

THE IGC 2020 GEODESIGNHUB WORKSHOPS

Carl Steinitz, Hrishi Ballal, and Michele Campagna

Geodesign will be an important tool in preparing the world to respond to this and future pandemics—disease spread and control are inherently spatial, shaped by connectivity, density and carrying-capacity. We are facing an immediate need to educate more people in geodesign while important changes are occurring in the ways we teach and practice. Of paramount importance is the need to be prepared to enable collaborative and individual teaching and practice among people who are remotely connected via the internet. We in IGC are dispersed teams, and this workshop will also make it easier to collaborate among teams on regional and global studies. This workshop will be organized around this premise. It will also be organized within the framework of IGC, the International Geodesign Collaboration <https://www.igc-geodesign.org/igc-overview>. IGC membership is encouraged but is not a condition of participation in the workshop.

The focus of the FOUR HOUR hands-on / interactive workshop will be geodesign change-synthesis via collaborative negotiation, and its dynamic impacts, costs assessment and updating. We will be considering synthesis to reconcile the sometimes-conflicting ideas for the region of Cagliari, Italy, which have been proposed in past studies. We will also consider innovations which are considered likely by 2050. We will undertake a simulated negotiation process to explore developing a consensus towards these alternative futures.

We will be using Geodesignhub (www.geodesignhub.com) for this workshop. Geodesignhub is free for use by IGC participants. The software has been built by Hrishi Ballal and has been used more than 100+ times for various studies of contentious areas undergoing pressures for significant change. The technology we have developed provides a systematic way to create and analyze alternative futures for a place and enables people from different disciplines and trainings to come together and negotiate over these ideas. It is compatible with your existing software and data for both its inputs and outputs, and it enables users to collaborate in person and/or over the internet in real time to produce designs and assess them.

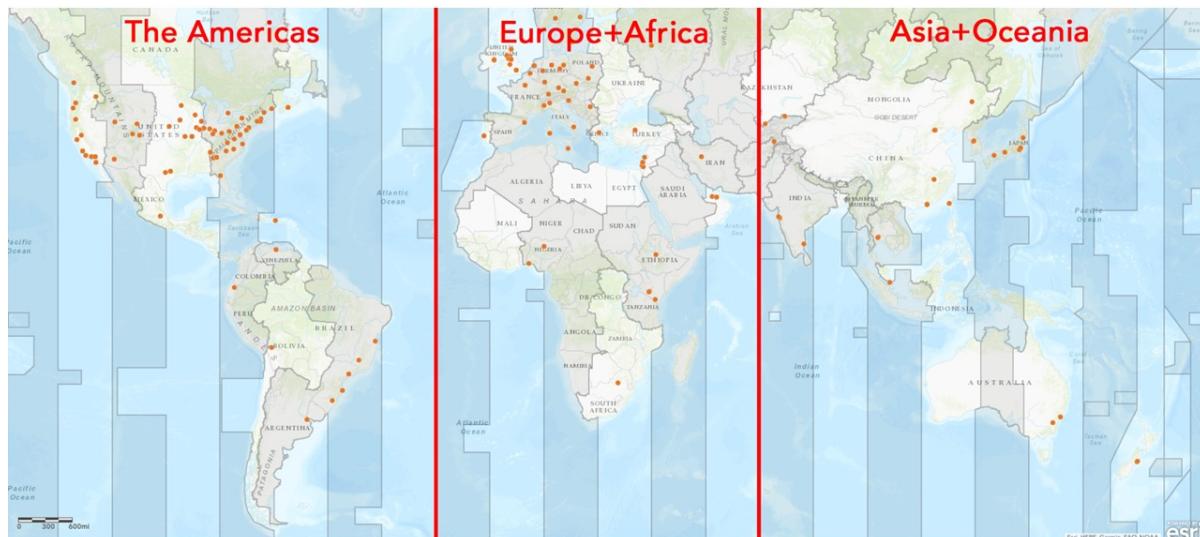
Geodesignhub enables participants to create diagrams and select a number of them to build final designs enabling digital synthesis. Diagrams can be built by the participants using sketching and editing, importing existing data and linking to dynamic models. In addition the tool provides platform collaboration during design creation and also helps in analyzing the created designs. The versioning system enables the users to quickly modify the design until satisfied with its performance. The platform enables multiple ways of collaboration: open mode and team mode among others, and also supports multiple ways to design. The tool extends the existing work done in planning support systems and it can accommodate any model from any discipline as long as the model can output a map with three to five levels and colors. The tool also specifies the uses of color that enforces a shared language of communication and enables broad collaboration among experts from diverse disciplines.

