



Artificial Intelligence for NMCAs

26 – 27 September 2023

Joint Workshop organised by EuroGeographics and EuroSDR

The workshop will be held online

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a technological game changer; generating both excitement about possible beneficial applications, and sparking anxiety about the potential consequences.

This new workshop is a follow-up of two previous successful workshops on AI for National Mapping and Cadastral Agencies (NMCAs) that were jointly organised by EuroGeographics and EuroSDR in 2021 and 2022. These clearly showed that NMCAs view AI as an opportunity, not as a threat, promoting reskilling rather than job losses together with the rapid deployment of prototypes into (automated) data production processes. Given the rapid progress of AI do these conclusions still hold true?

The technology is becoming increasingly ubiquitous; Large Language Models (LLM), such as ChatGPT launched by OpenAI in November 2022, brought AI to everyone's fingertips and to the forefront of mainstream media. Concerns about jobs, trust, transparency and regulations have been raised, not to mention existential warnings voiced by familiar names in the tech industry. The discussions for the regulation and boundaries to AI use are globally diverging, with AI in the EU set to be regulated by the AI Act, the world's first comprehensive AI law.

How do the latest developments in the AI technological advancements, their applications and their regulations impact the production, management and use of geospatial information from official sources?

The third edition of this workshop, for staff members of NMCAs and academic institutions with an interest in AI in the geospatial sector, aims to continue the conversation of AI within the context of NMCAs. By bringing together presentations and discussions about policy frameworks, research trends and experiences of implementing AI, this event will focus on the role of AI on the business processes at European NMCAs.

Members from NMCAs and academic institutions interested in presenting at this workshop are invited to contact the organisers via email by 1 September 2023. The online event takes place on the afternoon of 26 September and the morning of 27 September 2023. Registration is free – click [here](#) to register your interest.

A draft outline agenda is available overleaf:

Day 1 13:30 – 17:00 (CEST) <i>Chaired by Joep Crompvoets, EuroSDR</i>		
13:30	Welcome	<i>Sallie Payne Snell, EuroGeographics</i>
13:35 – 14:00	Introduction to the workshop – what to expect <i>Slido polls and audience interaction</i>	<i>Joep Crompvoets, EuroSDR Carol Agius, EuroGeographics</i>
14:00 – 15:00	<u>Rapid progress of AI – setting the context</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AI in the European Public Sector: Insights from the JRC research • Research perspective 	<i>A. Paula Rodriguez Müller, JRC Colin van Noordt</i>
15 min	<i>Comfort break</i>	
15:15 – 15:35	AI-Driven On-Demand Mapping for Canada	<i>Alexandre Beaulieu, Natural Resources Canada</i>
15:35 – 16:15	<u>Panel – AI: Is it wise to worry or is it hype?</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexandre Beaulieu, Natural Resources Canada • Angela Baker, EuroGeographics • Seb Lessware, 1Spatial <i>Panel discussion, with slido polls from the audience</i>	<i>Moderated by Carol Agius, EuroGeographics</i>
16:15 – 16:55	<u>Industry perspective</u> Presentation from Industry – Esri AI in the Spatial Industry	<i>Matt Woodlief, Esri Seb Lessware, 1Spatial</i>
16:55	Close Day 1	<i>Joep Crompvoets, EuroSDR</i>

Day 2 9:00 – 13:00 (CEST) Chaired by <i>Carol Agius, EuroGeographics</i>		
9:00	Welcome to day 2	<i>Carol Agius, EuroGeographics</i>
9:10 – 9:40	Key Note	<i>Gianluca Misuraca, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid and Politecnico di Milano</i>
9:40 - 10:40	<u>Future Trends – applications of AI in NMCAs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structuring relevant AI problems: the FLAIR challenges for land cover mapping Building foot-print extraction using deep learning at Lantmäteriet Enabling a positive impact on the natural environment, with the help of machine learning 	<i>Matthieu Porte, IGN France Adam Hedkvist, Lantmäteriet Nicky Southam, Ordnance Survey GB</i>
20 mins	<i>Comfort break</i>	
11:00 – 11:20	A conversation with Paul Timmers	<i>Moderated by Joep Crompvoets, EuroSDR</i>
11:20 – 11:40	GeoAI and Beyond: Advancing the UN Sustainable Development Goals within the AI for Good Global Platform	<i>Andrea Manara, ITU/United Nations AI for Good</i>
11:40 – 12:00	Applications of AI in urban data spaces - the USAGE EU project	<i>Fabio Remondino/Raniero Beber, FBK Trento</i>
12:00 – 12:50	<u>Panel Discussion: Where will AI take NMCAs in the future? Has the outlook changed in the past 12 months?</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matthieu Porte, IGN France Steve Attewell, Ordnance Survey GB Anders Ryden, Lantmäteriet <p><i>Panel discussion, with slido polls from the audience</i></p>	<i>Moderated by EuroGeographics</i>
12:50	Next steps & Close workshop	<i>EuroGeographics EuroSDR</i>