

URL: [www.vesta-gis.eu](http://www.vesta-gis.eu)**VESTA-GIS NEWSLETTER no. 5****(7/2009)****In this newsletter**

Even in summer the VESTA-GIS Project is going on and presently most of its features are operational. It is now our task to take the best of them.

At this regard, a detailed guide for the on-line Mobility Database - now fully operational - is presented in this issue, with the hope to invite VESTA-GIS Partners, as well as other interested people, to actively participate to the Network and to enjoy the opportunities that it can offer.

Two new Associated Partners have joined the Network, the Technical University of Munchen and the Institute for Electromagnetic Sensing of Environment of the National Research Council of Italy. We take the occasion to welcome them and to present them to the other VESTA-GIS Partners and friends.

In November, in Budapest, will take place the Hungarian VESTA-GIS Workshop, in parallel with the National GIS Day. It will be an opportunity for presenting and discussing the main issues related with GI, in a training oriented view towards the Hungarian GI Community.

VESTA-GIS has also contributed to the GSDI event held in Rotterdam last June. A short report is provided together with the information about the next VESTA-GIS event.

Finally, it is given an overview of the next events in the field of GIS and related applications.

Remember that, as a Network, VESTA-GIS main use is to supply services above all to its members, and, the many we are, the better for everyone.

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## VESTA-GIS on-line Mobility Database

The VESTA-GIS Mobility Framework is a tool to promote people mobility within the organisations participating in the Network, both at the general VESTA-GIS Network level and at sub-networks levels with reference to application domains.

As a matter of fact, VESTA-GIS aims to promote the assignment of grants to university students/graduates/researchers applying individually, or through an institution of higher education, to complete a period of practical training in a company abroad normally lasting between 3 and 12 months. Students who have just graduated and or are undertaking post-doctoral studies are also welcome, as well as those undertaking placements as an integral part of their academic course which will be assessed as part of their final award.

The adopted approach intends to simplify organisational procedures for people looking for placements and organisations willing to host trainees, providing them with a hands-on tool to be used as guidance for proper organisation and smooth running of each placement.

The main tool of the Mobility Framework is an on-line database collecting offer/demand of placements, that has been set-up (as pilot version) and will be constantly up-dated.

This article is intended as a practical guide of how to use this tool and its functionalities:

- Search for a candidate
- Insert placement offers
- Placement offers list by host organisations (ordered by date, domain or other parameters)
- Search and apply for placements
- Upload CV to the VESTA-GIS database

The on-line database is organised in two levels (Figure 1):

- "Candidate" level, upon free registration
- "Hosts" level, only available to the VESTA-GIS Members.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [http://www.vesta-gis.eu/index.php?option=com\\_fabrik&Itemid=141](http://www.vesta-gis.eu/index.php?option=com_fabrik&Itemid=141). The page header includes the VESTA GIS logo and the text 'Vocational Education and Sectoral Training network on GIS & GI Application domains' and 'LLP - Leonardo da Vinci Network No. 2007-1989'. The main content area is a registration form with the following fields:

- Nationality:** A dropdown menu.
- Highest education level:** A dropdown menu.
- Age range:** A dropdown menu.
- Languages:** A dropdown menu with options: English, Spanish, Portuguese, French, German, Italian.
- Availability (in months):** Radio buttons for 6, 12, 18, 24, and a 'more' checkbox.
- Field of competence:** A dropdown menu with options: GIS, Programming, CAD, Analysis.
- Field of interest:** A dropdown menu with options: Agriculture, Geology, Land Information System, Natural Hazard Management, Urban Planning, Archaeology.

The left sidebar contains several menu sections:

- Partners menu:** Documents, Project Deliverables.
- Training Framework menu:** Course Catalogue (Pilot version), VESTA-GIS e-Learning portal.
- Partners Mobility menu:** Partner guide, Post a new placement offer, Search a Candidate.
- Candidate Mobility menu:** Candidate Guide, Placements, Search a placement offer, Send your CV.
- Other links:** Home, About the Project, Rationale and Background, Completato.

