



GeoForAll

Monthly Newsletter



Be part of "Geo for All"

Table of Contents

- Editorial 2
- Editorial Board 2
- 1. Activities 1
- 2. A) Lab of the month.....
- B) GeoAmbassador 1
- 3. Events 4
- 4. Conferences 5
- 5. Webinars 6
- 6. Courses 6
- 7. Training programs 6
- 8. Key research publication
- 9. Funding opportunities
- 10. New free and open software, open data 6
- 11. Free Books 6
- 12. Articles 6
- 13. Scholarships for students and staff 8
- 14. Exchange programs for students and staff
- 15. Awards
- 16. Web sites
- 17. Ideas 10
- 18. Social contribution

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/)
- An excellent presentation about GeoForAll by Antoni Pérez Navarro (in Spanish):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CTswLQwB9ME&feature=youtu.be>.
- HOT Mapping Visualisation Tool seeking advanced developer and UX designer. This is a remote position, deadline to apply is December 15. More details available at
<https://www.hotosm.org/job/hot-mapping-visualisation-tool/2017>

2. B) GeoAmbassador of the Month

Professor Charlie Schweik



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

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the GeoForAll community, it is my great pleasure to honour Charles (Charlie) Schweik as our GeoAmbassador. Charlie Schweik is a full professor at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, USA, in a joint appointment between the Department of Environmental Conservation and the School of Public Policy.



Charlie has an undergraduate degree in Computer Science, a Masters of Public Administration from Syracuse University, and a PhD in Public Policy from Indiana University.



Editorial Board

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

Chief Editor 	<p>Nikos Lambrinos, Professor, Dept. of Primary Education, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece. President of the Hellenic digital earth Centre of Excellence labrinos@eled.auth.gr</p>	Oceania
Co-editor 	<p>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</p>	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 	<p>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 it-technologies@yandex.ru</p>	Russia, Mongolia, China, Japan, S. Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, Laos, Myanmar, Cambodia, Singapore, Brunei, Indonesia, Philippines, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.
Co-editor 	<p>Rania Elsayed, Computers & Information Researcher, Division of Scientific Training & Continuous Studies, National Authority for Remote Sensing & Space Sciences, Cairo, Egypt. ranyaalsayed@gmail.com</p>	Africa
Co-editor 	<p>Seraphim Alvanides, Reader (Geographical Information Science) Northumbria University, Newcastle NE1 8ST, United Kingdom. s.alvanides@gmail.com</p>	Scandinavian countries, Denmark, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, UK, Ireland, Iceland
Co-editor 	<p>Antoni Perez Navaro, Associate Professor at Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC) Computer Sciences and Multimedia Department aperezn@uoc.edu</p>	Italy, Malta, Spain, Portugal, France, Belgium, The Netherlands, Luxemburg.
Co-editor 	<p>Emma Strong, Planner with the City of Gulfport, Mississippi eestrong118@gmail.com</p>	North and Central America
Co-editor 	<p>Sergio Acosta Y Lara, Departamento de Geomática Dirección, Nacional de Topografía, Ministerio de Transporte y Obras Públicas, URUGUAY sergio.acostaylara@mtop.gub.uy</p>	South America
Co-editor 	<p>Codrina Ilie, PhD student at the Technical University of Civil Engineering, Bucharest, Romania</p>	The Balkans, Ukraine, Moldavia, Estonia, Lithuania, Belarus, Latvia, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia
Production Designer 	<p>Nikos Voudrislis, MSc, PhD in geography education. nvoudris@gmail.com</p>	Design and final formation of the newsletter



GeoForAll Regional Chairs and Contact Information

North America Region

Chairs: Helena Mitasova (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

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: 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

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

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

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>



At UMass since 1999, he has regularly offered an introduction to Geographic Information Systems to undergraduate and graduate students in natural resource conservation majors, as well as to students in UMass' Masters of Public Policy and Administration program. Schweik began his research career studying landcover change -- usually deforestation or reforestation -- using GIS and Landsat satellite-based remote sensing, and connecting that to the social science study of natural resource "commons" governance and management.

