

ANNOUNCEMENT

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) 5th Users Group Meeting



Engineers and technicians interested in GIS are invited to participate in the fifth of a series of meetings on SAVE's GIS activities. During this meeting the Users Group will be reviewing the nearly completed land-cover classification of high-resolution satellite data, by Dr. Francois Smith. The land cover layer allows users to distinguish between agricultural lands, wetlands, forests and urban areas. The SAVE GIS team will also update the group on the various ongoing and planned GIS activities including projects related to water pipe network systems, antiquities sites, and soil and agricultural analysis. Upcoming GIS training opportunities will also be discussed.

SAVE's work in GIS is designed to improve land use planning and the management of natural resources and cultural heritage sites. This work is being implemented based on the expressed needs of environmental managers and planning professionals. The GIS Users Group provides an opportunity to actively collaborate in the work being done by SAVE and the local GIS community. SAVE works on building local capacity to better protect and manage Cyprus' valuable natural and cultural resources. SAVE is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and is implemented by International Resources Group (IRG).

DATE – TIME – PLACE

Wednesday, 27 February, 2008

10:00 – 12:00

EU Coordination Center -- İlhan Sayut Street No: 8 Köşklüçiftlik

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION & TO RSVP

Telephone: +90 392 228 1925 E-mail: SAVE-info@irglt.com



Ongoing SAVE GIS work:
“Training of Trainers”

On-site ArcGIS 9.2 project training with agriculture managers on how to use GIS in their day-to-day responsibilities.

Dr. François Smith has 12 years of GIS/Remote Sensing related work experience. He received a BA in Anthropology, an MS in Remote Sensing/Geography and a Ph.D. in Remote Sensing from the University of South Carolina. He has worked at the South Carolina Institute of Anthropology and Archaeology processing historic and prehistoric site locations. He has worked for the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources producing land cover data layers and processing satellite imagery. Currently he works for MDA Federal Inc. where he manages several GIS projects and engages in technical development, proposal writing, and fieldwork.

James A. Price is the SAVE GIS Program Manager and leads the GIS team. He has over 20 years of experience in the geospatial industry, with both the public and private sector. Throughout his career Mr. Price has worked in all aspects of GIS implementation, management, and application development. Most recently he has worked for the City of New Orleans, in the Hurricane Katrina recovery effort. As an authorized ESRI Instructor, Mr. Price has hired and trained GIS staff. He has designed, specified, procured, and installed GIS workstations and servers, led entire departments in the upgrading of their GIS hardware and software, developed production tools for automation of GIS production work, and led the implementation of internet map services. He has experience in all types of data and data management issues including creating and maintaining metadata, converting paper maps into digital GIS databases, and modernizing data products for agencies including the US Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the US National Hurricane Center.

Can Kara is the SAVE GIS Deputy Program Manager. He has over 7 years of planning experience and has worked on projects related to the “Nicosia Master Plan”, including the “New Vision for the Core of Nicosia” project funded by UNDP and USAID, and development of Bafra, Morphou and Kyrenia planning regulations and related digitization work. He has also coordinated digitization projects for Nicosia and Famagusta. Mr. Kara has been applying landfill location development for the Waste Management Project in cooperation with the European Union Coordination Center. He also has experience with the Urban Research and Development Center at Eastern Mediterranean University creating and maintaining data and converting paper maps into digital maps using GIS.

AGENDA

10:00 – 10:15	Registration and Coffee
10:15 – 10:25	Welcome & Update on GIS Project Status
10:25 – 10:40	Presentation on Land-Cover Project
10:40 – 10:50	BREAK
10:50 – 11:00	GIS Training Update & Plans
11:00 – 11:30	Group Discussion on GIS Issues
11:30 – 12:00	Plans for the 6th GIS Users Group Meeting on March 26 th , 2008 & Closing Remarks