



GeoForAll

Monthly Newsletter



Be part of "Geo for All"

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Editorial



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

Dear colleagues,

This is the last issue of this year, the fourth year of our Newsletter and the 41st issue since the beginning of this "trip".

During these years, we had quite some long issues with very interesting articles because we had the articles on time. It is very important to have the announcements on time, especially those concerning conferences. Many times we get notifications for conferences that begin just a few days after the publication of the current issue of our Newsletter. This is not convenient for our members because they miss the deadline for paper submission. This is not good even for the conferences. So, please, if you are member of the

scientific and/or organizing committee of a conference, send the notification early enough and we will be glad to keep it published until the end of the conference. Also, if you have something that you want to share with the rest of our colleagues (i.e. any kind of events, courses, workshops), do not hesitate to send it to the Editor in Chief (labrinos@eled.aurh.gr) on time. You can send photos of the event as well.

Have a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Thank you very much
 Nikos Lambrinos
 Editor in Chief.



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/>)



Editorial Board

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

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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>

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: Msilikale Msilanga (Tanzania), 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



3. Events

- Read summary reports from FOSS4G 2018 in Dar el Salaam, Tanzania.
<https://www.hotosm.org/updates/hot-summit-at-foss4g-2018-combining-communities-in-dar-es-salaam/>
<https://geoawesomeness.com/foss4g-2018-overview/>



- On Thursday, Nov. 22, 2018, from 2.30PM to 3.30PM with the landscape planning course at the Faculty of Architecture, Politecnico di Milano (via Bonardi), there was a seminar on Planning the “upper half of the landscape” (pianificare l'altra metà del paesaggio, in Italian) where the organizers explained the Buiometria Partecipativa point of view on this topic. The lecture was given in English (as all of the course lectures). This was not the first time that Buiometria Partecipativa has gone to Politecnico (2011, 2014, 2015, 2017), nor was it the first time it was addressed to architects (2014, Summer School in Porto). However, this was the first time that it was addressed to architects from Politecnico. The Politecnico Architecture Faculty hosted the final event of the [m\('\)appare Milano](#) campaign (a localized version of an OpenStreetMap mapping party), which interestingly happened in the same months when the Buiometria Partecipativa project was being written.

4. Conferences

Europe

February 2018

1. 20-22 February: [FOSS4G-IT 2019](#).
Venue: University of Padua, Padua, Italy
Email: foss4git2019@dicea.unipd.it

May 2019

2. 19-22 May: [16th International Conference on Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management](#) (ISCRAM 2019)
Venue: Valencia, Spain.
3. 29-30 May: [Free GIS Days](#)
Venue: Girona, Spain.
Open to new [Proposals and workshops](#)

July 2019

4. 1-4 July: [29th EARSeL Symposium 2019](#)
Venue: Salzburg, Austria

North and Central America and the Caribbean

January 2019

5. 27-29 January: Geospatial Software Institute (GSI).
[Workshop 3: Strategic Plan and Governance of GSI](#)
Venue: Annapolis, MD, USA

February 2019

6. 27 February-1 March: North Carolina GIS Conference (NCGIS)
Venue: Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, USA.

April 2019

7. 1-5 April: [GeoInfo – 2019](#).
Venue: International Conference Center of Havana, Cuba
Abstracts Deadline: January 20, 2019
8. 2-4 April: [RDA 13th \(P13\) Plenary Meeting](#)
Venue: Loews Hotel - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA



9. 3-7 April: AAG Annual Meeting

Venue: Washington, DC, USA.

June 2019

10. 10 June: [GeoEd '19](#)

Venue: Jefferson Community and Technical College, Louisville, Kentucky, USA.

South America

July 2019

11. 1-5 July: XVII Biennial [The International Association for the Study of the Commons](#) (IASC) Conference

Venue: Lima, Peru.



Asia

December 2018

12. 2-5 December: [FOSS4G: ASIA](#) "Open Source for Sustainable Development"

Venue: University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.

July 2019

13. 15-20 July: [29th International Cartographic Conference \(ICC2019\)](#)

Venue: Tokyo, Japan.



7. Training programs

- GeoForAll educational materials have been transferred to our new web site. [GeoForAll educational inventory system, a place to search and share educational materials](#)

11. Free books, educational materials, etc.

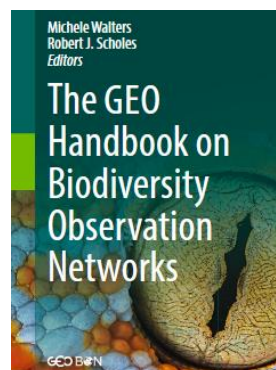
- The Open Revolution: Rewriting the Rules of the Information Age
by Rufus Pollock

In this urgent and provocative book, Rufus Pollock shows that we must make a choice between making information Open, shared by all, or making it Closed, exclusively owned and controlled, and how today's Closed digital economy is the source of problems ranging from growing inequality, to unaffordable medicines, to the power of a handful of tech monopolies to control how we think and vote. Choosing Open is the path to a more equitable, innovative, and profitable future for all.

