Learn about updates on Geo-Wiki Pictures, the new LACO-Wiki release, the winners of the recent campaigns and more.

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Welcome to the 2017 Spring Edition of Geo-Wiki News!

In this edition, we highlight the latest land cover maps that are now available in our Geo-Wiki platform, which allows you to visualize and compare different land cover maps for the first time. We will also cover the enhancements made in the Geo-Wiki Pictures app in this edition, as well as the launch of our Kenya Land Use Challenge, where we aim to fund the best proposal/s using innovative approaches to crowdsource land use data in Kenya on the ground or through interpretation of very high resolution satellite imagery. We also have exciting news about our Cropland Validation Campaign publication, in addition to upcoming campaigns, events and publications.

We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter!

Geo-Wiki Team

New Maps Available in Geo-Wiki

For the first time, you can visualize and compare land cover maps only in our Geo-Wiki platform. Here is the new maps displayed in Geo-Wiki Land Cover branch:

- Globeland 30m - a global land cover map at a 30m resolution for 2010: http://www.un-spider.org/links-and-resources/data-sources/land-cover-map-globeland-30-ngcc
- ESA CCI land cover map at a 300m resolution for 2010: http://maps.elie.ucl.ac.be/CCI/viewer/

- MODIS land cover map at a 500m resolution for 2010: http://glcf.umd.edu/data/lc/

You can also now view individual layers of certain land cover classes such as:

- Global Forest Change 2000–2014 at a 30m resolution (Hansen et al., Science 2013): tree cover 2000, tree cover loss and tree cover gain;
- JRC Water layer that identifies both permanent and seasonal water bodies based on Landsat historical imagery during the last 30 years (Pekel et al, Nature 2016).
- Global multi-temporal settlement data for 1975, 1990, 2000 and 2014 (http://ghsl.jrc.ec.europa.eu/s1_2017.php)

Geo-Wiki Pictures app

We are constantly updating our Geo-Wiki Pictures app, and now we are bringing you an update for Android phones. The new version brings you further improvements. We are also trying to make the app more user-friendly for beginners.

Just a quick reminder: we now offer an easier way to view all your pictures on the Geo-Wiki map. Visit https://www.geo-wiki.org and check out the Geo-Wiki Pictures branch.

Kenya Land Use Challenge

Would you like to participate in a scientific research project on land use in Kenya through engaging your community or ordinary citizens in science and receive funding for this?

We are pleased to announce our Kenya Land Use Challenge where we will fund the best proposal/s using innovative approaches for crowdsourced land use data collection or novel ways to collect land use data via visual interpretation. The challenge is supported by the ERC-funded CrowdLand project, which aims to assess the potential of using crowdsourcing to close big data gaps in the field of land use and land cover, with Kenya as one of the case studies.

Download the application form and apply now!

For more information: https://www.geo-wiki.org/challenge/

Cropland Validation Campaign Publication

As part of the SIGMA cropland validation campaign that took place last September 2016, the participants that were ranked amongst the first 30 places were offered the chance to receive either a gift voucher or become a co-author on a scientific paper. We are currently writing a paper that will be submitted to the journal Scientific Data, published by the Nature group. We have already circulated the paper to the co-authors for their review. We plan to have a new competition starting in the near future (spring to summer 2017) and we hope that you will take part. More information will follow soon!

What's coming up in the next newsletter: Field Size and Picture Pile Post-disaster Damage Campaigns

In the next edition of our newsletter, we will launch our latest citizen science campaign on Field Size. Another exciting news on Picture Pile - Post-disaster Damage Assessment - in partnership with ESA is also coming up! Stay tuned for the details!

Recent Past and Upcoming Events

- Dilek Fraisl participated in the Environmental Citizen Science Workshop in Oxford, England on 2 February
- Steffen Fritz and Gerid Hager participated in the Austrian Citizen Science Conference on 3-4 March in Vienna, Austria
- Steffen Fritz, Linda See, Myroslava Lesiv and Olha Danylo will participate in the ESA WorldCover 2017 Conference that will be held in Frascati, Italy on 14-16 March. Myroslava Lesiv will give a talk on a new open reference dataset for land cover mapping at a 100 m resolution. We will also present 3 posters on our LandSense project, the LACO-Wiki online validation tool and the WUDAPT (World Urban Database and Access Portal Tools) project.
- Inian Moorthy participated in EarthWatch institute's Actionable Knowledge for Citizen Science Workshop in Oxford, England on March 13-14,
- Our Picture pile application for use in post-disaster damage assessment will be presented at the European Geosciences Union General Assembly on 28 April in Vienna

Recent Publications

Laso Bayas, J.-C., See, L., Fritz, S., Sturn, T., Perger, C., Duerauer, M., Karner, M., Moorthy, I., Schepaschenko, D., Domian, D. and McCallum, I. 2017. Crowdsourcing in-situ data on land cover and land use using gamification and mobile technology. Remote Sensing, 8(11), 905; doi:10.3390/rs8110905

Salk, C., Sturn, T., See, L. and Fritz, S. 2016. Local knowledge and professional background have a minimal impact on volunteer citizen science performance in a land-cover classification task. Remote Sensing, 8(9), 774; doi:10.3390/rs8090774

Fonte CC, Patriarca JA, Minghini M, Antoniou V, See L, & Brovelli MA (2017). Using OpenStreetMap to Create Land Use and Land Cover Maps. In: Volunteered Geographic Information and the Future of Geospatial Data. Eds. Campelo, C.E.C., Bertolotto, M. & Corcoran, P., pp. 113-137 IGI Global: IGI Global. ISBN 9781522524465 DOI:10.4018/978-1-5225-2446-5.ch007. Item availability may be restricted.

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