

**COOPERATION, TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND OTHER OBJECTIVES, FULFILLED
BY THE SOCIETY OF LATIN AMERICAN SPECIALISTS ON REMOTE SENSING
SELPER**

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ABSTRACT:

Created in Quito – Ecuador (1980), the Latin American Specialists Society on Remote Sensing, is a scientific and technological organization, no profit. It established the bases for the development of “Integration and Cooperation Programs in Latin America”, through the diffusion of the remote sensing themes in Annual Plenary Meetings, Technical Conferences and Symposia of Remote Sensing and related techniques and sciences.

The headquarters of SELPER changes every three years. It has been located in Ecuador (1980-83), Chile (1983-1986), Brazil (1986-1989), Argentina (1989-91), Peru (1991-93), Colombia (1993-95) and currently in Mexico (1995-97). SELPER it is Member of the International Astronautic Federation (IAF), the International Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sending (ISPRS), the Joint Board of Remote Sensing Activities (JOBRESA), etc..

The organization is certified by Chapters constituted as: Argentina, Brazil, Chile Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela, Uruguay, Bolivia, Cuba, etc.. There are other chapters in formation stage. It is also integrated by special Chapters, that constantly collaborate through the contribution of their companies and spatial organizations of COUNTRIES as are: Germany, Canada, Spain, USA., France, Holland, Portugal, Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria, Ethiopia, etc..

ORGANIZATIONS that always have been present in the events organized by SELPER can be mentioned: NASA, ESA, CNES, SPOT Image, DLR, EOSAT, MDA, CIDA, INTERA, SETER, GDTA, UN (OSAD), FAO, AET, MARC, ITC, RADARSAT, CHOAPA, INTERGRAPH, I2S, ASHTECH, etc..

The Associates with SELPER are professionals of multiple disciplines, updated in remote sensing themes of the new satellite systems and the sciences and techniques related with them. This objective is fulfilled through the organization of courses, symposia, update sessions, publications issue, as is the SELPER JOURNAL. This technical magazine, of Latin-American and world integration, is a publication of free distribution, each four months; with special issues devoted to prompt topics, as for example: Antarctica.

SELPER cooperated in the organization of the first courses and the first “National Symposia of Remote Sensing”, organized by the National Commission of Spatial Investigations (CNIE), depending of the Argentinean Air Force (FAA) – 1980, 1981, 1982 and 1984. Actually Technical calendars and Annual Almanacs are edited to diffuse new satellite imagery.

SELPER is also sponsoring the creation of remote sensing laboratories, at educational institutions and auspices courses organized by the “Direction of –Application of Satellite Imagery” (DAIS-MOSP, La Plata, Argentina). It promoted the “IV Argentinean Symposium of Remote Sensing”, to be accomplished in San Juan, Argentina, organized by UNSJ. Moreover SELPER promoted a “National Postgraduate Course” (organized by the UNLu, Lujan, Argentina), on “Remote Sensing and GIS ’s applied to the environmental evaluation”.

SELPER edits ACTS of the Symposia organized every two years in different places of Latin America. Referred to this topic, the “VII Remote Sensing Latin American Symposium” acts, organized by SELPER in Merida-Venezuela will has been carried out recently.

The Authorities of SELPER are President, Vice-presidents, General Secretary, Treasurer, International Relationships Coordinator, National Coordinators, Editorial Chief Director (advised by an Editorial Committee) and a Teaching and Research Commission. In May of 1997, related to the last topic, there was held out the “First Sessions of Remote Sensing Teaching, in the framework of the MERCOSUR”, in Camboriù-Brazil.

Each member country of SELPER edits – while it is HEADQUARTERS – informative Bulletins, as for example Bulletin N° 40 of SELPER-Mexico (May, 1997). The Argentinean SELPER – Chapter edits SELPER Bulletins, providing information about scientific Meetings, everywhere of the world. Here in the future, results of the activities of different researchers and/or educational groups of Argentina will be published. Besides that, invites their members to the courses organized by foreign and national institutions as ESA, INPE, the National Commission of Spatial Activities (CONAE) and Military Geographical Institute (IGM), both of Argentina. This stand presents some of the material produced by SELPER along the last seventeen years of its history.