



GeoForAll

Monthly Newsletter



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Be part of "Geo for All"

1. Activities of the Network

- [Ottawa, Ontario, OSGeo Meetup Group](http://www.meetup.com/OttawaOSGeo/) 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/>).
- Currently, nearly 800 million people struggle with debilitating hunger and malnutrition and can be found in every corner of the globe. That's one in every nine people, with the majority being women and children. The Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition (GODAN) [\[https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/genius/documents/godan-uon-intro.pdf\]](https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/genius/documents/godan-uon-intro.pdf) supports the proactive sharing of open data to make information about agriculture and nutrition available, accessible and usable to deal with the urgent challenge of ensuring world food security. A core principle behind

GODAN is that a solution to Zero Hunger lies within existing, but often unavailable, agriculture and nutrition data.

The Netherlands Ministry of Economic Affairs, CABI, GODAN, CTA and Wageningen UR partnered to organise the 3rd Workshop on Creating Impacts with Open Data in Agriculture and Nutrition

[\[https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/genius/documents/godan-uon-intro.pdf\]](https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/genius/documents/godan-uon-intro.pdf). The workshop was hosted at the Ministry of Economic Affairs in the Hague in February, 13-15. Suchith Anand kindly shares the ideas that he presented for the GODAN Capacity Development WG [\[http://www.godan.info/working-groups/capacity-development\]](http://www.godan.info/working-groups/capacity-development) at the Hague meeting.

Details at <https://www.slideshare.net/SuchithAnand/godan-working-group-on-capacity-development>

Anyone interested to join the GODAN WG on Capacity Development and contribute to education and training on Open Data in food and agricultural sciences is welcome. This is open and free to all interested. Join at https://dgroups.org/fao/godan_cd

- New book on QGIS published by Stamatis Kalogirou. It is a short e-book titled "Create a thematic map in 60 minutes: Examples with QGIS". It will help those who have never used QGIS before. Those interested can find it at Amazon in a very low price.



Editorial Board

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

<p>Chief Editor</p> 	<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
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<p>Production Designer</p> 	<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

South America Region

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

Email: sa.gfa.chair@osgeo.org

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

▪ GeoForAll (GeoParaTodos) Themes in Spanish

➤ Chairs: Sergio Acosta y Lara (Uruguay), Antoni Pérez Navarro (Spain)

➤ Mail list: Spanish : geoforall-spanish@lists.osgeo.org

➤ Website: http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/GeoForAll_Spanish

▪ CitizenScience

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

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

➤ Website: http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/Geocrowdsourcing_CitizenScience_FOSS4G

▪ 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>



2. A) Lab of the Month

Czech Technical University in Prague, Czech Republic

By Suchith Anand



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

Dear Geo4All Colleagues,

It is my great pleasure, to introduce our colleagues at Faculty of Civil Engineering, Department of Geomatics, Czech Technical University (CTU) in Prague, Czech Republic as our "GeoForAll" lab of the month. CTU is one of the founding labs as part of the worldwide network of OSGeo laboratories following the motto Geo for All.

The GeoForAll Lab [1] (formerly OSGeo Research and Education Laboratory) is located at the Czech Technical University in Prague, Faculty of Civil Engineering, Department of Geomatics, Czech Republic. Their mission, as one of the laboratories in the OSGeo worldwide university network, is to develop collaboration opportunities for academic, industrial, and government organizations in open source GIS software and data. See the announcement and info at GIM [2].

The laboratory was established by Martin Landa and was the first lab to be established under the ICA-OSGeo MoU in Czech Republic. It has been expanding and providing support for the development and documentation of open-source geospatial software. The laboratory is devoted to education in geoinformatics using FOSS4G, and to research in open source software development for geospatial applications. CTU in Prague has a strong track record in Geoinformatics. Prof. Aleš Čepěk has established a study program in geoinformatics since 2005 (originally

with Prof. Leoš Mervart). He is the author of project GNU Gama and of a minor project GNU Sqrtutor (both hosted at GNU servers) and the editor in chief of Geoinformatics FCE CTU journal [2].

