

# ISPRS GSW 2025 Travel Award Experience

**Recipient:** Abhishek Rai

**Event:** ISPRS Geospatial Week (GSW) 2025

**Location:** Dubai World Trade Centre, Dubai, UAE

**Dates Attended:** 6<sup>th</sup> April – 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2025

## 1. Introduction

Attending the ISPRS Geospatial Week 2025 in Dubai was an immense honour as a recipient of the **ISPRS Foundation (TIF) Travel Award**. This prestigious award made it financially possible for me to participate in one of the most significant gatherings in the geospatial research community. Hosted by the **Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre**, the conference brought together leading researchers, professionals, and institutions from around the world.

This report serves as a reflection on my experience and a way to express my gratitude to TIF, while also encouraging other young researchers to apply and engage with ISPRS events.

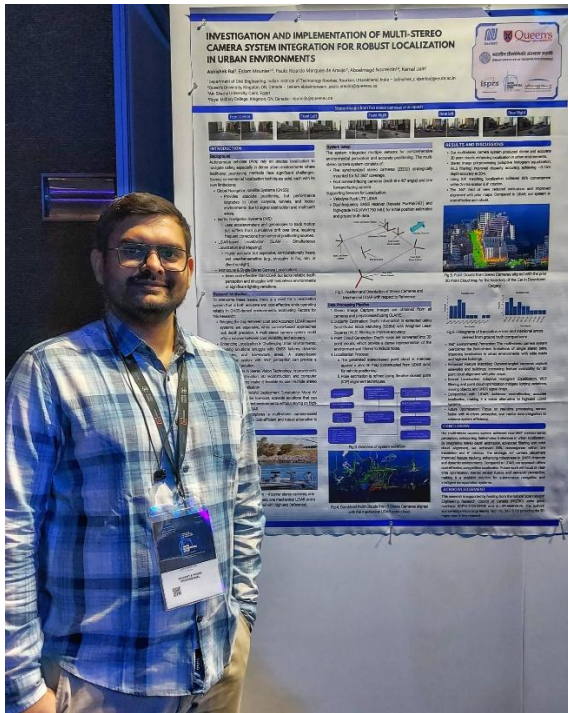
## 2. Key Highlights

### a. Recognition and Gratitude

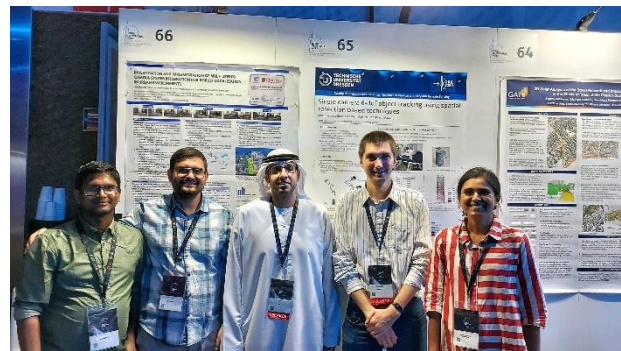
Receiving the TIF Travel Award was not just a financial aid — it was an affirmation of my research journey and motivation to keep pushing boundaries in the field of **photogrammetry and remote sensing**. I'm truly grateful to ISPRS and The ISPRS Foundation for their support.



## b. Research Presentation



I had the opportunity to present my research on **vision-based methods for autonomous vehicle localization in urban environments**. The feedback and discussions during and after the presentation were incredibly insightful and have already influenced the direction of my future work.



## c. Networking and Collaborations

Meeting fellow researchers, mentors, and professionals was a major part of the experience. Key highlights included:

- A conversation with **Dr. Saeed Al Mansoori**, Director of ISPRS GSW 2025.
- Reconnecting with my supervisors **Prof. Kourosh Khoshelham** and **Prof. Aboelmagd Noureldin**, whose mentorship has been foundational to my development.
- Engaging in technical sessions, poster presentations, and panel discussions across various subfields.



## d. Student and Young Professionals Event

A standout experience was the **Student and Young Professionals event at the Sharjah Academy for Astronomy, Space Sciences and Technology (SAASST)**. Hearing **Prof. Adriano Camps** share his journey—from passion to leadership as IEEE GRSS President—



was both humbling and energizing. The CubeSats session and the immersive planetarium visit revitalized my sense of wonder about space sciences.



### 3. Regional Significance

This year's event held special significance, as it was only the second time ISPRS GSW was hosted in a Middle Eastern country. Following the 2023 event in Egypt, it was heartening to see how geospatial engagement in the region continues to grow. This expansion not only benefits local research ecosystems but also enriches global scientific collaboration.

### 4. Personal Impact

Attending ISPRS GSW 2025 has:

- Deepened my technical knowledge and exposure.
- Connected me with a global network of peers and professionals.
- Boosted my confidence as a young researcher.
- Inspired me to contribute more actively to the ISPRS community and consider future roles in academic and professional leadership.

## 6. Conclusion

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to **The ISPRS Foundation**, the organizing committee of **ISPRS GSW 2025**, and all the individuals who made this event a transformative experience. I return from Dubai energized, more knowledgeable, and motivated to continue advancing in the geospatial sciences — and to one day give back to the community as TIF has given to me.

**Sincerely,**

Abhishek Rai

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