



# GeoForAll

Monthly Newsletter



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## Be part of "Geo for All"

### Editorial



**Nikos Lambrinos**  
 Chief Editor  
 Dept. of Primary Education  
 Aristotle Univ. of  
 Thessaloniki  
 Greece

Dear all,

I would like to wish you a very Happy New Year 2018 with lots of new GIS Conferences, Webinars, and initiatives derived from your tireless passion for GIS applications.

Also, I would like to thank all the members of the Editorial Team for their contribution during the past year.

We all promise you that we will do our best to keep our Newsletter at the front line of the GIS News.

Yours,  
 Nikos Lambrinos

## 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.  
[\(http://www.meetup.com/OttawaOSGeo/\)](http://www.meetup.com/OttawaOSGeo/)

## 2. B) GeoAmbassador of the Month

### Julia Wagemann



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

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of GeoForAll and The Open Source Geospatial Foundation, let me take this opportunity to wish you and your families Happy New Year 2018 and a successful year ahead.

It is my great pleasure to honour Julia Wagemann as our GeoAmbassador. Julia is working at the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts as Technical Data Analyst. She explores new ways of making ECMWF's open datasets more easily accessible for users with the help of geospatial web services and OGC standards.

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## 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 <a href="mailto:labrinos@eled.auth.gr">labrinos@eled.auth.gr</a></p>	Oceania
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<p>Co-editor</p> 	<p>Seraphim Alvanides, Reader (Geographical Information Science) Northumbria University, Newcastle NE1 8ST, United Kingdom. <a href="mailto:s.alvanides@gmail.com">s.alvanides@gmail.com</a></p>	Scandinavian countries, Denmark, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, UK, Ireland, Iceland
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<p>Co-editor</p> 	<p>Emma Strong, Planner with the City of Gulfport, Mississippi <a href="mailto:eestrong118@gmail.com">eestrong118@gmail.com</a></p>	North and Central America
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<p>Production Designer</p> 	<p>Nikos Voudrislis, MSc, PhD in geography education. <a href="mailto:nvoudris@gmail.com">nvoudris@gmail.com</a></p>	Design and final formation of the newsletter
<p>Production designer- Spanish Edition</p> 	<p>Paulo César Coronado, Professor of computer sciences at Universidad Distrital Francisco José de Caldas, Head of GISEPROI and OSGeoLabUD research Group. Bogotá, Colombia <a href="mailto:paulocoronado@gmail.com">paulocoronado@gmail.com</a></p>	Translator and designer of the Spanish Edition



## 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](mailto:geoforall-teachertraining@lists.osgeo.org)

➤ Website:

[http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/GeoForAll\\_TeacherTraining\\_SchoolEducation](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](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>

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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>

<http://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-asiaaustralia>

Email: [asia.gfa.chair@osgeo.org](mailto: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](mailto:eu.gfa.chair@osgeo.org)



*continued from page 1*

Previous to her current work, she worked at the European Space Agency in Frascati and explored ways to better predict malaria risk with the help of Machine Learning methods. She has a strong interest in open data and free and open-source software. She is especially interested in a better exploitation of geospatial data for humanitarian purposes to improve emergency response and disaster preparedness.



*Figure 1: Julia and organisers of ECMWF's Open Data Week*

Julia was one of the main initiators and organisers of ECMWF's Open Data Week in March 2017, which aimed to promote open data from ECMWF and Copernicus. The highlight of the week was a hackathon that brought together around 70 developers and data enthusiasts during a weekend to build applications based on weather and climate data. (<https://www.ecmwf.int/en/newsletter/151/news/open-data-spotlight-during-week-events>).

She also co-organised a hackathon in order to improve the Global Flood Awareness System (GloFAS) in January 2016 (<https://www.ecmwf.int/en/newsletter/147/news/hackathon-aims-improve-global-flood-awareness-system>). I had the opportunity to participate in this hackathon, and I would like to thank Julia and all our ECMWF colleagues for hosting this excellent event and all volunteers who gave their time and expertise for helping improve the Global Flood Awareness System.



*Figure 2: Participants at the hackathon on Global Flood Awareness System at ECMWF*

During the summer of 2017, she co-mentored a project to develop an R plugin for QGIS as part of OSGeo for Google's Summer of Weather Code. She also gives courses on R, Python (Jupyter Notebooks), and general data sciences at universities. She supports and leads GeoForAll with social media outreach. I am sure Julia will expand these ideas for the future.

Openness is fundamental in harnessing the true potential of Geospatial Science and expanding digital economy opportunities for all. Open innovation is key in driving digital economy opportunities and to make sure that everyone benefits.

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

Best wishes,  
Suchith Anand

## 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/>



## 4. Conferences

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### Asia

#### January 2018

1. 22-26 January: [WebMapping Using FOSS4G](#) organized by Open Source Geospatial Foundation-India  
Venue: IIIT-Hyderabad, India.

### Europe

#### February 2018

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

#### March 2018

3. 8-9 March: [FOSS4G UK 2018](#)  
Venue: London, UK (The Geovation Hub 1 Sekforde Street Clerkenwell Green London EC1R 0BE)

#### April 2018

4. 17-20 April: [GISRUK 2018](#) - 26th annual GIScience Research UK conference  
Venue: University of Leicester, UK.