Figure 1 - The registration form to access the Mobility Framework

The first two features (*Search for a candidate* and *Insert placement offers*) are reserved to users of “Hosts” level, while the others are also accessible by individual candidates. The database has a user-friendly interface, in order to facilitate the users access.

Following the database features are presented in detail, as well as the possible use cases.

### Search for a candidate use case (reserved to Hosts, see Figure 2)

1. The Host logs in the system and clicks on:

Search a Candidate

2. He performs a search by setting up some criteria in the “Search a Candidate” form
3. If he finds some profiles who fit his needs, the Host contacts the extended CVs to VESTA-GIS Mobility Office for the selected candidates
4. VESTA-GIS sends the CVs to the Host
5. If any CV fits the Host's needs, he directly contacts the persons and notifies the negotiations to VESTA-GIS

Figure 2 - Candidate search form

### Insert placement offer use case (reserved to Hosts, see Figure 3)

1. The Host logs in the system and clicks on:

Post a new placement offer

2. He fills the web form for a new placement offer including the following pieces of information: name of company, country, duration, keywords on the job, grant availability, other facilities in kind, required knowledge and skills, tentative starting date, free text on the job foreseen
3. Placement offer notification is sent to VESTA-GIS Mobility Office
4. The Administrator validates the placement offer
5. The new offer is published in the placement list

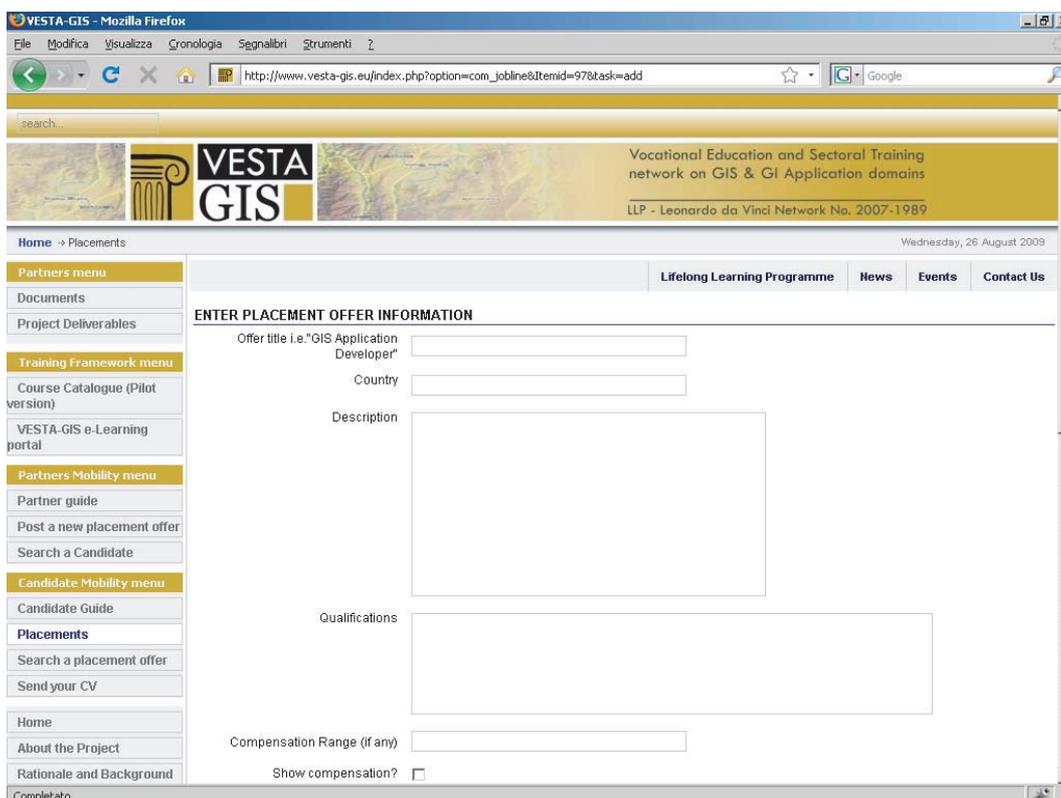


Figure 3 - Post placement form

## Placements

The Placement offers list is accessible both by Hosts and by Candidates and placement can be sorted by date, application field and other parameters.

