



INTERNATIONAL FISHERY GIS SOCIETY

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THEMES AND IMPORTANT NOTICES TO PRESENTERS

February 17, 2014

Dear Colleagues,

After the last e-mail circulations on “Call for additional ideas on themes” (Jan 13, 2014), we received many more proposals for the 'Sixth International Symposium on GIS/Spatial Analyses in Fishery and Aquatic Sciences (Tampa, Florida, USA) (Aug 25-29, 2014)'.

Proposals came world widely from our colleagues in Brazil, EU, FAO, Germany, India, Japan, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, São Tomé e Príncipe, Sri Lanka and USA with thanks.

Final themes are decided considering following three points:

- [1] Themes should be important, challenging and hot topic areas reflecting the current situation;
- [2] Broader subjects are more preferable because if themes were pin-pointed and narrow areas, presenters would have difficulty to fit such themes to their papers; and
- [3] Even themes selected are broader subjects, we list concrete ideas and key words quoted directly from actual proposals, as references for presenters.

Final themes are listed next page. There are 5 themes (broader subject areas) which cover all aquatic regions and environments such as marine, fresh, inland and blackish waters, aquaculture + mariculture sites, watershed, estuary and other relevant areas.

In each theme, concrete ideas and key words are listed as examples (references). These 5 themes are inter-related. “Site selection” and “Managements” are also important themes, but they are related to all 5 themes, thus not listed.

At the panel discussion session in the last day of the 6th Symposium (Aug., 29, 2014), panelists and participants will evaluate and discuss these 5 themes by reviewing relevant papers presented.

FIVE THEMES

THEME (1) ECOSYSTEM APPROACH

- (1a) Ecosystem approaches to Fisheries and Aquaculture (EAF and EAA)
- (1b) Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and Marine Protected Areas (MPA)
- (1c) Ecosystem based fishing operations and modelling
- (1d) Climate change effects
- (1e) Other relevant topics

THEME (2) HABITATS

- (2a) Habitat modellings (HSI, ENFA, MxENT and other spatial habitat models)
 - HSI* : *Habitat Suitability Index*
 - ENFA* : *Ecological Niche Factor Analysis*
 - MxENT* : *Maximum-entropy approach*
- (2b) Forecasting fishing and oceanographic conditions
- (2c) Other relevant topics

THEME (3) INTEGRATED SYSTEM UNDER GIS PLATFORM

- (3a) Net-work & communication system with web-, mobile-GIS, ICT & other technology
 - ICT* : *Information and Communication Technology*
- (3c) Real-time monitoring systems using Remote Sensing, data-loggers and Theme (3a)
- (3a) Socio-economics (benefit) concerned systems: fishing ground prediction, site selections for mariculture and aquaculture and etc.
- (3d) Other relevant topics

THEME (4) GEOSTATISTICS

- (4a) Estimating abundance and distributions
- (4b) Space based stock assessments
- (4c) Other relevant topics

THEME (5) FUTURE GIS AND CHALLENGES

- (5a) GIS for ALL: Participatory GIS and GIS face-books
- (5b) GIS/Spatial analyses in the data poor situation
- (5c) Enhancing Theme (3): integrated system under GIS platform
- (5d) Where are our next directions after this symposium?
- (5e) Other relevant topics

[THREE IMPORTANT NOTES FOR THOSE WHO PLAN TO MAKE AND PRESENT PAPERS]

(1) WE WELCOME PAPERS USING SIMPLE METHODS

During e-mail communications with our world-wide colleagues, a number of persons expressed their concerns, i.e., 'We don't make papers using complex, advanced or sophisticated models, but we make papers only for simple thematic maps to help our managers and industries, thus we may be not eligible to submit our papers'.

No, no and this is absolutely not right! This is a very important issue, i.e., we think that papers using complicated or sophisticated methods are NOT necessarily good quality articles. In some cases experienced in the past symposia, papers showing simple thematic maps provided a lot values for some particular participants. This is because maps' designs, coloring, layouts, balances, simplicity and contrasts turned out to be very good references for those working similar duties. As a result, some participants could significantly improve their routine mapping tasks and consequently they were very much appreciated by their managers and fishers.

In this sense, we welcome papers using very simple to highly advanced methods because we believe that any presentations will be valuable references for particular participants and also for some additional international audiences through Proceedings to be published afterwards.

(2) YOUR PAPERS ARE NOT NECESSARILY RELATED TO 5 THEMES

Please note well that you are welcome to present your papers not relevant to five themes. If you have already started working on your papers, even they are not related to five themes, please keep continued and complete for presentations. This is because again, your papers include a lot of values for particular participants, even your articles are not related to five themes (see the next section for further explanations).

(3) IMPORTANT AIM OF THE SYMPOSIUM

One of our primary objectives of the symposium is to save time and money for GIS users, spatial data analysts and scientists. What does this mean? Quite often in the past symposia, GIS users, spatial data analysts and scientists participating in the symposia could solve their long-term pending problems in a very short time through others' presentations and discussions.

This is because similar problems have been also experienced by other presenters and participants, hence they could show how to solve or reduce problems through their presentations and discussions. Consequently, participants understanding such solutions and hints, could save significant time and budget (money) in their tasks at home (office) afterwards.

That is why we would like to re-emphasize previous 2 points, i.e., any papers using very simple to advanced methods and with/without relating to 5 themes, will be valuable references for particular participants that you may be not recognized. Thus, we encourage all presenters to keep continued to work their papers in order to help each other.

We believe that this important aim can be achieved effectively only in this type of world-wide international conference. This is because we won't have chances to get to know new (talented) friends from many different countries, who might be able to solve your problems and vice versa.

Finally, please well note that the deadline for the registration and submission of abstracts is **May 30 (Fri), 2014 (3.5 months away from now)**. For details, please review the first announcement at http://www.esl.co.jp/Sympo/6th/first_announcement.pdf

Best wishes and good luck on your papers.

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International Fishery GIS Society

PUBLICATION LIST: <http://www.esl.co.jp/Sympo/publication.pdf>

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