Gi4DMConference 2019 Report

The Gi4DM Conference 2019, which was organised by the ISPRS ICWGIII/IVa, co-sponsored by ISPRS and URSI in Prague/Czech Republic between the dates 04-06 September, was completed successfully. The conference addressed diverse topics related to methodologies and technologies within a unique platform keeping participants up-to-date with the latest advances in geo-information applicable to disaster management. In total, there were 134 participants from all over the world (including very remote countries like Canada, New Zealand, South Korea or Japan) and 65 papers were presented orally, and 18 papers were selected as poster presentation. Altogether, one plenary session, twelve oral sessions, and one poster session were organized in the conference. The different sessions have provided the unique platform for wider discussions on the developments on geo-information for disaster management that have been fostered to date and what can be done to explore new horizons in the future. On the 3rd of September, a one-day tutorial/course on "Application-based Approach to Disaster Management and the Role of Radar Remote Sensing" (see attached flyer) was organised, in which 33 participants gained insight into the theory and application-based radar remote sensing, especially in disaster management.
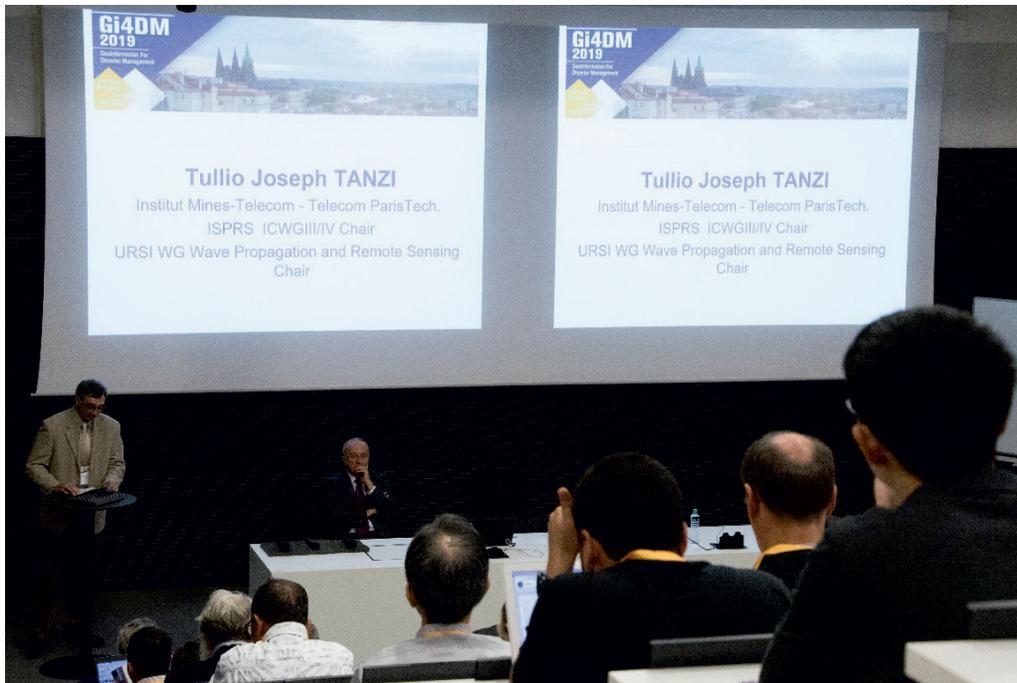
ICWGIII/IVa Chair Tullio Tanzi opening the conference.

Professor Paul S Cannon, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom, URSI past President, welcomed the participants in the name of URSI. Also, ISPRS President Professor Christian Heipke, University of Hannover, welcomed the participants in the name of ISPRS. Both wished success to the meeting and explained the structure of URSI and ISPRS and drew attention to the coming congresses next year in Rome and Nice respectively.

The opening ceremony was crowned by Prof. Dr. Begüm Demir, Professor and Head of the Remote Sensing Image Analysis (RSiM) Group, Faculty of "Electrical Machine Learning for Information Discovery from Big Earth Observation Data Archives". The second day of the conference started with three plenary talks by Prof. Dr. Milan Konecny on "Disaster Risk Reduction Challenges for ICA and ISPRS Research Agenda – Synergy and Cooperation", Prof. Dr. Candan Gokceoglu on "Possible contribution of geo-information technologies to prediction of run out distances of landslides" and by Prof. Dr. Madhu Chandra on "Next Generation Radar remote Sensing: Hype versus Reality".

