



World Geospatial Industry Council

HORIZONS NEWSLETTER

November 2024

WGIC UPDATES

[WGIC Horizons 2025 – Register Now!](#)



WGIC Horizons 2025 offers a unique opportunity to connect with industry leaders, innovators, and visionaries from around the world. Through thought-provoking discussions, you'll engage with the latest trends, advancements, and opportunities across the geospatial sector.

Explore the innovative solutions and business approaches within the geospatial industry, shaping the trajectory of Geospatial in Everything, Geospatial for Everyone and our collective sustainable future. Mark your calendar: April 27-29, 2025, at the iconic Denver Art Museum, Colorado, USA.

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[Register Today!](#)

INDUSTRY UPDATE

[WGIC Members Contribute to NSDI Strategic Plan 2025-2035 of the US](#)

Building the Geospatial Future Together— The NSDI Strategic Plan 2025–2035



FGDC.GOV
FEDERAL GEOGRAPHIC DATA COMMITTEE

October 2024

WGIC members supported and contributed to the 2025–2035 National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Strategic Plan, which was approved by the U.S. Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) Steering Committee and endorsed by the National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC) on October 16, 2024. The final plan, Building the Geospatial Future Together, is available at: <https://www.fgdc.gov/nsdi-plan/nsdistrategicplan2035>

This plan presents an ambitious vision for a unified national geospatial ecosystem, emphasizing collaboration, innovation, and technology to address critical challenges. FGDC will work closely with stakeholders to implement the plan.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

[Navigating Project Funding: Hybrid Models and Value Creation in Geospatial Sector](#)



The Project Funding & Sustainability Committee is currently addressing several key topics, including “Raising Finance,” “Project Funding Challenges,” and “Hybrid Business and Subscription Models.” Additionally, the committee is engaged in a comprehensive analysis of the value creation associated with geospatial technologies and their significance for funding and sustainability.

[Join the committees](#)

WGIC VIDEO PODCAST

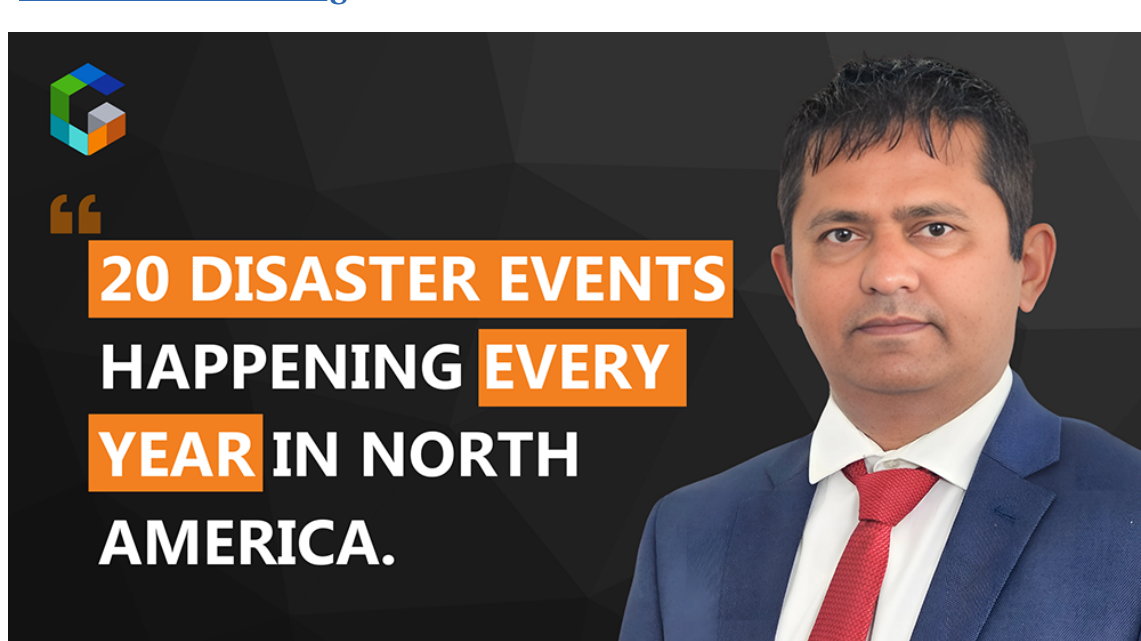
[Albert Momo: Diversity Enhances Creativity and Innovation, Improves Decision-making](#)



Albert Anoubon Momo, Co-Founder, GeoDEV International, and winner of the WGIC DEI Trailblazer – Individual Champion Award 2024 emphasizes the need for intentional action to bring about shifts in diversity and inclusivity. He discusses how companies must build inclusive pipelines, establish mentorship programs, and embed DEI in performance management. Albert calls on organizational leadership to champion diversity—not just as a moral imperative, but as a strategy for business success and long-term growth.

[Watch here](#)

[Uday Patil, TechG-X: There is a Growing Demand for Climate Modeling and Climate Risk Profiling](#)



Uday Patil, Founder & Director of TechG-X, explores innovative strategies for addressing climate risks and enhancing asset resilience using geospatial technology. As climate risk assessment gains urgency, particularly in North America, TechG-X empowers businesses, governments, and the public sector to mitigate impacts and make data-driven decisions. Through its collaboration with WGIC and commitment to climate-focused geospatial services, TechG-X is driving resilience and sustainability across industries.