The major focus of CTU GeoForAll lab is software development. They are contributing to various international Open Source Geospatial Software projects, namely GRASS GIS, QGIS, and GDAL. Martin Landa has been an OSGeo charter member since 2011 and a member of the GRASS Development Team since 2006. He is actively involved in the GRASS project as the lead architect of graphical user interface (GUI) development and PostGIS integration in GRASS vector architecture.

Free Software and Open Source in Education Geoinformatics at the CTU in Prague
Martin Landa
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Department of Mapping and Cartography
Faculty of Civil Engineering, Czech Technical University in Prague

BACKGROUND
Free Software and Open Source (FOSS) plays an important role at Faculty of Civil Engineering (FCE), Czech Technical University (CTU) in Prague, study branch Geodesy, Cartography and Geoinformatics. Students learn how to effectively use FOSS tools in several courses. It covers topics like Introduction into Database Management Systems, programming in C++, and GIS or Remote Sensing related subjects. Namely thanks to Professor Čepěk, FOSS has been used at the CTU in Prague since early 90s.

STUDENTS' CONTRIBUTION
FOSS may be really attractive for the students. They can freely contribute to the open-source projects, not only as developers (currently three students from the CTU are actively contributing as developers to GRASS GIS project), but also as testers, bug hunters, translators or power users.

FOSS4G AT FCE CTU
The students of the branch Geodesy, Cartography and Geoinformatics at the CTU work during their studies with different FOSS tools. In the second semester the students learn basics of SQL (Structured Query Language). SQL is a standard language for accessing object-relational databases. The assignments for "Introduction into Database Systems" course are developed with PostgreSQL, as a widely used open source object relational database management system. For the evaluation of the students they use a web based interactive tutorial of SQL - GNU Sqrtutor (<http://sqrtutor.fce.cvut.cz>). This program was developed at the CTU in Prague by Professor Čepěk in 2007. Later in 2008 there were added several geospatial datasets for interactive learning of spatial SQL, based on PostGIS geodatabase [1].

FOSS4G IN GIS EDUCATION
Besides the commonly widespread proprietary Arc GIS platform, the students are also introduced into FOSS in Geoinformatics (FOSS4G). One of the basic GIS-oriented courses is "Introduction into Spatial Data Processing" which is based on PostGIS geodatabase. Some lessons are also dedicated to the Spatialite database.

GRASS GIS
Since 2006 three students from the CTU in Prague participated in Google Summer of Code (GSoC) program and developed 3D visualization tool for GRASS GIS (Fig. 4), or GUI front end for GRASS vector network analysis tools (Fig. 5).

QGIS
Some students from the CTU are also involved in QGIS development. QGIS plugins for Czech cadastral data (Fig. 6) or WorkFlow builder for QGIS Symbology Project were developed by the students from the CTU recently.

REFERENCES & ACKNOWLEDGMENT
[1] Martin Landa and Aleš Čepěk. "Learning PostGIS using Sqrtutor". In: FOSS4G Barcelona 2008. ©2008 Martin Landa. This paper is licensed as Attribution Non-Commercial ShareAlike 3.0 Unported. Acknowledgement: This work has been supported by the Czech Grant Agency P202/06:1363/0002.

Figure 1 – Summary of CTU's FOSS4G education activities [4]

I am impressed to see the excellent student projects done at CTU. For example, for the Google Summer of Code 2016, Adam Laža's project on "Complete basic cartography suite in GRASS GIS wxGUI Map Display" and Ondřej Pešek's project on "PyQt GUI generated



from XML" are great examples of contributions from the CTU student community to the wider OSGeo community.

Best wishes,
Suchith Anand

[1] <http://geomatics.fsv.cvut.cz/research/geoforall/>

[2] <https://www.gim-international.com/content/news/open-source-geospatial-and-education-laboratory>

[3] <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNy1pEGYxykpQfx4m8qWGA>

[4] <http://geo.fsv.cvut.cz/~landa/publications/2012/ogrs2012/poster/landa-ogrs2012-poster.pdf>

B) GeoAmbassador of the Month

Michael P. Finn, U.S. Geological Survey

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

It is my great pleasure to introduce Michael P. Finn as our GeoAmbassador.