### Search and apply for placements use case (reserved to Candidates)

1. The Candidate logs in the system and clicks on:

#### Search a placement offer

2. He can browse the placement offers list or use the search a placement offer facility
3. If he is interested in a placement offer, he applies for it
4. He fills the profile information boxes (age range, education level, domain, country, language, etc..) and upload his CV, drafted according with the European CV template (Europass)
5. Application for a placement notification is sent to VESTA-GIS Mobility Office
6. Candidate's profile and CV are sent to the placement offerer.
7. The offerer contacts the candidate
8. He informs VESTA-GIS Mobility Office about negotiations
9. In case of no deal, VESTA-GIS Mobility Office proposes the candidate to make his profile visible for other placements
10. If he agrees, he is added to the Candidate's database

### Upload CV to the VESTA-GIS database use case (reserved to Candidates, see Figure 4)

1. The Candidate logs in the system and clicks on:

#### Send your CV

2. He fills the profile form (age range, education level, domain, country, availability, etc..) and upload his CV drafted according with the European CV template (Europass)
3. CV uploading notification is sent to VESTA-GIS
4. VESTA-GIS Mobility Office validates the Candidate profile and CV
5. The Candidate profile and CV are added to the Candidate's database and are available for search by Hosts

Figure 4 - Upload CV form

### Important!

The mobility by itself is not funded by VESTA-GIS but by the involved organisations through ad hoc agreements.

VESTA-GIS promotes inter-sector and transnational cooperation, so the placements organised within the Mobility Framework should have, in principle, two main characteristics:

- being inter-sectoral (mobility flow from Academia to Industry – intended in a wider sense as non-educational bodies– and vice versa)
- being transnational (from one country to another, i.e. a person should not perform a training placement in the country where he/she lives and/or of which he/she is national)

The VESTA-GIS Mobility Framework is based on a continuous process, with no fixed deadlines. All candidates and host organisations can submit their requests/offers at any time they need.

Being VESTA-GIS an open network, we believe the mobility framework could become a powerful tool not only to promote mobility in GI-related fields across Europe, but also to enlarge the network itself and involve an increasing number of organisations, with a multiplier effect on the project activities and its future sustainability.

All VESTA-GIS Partners as well as other organisations or individuals interested in European mobility initiatives are warmly invited to actively participate in the Network, either by posting placement opportunities or by sending their profile and candidating for mobility. Once again, we remember that the efficiency of the proposed tools and the ultimate success of the VESTA-GIS Network is strictly related to the number of involved subjects and also to their enthusiasm in participating.

## New Associated Partners



Technische Universität München



Fakultät für Bauingenieur  
und Vermessungswesen  
Fachgebiet Geoinformationssysteme

### Technical University of München (DE)

Faculty of Civil Engineering and Surveying  
Department of Geographic Information Systems  
[www.gis.bv.tum.de](http://www.gis.bv.tum.de)

Reference persons:

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Matthäus Schilcher [schilcher@bv.tum.de](mailto:schilcher@bv.tum.de)  
Ruth Flechtner [ruth.flechtner@bv.tum.de](mailto:ruth.flechtner@bv.tum.de)

The Faculty of Civil Engineering and Surveying at the Technische Universität München (TUM) is distinguished by the vision of "Building - Infrastructure - Environment - Planet Earth". It consists of 8 institutes, 31 departments and chairs, 2 junior professors and several research and development institutions. The institutes of the faculty are responsible for teaching and research in the fields of construction, environmental engineering, geodesy and geology.

