Volume 2, No. 5 May 2016

GeoForAll

Monthly Newsletter

Be part of "Geo for All"

Table of Contents

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.

- OpenStreetMap webinar and Humanitarian Mapathons took place in May 5th in GEOlab, Politecnico di Milano. For those interested in the slides and videos please go to http://www.geoforall.org/webinars/ the official site of the webinars of Geo4All.

2. Lab of the Month

GeoDa Centre, Arizona State University, USA

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

Dear Geo4All Colleagues,

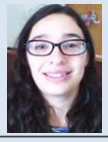
It is my great pleasure, to introduce our colleagues at GeoDa Center for Geospatial Analysis and Computation at the Arizona State University as our "Geo4All" lab of the month.

The GeoDa Center for Geospatial Analysis and Computation develops state-of-the-art methods for geospatial analysis, geovisualization, geosimulation, and spatial process modeling, implements them through open source software tools, applies them to policy-relevant research in the social and environmental sciences, and disseminates them through training and support to a growing worldwide community. The GeoDa Center deals with research questions at different spatial scales, from the local to the global. Application areas include a range of substantive fields, such as regional science, economic geography, environmental economics, criminology, public health, and other social and natural sciences. Research in the GeoDa Center has focused on spatial statistical model specification, clustering, exploratory analysis, geovisual analytics, spatial optimization and GIS development to address a range of important problems.

continued on page 4

Editorial Board

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

Chief Editor 	Nikos Lambrinos, Associate Professor, Dept. of Primary Education, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece. President of the Hellenic digital earth Centre of Excellence labrinos@eled.auth.gr	Oceania
Co-editor 	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	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  	Pavel Kikin, Senior Lecturer "Department of applied informatics and IT", Siberian State University of Geosystems and Technologies Alexey Kolesnikov, Senior Lecturer "Department of cartography and GIS", Siberian State University of Geosystems and Technologies it-technologies@yandex.ru	Russia, Mongolia, China, Japan, S. Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, Laos, Myanmar, Cambodia, Singapore, Brunei, Indonesia, Philippines, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.
Co-editor 	Rania Elsayed , Computers & Information Researcher, Division of Scientific Training & Continuous Studies, National Authority for Remote Sensing & Space Sciences, Cairo, Egypt. ranyaalsayed@gmail.com	Africa
Co-editor 	Elżbieta Wołoszyńska-Wiśniewska (Ela), Head of Education Unit UNEP/GRID-Warsaw Centre ela@gridw.pl	Scandinavian countries, Denmark, Germany, Belgium, The Netherlands, Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus, Ukraine, Czech Republic, Slovakia.
Co-editor 	Antoni Perez Navaro, Associate Professor at Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC) Computer Sciences and Multimedia Department aperezn@uoc.edu	Portugal, Spain, France, U.K., Ireland, Iceland, Luxemburg, Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Hungary, The Balkans.
Co-editor 	Emma Strong, GIS Coordinator with Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District eestrong118@gmail.com	North and Central America
Co-editor 	Sergio Acosta Y Lara, Departamento de Geomática Dirección, Nacional de Topografía, Ministerio de Transporte y Obras Públicas, URUGUAY sergio.acostaylara@mtop.gub.uy	South America
Production Designer 	Nikos Voudrislis, Principal of the 1st Primary School of Asvestochori, Thessaloniki, Greece, MSc, PhD candidate in geography education. nvoudris@gmail.com	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

continued from page 1

Examples of problem areas range from crime, water management in desert cities, HIV/AIDS in Mozambique, cancer, economic development, property valuation and home foreclosures to human-elephant conflicts. Spatial software development efforts are integrated with several major research projects. These research projects from flexible geospatial visual analytics to spatial decision support system for minimizing nitrogen impacts demonstrates the breadth and depth of various interesting research being done at GeoDa Centre and more details of the various research projects can be found at http://geodacenter.asu.edu/research

I would like to take this opportunity to also congratulate Prof. Sergio Rey [https://geoplan.asu.edu/sergio-rey] for winning the UCGIS 2016 Research Award [http://www.directionsmag.com/pressreleases/ucgis-2016-research-prize-goes-to-serge-rey/465498]. We are grateful for Sergio and all his colleagues at GeoDa Centre at Arizona State University for their contributions to Open Geospatial Science [https://geodacenter.asu.edu/software],[https://geodacenter.asu.edu/research].

On behalf of Geo4All community, I would like to thank Luc Anselin, Julia Koschinsky, Elizabeth A. Wentz , Sergio J. Rey and all colleagues at the Arizona State University for their help and for their contributions to the Geo4All initiative and look forward to working and building more collaborations with all interested on this education mission.