Beginning around the year 1998, his computer science background converged with this interest in commons and common property regimes, when he first heard the phrases "Free/Libre" or "Open Source" software. Since then, much of his research has focused on the study of Free/Libre and Open Source Software (FLOSS) as a form of Internet-based collective action. In 2012, he published his book, *Internet Success: A Study of Open Source Software Commons* (MIT Press) [1], which includes a statistical analysis of over 170,000 open source software projects, looking for factors that lead projects either to ongoing collaboration or project abandonment. One of the chapters in the book qualitatively studies six OSGeo projects, investigating similarities and differences in the way they are governed and managed. Among other things, he learned from this study that open source software collaboration is not about the establishment of large development teams, but are usually made up of smaller teams of two to three developers with an interest or a "user-centered need" for that software. He also discovered that more than half of the successful ongoing collaborations in his dataset gained a developer from another continent [2]. Since completing that work, Schweik continues to expand his interest in the potential and promise of global Internet-based collaboration in the development of open source scientific hardware and in open educational resources (OER). Most recently, he gave a GeoForAll webinar [3] where he emphasized the untapped potential of the GeoForAll network in CPPP in Free and Open Source for Geospatial research and education. He is actively trying to encourage educators and geospatial scientists at GeoForAll labs

to find areas of mutual need and interest to start cross-lab collaborations in FOSS4G-related research or educational content development.

GeoForAll is committed to work towards the vision of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for building a better world for everyone. Open Education is the simple and powerful idea that the world's knowledge is a public good and that technology in general and the internet in particular provide an extraordinary opportunity for everyone to share, use, and reuse knowledge. Openness is key for true empowerment and sustainability.

We are proud to honor Charlie as our GeoAmbassador, and we are extremely grateful for his contributions to GeoForAll.

Best wishes,
Suchith Anand

[1] e-book freely available for download at https://works.bepress.com/charles_schweik/29/

[2] <https://www.thecommonsjournal.org/articles/10.18352/ijc.397/>

[3] <https://youtu.be/dVCDME7cxUA>

3. Events

- The 15th International Geography Olympiad (iGeo) will be hosted by Canada from July 31 to August 6, 2018, in Quebec City. iGeo-2018 is organized under the auspices of the International Geographical Union (IGU) through the IGU Olympiad Task Force, in cooperation with the Canadian Association of Geographers, the Royal Canadian Geographical Society and the Université Laval. This is an event for students age 16 to 19. For more information, visit: <http://igeo2018.ulaval.ca/>.
- On November 14 and 15, the Agricultural Chief Scientists of the G20 countries met for their annual meeting in Potsdam under the German Presidency. The Chief Scientists stated in the Communiqué of the meeting:
"Acknowledging the growing relevance of 'open



access' and 'open data' within the global agri-food sector, tracing back to respective suggestion of the United States at 1st MACS in Mexico (2012) and taking note of the discussions on information and communications technology (ICT) in agriculture in further G20 formats, Germany hosted an expert workshop on Linked Open Data in Agriculture, which was conducted in Berlin on 27th and 28th September 2017. Participants presented a wide range of applications and use cases of Linked Open Data from different countries, discussed strategic and political issues to be addressed and planned further activities".

More details at

<http://www.godan.info/news/emphasis-open-data-2017-meeting-g20-agricultural-chief-scientists>

4. Conferences

Asia

December 2017

1. 9 December: [SIGOPEN 2017](#) Developmental Workshop for Research on Open Phenomena, collocated with ICIS 2017
Venue: Seoul, South Korea

Europe

February 2018

2. 19-22 February: [FOSS4G-IT 2018](#)
Venue: Rome, Italy.