The Department of Geographic Information Systems is a part of the Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying at the Institute of Geodesy, GIS and Land Management, located in the central campus of the Technische Universität München. The head of the department, Prof. Schilcher, is also a member of the Research Center of Nutrition, Land-use and Environment in Weihenstephan. Currently the department employs 11 staff from the fields of geodesy and geo-information, geography and computer science. More than 15 student assistants from the study Geodesy and Geoinformation (TUM), Environmental Engineering (TUM), Environmental Planning (WZW) and Geography (LMU) support our team. Teaching and research are included to the main tasks of the department as well. The research and ongoing projects are listed below..

#### **Main Fields of Research:**

- Geo Web Services: Publishing spatial data in the Internet
- GIS in sustainable development in local communities (e.g., renewable energy, facility management, 3D city models)
- Environmental Protection: Coupling of GIS and simulation models (hydrological and hydrodynamic models), Geo Sensor Web

#### **Current projects**

- Model-driven Web Feature Service – semantic translation –for access to distributed spatial data used in the case of cross-border GIS applications (mdWFS)
- Research project in cooperation with ETH Zurich on behalf of the Federal Office for Cartography and Geodesy (BKG) and the Federal Office of Topography (SWISSTOPO) (since 2006)
- HUMBOLDT - Development of a Framework for Data Harmonisation and Service Integration, an EU-funded project in 6th framework.
- Research Programme (since 2006)
- INSPIRE-GMES-Test Platform – A project on behalf of the Runder Tisch GIS e.V. (since 2008)
- Research Group 3D: Development of 3D city models and applications, coupling with facility management by examining research capabilities.
- Environmental Protection: GIS for flooding



**National Research Council of Italy - Institute for Electromagnetic Sensing of Environment (CNR-IREA), Milano (IT)**

<http://milano.irea.cnr.it/>

Reference persons:

Dr. Mario Gomasca [gomasca.m@irea.cnr.it](mailto:gomasca.m@irea.cnr.it)

Dr. Paolo Villa [villa.p@irea.cnr.it](mailto:villa.p@irea.cnr.it)

The Institute for Electromagnetic Sensing of Environment (Istituto per il Rilevamento Elettromagnetico dell'Ambiente – IREA) was founded in 2001 as a result of the re-organisation process of the National Research Council of Italy (CNR).

In it the scientific know-how of the departments from two different Institutes of CNR joined: the Bioelectromagnetism and Electromagnetism Research Groups in Naples and the Remote Sensing Research Group in Milan.

The scientific program of the new Institute aims to cover in a coherent and integrated way the fundamental aspects of remote sensing and electromagnetic diagnostics, as far as the development and consolidation of methodology and techniques for data acquisition, elaboration, fusion and interpretation are concerned, as well as biological and dosimetric aspects of the electromagnetic risk control.

The monitoring and control of the environment is entrusted more and more to the use of sensors able to operate in different regions of the electromagnetic spectrum. Such use requires the consolidation and development of methods for data elaboration, fusion and interpretation, that allow to estimate the environment condition, in order to foresee possible evolutions and, for some phenomena, the effects on biological systems.

In coherence with such demands, the activities of the Institute concern following sectors:

- optical passive remote sensing
- microwave remote sensing
- electromagnetic diagnostics
- modelling of the electromagnetic interaction processes
- integration of multisource spatial data for environment assessment and monitoring
- evaluation of exposure and of biological effects related to electromagnetic fields
- development of sensors and electronic systems for remote sensing and electromagnetic diagnostics

The activities of the Institute are carried out in collaboration with various scientific institutions both in Italy and abroad within national and international research programmes.

In particular, for training and education initiatives and involvement, CNR-IREA is part of the HUMBOLDT project (<http://www.esdi-humboldt.org>) in providing materials and online courses for Workpackage 12: Training, for specialists and non-specialists, covering GMES and related subjects, as well as the continuous enrollment in national projects covering educational issues for students and teachers in high schools and promoting geoinformation knowledge spreading, such as through TELEA (<http://telea.mi.cnr.it/>) or CartelGIS (<http://milano.irea.cnr.it/CartelGis/index.html>) projects.