Best wishes,

Suchith Anand

3. Events

1. CODATA-RDA School of Research Data Science.

Venue: Abdus Salam International Centre of Theoretical Physics, Trieste, Italy.

Date: 1-12 August 2016. Details here.

2. GeoBigData one day workshop by **RDA Geospatial IG.**

Venue: Nottingham University

The aim of this workshop is to bring together key research leaders working in this area to discuss and plan the research agenda and future research collaborations. It will also link **OpenCitySmart research** collaborations. Limited to 30 people.

Date: June, 8, 2016. For more details write to Suchith Anand [Suchith.Anand@nottingham.ac.uk]

3. The Ottawa users' meetup group met on April 21. Fabien Ancelin presented on Voronoi Diagrams in GIS, and the presentation slides can be viewed here.

4. At the Colorado GIS in Higher Education Summit at UC Denver, Rafael Moreno-Sanchez presented on the benefits of using FOSS4G software. Slides are available here.

5. OSGeo had representation at the CubaConf, a conference dedicated to free and open source software, held at the end of April. See the link provided for more information related to this event.

4. Conferences

Asia

July 2016

1. 25-27 July, 2016. International Conference on Surveing, Mapping and GeoInformation (ICSMG 2016). Suzhou, China. More details at http://www.engii.org/ws2016/Home.aspx?id=754

Europe

May 2016

2. 24-29 May 2016: 10th Spanish FOSS4G & 2nd edition of the International QGIS User and Developer Conference as well as QGIS Hack Fest in Girona, Spain. So, a whole week to teach and learn about Free and Open Source Geospatial Technologies. More details at http://www.sigte.udg.edu/jornadassiglibre/en/

3. 25-27 May 2016: The 14th International Conference of the Geological Society of Greece, in Thessaloniki, northern Greece. The conference addresses all subjects of Earth Sciences: GIS, geoinformatics, Remote Sensing, etc. More details in www.ege2016.gr.

4. May 30 – June 3: Under the auspices of the 2016

Dutch Presidency of the European Council, this major 5-day conference is coming to The Hague, The Netherlands. Taking place at the World Forum Convention Centre from 30 May to 3 June 2016, **European Space Solutions** will bring together business and policy makers with users and developers of space-based solutions. Don't miss the opportunity to learn about innovations that harness information from the European flagship space programmes, Galileo and EGNOS (satellite navigation) and Copernicus (Earth observation), and the EU's Horizon 2020 research programme. Opportunities for a wide range of applications and services, gathering insights about current developments, and discussing what is possible and needed in the future. More details in www.european-space-solutions.eu.

June 2016

5. 21-24 June 2016: International conference and a series of workshops entitled: "GeoMLA: Geostatistics and Machine Learning Applications in Climate and Environmental Sciences", at the University of Belgrade - Faculty of Civil Engineering Belgrade, Serbia. More details in http://geomla.org

The Conference will take place on June 23-24, the workshops on June 21-22.

July 2016

6. 5-8 July: GI-Forum: open: spatial: interfaces

Symposium and Exhibit - Geographic Information Science

University of Salzburg, Salzburg, Austria.

7. 12-19 July 2016: ISPRS XXIII Congress, in Prague. More details at http://www.isprs2016-prague.com/. There are two sessions of particular interest by our community:

a) Special Session: SpS10 - FOSS4G: FOSS4G Session

(chairs: Maria A. Brovelli, Helena Mitasova, Krishnan Sundara Rajan)

Keywords: Free and Open Source Software for Geoinformatics (FOSS4G), geospatial research platform and systems for developing new applications crossing the new frontiers towards the Internet of Places, Big Geospatial Data processing and analytics, and complex simulations essential for understanding and managing the earth systems, human societies, and their interaction

b) Theme session: THS16: Recent Developments in Open Data

(chairs: Maria A. Brovelli, Hae-Kyong Kang, Hiroichi Kawashima)

Keywords: Open data, Linked open data, e-Government, Geospatial, Web

For those who need more information may contact Maria Brovelli (maria.brovelli@polimi.it)

c) Session THS17: Smart cities

(Chairs: Chris Pettit & Arzu Coltekin)

keywords: Geodesign, urban planning, visualisation and spatial analysis of urban phenomena, energy use, walkability, pollution, health, infrastructure, population, aging.

August 2016

8. 24-26 August: FOSS4G Conference, Bonn, Germany.

September 2016

9. 12-14 September: Earth Observation Open Science 2016 Conference Frascati, Italy.

Deadline for Abstracts: May 15.

10. 26-30:NSPIRE Conference 2016: http://inspire.ec.europa.eu/events/conferences/inspire_2016/

The INSPIRE Conference 2016 aims to show how the implementation of INSPIRE contributes to the European Interoperability Framework and the EU's digital economy in general.

