



Geospatial Technologies and Value of Earth Observation for the Future (from Air and Space)

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Abstract:

There are serious threats to the population of planet Earth, many from physical phenomena brought about by changes to the environment caused by human activities. A list of these would include threats from weather, natural disasters (although some of these, such as earthquakes, are not new threats, or brought about by human activity), disease and loss of adequate water of food supplies. These threats have not escaped the notice of governments, and although there is discussion over who is responsible and what should be done, many governments have policies to tackle these problems. The International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) has approved and announced at the Beijing Congress a Press Declaration (Beijing Declaration) in which it announces that “Members of ISPRS and Participants of the Congress recognize the importance of imagery to measure and monitor the natural and man-made features on planet Earth and to explore other planets of the solar system, especially after witnessing the important role of photogrammetry, remote sensing and spatial information systems in the rescue operation and damage assessment of the recent devastating natural disasters and reaffirms its commitment to implement the vision for the 21st century of ISPRS, which aims to realize the full potential of information from imagery by encouraging and facilitating research and development, advancing knowledge by scientific networking, promoting international cooperation, pursuing inter-disciplinary integration, facilitating education and training, enhancing and exploring new applications, developing public recognition of photogrammetry, remote sensing and the spatial information sciences”.

For a human living on this planet is to think about the future of his/her environment. This is currently the most important issue for scientists, whether or not he or she is working on an area close to the subjects such as “Environmental Monitoring”, “Climate Change” or “Global Warming”.

We should be in the actions of “Powering a Sustainable Future: Policies and measures to make it happen”. We should investigate how we can contribute to reach the “Millennium Development Goals”.

This presentation will aim to demonstrate the possibilities of Geo-Information Technologies to help solving these problems and how the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) is organised in order to contribute to the solution.