Background

Natural and manmade disasters (by accident or on purpose) have caused a large number of victims and significant social and economical losses in the last few years. There is no doubt that the risk prevention and disaster management sector needs drastic developments and improvements for decreasing damages and saving lives of civilians.

Anticipating the obvious and growing importance of geo-information for disaster and risk management we have began a worldwide discussion on collection, management, analysis, sharing and visualisation of geo-information by organising 'The First International Symposium on Geo-information for Disaster Management', Delft, The Netherlands, 21-23 March 2005. The fundamental goal of the Symposium was to begin a dialog on the disaster management problems in their entirety by considering geospatial technology applicable for Disaster Management) user requirements for geo-information, and spatial data and standards.

This Second Symposium will concentrate on remote sensing techniques and their integration with GIS technology. Lessons learned in the last several years have clearly indicated that the prediction and efficient monitoring of disasters is one of the critical factors in the decision-making process and the space-based technologies have a great potential to meet such a need, in a fast, near-real-time fashion.

Earth observation satellites have already demonstrated their flexibility in providing data to a broad range of applications: weather forecasting, vehicle tracking, disaster alerting, forest fire and flood monitoring, oil splits detection, desertification spread monitoring, crop and forestry damage assessment. Monitoring and management of recent natural disasters have also benefited from satellite imagery, such as Indian Ocean Tsunami in 2004; floods (Switzerland, Austria, USA), fires (Portugal, France) in 2005, etc. Charters and international organisations have already launched various initiatives on the extended utilisation of remote sensing technologies in disaster management.

Effective utilisation of remote sensing in disaster management requires research and development in numerous aspects: data access/delivery to the users, information extraction and analysis, management of data and their integration with other data sources (airborne and terrestrial imagery, GIS data, etc.), data standardization, organisational and legal aspects of sharing of remote sensing information.

Goal

The fundamental goal of this symposium is to discuss the geo-information integration for disaster management considering:

- Technology applicable for disaster management;
- User requirements for geo-information (users at all levels);
- Information providers (data, standards and related legislation).

Objectives

To establish the role of remote sensing in disaster monitoring and prediction;

To examine existing tools, software, remote sensing and geo-information sources, organizational structures and methods for work in crisis situations;

To outline limitations of current use, discovery, integration and exchange of remote sensing data and other geo-information;

To make suggestions for future research directions;

Conference topics

During this Symposium the following aspects are addressed:

- State-of-the-art in remote sensing technology for risk reduction, monitoring and response to disasters
- Methods and software tools for near-real-time processing and information extraction for disaster monitoring and damages assessment.
- Web-based information services based on satellite imagery and GIS
- Methods and software tools for data management, data integration and data analyses
- Dynamic earth processes and geo-hazards, climate change and meteorological hazards, anthropogenic activities and environmental hazards
- User needs and requirements for remote sensing data
- Data access, data availability and sharing of remote sensing data.
- Capacity building and awareness

Call for papers

Papers are invited for presentation (oral or poster) at the Symposium. Please send an extended abstract of about 1000 words to Mr. A.S. Rajawat. Instructions for authors for preparing manuscript will be mailed and can also be accessed through ISPRS web site: www.isprs.org/documents/orangebook/app5.html.

The proceedings of the Symposium will be published as 'Volume XXXVI Part-4 of the ISPRS International Archives of Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences'. Peer reviewed papers will be selected and published in a book.

Organising committee

General Chair:

Shailesh Nayak, India (president of TCIV, ISPRS)

Programme Co-Chairs:

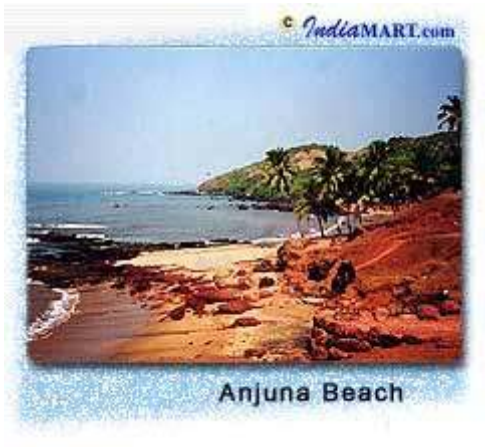
Sisi Zlatanova, The Netherlands (ISPRS WG IV/8, TU Delft)
Jonathan Li, Canada (ISPRS WG IV/8, Ryerson University)
V. Bhanumurthy, India (ISPRS WG VIII/2, NRSA)
Budhendra Bhaduri, USA, (Oak Ridge National Laboratory)
David Stevens, Brasil (OOSA, UN)
Hardy Pundt, Germany (AGILE)
Rystedt Bengt, Sweden, (JB of GIS, FIG)
Karen Fabbri, Italy (ICT for the Environment, EC)

Symposium Secretary:

A.S. Rajawat, India

Venue

The Hotel Marriot, Goa, India



Important deadlines

Abstract submission:	31 January 2006
Notification to Authors:	28 February 2006
Final paper submission:	30 June 2006
Registration:	30 June 2006

Registration Fees:

Participants	US $ 250
Full time students and seniors	US $ 150
Accompanying persons	US$ 75
ISRS Members	Rs. 2500
Non-ISRS Indian participants	Rs. 3000
Full time students & Seniors (Indian)	Rs. 1500

Accommodation:

Accommodation for participants is being negotiated in specific hotels at special price. The Symposium secretariat will assist in arranging hotel accommodation for participants. The accommodation request form will be mailed.

Contact

Mr. A.S. Rajawat
E-mail: asrajawat@sac.isro.gov.in
Phone: +91 79 26914107
Fax: +91 79 26915825
URL: http://www.commission4.isprs.org

Dr. Sisi Zlatanova
E-mail: s.zlatanova@otb.tudelft.nl
Phone: +31 15 278 2714
Fax: +31 15 278 2745
URL: http://www.gdmc.nl/zlatanova

URL of the Symposium:
http://www.commission4.isprs.org

The Second International Symposium on Geo-information for Disaster Management

Remote Sensing and GIS Techniques for Monitoring and Prediction of Disasters

Call for Papers

Goa, India
September 25-26, 2006

Organised by Indian Society for Remote Sensing in cooperation with AGILE, FIG, ISPRS, ORNL, TUDelft and UNOOSA.