GeoForAll
Monthly Newsletter

Be part of "Geo for All"

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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/)

3. Events

- For the community members who are interested in the presentation on Google Code-In program at FOSS4G in Dar el Salaam, you can :
  view online:
  https://www.slideshare.net/gatewaygeomatics.com/fostering-preuniversity-student-participation-in-osgeo-through-the-google-codein-competition
  ➢ download raw slides:
  https://www.gatewaygeomatics.com/dl/foss4g-2018/GCI-FOSS4G-2018-Presentation.odp

  ➢ pdf:
  https://www.gatewaygeomatics.com/dl/foss4g-2018/GCI-FOSS4G-2018-Presentation.pdf

  The presentation was presented by Victoria Rautenbach and Jeff McKenna, on 2018-08-29 at FOSS4G-2018 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

- In the Academic Track of FOSS4G, Maria Brovelli presented some new educational material for Land Cover Validation.

  Capacity Building for High-Resolution Land Cover Intercomparison and Validation (2018)

  Funded as one of the ISPRS Education and Capacity Building Initiatives 2018, the project aims to create computer-aided teaching and learning material about the intercomparison/validation of global land cover maps. The training material for validation with QGIS [1] and the training material [2] on how to use the web and mobile Land Cover Collector application [3] are available online. Principal investigators are Politecnico di Milano and the National Geomatics Center of China.

Editorial Board

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

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: 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

continued from page 1

The development of the Land Cover Collector application was supported by Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR) thanks to the URBAN GEO BIG DATA project.
[1] http://geomobile.como.polimi.it/website/docs/training/ISPRS2018/Validation_QGIS.zip
[2] http://geomobile.como.polimi.it/website/docs/training/ISPRS2018/Land_Cover_Collector.zip
[3] https://landcover.como.polimi.it/collector/

- 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/

4. Conferences

Europe

October 2018

1. 1-5 October: ISPRS Com IV Symposium
Venue: Delft, The Netherlands

2. 9-11 October: 5th Open Source Geospatial Research and Education Symposium
Venue: University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI)

3. 24-26 October: 14th gvSIG International Conference

Venue: Nexus Building and the Higher Technical School of Geodetic, Cartographic and Topographic Engineering (Universitat Politècnica de València), Valencia, Spain.

North and Central America and the Caribbean

November 2018

4. 6-9 November: XVIII International Symposium of the Latin American Society of Remote Perception and Systems of Space Information.
Venue: Havana, Cuba
Contact: MSc. Ing. Pedro Luis García Pérez Presidente del Comité Organizador. (537) 836 34 47 pedroluis1664@gmail.com
lgarcia@ch.unaicc.cu

5. 9 November: North Carolina Geography Annual Meeting
North Carolina Central University, Durham, North Carolina, USA.

6. 9-10 November: Seattle GNU/Linux Conference
Venue: Seattle, Washington, USA.

February 2019

7. 27 February-1 March: North Carolina GIS Conference (NCGIS)
Venue: Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, USA.

April 2019

8. 2-4 April: RDA 13th (P13) Plenary Meeting
Venue: Loews Hotel - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

South America

September 2018
October 2018

9. 18-19 October: 5th gvSIG Uruguay Conference: Geographic Information in an open field
Venue: Montevideo, Uruguay

July 2019

10. 1-5 July: XVII Biennial The International Association for the Study of the Commons (IASC) Conference
Venue: Lima, Peru.

Africa

November 2018

11. 5-8 November: SciData Con-IDW 2018
International Data Week
Session Title: Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Data at the Subnational Level
Venue: Gaborone, Botswana

Asia

December 2018

12. 2-5 December: FOSS4G: ASIA "Open Source for Sustainable Development"
Venue: University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.