Scientific dissemination activities of CNR-IREA cover the publication of books covering geoinformation subjects; the last published book is an overview of geomatics disciplines:

Basics of Geomatics, Mario A. Gomasca, 2009, Approx. 515 p. 300 illus., 32 in color., Hardcover; ISBN: 978-1-4020-9013-4

## VESTA-GIS Workshop in Hungary

18-19 November 2009, Szekesfehervar

GEO, the Faculty of Geoinformatics of the University of West Hungary is celebrating "GIS Day" regularly during the last decade with an increasing success. The programme is more and more colourful and the number of participants is growing. The audience in general is coming from high schools and universities both teachers and students. During the "GIS Day 2009" special attention will be given for the dissemination of the GI education and training experiences. This year we will commemorate also the 20th Anniversary of the installation of the first GIS laboratories in Hungary.

In parallel with the GIS Day traditional programme, a VESTA-GIS workshop will be held for educators, teachers, trainers, tutors interested on the field of GIS to present their lessons learned and good practices. The workshop invites all the universities, high schools, companies of geoinformation industry in Hungary for a discussion about the experiences and the future plans. A special session will be devoted to the dissemination of results of the VESTA-GIS project, to the introduction of the VESTA-GIS Training metadata and e-Learning portal, to present the mobility schema. The official language is Hungarian, but the few invited presentations in English will be translated.

### Preliminary programme

#### Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2009

Szekesfehervar, Pirosalma u. 1-3 (Faculty meeting room)

10:00 GIS Day Opening  
Student's presentations  
12:00 Latest developments  
News from GI industry  
14:00 VESTA-GIS session  
Introduction to VESTA-GIS by invitation only  
Training needs and offers  
Discussion with companies  
Recommendations  
14:00 Exhibition (Surveying lab)  
Demonstrations (Computer labs)  
Geocaching (City centre)  
16:00 Closing

#### Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2009

Szekesfehervar, Budai ut 43.

10:00 VESTA-GIS workshop Opening (Lecture hall)  
20 years in GIS  
Education and Training  
12:00 Introduction to VESTA-GIS (Lecture hall)  
Aims and outcomes  
Course catalogue  
Mobility framework  
Discussions  
14:00 VESTA-GIS roundtable (Faculty meeting room)  
Recommendations by invitation only  
Conclusions

The Faculty of Geoinformatics and its Land and Geoinformation Knowledge Center ([www.geo.info.hu/fttk](http://www.geo.info.hu/fttk)) will host the workshop with its own conference and accommodation facilities.

#### More information:

Mrs. Szilvia Taupert, mail: [fttk@geo.info.hu](mailto:fttk@geo.info.hu)



## The Convenor



**University of West Hungary**  
**Faculty of Geoinformatics**

<http://www.geo.info.hu/en/>

Reference person: Prof. Bela Markus      [mb@geo.info.hu](mailto:mb@geo.info.hu)

## The University of West Hungary

The University of West Hungary known as one of the top higher educational institutions in Hungary, can boast the fifth largest number of students in the country. With campuses in five historical Western Hungarian towns, the university offers up-to-date knowledge for almost twenty thousand students, who benefit from the high standard of education and advanced infrastructure. The university offers a broad range of degree and training programmes from bachelor (BA, BSc) to the master level (MA, MSc), including doctoral level (PhD, DLA) programme, ensuring high-level knowledge-transfer and research. The university's 10 faculties include locations in Sopron, a jewel city situated at the foot of the Lower Alps; in Győr, a historic city awarded with the Europa Nostra prize; in Mosonmagyaróvár, at the crossroads close to Bratislava and Vienna; in Székesfehérvár, the coronation town of Hungarian kings; and in Szombathely, the 2000-year-old cultural and educational centre.

To meet the increasing demand, with the aim of providing an up-to-date education and training for surveyors and land managers the predecessor of the Faculty of Geoinformatics (GEO) was established in 1962. The well-founded theoretical, up-to-date practical knowledge, professional abilities and skills are basic requirements from the graduates. The education has been following closely the changes of the geosciences, the quick technical and technological development, consider the demand of surveying and land management industry. Accordingly, the curricula and the course programs have been changed considerably every fifth year and minor changes occurred in the years between. There is a new syllabus from 2002/2003 academic year, in which the Bologna system and the credit system (ECTS) have been introduced. GEO is active within ERASMUS and CEEPUS. Our students are often visiting partner universities in Valencia, Salzburg, Brno, Olomouc, Cracow, Timisoara or Zagreb.