Michael P. Finn is a Research Cartographer in the U. S. Geological Survey's Center of Excellence for Geospatial Information Science. He holds a BS in Geography with a Minor in Cartography and Map Technology from Southwest Missouri State University (now Missouri State University) and an MS in Civil Engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University. Mike has worked as a Computer and IT Specialist, and a Research Cartographer with the US Geological Survey for the past 17 years. He also has 10 years of experience with the US Air Force and 7 years with the Defense Mapping Agency.

Mike serves or has served on the Boards of Directors of the Cartography and Geographic Information Society (CaGIS), the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS), and the Cyberinfrastructure Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers (AAG). He has also served as the Director of the GIS Division for ASPRS. Mike is currently serving as President of CaGIS after serving as President-Elect in 2015 and Vice President in 2014. In addition, Mike is a member of the Editorial Board for the journal *Cartography and Geographic Information Science*.

For international scientific service, Mike is currently serving as Vice-Chair of the International Cartographic Association (ICA) Commission on Open Source Geospatial Technologies for the 2015 to 2019 term. In addition, he is and has been an active member of the ICA Commission on Map Projections. Previously, Mike served as a Co-Chair of the International Society for Photogrammetry & Remote Sensing's (ISPRS) Technical Commission IV (TC – Geodatabases and Location Based Services), Working Group 4 (Geospatial Data Infrastructure) for the XXIIIrd ISPRS Congress (2012 to 2016) and Co-Chair of the TC IV (Geodatabases and Digital Mapping), WG 1 (Geospatial Data Infrastructure) for the XXIIInd ISPRS Congress (2008 to 2012).

His research interests are in data-intensive and high-performance computing for scientific applications using digital geospatial data; in geodesy, spatial coordinate systems, and map projections; and in quantitative approaches to imaging in environmental



modeling and GIS. Mike is the Principal Investigator for CEGIS' research project for Data-Intensive and High-Performance Computing. The principal objective is to explore data-intensive and high-performance computing, particularly within the CyberGIS domain, to support LiDAR and spatial data processing for the 3D Elevation Program (3DEP) of the US. A second objective is to investigate big data approaches and workflows with LiDAR and 3DEP as well as other big data integration with other USGS science data.

Mike's recent research has been focused on a varied spectrum of activities from CyberGIS data services for enhancing the usability of high-resolution national topographic datasets to MPI and parallel file systems for processing large files in the LAS format. He has also worked on CUDA-based parallel map projection methods as well as problems with spatial binning relative to map projections. He has also contributed actively to the scientific community by serving as a member of the Editorial Board of the journal *Cartography and Geographic Information Science* and on the International Scientific Committee for the International Cartographic Conference in 2017

Mike and Silvana Comboim have been leading the ICA commission on Open Source Geospatial Technologies. They have successfully organised the ICC workshop on Spatial data infrastructures, standards, open source and open data for geospatial (SDI-Open 2015) jointly with the ICA Commission on Geoinformation Infrastructures and Standards, the Commission on Open Source Geospatial Technologies, Open Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGeo), and the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) on 20 and 21 August 2014 at Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) in Rio. The conference itself (<http://www.icc2015.org>) was a great opportunity to strengthen the "Geo for All" initiative and to reinforce the key projects and research links for the future. Mike organised the workshop on "Advancing GIScience with Open Source Technologies," on behalf of the ICA Commission on Open Source Geospatial Technologies, held in conjunction with AutoCarto 2016, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. A report with pictures on the workshop can be found at [http://icaci.org/summary-of-the-workshop-on-](http://icaci.org/summary-of-the-workshop-on-advancing-giscience-with-open-source-technologies/)

[advancing-giscience-with-open-source-technologies/](http://icaci.org/summary-of-the-workshop-on-advancing-giscience-with-open-source-technologies/) and <https://github.com/mfinnCEGIS/workshopAdvancingGIScienceOST/>

Mike is the co-organizer of the International Cartographic Conference 2017 Pre-Conference Workshop on Spatial data infrastructures, standards, open source and open data for geospatial (SDI-Open 2017), Washington, DC (<http://icc2017.org/preconference-workshops/>). I believe OpenSDI is a very important initiative.