April 2018

3. 17-20 April: [GISRUK 2018](#) - 26th annual GIScience Research UK conference
Venue: University of Leicester, UK.
The closing date for the submission is on December 15th, 2017

June 2018

4. 13-15 June: [21st International AGILE Conference, AGILE 2018](#) "Geospatial Technologies for All".
Venue: Lund, Sweden

October 2018

5. 1-5 October: [ISPRS Com IV Symposium](#)
Venue: Delft, The Netherlands

North and Central America and the Caribbean

March 2018

6. 19-23 March: 10th International Congress of Geomatics [GEOMÁTICA 2018](#)
Venue: Havana, Cuba
Convention Website:
<http://www.informaticahabana.cu/es>

May 2018

7. 14-18 May: [FOSS4G North America](#)
St. Louis, Missouri, USA
[Call for papers](#): Workshop submission deadline is January 15, 2018. Talk submission deadline is February 8, 2018.

Africa

April 2018

8. 17-19 April: [7th Digital Earth Summit](#) "Digital Earth for Sustainable Development in Africa"
Venue: Faculty of Science, Chouaib Douakkali University El Jadida, Morocco.

August 2018

9. 27-28 August: FOSS4G 2018 Workshop
28-31 August: FOSS4G 2018: Main Conference
Venue: Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
The deadlines of the FOSS4G Academic Track in Dar Es Salaam have been changed in this way:
Abstract Submission deadline is 15 February 2018
Abstract acceptance notice is 15 March 2018
Early Bird Registration closes 15 May 2018
Camera ready paper for the Proceedings has to be submitted by 30 April 2018

September 2018

10. 1-2 September: FOSS4G 2018: Code Sprints and Community Events
Venue: Dar es Salaam, Tanzania



October 2018

11. 22-26 October: [International Data Week](#) 'Digital Frontiers of Global Science'
Venue: Gaborone, Botswana

5. Webinars

Free software days 2018 in Girona, Spain in June 7-8, 2018 (<http://www.sigte.udg.edu/jornadassiglibre>)

The call for workshops proposals is now open:

<http://www.sigte.udg.edu/jornadassiglibre/convocatoria-talleres/>

People can propose two kind of tutorials:

- + 1 hour demo of a tool.
- + 4 hours workshop for any topic related with free GIS.

7. Training programs

- [GeoForAll educational inventory system, a place to search and share educational materials](#)

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

- pgRouting Updates
 - pgRouting version 2.5.1 can be downloaded from <https://github.com/pgRouting/pgrouting/releases/tag/v2.5.1> and the documentation can be found at <http://docs.pgrouting.org/2.5/en/index.html>
 - osm2pgrouting version 2.3.0 can be downloaded from <https://github.com/pgRouting/osm2pgrouting/releases/tag/v2.3.0> and the documentation can be found at <https://github.com/pgRouting/osm2pgrouting/wiki/Documentation-for-osm2pgrouting->

v2.3

- pgRoutingLayer version 2.2.0 documentation can be found at <https://github.com/pgRouting/pgRoutingLayer/wiki/Documentation-v2.2>. In QGIS plugins, select pgRoutingLayer and click on "upgrade Plugin."
- The GeoTools team is happy to announce the release of the new stable version of the GeoTools library. See the [blog post](#) for further details.
- The GeoServer team are happy to announce the release of GeoServer 2.12.0 as the new stable release based on GeoTools 18.0. This release sees the results of the 2017 Code Sprint upgrade of the REST API from Restlet to Spring MVC. It also now provides the ability to cascade WMST servers in the same way that WMS cascading has always worked. Many other improvements and bug fixes are included, please see the [blog post](#) for full details.
- **gvSIG Mobile:** An updated gvSIG mobile app is available in the Google Play Store on Android devices.