The INSPIRE Conference 2016 will take place in Barcelona, 26-30 September 2016

VII Jornadas Ibéricas de Infraestructuras de Datos Espaciales: http://www.jiide.org/jiide2016/inicio

Del 27 al 30 de septiembre tendrá lugar en Barcelona las "VII Jornadas Ibéricas de Ibéricas de Infraestructuras de Datos Espaciales". En esta ocasión, además coinciden con la conferencia Inspire.

11. 29-30: EUROGEO 2016 "Geographic information for a better world", Malaga, Spain.

One proposed session is "Open Source GIS applications in Geospatial Analysis, Policy and Planning" and there are others on Green Infrastructures, Future Urban Planning and Education.

October 2016

12. 12-16 October: Open Source Geospatial Research and Education Symposiun 2016

Venue: Palazzo Cesaroni - Piazza Italia, Perugia, Italy.

Registration opens: March 15, 2016

Deadline for short papers (1000 to 1500 words): June 15, 2016.

North and Central America and the Caribbean

May 2016

13. 10-12 May: CalGIS 2016: 22nd Annual California GIS Conference

Anaheim, California, USA.

14. 16-17: EnerGIS Conference

Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, USA

15. 25-26 May: Upper Midwest Geospatial Conference (UMGEOCON)

La Crosse, Wisconsin, USA

June 2016

16. 7-9 June: 37th Canadian Symposium on Remote Sensing and the 41st Canadian Cartographic Association Conference

Richardson College for the Environment at the University of Winnipeg, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Abstract Submission has expired.

17. 15-17 June: Cities and Regions: Managing Growth and Change

Georgia Institute of Technology, Historic Academy of Medicine Building, Atlanta, Georgia, USA.

Abstract submission has expired.

July 2016

18. 26-28 July: Third International Conference on CyberGIS and Geospatial Data Science

Urbana, Illinois, USA

September 2016

19. 5-8 September: URISA Caribbean GIS Conference

Barbados

20. 11-17 September: International Data Week (IDW)

Venue: Denver, Colorado, USA

The theme of this landmark event is "**From Big Data to Open Data: Mobilizing the Data Revolution**".

21. 11-16 September: Research Data Alliance Plenary 8

Denver, Colorado, USA (within International Data Week).

22. 14-16 September: AutoCarto 2016

Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA.

Early registration discounts end August 1, 2016.

In addition, the ICA Commission of Open Source Technologies will hold a one-day workshop there on September, 14th

October 2016

23. 2-5 October: 69th Canadian Geotechnical Conference

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

South America

June 2016

24. 23-24: XI IDERA Conference. The XI IDERA (Spatial Data Infrastructure of Argentina) Conference will be held in the city of Neuquen, Province of Neuquen.

Los días 23 y 24 de junio de 2016 se realizarán las XI Jornadas de IDERA en la ciudad de Neuquén, Provincia del Neuquén.

5. Webinars

gvSIG Festival: http://www.gvsig.com/es/festival

The Festival is a series of webinars in different languages and from different parts of the world, showing the diversity and implementation of gvSIG worldwide.

Presentations will showcase projects from Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Spain, United States, India, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, Paraguay, Russia, Somaliland, Turkey

and Uruguay; and webinars will be carried in the following languages: Spanish, English, Portuguese, Russian and Turkish.

El Festival consistirá en una serie de webinars en diversos idiomas y desde distintas partes del mundo, mostrando la diversidad e implantación de gvSIG en todo el mundo.

Ponencias relacionadas con trabajos en: Argentina, Brasil, Costa Rica, España, Estados Unidos, India, Italia, Kenya, México, Paraguay, Rusia, Somaliland, Turquía y Uruguay y webinars en los siguientes idiomas: Español, Inglés, Portugués, Ruso y Turco.

6. Courses

- Triangle Area GIS is a "collaboration site for multidisciplinary GIS users in the Triangle" area of North Carolina. They offer free webinars throughout the year in many GIS and mapping areas, as well as paid training and group meeting planning space.

7. Training programs

- May 30, 2016. The Future of Open Source: SIGOPEN Developmental Workshop at OSS2016. Gothenburg, Sweden (http://oss2016.cs.tut.fi)
  The workshop welcomes research across a wide range of open source related issues, including development processes, platforms, and tools; individual behaviors and motivations; social, cultural, and organizational factors; economic and business models; legal structures and governance; leadership and coordination. However, reflecting the themes noted above, the CFP will particularly highlight the desirability of research that extends our understanding of:

  - the impact of emerging computing paradigms and models on open source software development processes, platforms, licensing, and governance.

  - the impact of corporate, non-profit, and public body participation in open source projects and communities on open source software development processes, platforms, licensing, and governance.

