

## **Participation of ISPRS Student Consortium at ISPRS GSW 2023, Cairo**

ISPRS Geospatial Week 2023 in Cairo was a memorable experience for the Student Consortium Board of Directors team. The Board was finally able to meet in person for the first time after more than 2 years working together remotely.

During the conference, the ISPRS SC was very busy at work all days. We are thankful to the local organizing committee for offering a free booth in a very tactical high-traffic area where we displayed our services, our gadgets (people loved our pins and we ran out of our magnets in three days!) and stood by for conference attendees to come to get to know us. In fact, lots of people stopped by our booth to have a chat with us. We leveraged this by registering almost 40 new student members and proactively started some talks toward important future collaborations, especially in the Arab and African regions. Student Chapters were a hot topic during GSW Cairo; students, scientists and professors from different universities and institutions visited our booth and were particularly keen to starting student chapters locally, and we are looking forward to collaborating with them. We also introduced Discord, our very new communication and discussion channel to connect students with us and experts in the area of photogrammetry, remote sensing and geographical information systems. Additionally, we organized a youth presentation forum where students and their representatives presented their research. We also discussed how the ISPRS Student Consortium works and how students or young professionals can get involved in our activities.

We were also encouraged by some members to contact the General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Also, we strengthened our relationships with Dr. Abdalla Alobeid, Vice Regional Representative of the Arab Countries, and Dr. Andre Nonguierma, Regional Representative of Africa. Both figures expressed their willingness to collaborate more closely to enhance student activities in our fields in the African and Arab regions, which aligns well with our goal of expanding student chapters into those less represented areas.

The president and vice president of ISPRS SC also attended the ISPRS Council meeting where they gained first-hand insight on how our Society is led. They presented the ISPRS SC activities from the past year as well as its plan for future activities. Also, we had a very informative meeting with ISPRS Vice President, Nicolas Paparoditis and Treasurer, Stewart Walker, where we discussed some important points about our future funding and organisation. Moreover, we had a fruitful meeting with Prof. Maria Antonia Brovelli, Vice President of ISPRS TC IV, who introduced us to *AI for Good*, a continuous digital platform that brings together AI innovators

and problem-owners to collaborate, learn, and create practical AI solutions in support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Following our meeting, we intend to shape our future activities in such a way to integrate *AI for Good* objectives.

ISPRS Council, including President, Lena Halounová and Secretary General, Jiang Jie and some of the most eminent people inside our Society, such as Prof. Armin Gruen, President of White Elephant Club, visited our booth. We are sincerely grateful to the support that The ISPRS Foundation (TIF) provided us for this incredible opportunity. Thank you!

In summary, GSW 2023 Cairo has been an amazing opportunity to get to know each other and to connect with the audience we serve, the students.



Figure: (Top left) ISPRS SC Current BODs (BOD member Chukwuma John Okolie is missing in the picture) in front of their booth. (Top right) Capturing a moment during ISPRS SC Youth Presentation Forum. (Bottom left) Some members of ISPRS SC BODs with ISPRS Council. (Bottom right) Capturing a moment with Prof. Brovelli after her visit to ISPRS SC booth.