GEO in Székesfehérvár founded the first GIS department in Hungary in 1994. The faculty had an important place in lands (land administration, cadastre), surveying, land management and GI education and training in the last three decades, and it will have to carry out a task of at least the same importance in the first decades of the new millennium. It has a great influence on the different sectors of the national economy, the security of private property, the digital map supply of infrastructure development, the information systems of public administration on the basis of spatial data supply required. Students in the surveying and land management branch has such important tasks as providing digital spatial infrastructure for the information society, administrative and technical tasks related to the the redistribution of land property together with its preparations, assistance in monitoring agricultural subsidies. Geoinformation technology is widely used in the country. Well prepared specialists are required for these tasks. GEO was not only able to preserve its dominant role in the last period, but expanded the target area and have launched a new (land administration) branch in 2001.

As the national representative of the well known NCGIA CC, we published the Hungarian version of the GIS Core Curriculum in 1994. It was the first complex teaching aid for universities in Hungarian. In 1995 the Faculty has joined to the international GIS networks (like GISIG, AGILE and UNIGIS). Due to the good international relationships and close connections with the land offices, the trade and the industry, the Faculty participated in many successful educational and training projects and developed viable continuing study courses. We got leadership in the OLLO (Open Learning for Land Offices) and SDiLA (Staff Development in Land Administration) TEMPUS, National Cadastral Program training project and in the training of the computer-based land registry (TAKAROS, TAKARNET) system. Relying on the Faculty traditions, we would like to continue these initiations broadening and intensifying them with all our might.

## VESTA-GIS and the European context

Other than its mission of network for training in Geographical Information at a European level, within the Leonardo da Vinci Programme, VESTA-GIS operates in an evolving proactive context of European policies for the environment and for Geographical Information. We refer in particular to the INSPIRE Directive 2007/2/EC establishing an Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community to support environmental policies and to the Communication of the European Commission launching SEIS (Shared Environmental Information System), a collaborative initiative of the European Commission and the European Environment Agency to establish, together with the Member States an integrated and shared EU-wide environmental information system.

For these important European initiatives there is a strong need of people with adequate skill (and here VESTA-GIS aim at contributing), able to face with the very important challenges such initiatives aim to

Below, two European events linked to the above policies that respectively have seen and will see the VESTA-GIS participation.

### **INSPIRE and the GSDI 11 World Conference "Spatial Data Infrastructure Convergence: Building SDI Bridges to Address Global Challenges"** (<http://www.gsdi.org/gsd11/>)

The 11th edition of the GSDI Conference took place in Rotterdam, the Netherlands from 15th to 19th June 2009.

VESTA-GIS participated to this important event presenting the poster "**VESTA-GIS: Survey and on-line tools to support GI&GIS vocational education and training offer**"

Moreover, VESTA-GIS was present in a booth at the EC projects exhibition with dissemination material of the project such as leaflets, newsletters and poster.

The EC "Inspired" projects present at the GSDI 11 exhibition, hosted in the EUROGI booth were:

- **ESDI-Netplus** - European Network on Geographic Information Enrichment and Reuse
- **EURADIN** – European Address Infrastructure
- **GIGAS** - GEOSS, INSPIRE and GMES an Action in Support
- **GIS4EU** - Provision of Interoperable Datasets to open GI to the EU Communities
- **HUMBOLDT** - Towards the Harmonisation of Spatial Information in Europe
- **NATURE-SDIplus** - Best Practice Network for SDI in Nature Conservation
- **NESIS** - A Network to enhance a European Environmental Shared and Interoperable Information System
- **Plan4all** - European Network of Best Practices for Interoperability of Spatial Planning Information
- **VESTA-GIS - Vocational Education and Sectoral Training network on GIS & GI Application domains**



Figure 5 - The VESTA/GIS poster at the EC projects exhibit

### **SEIS and the VESTA-GIS Workshop on INSPIRE and EU Policies**

On the 28th October in Genova at the IRIDE Congress Centre, the VESTA-GIS workshop on INSPIRE and EU policies will take place. All VESTA-GIS members are kindly invited to participate.