Oceania

November 2018

13. 20-23 November: FOSS4G – SotM Oceania
Venue: University of Melbourne, in the Old Arts Building, Melbourne, Australia

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

- Since 1998, Software Carpentry has been teaching researchers the computing skills they need to get more done in less time and with less pain. Volunteer instructors have run hundreds of events for more than 34,000 researchers since 2012. All of their lesson materials are freely reusable under the Creative Commons - Attribution license.

  Over two days, they teach our three core topics: the Unix shell, version control with Git, and a programming language (Python or R). Curricula for these lessons in English and Spanish (select lessons only) can be found at https://software-carpentry.org/lessons/

- We would like to thank Dr. Adam Steer for giving the following reading links:

https://software-carpentry.org (overall)
https://software-carpentry.org/lessons/ (base lessons - Python, shell, git, etc)
https://datacarpentry.org/lessons/#geospatial-curriculum (geospatial stuff)

8. Key research publications

An interesting paper by Maria Antonia Brovelli and Giorgio Zamboni:

A New Method for the Assessment of Spatial Accuracy and Completeness of OpenStreetMap Building Footprints

You can find it at https://www.mdpi.com/2220-9964/7/8/289

9. Funding opportunities, bids, 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

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: Cartograhy 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

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 Hydrometeorologyand Enviromental 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

15. Awards

Astrid Emde was honoured with the 2018 Sol Katz Award, presented on 29 August 2018, during the gala dinner of the FOSS4G event in Dar es Salaam. This was the 14th year of the award.

Astrid has been involved in FOSS for a long time, starting through her early Mapbender work at the CCGIS company in Germany, to becoming one of the

leaders of the Mapbender team at the WhereGroup company, and now the backbone of OSGeo (working with the OSGeoLive team, helping with the OSGeo news items, organizing OSGeo Board meetings, processing license agreements as the OSGeo Secretary role, and becoming a true leader as an OSGeo Board of Director). Astrid is very active organizing events such as FOSSGIS events, the FOSSGIS e.V. local chapter events, preparing OSGeo booth materials, and helping organize code sprints all around the world.

Astrid is constantly working behind the scenes for the community, and her calm nature has helped many across the world to feel comfortable and grow.

On behalf of the OSGeo and FOSSGIS communities, we congratulate and thank Astrid for all of her passion. Thank you, Astrid, you deserve this.

16. Websites

The Coalition for Publishing Data in the Earth and Space Sciences (COPDESS) connects Earth and space science publishers and data facilities to help translate the aspirations of open, available, and useful data from policy into practice. COPDESS has developed a statement of commitment, now signed by most leading publishers and repositories, and provides a directory of repositories for publishers and recommended best practices around data and identifiers.

COPDESS was formed at a meeting in October 2014 and provides an organizational framework for Earth and space science publishers and data facilities to

jointly implement and promote common policies and procedures for the publication and citation of data across Earth Science journals.

Further information on COPDESS, scholarly articles, and related activities around data are available here.

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. In 2018, the conference will take place in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, on 29-30-31 August. The four thematic domains selected for this edition are: Urban; Coastal, Marine and the Environment; Widening Access and Humanitarian Mapping; Drones.

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

Special Issue: Open Source Geospatial Software

Special Issue of the Journal of Open Geospatial Data, Software and Standards invites original research contributions and/or software implementations on all aspects of open source geospatial software and its applications, and

particularly encourages submissions on the following themes:

- Open source/open data policies for SDI development and implementation
- Reproducibility of analyses and results in research and science
- Quality of open geospatial data
- Volunteered Geographic Information (VGI), Crowdsourcing and OpenStreetMap (OSM)
- Sensor Web and Internet of Things (IoT)
- Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing
- Standardization and interoperability of open geo-data and services
- Big geo-data storage, visualization and processing
- Open source geospatial software in scientific research
- Open source geospatial software in education and business
- Management and sustainability of open source geospatial projects

Deadline for submission of articles: November 15th, 2018

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

Guest Editors:

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

Amin Mobasheri, Heidelberg University, Germany (a.mobasheri@uni-heidelberg.de)

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

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

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

Please have in mind that the Guest Editors are able to provide some fee waivers to cover the Article Processing Charge of the journal. Since the journal also welcomes technical papers which describe open source software technology, they would like to extend this invitation to all the OSGeo projects.

