



World Geospatial Industry Council

HORIZONS NEWSLETTER

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WGIC UPDATES

Policy Moves Into Action: Explore the WGIC Policy Scan Q3 2026



Geospatial policy is moving from emerging frameworks to live obligations. The WGIC Policy Scan Q3 2026 tracks 40 policy and regulatory developments across seven regions, with the Middle East and Latin America included for the first time. Half of these policies and regulations are already in force, with over 20 categorized as high-impact.

From AI rules affecting location data to new procurement, export, cybersecurity, and data sovereignty requirements, this edition highlights the developments demanding attention now.

Explore the interactive regional map, filter the high impact tracker, follow each development to its source, or download the complete report. Discover what these shifts mean for operational readiness, compliance, and resilient AI and data supply chains.

Read it. Cite it. Shape what comes next.

[Explore the WGIC Policy Scan Q3 2026](#)

Aaron Addison Explores What Makes Geospatial Talent Ready From Day One



Degrees matter, but the ability to create impact from day one matters even more.

In a new interview with Geo Week News, WGIC Executive Director Aaron Addison shares his perspective on geospatial careers, workforce development, AI, and the growing need to connect academia with industry.

Aaron explores the value of practical skills, lifelong learning, and stronger collaboration among students, educators, and employers. He also considers what the industry must prioritize to build a workforce ready for future opportunities and challenges.

[Read the full interview in Geo Week News](#)

HORIZONS PODCAST VIDEOS

Focusing On Profit Allowed Us To Grow Organically



Matthew Pennells, Director for Global Community Engagement at Esri Inc. and WGIC Treasurer, speaks with Rachel Tidmarsh, CEO of Bluesky International, about growing a geospatial business through changing markets and technologies. Rachel shares how Bluesky focused on profitability, innovation, customer needs, and collaboration to achieve organic growth, expand into subscription-based data services, adopt AI and machine learning, and successfully transition through its acquisition by Woolpert.

[Watch now](#)

EVENTS & OUTREACH

Kuhelee Chandel Leads Training on Geospatial Data Standards at Survey of India



WGIC Associate Director - Research Kuhelee Chandel contributed to a recent training program hosted by the National Institute of Geoinformatics Science and Technology and Survey of India in Hyderabad.

Her session explored how geospatial standards can move from guidance into practical application. It covered the four levels of interoperability, measurable data quality, data lineage, and examples from India involving coordinate reference systems, vertical datum, land use classifications, and temporal validity.

Delivered through WGIC's ongoing workforce development collaboration with the CEPT Research and Development Foundation, the session supported stronger connections among industry, academia, and government while helping translate global standards into local operational capacity.

WGIC Connects With the Geospatial Community at Esri UC 2026



Esri UC 2026 brought the global geospatial community together for a week of insightful discussions, new ideas, and meaningful connections.

From the Education Summit and Jack Dangermond's opening plenary to conversations at the WGIC booth, the event created valuable opportunities to exchange perspectives, strengthen partnerships, and explore what lies ahead for the geospatial industry.

Thank you to everyone who connected with Aaron Addison and WGIC Associate Director Helen Gilmartin. We look forward to continuing these conversations and meeting again soon.

WGIC Brings Business Perspectives to ISPRS 2026



Aaron Addison joined Forum7A on Entrepreneurship in the Industry 4.0 Geospatial Landscape at ISPRS 2026 in Toronto.

During the session, Aaron shared perspectives on how entrepreneurship, innovation, and stronger business thinking can support the next stage of geospatial industry growth. The discussion brought together experts to consider the ideas and approaches shaping the future of the sector.

UPCOMING EVENTS

I-GUIDE Forum 2026 | August 3-7, 2026

INTERGEO | September 15-17, 2026

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