Prof Begum Demir from TU-Berlin/Germany giving her keynote speech at the Opening Ceremony

At the Conference Dinner three papers were awarded with "Best Poster Paper Awards"

The next Gi4DM in 2020 will be held in Sydney/Australia in November 2020.
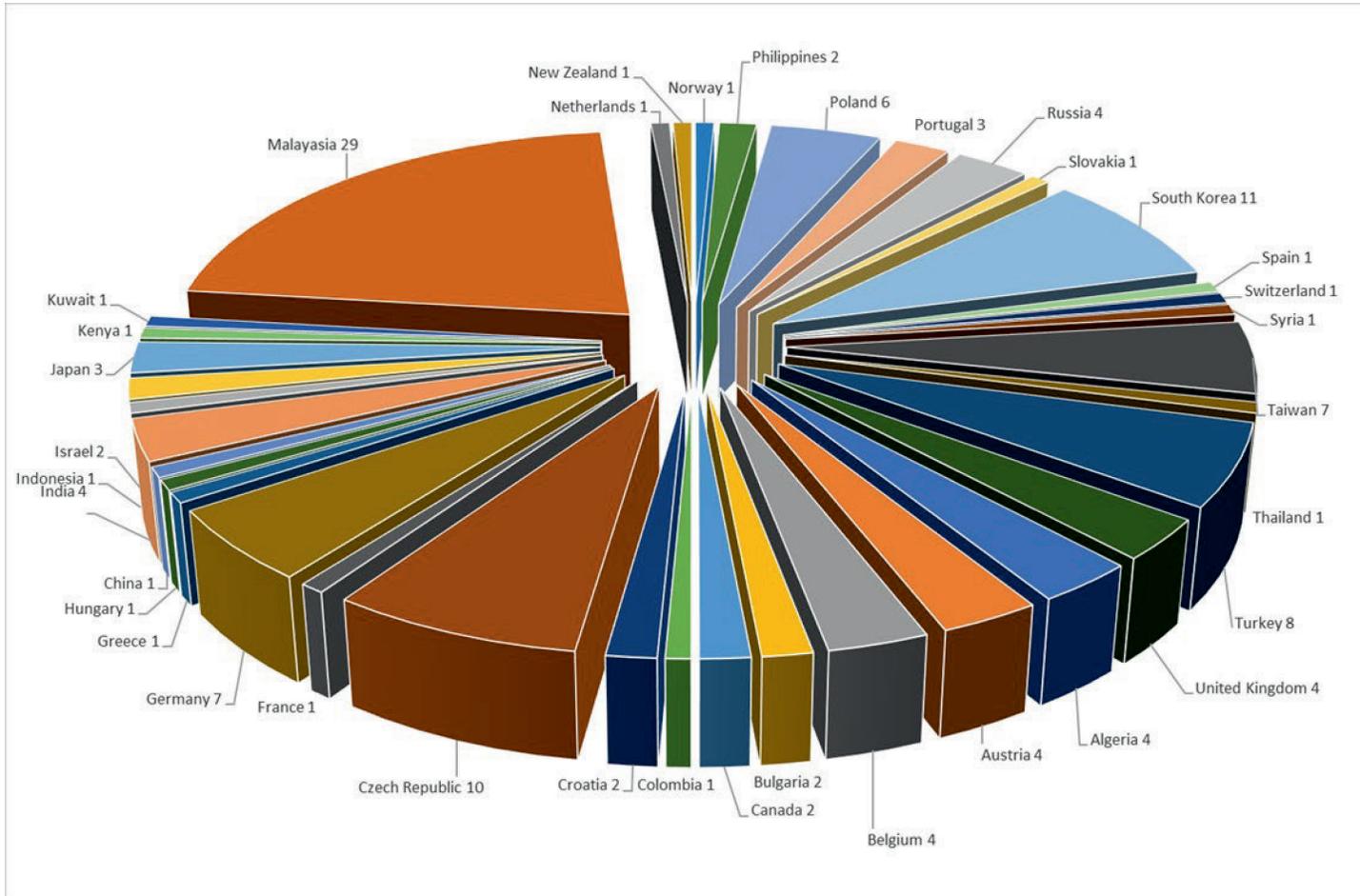
Participants distribution

Tullio Tanzi, Madhu Chandra, Lena Halounova, Orhan Altan and Filiz Sunar