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

BBSRC: Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council

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

FOSS4G: Free and Open Source Software For Geospatial

GCP: Ground Control Point

GloFAS: Global Flood Awareness System

GNSS: Global Navigational Satellite System

GPS: Global Positioning System

GPX: GPS Exchange Format

GRASPgfs: Geospatial Resource for Agricultural Species and Pests and Pathogens with workflow integrated modeling to support Global Food Security

HOT: Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team

HPC: high-performance computing

ICA: International Cartographic Association

ICSU-WDS: International Council for Science – World Data System

INSPIRE: Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe

ISPRS: International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing

JAXA: Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency

KML: Keyhole Markup Language

LiDAR: Light Detection and Ranging

LOC: Local Organizing Committee

LOD: Level Of Detail

MIL: Media and Information Literacy

MoU: Memorandum of Understanding

NAD: North American Datum

NCSA: National Center for Supercomputing Applications

NED: National Elevation Dataset

NEPAD: NEw Partnership for African Development

NGA: National Geospatial Intelligence Agency

NHD: National Hydrologic Dataset

NLCD: National Land Cover Dataset

NSDI: National Spatial Data Infrastructure

NSF: National Science Foundation



OER: Open Educational Resources
 OGC: Open Geospatial Consortium
 OSGeo: Open Source Geospatial Foundation
 OSM: OpenStreetMap
 OTB: Orfeo Tool Box
 RCMRD: Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development
 RDA: Research Data Alliance
 ROSHYDROMET: Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring
 RUFORUM: Regional Universities Forum for capacity building in agriculture
 SaaS: Software as a Service
 SDI: Spatial Data Infrastructure
 SIGTE: The GIS and Remote Sensing Service of the University of Girona, Spain
 SQL: Structured Query Language
 STISA 2024: Science Technology Innovation Strategy for Africa
 STSM: Short Term Scientific Missions
 TIN: Triangulated Irregular Network
 UAV: Unmanned Aerial Vehicle
 UN-GGIM: United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management
 USGS: U.S. Geological Survey
 USGIF: United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation
 VGI: Volunteered Geographic Information
 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

13. Scholarships for students and staff

- Erasmus Mundus seeking grant students. Master of Science in Geospatial Technologies. More details at: <http://mastergeotech.info> and <https://www.facebook.com/mastergeotech/>
- The cutting-edge Ph.D. program in Geospatial Analytics (go.ncsu.edu/geospatial-phd) at North Carolina State University's Center for Geospatial Analytics (geospatial.ncsu.edu) is now accepting applications for Fall 2018 enrollment. Twelve fully funded graduate assistantships with \$25,000 salary, benefits, and tuition support are available. The application deadline is February 1, 2018. The Center for Geospatial Analytics at NC State is an internationally recognized collaborative hub for interdisciplinary data scientists advancing novel understanding of spatial phenomena and applying new knowledge to grand challenges. Ph.D. students will receive multidisciplinary advising and the opportunity to work with over twenty faculty fellows with diverse expertise from nearly a dozen departments across NC State. Students with backgrounds in quantitative methods in geography, geomatics, informatics, and remote sensing are strongly encouraged to apply. We welcome students interested in pushing the boundaries of geospatial analytics and technology from a variety of perspectives, including design, cognitive science, natural resources and the environment, computer science, engineering, and more. Faculty at the center develop and apply innovative techniques that include tangible user interfaces and 3D visualizations, novel remote sensing and image processing algorithms, open source software solutions, dynamic spatio-



temporal modeling, participatory research with stakeholders, and citizen science. NC State's unique graduate program in Geospatial Analytics also includes an off-campus professional internship within government (local, state, federal), industry, nonprofit, private, or academic research organizations. Additional details and complete application instructions are available at go.ncsu.edu/geospatial-phd. Interested students are also encouraged to contact Rachel Kasten, Graduate Services Coordinator (rachelkasten@ncsu.edu or 919-515-2800), with any questions.

- The YouthMappers program invites applications for the 2018 YouthMappers Research Fellowship, a 9-month program designed to enlist, enable, and showcase the contributions of open geospatial data for research on resilience of vulnerable populations around the world. The proposed research projects must create and use open data, meet a standard of excellence and address the competitive criteria listed in the full call for applications, available at this webpage: www.youthmappers.org/researchfellowship



Applications should be submitted by a team of two: 1) a university student (either undergraduate, masters or doctoral level) and 2) his/her faculty mentor or thesis advisor. Eligibility is restricted to members of YouthMappers chapters created and in good standing by December 1, 2017. The Fellowship will provide support and costs to attend a Research Methodology Symposia in the United States and also a fellowship award of a total of \$8,000 to be used as specified in the fellowship guidelines. Networking and additional mentoring by international experts will be part of the program and to connect proposed research results with relevant international stakeholder organizations.