You can download the book from Book details at <https://openrevolution.net/media/open-revolution.pdf>



- The GEO Handbook on Biodiversity Observation Networks is a great free resource. Find it at <https://geobon.org/downloads/biodiversity-monitoring/books/GEO-Handbook.pdf>





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

GODAN: Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition

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

GSoC: Google Summer of Code

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

OECD: Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development

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

SAR: Synthetic Aperture Radar

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

16. Websites

1. Let's talk about [YouthMappers](#)! A network of more than 5,000 university student mappers organized in 143 campus [chapters](#) across 41 countries. It is a website you should visit very often to be informed



about what they are up to. It contains useful links and news from many places around the world.

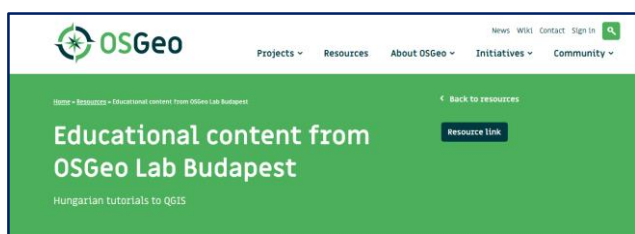
2. Very useful website (<https://foss4geo.wordpress.com/>) which contains educational materials for QGIS from GeoAcademy's Group (Phillip Davis, Kurt Menke, Richard Smith and John van Hoesen).

3. Follow along with PostGIS Rocks! for PostGIS day, held every third Thursday of November, at <http://postgisday.geoinquietos.org/>. The website includes an archive of past contributions as well as a way for anyone to submit contributions.

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.

FOSS4G is the annual global event of the Open Source Geospatial Foundation. It is the largest technical geospatial Open Source conference in the world. The FOSS4G conference focuses on Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial applications. In addition to high level technical talks four key domain are discussed every year to showcase the connection between free and open source software and communities from neighbouring domains.



2. The [GeoTech Center](#) is pleased to announce the 2019 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 Tom Mueller (Mueller@calu.edu):

- Applicants must be the age of 18 or older;
- Applicants must be enrolled during the **Fall 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 2019 GeoEd Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. The winners will also present their posters at this conference.

3. GeoforAll community welcomes Msilikale Msilanga as our GeoForAll-Africa chair. Msilikale Msilanga is a spatial planner professional from Tanzania and has experiences from Europe and Latin America in the same field. He has been working at the World Bank since 2011 as the Geospatial consultant before he went to have his Masters for two years. Now he is back at the World Bank supporting the open data team and more mapping projects in Tanzania. For more than five years, he has been working with the local communities in Dar es Salaam, helping them to map their own areas using OSM. Through these maps, which are mostly in the informal settlements, more issues facing the community have been identified, and more projects have been identified, one of them being Ramani Huria [1]. He is the co-chair of the very successful FOSS4G 2018 in Dar es Salaam. [2]

[1] <https://techcamp.america.gov/bios/msilikale-msilanga/>

[2] <https://2018.foss4g.org/geoforall/>



4. GeoForAll community want to thank Professor Serena Coetzee, Rania Elsayed Ibrahim, and Bridget Fleming for all the work they did as chairs for GeoForAll-Africa. Their leadership and commitment have been instrumental in helping us expand GeoForAll ideas in Africa. We started with nothing a few years back. It was with Prof Coetzee's great leadership to establish the first Open Source Geospatial Lab in Africa at the University of Pretoria and work that helped us build the momentum across Africa. We will need their help and guidance for the future. Serena's new leadership role and work for UN-OpenGIS [1] is very important for the whole world, and we are looking forward to her leadership on this.

[1] <http://unopengis.org/about.html>

5. Special Issue "State-of-the-Art in Spatial Information Science"

A special issue of ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information (ISSN 2220-9964).

Deadline for manuscript submissions: 1 May 2019

More information at

https://www.mdpi.com/journal/ijgi/special_issues/

[ISPRS 2020 Nice](#)

You can read many interesting information.