#### June 2018

5. 13-15 June: [21st International AGILE Conference, AGILE 2018](#) "Geospatial Technologies for All".  
Venue: Lund, Sweden

#### October 2018

6. 1-5 October: [ISPRS Com IV Symposium](#)  
Venue: Delft, The Netherlands

### North and Central America and the Caribbean

#### March 2018

7. 19-23 March: 10th International Congress of Geomatics [GEOMÁTICA 2018](#)  
Venue: Havana, Cuba  
Convention Website:  
<http://www.informaticahabana.cu/es>

#### May 2018

8. 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

9. 17-19 April: [7<sup>th</sup> Digital Earth Summit](#) "Digital Earth for Sustainable Development in Africa"  
Venue: Faculty of Science, Chouaib Doukkali University El Jadida, Morocco.

#### August 2018

10. 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

11. 1-2 September: FOSS4G 2018: Code Sprints and Community Events  
Venue: Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

#### October 2018

12. 22-26 October: [International Data Week](#) 'Digital Frontiers of Global Science'  
Venue: Gaborone, Botswana

## 5. Webinars

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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.

- **gvSIG Mobile:** An updated gvSIG mobile app is available in the Google Play Store on Android devices.
- You may find the new version of **WebWorldWind** from NASA at <https://worldwind.arc.nasa.gov/>



## 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](mailto: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	NSF: National Science Foundation
FOSS: Free and Open Source Software	OER: Open Educational Resources
FOSS4G: Free and Open Source Software For Geospatial	OGC: Open Geospatial Consortium
GCP: Ground Control Point	OSGeo: Open Source Geospatial Foundation
GloFAS: Global Flood Awareness System	OSM: OpenStreetMap
GNSS: Global Navigational Satellite System	OTB: Orfeo Tool Box
GPS: Global Positioning System	RCMRD: Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development
GPX: GPS Exchange Format	RDA: Research Data Alliance
GRASPGfs: Geospatial Resource for Agricultural Species and Pests and Pathogens with workflow integrated modeling to support Global Food Security	ROSHYDROMET: Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring
HOT: Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team	RUFORUM: Regional Universities Forum for capacity building in agriculture
HPC: high-performance computing	SaaS: Software as a Service
ICA: International Cartographic Association	SDI: Spatial Data Infrastructure
ICSU-WDS: International Council for Science – World Data System	SIGTE: The GIS and Remote Sensing Service of the University of Girona, Spain
INSPIRE: Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe	SQL: Structured Query Language
ISPRS: International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing	STISA 2024: Science Technology Innovation Strategy for Africa
JAXA: Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency	STSM: Short Term Scientific Missions
KML: Keyhole Markup Language	TIN: Triangulated Irregular Network
LiDAR: Light Detection and Ranging	UAV: Unmanned Aerial Vehicle
LOC: Local Organizing Committee	UN-GGIM: United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management
LOD: Level Of Detail	USGS: U.S. Geological Survey
MIL: Media and Information Literacy	USGIF: United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation
MoU: Memorandum of Understanding	VGI: Volunteered Geographic Information
NAD: North American Datum	XSEDE: Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment
NCSA: National Center for Supercomputing Applications	WCS: Web Coverage Service
NED: National Elevation Dataset	WFS: Web Feature Service
NEPAD: NEw Partnership for African Development	WGCapD: Working Group on Capacity Building and Data Democracy
NGA: National Geospatial Intelligence Agency	WGS: World Geodetic System
NHD: National Hydrologic Dataset	WISERD: Wales Institute of Social & Economic Research, Data & Methods
NLCD: National Land Cover Dataset	WMO: World Meteorological Organization
NSDI: National Spatial Data Infrastructure	



WMS: Web Map Service

WMTS: Web Map Tiles Services

WOIS: Water Observation Information System

WPS: Web Processing Service

## 13. Scholarships for students, staff, etc.

- 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](http://go.ncsu.edu/geospatial-phd)) at North Carolina State University's Center for Geospatial Analytics ([geospatial.ncsu.edu](http://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](http://go.ncsu.edu/geospatial-phd). Interested students are also encouraged to contact Rachel Kasten, Graduate Services Coordinator ([rachelkasten@ncsu.edu](mailto:rachelkasten@ncsu.edu) or 919-515-2800), with any questions.

- 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](mailto: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.



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](mailto:info@gvsig.com)

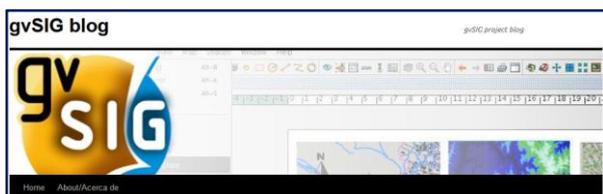
4. You can find Map and GIS related competitions listed in order of the competition deadline [here](#)

5. We would like to welcome our colleagues from [Spatial-Ecology](#) and [GeoComputation at Yale](#), New Haven, CT, USA, as the 121th member of our community.

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



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

gvSIG team started this year 2017 celebrating one day events in different universities. In 2018 we want to