  - the impact of open source on the peer-production of other knowledge goods (open hardware, the maker movement, open design and 3D printing, etc.) and on the strategies and operations of organizations (open business models).

- MOOC scripting: http://web.gvsig-training.com/index.php/es/quienes-somos-2/noticias-2/140-massive-online-open-course-de-introduccion-a-scripting-en-gvsig-2-1
  Massive Online Open Course (MOOC, free and continuously open enrollment) about "Introducción a Scripting en gvSIG 2.1" 2nd. edition (Spanish only)
  Curso Abierto Masivo en línea (MOOC-modalidad de inscripción gratuita y abierta continuamente) de "Introducción a Scripting en gvSIG 2.1" 2a. edición (en español solamente)

- GeoForAll educational inventory system, a place to search and share educational materials: http://www.osgeo.org/educational_content

- Registration for online gvSIG: Training courses are now open. They are part of the courses offered by the Certification Program of the gvSIG Association. Unlike previous editions, the registration mode is open for most of the courses, so students can enroll and start the course at any time they want.
  The courses currently available are:
  General gvSIG courses (1)
  Applied gvSIG courses (5)
  Geoprocessing and Spatial Analysis courses in Spanish and Portuguese (5 in Spanish, 5 in Portuguese)
  gvSIG extensions/addons (6)
  Geospatial DataBases (1)
  Free i3Geo course (1)
  By participating in any of these courses you get credits for the gvSIG Certification Program that allows you to qualify for "gvSIG User" and "Expert gvSIG User" certification.
  Ya están abiertas las inscripciones para los cursos a distancia de gvSIG-Training, que forman parte de la oferta del Programa de Certificación de la Asociación gvSIG. A diferencia de las convocatorias

anteriores, la modalidad de inscripción pasa a ser de matricula abierta para la mayoría de los cursos, por lo que el alumno podrá matricularse y comenzar el curso cuando lo desee. Los cursos disponibles actualmente son:
Cursos gvSIG general (1)
Cursos gvSIG aplicado (5)
Cursos Geoprocesamiento y Análisis Espacial, en español y portugués (5 en español 5 en portugués)
Extensiones gvSIG (6)
Bases de Datos Geoespaciales (1)
Curso i3Geo gratuito (1)
Al participar en cualquiera de estos cursos obtienes créditos del programa de certificación gvSIG que te permite optar a la certificación "gvSIG Usuario" y "gvSIG Usuario Experto". Aquí

- June 14th : LINKing and analyzing Volunteered Geographic Information (VGI) across different platforms
  Workshop at 19th AGILE International Conference on Geographic Information Science 2016. Helsinki, Finland.
- June 21-22, 2016: "GeoMLA: Geostatistics and Machine Learning Applications in Climate and Environmental Sciences".

  University of Belgrade - Faculty of Civil Engineering Belgrade, Serbia.
  Three parallel workshops (21-22 June 2016):
  Mikhail Kanevski: "Machine learning of geospatial data: achievements and new trends"
  Tomislav Hengl: "Automated mapping in 2D, 3D, and 2D+T using machine learning"
  Milan Kilibarda: "Spatial and spatio-temporal prediction and visualization of climate elements in R"
  For registration go to http://geomla.grf.bg.ac.rs/
- July 25-26, 2016. **NSF Workshop on Geospatial Data Science in the Era of Big Data and CyberGIS**

  Venue: Urbana, Illinois, USA.

  The primary goal of this workshop is to bring together thought leaders and cutting-edge researchers from pertinent multidisciplinary communities to explore the frontiers of geospatial data science. Specifically, the two-day workshop aims to:

  ✓ Introduce geospatial big data capabilities (e.g., LiDAR, remote sensing, and location-based social media) for novel applications (e.g., urban sustainability and interdisciplinary studies);
  ✓ Demonstrate cutting-edge cloud computing and cyberGIS tools for scalable spatial data synthesis and enhancing knowledge discovery power based on geospatial big data;
  ✓ Identify spatial data synthesis requirements from representative science drivers;
  ✓ Formulate a core set of questions and problems of geospatial data science; and
  ✓ Discuss foundations and principles of geospatial data science.

8. Key research publications

- Call for Papers: Special Issue entitled "Spatial Ecology," to be published in the ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information, (ISSN 2220-9964).

  The submission deadline is 31 May 2016. Submitted papers should not be under consideration for publication elsewhere. We also encourage authors to send a short abstract or tentative title to the Editorial Office in advance (ijgi@mdpi.com).

  For further reading, please follow the link to the Special Issue Website at:

  http://www.mdpi.com/si/ijgi/spatial_ecology.