I want to thank Mike for all his contributions to the GeoForAll community. I understand Mike will be retiring from government service later this year, but I am sure he will be closely involved with GeoForAll activities as before. We are proud to honour Mike as our GeoAmbassador, and we are extremely grateful for his contributions to Geo for All.

Best wishes

Suchith Anand

3. Events

- There will be a Free and Open Source GIS one day meeting happening in Knoxville, TN, USA, on 19 May 2017 at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. More information available here: <https://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/Knoxfoos4g20170519>

4. Conferences

Asia

September 2017

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



Africa

June 2017

2. 25 June- 1 July [FOSS4G 2017 Africa 2017](#)

The OSGeo Africa chapter and the QGIS South Africa User Group Conference invite you to participate and present at the first regional FOSS4G event in Africa and the first national QGIS User Group Conference in South Africa.

Venue: St John's College, Johannesburg, South Africa

Important dates:

Abstract submission: 31st March 2017

Notification of acceptance: 30th April 2017

Submission of revised abstracts: 15th May 2017

Early Bird Payments for conference: 20th May 2017

Full Conference registration payment for presenters: 6th June 2017

Full Papers for Proceedings or submission to Journals: 31st July 2017

3. 27-30 June: [FOSS4G Southern Africa overlap with GeoforAll + SAGTA conference](#)

Venue: Johannesburg, South Africa

Europe

April 2017

4. 23-28 April: [European Geosciences Union General Assembly 2017](#).

Venue: Vienna – Austria

May 2017

5. 9 May: [VGI-Analytics 2017](#)

9-12 May: [AGILE 2017](#)

Venue: Wageningen University, The Netherlands.

June 2017

6. 1-2 June: [Jornadas SIG Libre](#). XI days of free GIS in Girona

Venue: Univerisyt of Girona, Spain.

"The GIS Free Conferences are a reference event in the area of free technologies in the field of geographic information. They are a meeting point where to share knowledge, experiences and create synergies between users and programmers. A space to show

news and trends and reflect on debates that fit the context of free geospatial technologies."

7. 6-8 June: [Geo IoT World 2017](#).

Venue: Brussels, Belgium).

July 2017

8. 10-14 July: XVI Biennial IASC [global conference](#) Practicing the Commons

Venue: Utrecht, the Netherlands.

9. 18-22 July: [FOSS4G Europe 2017](#)

Venue: Paris, France.

FOSS4G-Europe 2017 will be held in Marne-la-Vallée , France on July 18th-22nd 2017. The third edition of the conference is organized at École Nationale des Sciences Géographiques (ENSG). Our event aims at bringing Open Source GIS users and developers together and fostering closer interactions amongst the European geospatial communities. Following an established tradition, FOSS4G-Europe organizes an academic track which will run as a single-track over one day. FOSS4G-Europe invites original research contributions scientific papers dealing with Open Data, Open Software, Open Hardware, and Open Science in general are highly welcome. Submissions focusing on INSPIRE, Big Data, and Societal Challenges are particularly encouraged. All types of papers are welcome, such as on results achieved, case studies, work in progress, and demos. We discourage, however, mere presentations of technology or use cases without properly justifying it.

Submission deadline: March 17, 2017

Acceptance notice: April 14, 2017

Camera ready version: May 15, 2017

Conference: July 19, 2017

Details at

http://europe.foss4g.org/2017/Academic_Track

September 2017

10. 6-8 September: [INSPIRE Conference 2017](#)

11. 7-8 September: 2nd Geoprogess Global Forum.

International Conference on Sustainability and Energy Issues

Venue: Brussels

Abstract deadline April, 30, send to



info@geoprogess.eu

Registration and fee deadline: April, 30

Full paper: August, 15

More information on the format and norms of the Abstract at www.geoprogess.eu/publications

For more information write to: info@geoprogess.eu

South America

May 2017

12. 16-17 May: [2nd gvSIG Festival](#)

Venue: virtual, through the webinar service of the gvSIG Association

This event is free of charge and completely online.

Go to the web page for the important dates and registration

North and Central America and the Caribbean

May 2017

13. 19 May: [Free FOSS4G Meeting](#)

Venue: Knoxville, Tennessee, USA

14. 22-25 May: [CalGIS 2017/LocationCon](#)

Venue: Oakland, California, USA

July 2017

15. 1-2 July: [pre-Conference workshop](#) with the ICA Commission on SDI and Standards.