The participants in the workshop will be offered pre-workshop training on the tool's usage in the form of self-initiated tutorials and other online resources. Completion of these will be required as a pre-condition of joining the workshop. There will be two pre-sessions: The first session is 45 minutes and will have introduction to the study area and “the problem”. The systems and their evaluation models will be introduced. As a homework, participants will be given a geosurvey to draw and digitize proposed policy and project interventions that they think need to happen to address the problem. We use www.geoforage.io for this. The second session is a short 30-minute “office hours” session where we will answer specific questions about the study area and also review the interventions drawn on the geosurvey. Selected drawn diagrams will then be imported into Geodesignhub for the workshop, in addition to others which we will populate from past studies in time for the workshop.

We will then pre-organize all active participants into small remotely-located collaborative teams, and encourage all participants to set up in a situation where there are two computers and (if feasible) two people, where one person is the active participant and the other monitors activities of all other teams. The workshop will be limited to 30 active participants.

There will be help and support available at hand in person and also in the form of tutorials, articles and videos on software usage provided on the Geodesignhub.com web site and available to participants prior to the workshop.

Date and Time: There will be three sets of pre-meetings and workshops, one for each time zone group in the following figure:



All sessions will be managed in British Summer Time (BST), with times picked that enable afternoon and evening participation for the Asia/Oceania group, afternoon and evening participation for the Europe/Africa group, and morning and afternoon participation for the Americas group. (We are sure that some IGC members will find these times listed below as awkward...but...)

	Pre-meeting #1: Wednesday 17 June	Pre-meeting #2: Friday 19 June	and the Workshop Please note dates
Asia/Oceania:	0900 BST, 17 June	0900 BST, 19 June	0900-1330 BST, Friday 26 June
Europe/Africa:	1300 BST, 17 June	1300 BST, 19 June	1300-1730 BST, Thursday 25 June
Americas:	1900 BST, 17 June	1900 BST, 19 June	1900-2330 BST, Tuesday 23 June

The Asia/Oceania activities will be held in ZOOM, while the Europe/Africa and Americas will be held in TEAMS. For all pre-meetings and workshops, please link-in at least 20 minutes before the start to get settled and to sign into Geodesignhub. All are expected to participate full time. There is no fee for workshop participation.

REGISTRATION OF YOUR INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IS REQUIRED BY JUNE 10, 2020.

Please go to <https://www.igc-geodesign.org/geodesign-workshops> and follow the links to register for the pre-meetings and workshops.

Each workshop will be limited to 30 active participants. If oversubscribed, we will favor IGC faculty in determining the list of participants. We will inform all registrants regarding their enrollment....or not.

If you have questions, email them to Carl Steinitz: csteinitz@gsd.harvard.edu

Equipment:

Please use a recently made laptop computer. You will need a screen resolution of at least 1366x768. Most modern laptops built after 2012 should work, and the more modern the laptop the better. Please have Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox installed on your computer beforehand. We are using the latest internet technologies so any other browsers (e.g. Safari, Internet Explorer) are not supported and this set-up is critical.

Optional preparatory reading and watching:

Carl Steinitz "A Framework for Geodesign", Esri Press, 2012

<https://www.igc-geodesign.org/>

An overview of Geodesignhub (Ballal 2020)

<https://community.geodesignhub.com/t/january-2020-introductory-webinar-recording/861>

Geodesign Dynamics and four recent case studies (Steinitz, 2017)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jf_R4rB7MIQ

Geodesign Negotiation and four recent case studies (Steinitz 2018)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QERJbL9J1Xw&feature=youtu.be>

Training Material:

There will also be a step-by-step hands-on tutorial review of the geodesign software at the start of the workshop. There is a detailed step-by-step documentation for all the actions and terms and the API at <https://community.geodesignhub.com>

Logging in to Workshop data

Please create an account following the instructions here:

<https://community.geodesignhub.com/t/creating-a-new-account/125>

We look forward to working with you.

Regards

Hrishi Ballal, Carl Steinitz and Michele Campagna