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

1. New free GIS book in Spanish from Victor Olaya. Go to http://volaya.github.io/libro-sig/ to download your free book.

2. pycsw 1.10.4

The pycsw community announces the release of pycsw 1.10.4. This is a maintenance release, addressing the following fixes:

- fix repository filters against Django backends
- add temporal extent support to WMS harvesting
- handle malformed OpenSearch requests gracefully
- add OpenSearch startIndex and count parameter bindings
- fix GetRecords DistributedSearch outputSchema handling
- fix SQLAlchemy warnings

The full list of enhancements and bug fixes is available here

pycsw is an OGC CSW server implementation written in Python.

pycsw fully implements the OpenGIS Catalogue Service Implementation Specification (Catalogue Service for the Web).

Initial development started in 2010 (more formally announced in 2011).

The project is certified OGC Compliant, and is an OGC Reference Implementation.

Since 2015, pycsw is a graduated OSGeo Project.

pycsw allows for the publishing and discovery of geospatial metadata.

Existing repositories of geospatial metadata can also be exposed via OGC:CSW 2.0.2, providing a standards-based metadata and catalogue component of spatial data infrastructures.

pycsw is Open Source, released under an MIT license, and runs on all major platforms (Windows, Linux, Mac OS X). Source and binary downloads are available.

3. Data generated by IGN of Spain is now Open Data: http://blog-idee.blogspot.com.uy/2015/12/los-datos-del-ign-ya-son-datos-abiertos.html

On Saturday December 26, it was published in the BOE (Official Newsletter of Spain) Ministerial Order FOM/2807/2015 an announcement that the new Policy of Public Dissemination of the information generated by the National Geographic Institute (IGN) of Spain is approved.
El pasado sábado día 26 de diciembre se públicó en el BOE la Orden Ministerial FOM/2807/2015, de 18 de diciembre, por la que se aprueba la nueva política de difusión pública de la información generada por el Instituto Geográfico Nacional de España.

4. New Stable release of GRASS 7.0.3

The new GRASS GIS 7.0.3 release provides **210 stability fixes and manual page improvements** compared to version 7.0.2. Of particular interest is the **new winGRASS 64 bit support**.

About GRASS GIS 7: Its graphical user interface supports the user to make complex GIS operations as simple as possible. The updated Python interface to the C library permits users to create new GRASS GIS-Python modules in a simple way while yet obtaining powerful and fast modules. Furthermore, the libraries were **significantly improved for speed and efficiency**, along with support for huge files. A lot of effort has been invested to standardize parameter and flag names. Finally, GRASS GIS 7 comes with a series of **new modules** to analyse raster and vector data, along with a full temporal framework. For a detailed overview, see the list of new features. As a stable release series, 7.0.x enjoys **long-term support**.

5. New version of QuickMapServices.

QuickMapServices is a QGIS plugin for painless adding basemaps as layers.

6. GreenPeace of Russia published forest "hot points" map (in Russian).

Looking at this map, the user can understand quicly which areas are at risk and need special care, and which - have become "hot spots". Areas marked in green correspond to the areas where forests are changing relatively slowly. Yellow indicates a mild rate of change. Red - are areas where the wood is used or is lost too rapidly.

http://m.greenpeace.org/russia/ru/high/news/2016/01-18-forest-map/

http://www.forestforum.ru/info/SRRI_map_rus.pdf

7. Geofabrik's free download server.

This server has data extracts from the OpenStreetMap project which are normally updated every day. Select your continent and then your country of interest from the list at http://download.geofabrik.de/.

8. New version of **NextGIS Mobile** is out! NextGIS Mobile 2.3: layer creation, tracks export, multipart-geometries

New version of NextGIS Mobile is out! NextGIS Mobile is our GIS app that allows you work with geodata on your smart devices. New version features layer creation, tracks export, support for multipart geometries and much more.

9. OSMInfo

Tired of trying to figure out what you're seeing on the map? Ever wondered what are the actual data for a feature on [OSM Mapnik|MapQuest|your favorite OSM basemap]? OSMInfo is the answer. It shows information about objects from OpenStreetMap using Overpass API.
More information at
http://nextgis.ru/en/blog/osminfo/

10. gvSIG 2.3 RC1

(English) http://blog.gvsig.org/2016/02/26/gvsig-2-3-rc1-available-release-candidate-to-final-version/

The first gvSIG 2.3 RC (Release Candidate) is now available. As most of you know, odd gvSIG versions have changes in a functional level, but also in an architecture level, so it implies a more detailed testing to identify all the possible errors. We ask for your help to test and refine this distribution to have the final one as soon as possible.