6. A new Transaction in GIS Special Issue

"Open Source Geospatial Science, Software and Education"

(deadline for abstract submissions: 15 February 2019)

[https://wol-prod-cdn.literatumonline.com/pb-](https://wol-prod-cdn.literatumonline.com/pb-assets/assets/14679671/)

[assets/assets/14679671/](#)

[Open%20Geospatial%20Science%20Software%20and%20Education.pdf](#)

7. Special Issue "Earth Observation Data Cubes" – Call for papers

This Special Issue is consequently aiming to cover the most recent advances in EODC developments and implementations and welcomes contributions with respect to (but without being restricted to):

- Methods for generating Analysis Ready Data for both optical and SAR imagery
- Interoperability challenges between EO Data Cubes

- Algorithms for generating decision-ready products
- Data fusion techniques in EO Data Cubes
- Data mining using Machine Learning, Deep Learning, etc.
- Data quality, reliability, etc.
- Cost/Benefits analysis of EO Data Cubes
- Thematic applications (e.g. biodiversity, climate, health, natural hazards, etc.) using EO Data Cubes
- New innovative tools and solutions to work with EO Data Cubes
- Use of high to very-high resolution EO data
- Integration of in-situ observations
- Local, national, regional implementations
- Cloud-based computing
- Architecture design of EO Data Cubes (HPC, Distributed Computing, Super Computers)
- Capacity building and training
- Support to policy framework such as the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris agreement, Aichi targets, or Water Framework Directive
- Links with initiatives like Copernicus or the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS).

Guest Editors:

Dr. Gregory Giuliani (University of Geneva & GRID/Geneva)

Dr. Brian Killough (NASA/CEOS)

Dr. Stuart Minchin (Geoscience Australia)

Prof. Dr. Gilberto Camara (Group on Earth Observations)

Important dates:

- September 1, 2018: Launch of the Call for Papers
- December 31, 2018: Deadline for abstract submission (800-word) to guest editors
- January 15, 2019: Notification of abstract acceptance and full paper submission invitation
- April 30, 2019: Deadline for submission
- June 30, 2019: Revision/rejection notification
- October 31, 2019: Paper acceptance notification



More information & submission:

https://www.mdpi.com/journal/data/special_issues/EODC

8. The [GIScience Research Group](#) at Heidelberg University and the Heidelberg Institute for Geoinformation Technology ([HeiGIT](#)) are happy to share their [GIScience github repository](#). It contains **over 50 open source repositories** and it's still growing. These contain results from several research projects and in particular also some very active long term activities. Most of the tools and services are related to OpenStreetMap and related Volunteered Geographic Information (VGI) sources, but also 3D geodata e.g. the Heidelberg LiDAR Operations Simulator [Helios](#), the Voxel Octree Solar Toolkit [Vostok](#), the 3D WebGIS framework [GIScene.js](#) etc.

9. The [European Open Science Cloud \(EOSC\)](#) was launched by the European Commission, the Member States, and the scientific community to provide a safe environment for researches to store, analyse, and re-use data for research, innovation, and educational purposes. Details at <https://www.eosc-portal.eu>.

10. Registrations for the 2019 Summer School on spatial and spatiotemporal computing: processing large-scale Earth observation (University of Münster, Sept 1–7, 2019) are now open. For more info see: https://opengeohub.org/summer_school_2019

Registration deadline: 15th of February 2019 24:00 CET.

This summer school is limited to 65 participants. In the case of higher number of applications invitations candidates will be selected based on a ranking system, which is based on: solidarity, academic output and contributions to the open source projects. To remove geographical bias, participants coming from more distant areas have a priority on the rankings list.

Dates:

- February 15th 2019 — Registration deadline;
- Mid March 2019 — All invitation letters send to applicants;

- May 15th 2019 — Deadline for settling registration fees (working programme confirmed);

- July 15th 2019 — Final programme, data sets and exercises published;

- Sun 1st September to Sun 8th September 2019 (arrival Sunday, departure Sunday; 7 night accommodation) Summer School;

Note: OpenGeoHub Summer school will be held one week after the FOSS4G conference (Bucharest, 26–30 August 2019).

Registration fees:

The registrations fees for this Summer School will be in the range 400–500 EUR. Registration fees cover costs of using facilities, lunch and coffee breaks, administration costs, local travel costs, and costs of travel and accommodation for lecturers. Participants from ODA countries (employed by an organization or company in ODA-listed country; <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/daclist.htm>) typically receive a subsidized price for the registration costs. Also, full-time students (MSc or PhD level) are offered subsidized price, provided that they are, at the moment of application, not employed at any University or research institute.

11. We are pleased to welcome three more institutes in GeoForAll Labs List.

a) Jaroslav Hofierka and colleagues from the Institute of Geography at the Pavol Jozef Safarik University in Kosice, Slovakia, to GeoForAll.

b) Niina Käyhkö and colleagues from the University of Turku (UTU), Finland, to GeoForAll.

c) Dr. Jakub Trojan and colleagues from the Tomas Bata University, Czech Republic, to GeoForAll.