[Watch here](#)

[Julia Wagemann, Women+ in Geospatial: Systemic Biases Exist, Be Aware of Them](#)



Julia Wagemann, Co-Founder and Director of Women+ in Geospatial, sheds light on the transformative power of mentorship, networking, and community-building to empower women and underrepresented genders in the geospatial industry. She emphasizes how inclusive work culture and intentional DEI practices not only support personal and professional growth but also drive innovation and sector-wide progress. Women+ in Geospatial, recognized with the WGIC DEI Trailblazer 2024 – Advocacy Award, exemplifies impactful advocacy through its Inspire, Unite, and Empower principles.

[Watch here](#)

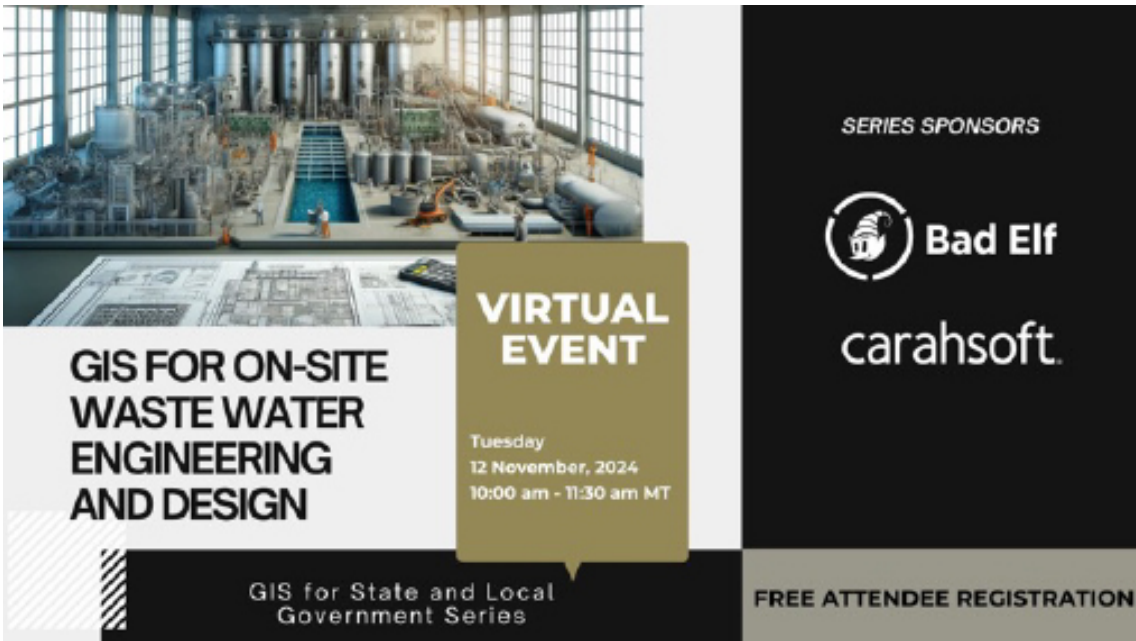
EVENTS & OUTREACH

Exploring Geospatial Innovation at Trimble Dimensions



WGIC participated in the Trimble Dimensions User Conference at The Venetian Resort in Las Vegas, USA, hosted by Trimble, WGIC Patron Member. The event brought together global industry leaders and innovators, offering a unique opportunity to engage with forward-thinking professionals, partners, and peers who are shaping the future of geospatial technology.

Aaron Addison Moderates Webinar on Wastewater Engineering and Design



WGIC participated in the I-GUIDE Forum 2024 in Jackson, Wyoming, USA, representing the private sector and emphasizing how its perspectives can be integrated into academia. The forum, focused on Convergence Science and Geospatial AI for Environmental Sustainability, brought together experts to explore innovative solutions for sustainability challenges.

Helen Gilmartin and WGIC Board Members Contribute to Ocean Sustainability Discussions at SOS and BlueFIN 2024



From left to right: Anne Marieke Eveleens (*The Great Bubble Barrier*), Helen Gilmartin (WGIC), and Andy Deacon (GCOM)

WGIC Associate Director Helen Gilmartin attended the World Ocean Council's Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS2024) and Global Blue Finance Summit (BlueFIN), held alongside the Smart City Expo (SCEWC24). WGIC member companies, including TomTom, Bentley Systems, Hexagon, and Esri, actively participated in these events.

Board Members Pooja Mahapatra and Dr. Hannah Brocke contributed to a thought-provoking panel, “Data for Speed and Scale in Ocean Sustainability,” exploring the Digital Ocean, Big Ocean Data, and Ocean IoT. Pooja also joined a panel discussion on leveraging space technology to support the sustainable blue economy. In addition, our partner Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy (GCoM) ran several events aimed at connecting the cities to the businesses that can help them implement their goals.

WGIC Advocates for “De-jargonizing” Technology for Progress



WGIC participated in GoGeomatics Expo in Calgary. Aaron Addison, WGIC Executive Director, delivered an impactful presentation on the importance of “de-jargonizing” technology. Aaron's insights highlighted how simplifying complex concepts can drive meaningful progress in areas like food security, climate action, and sustainable development.

WGIC's Derek Clarke Highlights Private Sector Role at UN-GGIM: Africa Meeting



From left to right: Richard Estephan (Esri), Derek Clarke (WGIC), and Richard Budden (Esri)

Derek Clarke, WGIC Advisor – UN Entities, participated in the 10th meeting of UN-GGIM: Africa, held at the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UN-ECA) headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. During the plenary session, Derek highlighted the private sector's contributions to UN-GGIM initiatives.

Horizons Newsletter Next Edition – December 2024

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