- The GeoTech Center is pleased to announce the [2018 Undergraduate Geospatial Technology Skills Competition!](#) The intent of the competition is to showcase the geospatial technology skills of U.S. undergraduate students. Competing students will create a project that utilizes geospatial technology to address a real-world problem. The student will then present the project and the resulting deliverables as a Poster that not only highlights their use of geospatial technology, but also demonstrates their communication and presentation skills.

The competition is software neutral.

Applicants must meet all of the requirements below to qualify for the competition (questions regarding eligibility can be directed to either Tom Mueller (Mueller@calu.edu):

- Applicants must be the age of 18 or older;
- Applicants must be enrolled during the Spring 2018 term in a geospatial technology course (e.g., geographic information systems, remote sensing, GPS/GNSS, etc.) or geospatial technology program at an accredited 2-year or 4-year U.S. institution (undergraduate status);
- Applicants must reside in the U.S.;
- All work and cartographic output must be the original work of the applicant;
- Only one entry allowed per student; and
- Only individual student submissions allowed (no group projects).
- The winners will be awarded registration, travel and accommodations to the 2018 GeoEd Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. The winners will also present their posters at this conference.
- Applications due April 20th at 1pm eastern.
- You are highly encouraged to visit the [website](#) of the competition and get more information.



17. Ideas / Information

1. 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.

2. Open Geospatial Data, Software and Standards (ISSN: 2363-7501)

Special Issue: Open Source Geospatial Software

Call for Papers

(<https://opengeospatialdata.springeropen.com/osgs>)

The use of open source software has nowadays become well-established in our society. In the geospatial domain, the creation and evolution of open source software projects are typically based on a crowdsourcing mechanism counting on communities (project leaders, users, developers, translators, etc.) from all over the world. The importance of open source geospatial software, also termed FOSS4G (Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial), has become so high that the Open Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGeo) was created to support and promote its development and widespread adoption. In addition to being chosen for ethical reasons, nowadays open source geospatial software is exploited in science and research, as the transparency of code ensures reproducibility of analyses and results, and in education, as it allows sustainability by avoiding dependence on proprietary vendors. Open source geospatial software represents also an established business model for many companies worldwide. With these premises, this Special Issue of the Journal of Open Geospatial Data, Software and Standards invites original research contributions and/or software implementations on all aspects of open source geospatial software and its applications, and particularly encourages submissions focusing on the following themes:

Open source/open data policies for SDI development and implementation

Reproducibility of analyses and results in research and science

Quality of open geospatial data

Volunteered Geographic Information (VGI), Crowdsourcing and OpenStreetMap (OSM)

Sensor Web and Internet of Things (IoT)

Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing

Standardization and interoperability of open geo-data and services

Big geo-data storage, visualization and processing

Open source geospatial software in scientific research

Open source geospatial software in education and business

Management and sustainability of open source geospatial projects

The Journal of Open Geospatial Data, Software and Standards welcomes submissions of various types, including "Original article", "Review" as well as "Database article". Apart from these article types, the Journal has a special type of article called "Software article", where you can publish a short article about services/software of broad utility that have been developed within your project/institute. For more information about the article types, please access the Journal's online menu Submission Guidelines and Preparing your manuscript.

Guest Editors:

Marco Minghini, Politecnico di Milano - DICA, Italy (marco.minghini@polimi.it)

Amin Mobasher, Heidelberg University, Germany (a.mobasher@uni-heidelberg.de)

Victoria Rautenbach, University of Pretoria, South Africa (victoria.rautenbach@up.ac.za)

Maria Antonia Brovelli, Politecnico di Milano - DICA, Italy (maria.brovelli@polimi.it)

Deadline for submission of articles: November 15th, 2018

Special Issue publication date: articles will get published as soon as they are accepted.

