COST
EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

COST Action no. IC1203
2012 | 2016

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)

ENERGIC

Software and methodologies for harnessing geographic information from the crowd

Participating countries: 23

AT, BA, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IL, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SI, SK, SE, TR, UK

Internat. Collaboration:

AU, NZ, USA

Objectives
- Build an open and flexible VGI European network of scholars, young researchers and industry representatives who will share their experiences in order to transform user generated information into exploitable data. The means foreseen will be:
- Develop common data mining software and methodologies that can exploit a wide range of VGI source (such as mapping efforts, photographs, social messaging, etc.);
- Definition of quality assessment criteria (positioning, ontology, source identification, etc.);
- Establish an open and updatable repository of VGI analysis and integration tools and methods, literature and case studies;
- Develop cultural and contextual analysis methods of VGI that will help researchers in understanding the local aspects of VGI datasets and their use.

Working Groups
- WG1: Societal and human aspects of VGI
- WG2 Spatial data Quality and infrastructures
- WG3 Data mining, semantics and VGI use
- The three WGs will also address objective MoU (4) develop cultural and contextual analysis methods of VGI that will help researchers in understanding the local aspects of VGI datasets and their use.

Main Achievements
- Identify VGI sources and conduct a comparative study of these sources to understand the commonalities and specific features of each source; develop a taxonomy of VGI sources to establish a solid research grounding of each category identified; quality assessment; reputation and credibility for VGI users.
- Development of automatic data retrieval software and strategies for each specific source;; address the problem of legal/privacy and political dimensions of VGI
- Task 3: Define requirements for the semantic interoperability of VGI sources with other datasets;
- Task 4: Implement a repository of high quality applications and dataset in several fields(environmental, territorial marketing, crisis management and tourism) with the direct involvement of end users (firms, institutions, academia).

Gender Balance and Early Stage Researchers
Objectives: The Action will be committed to considerably involve early-stage researchers. And female professionals in the different activities, and to adhere to gender equality when selecting and/or appointing new members.
- Status: 45% participants are female and 55% are ECRs
- Foreseen Support Measures: Support to participation in Action's activities (especially STMS) for ECR

Dissemination
- Open annual conferences
- Web site
- Microblogging
- Special sessions at international meetings
- Publications in international journals

Contact details

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ENERGIC
European Network Exploring Research into Geospatial Information Crowdsourcing

Image caption:

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