(Español)
http://blog.gvsig.org/2016/02/26/disponible-gvsig-2-3-rc1-distribucion-candidata-a-final-2/ Ya está disponible la primera RC (Release Candidate) de la versión 2.3 de gvSIG. Como muchos de vosotros ya sabréis, las versiones impares de gvSIG conllevan cambios no sólo a nivel funcional, sino que también se realizan cambios a nivel de arquitectura de la aplicación, lo que implica un testeo más profundo para identificar todos los posibles errores. Por ello os pedimos vuestra ayuda para testear y depurar esta versión de cara a tener lo antes posible la final.

11. gvSIG Roads

(English) http://blog.gvsig.org/2016/01/15/gvsig-roads-roads-management-with-open-source-software/ Roads management with open source software

(Español) http://blog.gvsig.org/2016/01/13/gvsig-roads-gestion-integral-de-carreteras-con-software-libre/ Solución integral, que permite la gestión de las infraestructuras viarias tanto desde su componente alfanumérica como geográfica, basada en estándares y software libre.

12. gvSIG Educa

(English) http://blog.gvsig.org/2016/01/16/gvsig-educa-a-free-gis-education-prototype/ Free GIS for education Prototype

(Español) http://blog.gvsig.org/2016/01/11/gvsig-educa-prototipo-de-un-sig-libre-para-educacion/ Prototipo de un SIG libre para educación.

13. gvSIG Online

(English)
http://blog.gvsig.org/2016/02/17/presenting-gvsig-online-the-solution-for-spatial-data-infrastructures-on-open-source-software/ A solution for Spatial Data Infrastructures on Open Source software

(Español)
http://blog.gvsig.org/2016/02/16/presentando-gvsig-online-la-solucion-a-las-infraestructuras-de-datos-espaciales-con-software-libre/ gvSIG Online es una plataforma integral para la implantación de Infraestructuras de Datos Espaciales (IDE), 100% con software libre. Una solución rápida y potente para poner en marcha la infraestructura necesaria para gestionar de la forma más eficiente los datos espaciales de una organización. Con gvSIG Online podrás fácilmente compartir tu información geográfica en la nube, generar mapas y aplicaciones gracias a las sencillas y potentes herramientas de administración del sistema. Bases de datos, geoportales, app móvil, SIG Desktop… todos los componentes en una solución integral, libre e interoperable.

14. OSGeo Live 9.5 has launched and is available for

download at the link.

12. Articles

Abbreviations

by **Nikos Lambrinos**, Chief Editor
Department of Primary Education, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

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

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

CAD: Computer Aided Design

CEOS: Committee on Earth Observation Satellites

CLGE: The Council of European Geodetic Surveyors

COGO: Coordinate geometry

CRS: Coordinate Reference System

CSA: Canadian Space Agency

DAAC: Distributed Active Archive Center (of NASA)

DEM: Digital Elevation Model

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

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

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

LiDARL: Light Detection and Ranging

LOC: Local Organizing Committee

LOD: Level Of Detail

MoU: Memorandum of Understanding

NAD: North American Datum

NGA: National Geospatial Intelligence Agency

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 Hydrometeorologyand Enviromental Monitoring

SDI: Spatial Data Infrastructure

SQL: Structured Query Language

STSM: Short Term Scientific Missions

TIN: Triangulated Irregular Network

UAV: Unmanned Aerial Vehicle

USGIF: United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation

WCS: Web Coverage Service

WFS: Web Feature Service

WGCapD: Working Group on Capacity Building and Data Democracy

WGS: World Geodetic System

WMO: World Meteorological Organization

WMS: Web Map Service

WMTS: Web Map Tles Servises

WPS: Web Processing Service

15. Awards

- **EuroSDR Award 2016 for the best PhD thesis related to Geoinformation science**

The research activities of the European Spatial Data Research (EuroSDR- http://www.eurosdr.net/) network have developed over time through a collaboration of academia and national mapping agencies. In order to further strengthen the collaboration and to involve young scientists in its research, EuroSDR has established an Award to reward recent PhD theses that have significantly contributed to the development of Geoinformation science in the context of national mapping and cadastral agencies.

In order to be eligible, PhD theses should be defended in the period from 1st August 2015 to 31st July 2016. The PhD topic should be related to one or more of the research areas covered by the EuroSDR commissions. The award applications should consist of:

- ✓ A cover letter containing the main contribution/impact of the thesis from the perspective of national mapping and cadastral agencies (up to 500 words)
- ✓ A PDF copy of the thesis
- ✓ A certificate showing the PhD defense date
- ✓ Any reviews of the thesis (if available)

The submitted application material will be evaluated by a six-member committee approved by the EuroSDR board of delegates. All material must be sent to the EuroSDR secretariat (eurosdr@soc.kuleuven.be) to arrive no later than 31st August, 2016. Notification of the selected thesis will be sent on 23rd September, 2016. The call is confined to applicants that completed their PhD study in Europe. The author of the awarded PhD thesis will receive an award of 500 EUR and will be invited to present his/her work at the 129th EuroSDR board of delegates meeting to be held in Madrid from 19th to 21 st October 2016.

http://www.eurosdr.net/news/eurosdr-award-2016-best-phd-thesis-related-geoinformation-science

Mrs Anneke Heylen, EuroSDR Secretariat p/a KU Leuven Public Governance Institute Parkstraat bus 3609, 3000 Leuven, BELGIUM, Tel. +32 16/32.31.80 www.eurosdr.net, admin@eurosdr.net.