Submission Instructions: Authors interested in submitting a paper to this issue should carefully read the Open Geospatial Data, Software and Standards submission guidelines and submit their article to the Journal's submission system. Submissions of articles are open from now until November 15, 2018. The first round review process will take approximately three weeks and the articles will be published online as open access after receiving the final acceptance. During the submission of the manuscript, please upload a cover letter indicating that you are interested to publish your work in this Special Issue. Furthermore, in case you have any questions, feel free to contact the Guest Editors. Please note that Springer applies Article Processing Charges for publishing



articles. In case authors need funding support, please read the information provided [here](#).

3. The new [gvSIG Mobile](#) is already available. The open source mobile GIS of the gvSIG Suite.

4. [University Days of gvSIG](#) (in Spanish).

gvSIG team started this year 2017 celebrating one day events in different universities. In 2018 we want to extend this practice and make gvSIG known more and more in the academic world.

This type of conference consists of a series of activities to celebrate in 1 day (or half day, depending on the case). Introductory presentations to the gvSIG suite and exhibition of use cases that may interest the audience, complemented by workshops for users and developers, both for general use and applied to different topics (geostatistics, urbanism, criminology, etc.). In some cases, the audience has been merely university, and in others the option of assistance from the general public has been opened. The options are many, and they adapt to each of these 'gvSIG University Days.'

If you would like your university to have its gvSIG day ... get in touch with the gvSIG team at: info@gvsig.com

5. You can find Map and GIS related competitions listed in order of the competition deadline [here](#)

6. Daniel Bwanika from Kampala, Uganda, is seeking partners.

Here is a call to whom it may concern:

"I am trying to start an Urban Planning school (www.siup.ac.ug) to serve eight countries in the East and Central Africa region. The school is a result of my eight years efforts in academia and to start the same in public institutions an idea that fell flat. Planning in this region is thought to be an expensive subject! You will realize there is no serious planning school at the level of a planning schools or college in Europe or USA in East and Central

Africa! The school can be a research facility in all areas associated to:

- Infrastructure Study and Skilling,
- Urban and Infrastructure Development,
- Housing Study,
- Construction and Engineering,
- Road/Bridges Construction and Design,

- Big Data Analytics for Local Governments in Africa,
- Education and Business incubation/acceleration for companies in the region.

The partners can become shareholders.

There is indeed enormous need for Urban/Rural and Physical Planning field as Africa States transforms from agriculture to industrial nations.

You can write me to me at info@siup.ac.ug "

7. Dear colleagues,

On behalf of the Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition (GODAN) , I would like share the webinar recording of "Sharing open data and capacity development experiences from RCMRD" at <https://youtu.be/u3t5HRBM7fw>

Thanks to Chipso Jane Msengezi , Chris Addison and all CTA colleagues for hosting GODAN webinars. I want to thank Dr. Kenneth Mubea for his excellent presentation and sharing ideas. RCMRD's mission is to promote sustainable development using earth observation and thus SDG's. RCMRD is an inter-governmental organization established in 1975 (Nairobi, Kenya) and currently has 20 Contracting Member States in the Eastern and Southern Africa Regions.

I had the opportunity to visit and share ideas at RCMRD last year when RCMRD hosted the GODAN AgriGIS ThinkTank and I was impressed to see their excellent work and ideas making impact across Africa. I was especially impressed by the initiative of RCMRD for serving geospatial data to the Eastern and Southern Africa region. SERVIR-Eastern and Southern Africa developed a geoportal based on an open source Content Management System for GIS (GeoNode – <http://geonode.org>). The geoportal is intended to be used as a regional Spatial Data Infrastructure portal for Eastern and Southern Africa, serving all RCMRD member states. It will be linked to other regional and country GIS data portals to publicize it and enhance its usefulness within the region.

Details at <http://www.rcmrd.org/rcmrd-serving-geospatial-data-to-the-eastern-and-southern-africa-region>

Best wishes,
Suchith