

## **CONCLUSIONS**

### **approved at the closing session of the**

### **International Conference on Spatial Data Infrastructures 2010 – Skopje**

Conference organized by Geo-SEE is supported by 6 co-organizers (FIG, EUROGI, Chamber of Authorized Surveyors of Macedonia, FON University, ITC and Geography department of SUT), 2 general sponsors (FON University and Evkartenn), 2 silver sponsors (Intergraph and Esri), 4 media sponsors (GeoConnexion, GIM International, Vector1Media and Evkartenn), 2 sponsors (NIKO computers and Geoinformatika), 23 members of the international organizing committee, 9 members of the local organizing committee, and 18 members of the international review commission.

Conference have contributed by 114 participants/authors from 23 different countries, received 2 greetings letters from Prof. Stig Enemark president of FIG and Prof. Mauro Salvemini president of EUROGI, proceedings composed of 31 peer-reviewed papers that has been published, 2 workshops (on Humboldt project and Open source) have been organized, as well as 6 sessions with presentations, 3 marketing-commercial presentations (Intergraph, ESRI and FON University), 2 keynote speeches (Prof. Mauro Salvemini, Italy and Prof. Chryssy Potsiou, Greece), and 28 presentations out of the 38 included in the programme.

Based on the papers, presentations, keynote speeches, workshops and discussions, it can be summarized that:

- NSDI is an ongoing project in most countries;
- INSPIRE provides the framework for NSDI developing in Europe;
- SDI's at all levels (local, regional, sub-national, national, international, continental up to global) are still in developing process;
- Digital geographical data is under the developing process in the developing countries in the region;
- SDI is recognized as the tool for access and data sharing;
- Commercial and open source software both provides tools for SDI developing and utilization; Web GIS and Geoportals are used for implementing the SDI's;
- There is lack of understanding of the importance of SDI and geographical information among governmental institutions;
- Decision makers are not so familiar with the necessity of SDI;
- Non harmonized data is one of the main problems while developing SDI's;
- There is a lack of cooperation between the state institutions, NGO's, private sector and end users;
- Coordinate reference frames should be the basis for developing SDIs;
- SDI is a necessary tool for regional and urban management;
- Defining the policy, strategy and legal aspects are the first steps toward SDI developing.

Participants agreed to continue to:

- increase understanding and awareness about SDI;
- to promote building SDI;
- identify new ways for implementation and use of SDI;
- show the importance of SDI in sub-national/national up to the global level;
- follow the global initiatives such as INSPIRE and GSDI;
- increase cooperation between all stakeholders such as
  - o state institutions,
  - o NGO,
  - o private sector,
  - o academia, and
  - o citizens;
- create SDI platforms based on various utilized software;
- harmonize data coming from various sources;
- strengthen the thematic networking activities in the SEE region;
- define the legal basis for developing, maintenance and utilization of SDI's;
- encouraging the re-use of public sector information in the spatial data context;
- the right sequence of the top two priorities: set up governmentally approved policy first and strategy secondly.

Participants have agreed on the importance that Geo-SEE (South-East European Research Association on Geo Sciences) will organize a follow-up conference within 2-3 years to address the current SDI needs and assess the progress in the South-Eastern European region.

**17 September 2010 (Friday)**  
**FON University**  
**SKOPJE**