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. We are very glad to announce a new Lab of GeoForAll network at University of Siena (Italy).

LADEST is the Laboratory of economic, social, and geographical research of the University of Siena, based in the Department of Political and Cognitive Sciences. The laboratory was established in 2008 and

specialises in a range of activities and techniques including:

- Data collection and spatial analysis
- Geographical Information Science
- Territorial data mapping
- Agent-based spatial modelling
- Socio economic analysis

Tools and datasets developed by the Laboratory are used both for scientific purposes and for private sector companies and agencies and are applied to several different domains. We employ mainstream GIS tools as well as applications developed in house (Flikrsearch, Kowalski, TEA-Tourist Experience Application). The laboratory supports the development and usage of open data and open source tools through education, research, and teaching, as well as organizing workshops and events on specific topics and tools.
The current research focus is on volunteered geographic information, citizen science and crowdsourcing, territorial marketing, social media for institutions and environmental monitoring, agent based simulation of residential mobility, housing markets, and urban dynamics; sustainable development and local development; organic agriculture and landscape.

Ongoing research (Master thesis): Food transition in the Mediterranean area, Disney-fication of art cities, Beach litter mapping in the Tuscan Archipelago, Noise pollution monitoring & Noisebuster game Emomap in collaboration with TU Wien.

Further detailed information about available services, tools, publications, and related activities and teaching can be found on https://ladestlab.it
The point of contact for the laboratory is Prof. Cristina Capineri, cristina.capineri@unisi.it

3. News from FOSS4G Bonn 2016.

Don't forget to visit http://2016.foss4g.org/news-entry/aprils-recap.html

Where you can find the latest news concerning the FOSS4G Bonn 2016 Conference. Many interesting news about the accepted talks, the workshops and the Travel Grants Programme.

18. Social Contributions

1. OSM Humanitarian Mapathons

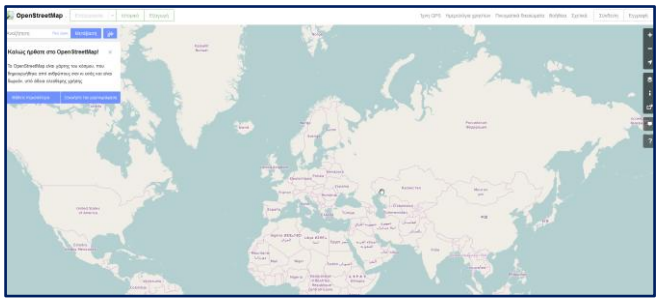
*By **Marco Minghini**, Ph.D.*

GEOlab, Politecnico di Milano - Como Campus

Como (Italy)

marco.minghini@polimi.it @MarcoMinghini

OpenStreetMap (OSM) is the free editable map of the world that everyone can edit. It is the largest geospatial database in existence and includes any kind of cartographic element, from buildings, rivers, and roads to trees, benches, and litter bins. All the data are available with an open license. Data can be freely used, copied and distributed for any purpose, provided that attribution is made to OSM and its contributors.



Among the multiple applications of OSM data, a primary role is played by the humanitarian ones. The leading organizations in this field are the Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team (HOT) and the Missing Maps project. While the former coordinates collaborative mapping in the aftermath of natural disasters and humanitarian crises, the latter aims at creating maps in the most vulnerable places of the world where maps do not exist yet.

Coordinated events of humanitarian armchair mapping, i.e. humanitarian mapping actions performed by groups of people from remote, are called mapathons. During mapathons people are required to map a remote area by drawing cartographic elements on top of satellite imagery. Indeed Microsoft Bing, Mapbox, and other providers of aerial and satellite imagery have ensured permission of using their products to derive OSM data. The humanitarian armchair mapping projects