Venue: George Washington University in DC

16. 2-7 July: 28th International Cartographic Conference (ICC) of the International Cartographic Association.

Washington, DC, USA

More details in Section 17 "Ideas/Information" about the event "[Different Fields - One Cartography](#)" organized within the activities before the 28th International Cartographic Conference of the International Cartographic Association (ICA).

August 2017

17. 14-19 August: [FOSS4G Boston](#).

Boston, Massachusetts, USA.

September 2017

18. 26-30 September: VIII Surveying Convention "[AGRIMENSURA 2017](#)"

Venue: Havana Libre Tryp Hotel, Havana. Cuba.

October 2017

19. 4-6 October: [2nd International Conference on Smart Data and Smart Cities](#)

Venue: Puebla, Mexico.

7. Training programs

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

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

- A new open-source release of the Maxent software for modeling species distributions from occurrence records and environmental data.

More at

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ecog.03049/full>

11. Free Books, educational materials, etc.

- Free book in Spanish about spatial analysis: <https://dialnet.unirioja.es/servlet/libro?codigo=667265>



- A new free book in Spanish about dealing with satellite images and how to orto-rectificate them.

<http://www.tysmagazine.com/ortorrectificacion-imagenes-satelitales-landsat/>

- Another free book in Spanish. The book exposes examples of the vast potential of geoinformatics, to generate data that allow to transform the environmental and social reality from the trenches of classrooms and university work.

<http://www.tysmagazine.com/libro-gratuito-geoinformatica-aplicada-procesos-geoambientales/>

- a new free book in spanish, from Elia Quirós (University of Extremadura)

<http://www.tysmagazine.com/introduccion-la-fotogrametria-cartografia-aplicadas-la-ingenieria-civil/>

The main part of the text focuses on digital photogrammetry and once again emphasizing its simplicity, it tries to explain, from the professional experience, the whole work process, from the moment a photogrammetric flight is ordered, until the digital cartography arrives at the hands of an engineer to work on it, with its accuracy and precision.

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

DSMs: 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

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

ESA: European Space Agency

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
 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

RCMRD: Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development
 ROSHYDROMET: Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring
 RUFORUM: Regional Universities Forum for capacity building in agriculture
 SDI: Spatial Data Infrastructure
 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
 USGS: U.S. Geological Survey
 USGIF: United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation
 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
 WPS: Web Processing Service

13. Scholarships for students and staff

1. Unas oportunidades para hacer el doctorado en el Reino Unido para estudiantes latinoamericanos. Los proyectos son:

- Crop modelling for crop performance PhD – Aberystwyth University



- Early warning of crop production problems
PhD – Aberystwyth University
- Improving agriculture using radar satellite images – Open University

Candidates must be nationals from a Latin American country and will be based primarily in Milton Keynes, UK. The ability to deliver your PhD research within the project timeframe and flexibility to travel between UK and project locations in Peru/Colombia as part of the international project team are essential. The PhD program will start in September 2017 and must be completed by August 2020.

For more information, contact armando.marino@open.ac.uk by email. Armando Marino is a lecturer in Electronics and Signal Processing within the School of Engineering & Innovation at The Open University.

2. The GITA Mid-Atlantic chapter is again awarding scholarships to deserving GIS and Geography students.

Scholarships are available to full or part-time students studying at a university, college, or technical school in the United States, Canada, or Mexico. Students need not be GIS or Geography majors, but their coursework and/or majors must have a large geospatial component. Applications will close April 30, 2017.

Winners must be a citizen or legal resident of the United States, Canada, or Mexico.

The grand prize winners shall receive their scholarship check at EnerGIS 2017 and will receive complimentary admission. All travel and lodging costs shall be paid for by the scholarship winners.

Decisions of the scholarship committee are final.

Please download the scholarship application, and submit it to: energiskonference@yahoo.com

Please note on the subject line Scholarship Application

Details here:
<http://www.energis.us/abstractsscholarship>

15. Awards.

- **gvSIG receives the award for the best European open source project.**

The gvSIG project received the European Commission award for the best European open source project in the highest category (Cross border) at "[Sharing and Reuse Awards](#)".

