

ISPRS Technical Commission VI Working Group 4 Report

Multinational Geomatics Capacity Building – Achievements and Challenges

April 7-8, 2011
IIRS, Dehradun, India

The ISPRS Technical Commission VI (i.e. Education and Outreach), Working Group 4 on “Cross Border education for Standard course Frameworks and promotion of Joint Education Programs at National and International level” organized two days International workshop at Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS), Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in Dehradun, India. The workshop had the title “Multinational Geomatics Capacity Building – Achievements and Challenges”. It was co-organized by IIRS in collaboration with International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC), Centre for Space Science Technology Education in Asia Pacific (CSSTEAP), affiliated to UN, Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Bangkok and Indian Society of Remote Sensing. The event was sponsored by ISRO, Ministry of Earth Sciences (MOES), Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Symbiosis Institute of Geoinformatics (SIG), India. It was attended by 82 participants that include 16 from other countries (Austria, The Netherlands, Myanmar, Thailand, Nepal, Nigeria, Magnolia, Taiwan, Sri Lanka and Vietnam) and the remaining 66 participants are from India.



Photo: Inauguration of ISPRS VI/4 International Workshop, April 7, 2011

The two days International workshop was inaugurated opening with Welcome address by Dr. P.S. Roy, Chair, ISPRS VI/4 (i.e. Cross-Border Education: Joint Education programmes), Dean, IIRS and Director, CSSTEAP (UN Centre), who has highlighted on need of the hour for Joint International Programs through Cross Border Education to reduce the gap in Capacity building. Presidential Address was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Martien Molenaar, President, ISPRS VI raised the issue of Internationalization of education as the geo-processes like climate change are now beyond national level, they are supra natural and even at global scale. This was following by **Chief Guest** address was given by Dr. V. Jayaraman, Director, NRSC expressing that we have to “Domesticate Technology” but not the technology domesticate us. He said that capacity Building is much more than education or training. It is hands on skill development on continuation basis.



Group Photograph of ISPRS VI/4 International Workshop participants, April 7-8, 2011

The two days International workshop on Multinational Geomatics Capacity Building - Achievements and Challenges consists of seven technical sessions, 34 papers presented out of 37 papers, organized one session (i.e. Technical Session 6) for promotion of the profession to Young People. The major themes of the papers dealt with topics like: Geomatics training and education at International Level and in India, Cross-border education: initiatives, achievements and best practices of Joint Education Programs (JEP), distance and e-Learning initiatives and outreach in India and at International level, institutional and legal frameworks at national level. One special session entirely focusing on Free and Open Source Geomatics and Tools for Education and Training considering wide spread use among public sector and research institutions in India. The highlights of the international workshop are: capacity building, cross border education under joint educational programs, free and open source tools, distance and e-learning initiatives and mobility of students etc. On behalf of IIRS, the workshop organizers are very much grateful to sponsoring institutions (i.e. MOES, DST and SIG) and joint host institutions like ITC, Netherlands, AIT, NRSC, Hyderabad, CSSTEAP and ISRS.

Dr. P.S. Roy, Chair, ISPRS VI/4: Cross Border Education: Joint Educational Programs

Mr. P.L.N. Raju, Secretary, ISPRS VI/4: Cross Border Education: Joint Educational Programs

Dr. S.K. Srivastav, Program Coordinator (Research), IIRS

Prof. (Dr.) Martien Molenaar, ISPRS Technical Commission VI President