If you need more information please contact one of the Guest Editors.

3. An announcement from GeoForAll IberoAmerica (from SERGIO ACOSTAYLARA <sergio.acostaylara@mtop.gub.uy>)

GeoForAll Iberoamérica (G4A-Ib) continues to grow:

- we have 15 members from 8 different countries right now in the wiki (https://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/GeoForAll_Iberoam%C3%A9rica) and others to be added shortly (still information missing)
- we are arranging future collaborations with other initiatives (GBIF, EO4GEO)
- we welcome collaboration with other Regional/Thematic groups from GeoForAll

- we are organizing our first students' competition with OSGeo's support (see, in Spanish, https://siglibreuruguay.wordpress.com/2018/06/14/premio-geoforall-iberoamerica-y-osgeo/)
- we have done a series of webinars (for example: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLtoCaX0XUK-7VmHiaVkBri480immm5jBS) and we plan to do more in the future
- we are part of the Editorial Board of the GeoForAll newsletter making possible to have it translated to Spanish

If you want to join, you can do it through the mailing list:

https://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-iberoamerica, or writing to us in this global one. We encourage you to share your ideas and opinions. We accept non-Spanish speaking members, but it will be good if they are from Iberoamérica (South America, Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean, Spain and Portugal).

4. 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.

5. 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, 2018: 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

6. The **Enabling FAIR project** is funded by the Arnold Foundation (comparable to the Gates Foundation; details: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laura_and_John_Arnold_Foundation) and managed by AGU, the American Geophysical Union (OSGeo has a MOU with AGU; details: https://www.osgeo.org/foundation-news/osgeo-and-agu-sign-a-memorandum-of-understanding/). The project goal is to create an initial critical mass of researchers, research institutes and organisations, publishers, data repositories, and funding agencies to establish the FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) as best practices in the (Geo-)Sciences. The FAIR principles are compatible with the paradigm of Open Science (including Open Source, Open Data, and Open Access). FAIR can be applied to provide transparency, especially for cases where access to data is limited to small communities (instead of open data / open access) for reasons like confidentially or protection of personal rights.

7. About people with low literacy level and low technical skills.

In a rapidly digitising world, people who cannot read or write face new forms of marginalisation. On top of confronting disadvantages in the physical world, illiterate people—currently 10 percent of the world's population—have difficulties participating in digital realms and accessing services that can strengthen livelihoods and enlarge learning opportunities.

Yet this exclusion is avoidable. Carefully designed digital solutions can help people—even those with very low literacy levels and limited technology skills—navigate digital spaces and benefit from relevant applications, such as those targeting farmers or connecting users to health services.

UNESCO developed the guidelines over a two-year period, drawing on a landscape review of digital inclusion strategies for low-skilled and low-literate people and a set of fourteen case studies. The guidelines reflect the views of an international expert group and were further refined based on feedback from public input.

Details at https://en.unesco.org/themes/literacy-all/pearson-initiative/guidelines

8. Please pay attention to this call from Janet Chapman

"To coincide with a UN General Assembly High Level Panel event which will include discussion on how mapping can help the fight against female genital mutilation (FGM), and a mapathon in New York, we are organising a global mapathon

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/global-mapathon-to-help-end-female-genital-mutilation-fgm-tickets-49858325594

We are building a global network to unite people from across the world to help map areas where girls are at risk of FGM so that activists can better protect them. We will be posting on social media using #map2endFGM.

Please join us and help spread the word throughout your networks!

We want to include mappers from every country where FGM is an issue.

Janet Chapman, Campaigns Manager, Tanzania Development Trust and Founder Crowd2Map