The workshop will present the VESTA-GIS progress achievements, in particular about the content of its training framework addressed to INSPIRE and SEIS

On the following day, dedicated to SEIS, the joint Workshop on NESIS (A Network to Enhance a European Shared and Interoperable Information System) and SEIS BASIS - (Shared Environmental Information System Baseline and Evolution Study) will be held and it will be open also to the VESTA-GIS workshop participants. It is a good occasion to discuss in an operationa context an actually relevant topic.

For registration or information please contact: [office@vesta-gis.eu](mailto:office@vesta-gis.eu)

## About Vesta-GIS

The overall aim of VESTA-GIS is to pool knowledge in the GIS domain (technology, applications), to share experience and foster innovation (new approaches) in vocational training by bringing together experts, organisations and users of GI and its application domains, as well as to identify the trends and skills requirements in this area and to improve the anticipated benefit of vocational training initiatives.

The following main activities are foreseen:

- Network Building and sharing knowledge
- Analysis of training course offer and demand
- Implementation of the Network training framework and of an e-learning platform hosting the partners' contributions
- Training course catalogue building. This action will include the definition of pre-requisites of courses, such as a modular structure and selected quality criteria
- Promotion of people mobility (students, new graduates and working people)

- Exploitation and dissemination action, including workshop organisation and support to competence validation and certification

The network is developed with particular emphasis to the involvement of the GI users; in this perspective the network is addressed, other than to GI technologies, including the cutting edge ones (interoperability, web-gis, standards, etc.) to the application domains, starting initially with:

- Water Resource Management
- Natural Environment Protection
- Coastal Management and Landscape

The network is developed in the favourable framework of the new European Directives for environment and territory, which are dealing with problems that have reached a new European dimension (such as the INSPIRE Directive approved by the European Parliament).

**VESTA-GIS is an open network: all the interested organisations wishing to join as Associated Partners are very welcome**

## News and Events

- **River Basin Management 2009** - Fifth International Conference on River Basin Management including all aspects of Hydrology, Ecology, Environmental Management, Flood Plains and Wetlands, 7 - 9 September 2009, Malta (<http://www2.wessex.ac.uk/09-conferences/river-basin-management-2009.html>)
- **4th International Symposium on research in Protected Areas**, 17-19 September 2009, Mittersill, AT ([www.alparc.org](http://www.alparc.org))
- **ICL2009 12th International Conference on Interactive Computer aided Learning**, 23-25 September 2009, Villach, AT ([www.icl-conference.org](http://www.icl-conference.org))
- **Training Programme on Regional Ocean Governance for Mediterranean and Eastern European Countries** 9th November - 11th December 2009, Malta, MT (<http://www.capemalta.net/ioimoc/course2009/>)
- **MEDCOAST 09 - The Ninth International Conference on the Mediterranean Coastal Environment**, 10-14 November 2009, Sochi, RU ([www.medcoast.org.tr](http://www.medcoast.org.tr))
- **13th ASITA National Conference & GeoExpo Italia**, 1st - 4th December 2009, Bari, IT (<http://www.asita.it/cms/>)
- **Symposium GIS Ostrava 2010**, 24th - 27th January 2010, Ostrava, CZ (<http://gis.vsb.cz/gis2010/>)
- **1st International Conference on Coastal Zone Management of River Deltas and Low Land Coastlines: CZMRDLLC 2010**, 6th -10th March 2010, Alexandria, EG (<http://www.nwrc-egypt.info/Home.php>)
- **13th AGILE Conference on Geographic Information Science: "Geospatial Thinking"**, 11th - 14th May 2010, Guimarães, PT (<http://agile2010.dsi.uminho.pt/>)

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