Geomática de la Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Sede Bogotá, contact persons Dr. Ivan Alberto Lizarazo Salcedo (ializarazos@unal.edu.co Facultad de Ciencias Agrarias); MSc. Samuel Mesa (femesagi@unal.edu.co Facultad de Ingeniería); and
C) Centro de Investigación en Recursos Naturales y Sustentabilidad (CIRENYS), Universidad Bernardo O Higgins contact persons Aly Valderrama (alyvalderrama@gmail.com) and Carlos Lara (carlos.lara@ubo.cl) who have joined our GeoForAll Labs community recently as the 118th, 119th, and 120th members, respectively.