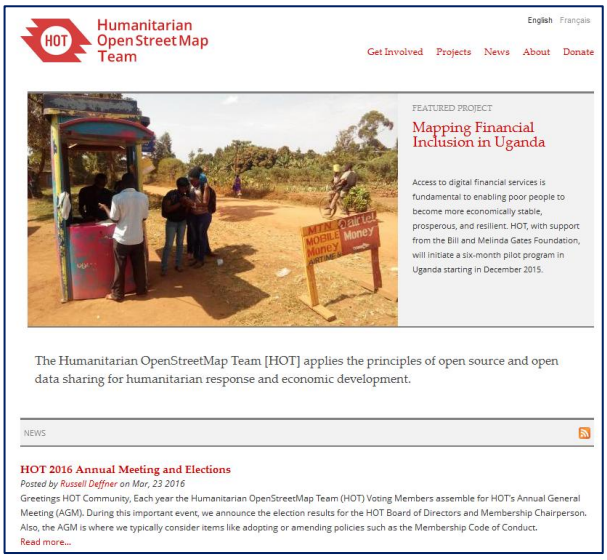
are managed by the HOT Tasking Manager, an open source tool which facilitates user collaboration when mapping an area. An introduction on humanitarian remote mapping and the Tasking Manager is available here.

How to organize a mapathon? Missing Maps provides some step-by-step recommendations here and here; however, the only two things you will really need are some generous volunteers and a lot of enthusiasm!

During March 2016 the GEOlab (Geomatics and Earth Observation laboratory) of Politecnico di Milano (Italy), one of the GeoForAll labs, has organized two humanitarian mapathons:

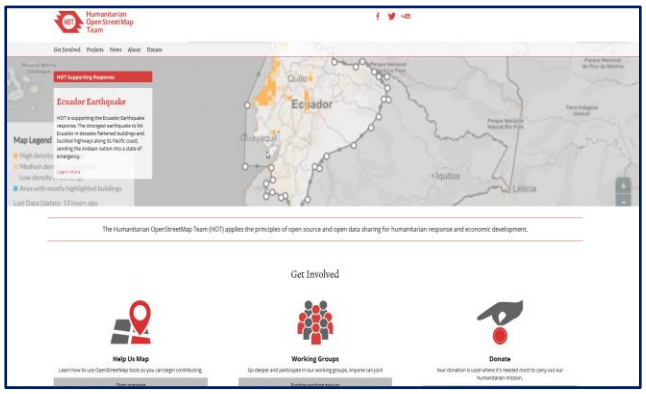
OSM MiniMapathon – **March 3, 2016**: Two hundred and twelve 10-year-old children were involved in a world-record humanitarian mapathon focused on Task #1577 – West Swaziland - Malaria Elimination Programme. The results have been great, and HOT also complimented the children and the organizers with a post on its blog.

Mapathon GEOlab – **March 21, 2016**: A mapathon organized by the GEOlab staff but open to everyone from all around the world. About 20 people contributed in mapping Task #1671 – West Harare, Zimbabwe.



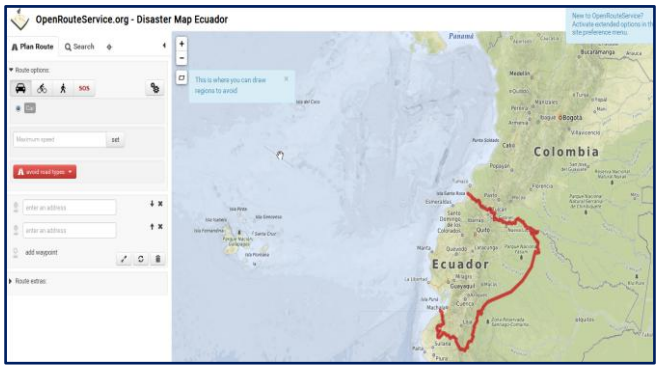
2. OSM Mapathons and disaster OpenRouteService for Ecuador

In order to provide emergency and rescue forces in Ecuador with the latest information concerning infrastructural conditions of roads and buildings, the Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team (H.O.T.) as part of the OpenStreetMap Community coordinates the crisis mapping activities for the Ecuador earthquake.



As a first support of these activities, the GIScience Heidelberg team set up an **OpenStreetMap disaster routing** (based on *OpenRouteService*) and crisis map collecting service visualizing the latest OSM information.

The OpenRouteService Disaster Map: http://openls.geog.uni-heidelberg.de/disaster/ and the **routing graph** will be updated daily.



Most importantly, as in earlier cases for the disasters in Nepal or Haiti, the additional *OpenRouteService* **SOS - route profile** currently considers **passable and impassable tagged ways** (*impassable=yes or status=impassable*) and dynamically adjusts the graph weights of OSM streets accordingly.

ORS also provides an **Accessibility Analysis Service** for a given location, the possibility to **export GPS tracks** to be used offline on a mobile device, and the interactive **Avoid Feature Area Tool** (in case areas are severely affected by debris and not accessible at all)**.** These features are thus potentially valuable for Search and Rescue (SAR) units.