

Discussion Session:



The discussion session hosts companies, scientists and GIS&RS users. The session allows addressing

application problems in the countries and provides also the opportunity for outsiders to interact between these three groups.

Workshops:

At the GIS&RS User Conference 2019 four high level workshops have been conducted: (i) "MAXAR Technologies" by Andrew Steele (MAXAR), (ii) "SAR Applications for Pacific Island Nations" by Amy Parker (CSIRO) and Ake Rosenqvist (JAXA), (iii) "HEXAGON Geospatial Processing" by Angela Manchester (HEXAGON) and (iv) "Exploring Spatial Data with Pacific Maps" by Siolei Tonga (SPC)

Social Events:

The social events showed Fijian hospitality and allow to interact between the users, scientists and companies and also between Pacific users themselves. Every evening there was one organised function, a) the opening cocktail, b) the yaqona night, c) the Fijian pub crawl, d) the closing cocktail, e) the sandbank picnic.

Spatial Business Awards:

The Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards were handed out at the Closing Session of the Conference .



Poster Competition Vodafone Awards:

The poster competition has two sections (i) the student poster competition and (ii) the professional poster competition. The posters initiated interesting discussions and showed the status of Pacific projects.



Women Session:

The GIS&RS User Conference 2019 the first time had a women session, where women presented their experience in the GIS and remote sensing environment. Such a session will be also held during the Vanuatu Conference this year.



Pacific Islands GIS & Remote Sensing User Conference 2020



Pacific GIS and Remote Sensing Council

23th - 26th November 2020

27th workshops

Port Vila, Vanuatu

Building a Resilient Pacific Community through Geospatial Technologies



The Conference

In 1998, USP approached the Fiji Lands Department to jointly conduct a two days National GIS Conference, which was then extended to a 3 day conference in 1999. In 2004 this Fiji Conference was renamed to the 'Pacific Islands GIS&RS User Conference' due to the increasing interests of participants that came from Pacific Island countries. In 2005 ISPRS joined the initiative and was part of the first discussion session of the Conference. Today, the Conference is the largest GIS and RS Conference in the Pacific, where Pacific application is dominating the content. There are similar conferences in New Zealand, Australia and Hawaii, however, Pacific islanders are not the dominant factor.

The Conference runs 4 days with over 60 presentations. Day five is reserved for workshops and day four contains the discussion session. The Conference provides the platform where three types of participants meet and interact: (A) Very different Pacific island GIS&RS users from government administrations, utilities and private enterprises, (B) Scientists from Pacific and outside universities as well as research institutes or regional organisations and (C) companies of the GIS and RS market providing hardware, software, image data and service. During the day PPT presentations are dominant, but the Conference also provides every evening a social function, which give opportunities for the three groups of participants to meet and exchange ideas.

During the last few years the Conference did not produce proceedings, presenters and presentations are available on the Conference website:

<http://www.picgisrs.org/>



PGRSC History:

The Pacific GIS and Remote Sensing Council (PGRSC) was officially launched in March of 2018. The 2017 Pacific Islands GIS & RS User Conference was the first one run by the independent Council and not by SPC. Now, the GIS and RS Council has Focal Point in nearly all Pacific Island Countries providing country input to the Conference. This year it is the first time that the Conference will be held in a different Pacific island country. PGRSC also has vehicles for information dissemination such as the Pacific Islands GIS&RS Newsletter, which exists since more than 25 years and a e-mail distributing list GIS-PacNet existing since 1996.

Today PGRSC is the Pacific regional member of ISPRS and has a MoU with SIBA/GITA and with STAR. Other links are in discussion.



Pacific GIS and Remote Sensing Council

Address: P.O. Box 3786 Samabula, Suva

Mobile: +679-9920987, +679-9272462

Phone: +679-3322193, +679-3249237

Email: pgrsc.conference@gmail.com,

wolf.forstreuter@gmail.com

<http://www.picgisrs.org/>

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