This prize is an important recognition of the career of the gvSIG project, which was born in the **Generalitat Valenciana** and has created a new software production model led by the [gvSIG Association](#), based on collaboration, solidarity, and shared knowledge.

It started as a project to develop a desktop GIS and is a complete suite to address any need related to geomatics, with the integration of the geographic component in information systems. Currently, the software under the gvSIG brand is used in more than 160 countries.

Congratulations to all who are involved in this.

16. Web sites

- New website and new documentation for users and developers in gvSIG

A new website for the gvSIG documentation has been announced. This website will contain all types of documentation, such as user manuals, developer guides for Scripting, for Java, workshops, and more. It will also contain other useful links like related pages with the project.

More details at

(English) <https://blog.gvsig.org/2017/03/01/new-website-and-new-documentation-for-users-and-developers-in-gvsig/>

(Spanish)

<https://blog.gvsig.org/2017/02/28/nueva-web-y-nueva-documentacion-para-usuarios-y-desarrolladores-en-gvsig/>



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_nC0p5CpB8g

2. For those who would like to do a webinar about FOSS4G for GeoFor All, Rafael Moreno-sanchez (Rafael.Moreno@ucdenver.edu) collects new proposals.

Great way to showcase your work or ideas, have it recorded, and made available to a broad audience in the Geo4All YouTube Channel.

It is very simple:

Prepare your slides.

Tell us about your work/ideas for up to 50 min.

We record and post to YouTube Channel.

You can use your webinar recording as a presentation card for introducing your work or ideas.

Anything that creates excitement and interest about FOSS4G is great.

For example:

- Research, service, or education activities.
- Applications.
- Discussion of issues/ideas, challenges, advantages, regarding the use of FOSS4G, etc.
- "Why I use FOSS4G in my organization?"
- "FOSS4G in country or organization X"
- "How to get started with FOSS4G in X or Y conditions or organization"
- "What would help me to get started with FOSS4G"
- Etc.

3. 3rd Catedra gvSIG Contest

The aim of the Cátedra gvSIG is to create a meeting point for users interested in free space technologies. In order to foment an environment of shared knowledge and participating in the dissemination of free geomatics, the chair organizes this international contest to encourage all gvSIG users and free

Geographic Information Systems users to share and give visibility to their work.

Students and graduates in high school, professional training, and university, as well as university professors and researchers from all countries can participate in this contest.

More details at

(English) <https://blog.gvsig.org/2017/03/09/3rd-catedra-gvsig-contest/>

(Spanish) <https://blog.gvsig.org/2017/02/17/tercera-edicion-del-concurso-internacional-catedra-gvsig-a-trabajos-universitarios-con-geomatica-libre/>

4. Devex wrote an article titled "[How NASA and the UN are using location intelligence to build smart cities in developing countries](https://www.devex.com/news/how-nasa-and-the-un-are-using-location-intelligence-to-build-smart-cities-in-developing-countries-89721)" that gives an overview of the UN initiative that uses NASA's open source WorldWind application in smart city planning. (<https://www.devex.com/news/how-nasa-and-the-un-are-using-location-intelligence-to-build-smart-cities-in-developing-countries-89721>)

5. Presidents of Universities United to Solve Hunger (PUSH), under the parent organization Universities Fighting World Hunger (UFWH), is an initiative which unites universities in the fight against hunger and malnutrition. Nearly 800 million people struggle with debilitating hunger and malnutrition in every corner of the globe. That is one in every nine people, with the majority being women and children. Leadership from the top will expedite progress in addressing this critical local and global issue. University presidents/Chancellors from four continents have signed the PUSH Commitment, establishing a framework for collaboration and a blueprint for action to achieve food and nutrition security. Mapping, education, and outreach are all aspects of the PUSH goals and action guide. Details at <http://wp.auburn.edu/push>

6. [Open Data Hackathon](#) occurred on March 4 and 5 in order to explore uses of open climate and weather data in three categories: Get Out, Get Geeky, and Get Creative. See the link for more details and details about some of the projects.