

**Pre-announcement
Call for Papers**



**33rd International Symposium on
Remote Sensing of Environment**

**Sustaining the
Millennium Development Goals**

May 4-8, 2009
Palazzo dei Congressi
Stresa, Lago Maggiore, Italy

www.stresacongressi.it

At the **Millennium Development Summit 2000** the Governments of the World ambitiously set themselves eight goals – ranging from ensuring environmental sustainability to halving extreme poverty and hunger in the world by 2015.

This call for papers for the 33rd International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment (ISRSE-33) occurs as the Millennium Development Goals' (MDG's) timetable reaches the half-way mark – and the goals are still a long way from being reached. Poverty reduction, food security and agricultural production, integrated water resource management, natural resource management – especially forests and biodiversity, migration, urbanization, land degradation and, perhaps most importantly at present, climate change, are all inextricably linked, whether in developed or developing countries. This ISRSE-33 takes place at a strategic moment, when science and technology are expected to play a greater role in contributing towards attaining those objectives faster and in a more equitable manner. Earth Observation, in particular, now has become an essential component of the global effort to deal with global challenges.

The ISRSE-33 welcomes papers on monitoring, understanding and managing the world's natural resources and environment in a sustainable manner; papers addressing the measurement and analysis of progress towards the UN MDG's are particularly encouraged. The Symposium will also cover applications dedicated to enhancing human security such as global disaster risk reduction initiatives.

The ISRSE-33 takes place soon after Ministers from many countries have reaffirmed their commitment to using coordinated, comprehensive and sustained Earth observations to enhance human health, security and welfare, alleviate human suffering including poverty, protect the global environment and achieve sustainable development as stressed by Ministers in the Group on Earth Observations (GEO)

Lake Maggiore

Stresa



33rd International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment



Summit Cape Town Declaration in November 2007. At the ISRSE-33, European efforts (EC, ESA and Member States) towards establishing the now active Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES) initiative — which was conceived nearby on the Lago Maggiore ten years ago — will be described and discussed. GMES is the European contribution to GEO and the Symposium will report on progress in this area.

The ISRSE-33 will devote attention to the US National Land Imaging Program and its Landsat Data Continuity Mission which represent significant steps towards the broad availability of satellite data for development. The Symposium will pay tribute to NASA as the Agency celebrates its 50th anniversary and will offer an opportunity for reviewing its past and current achievements in earth observation.

Applications in Africa will be a focus of dedicated sessions. The Symposium will offer a platform for describing and discussing new remote sensing programs in all countries of the world. The latest developments in the setting up of interoperable Earth Observation and Spatial Data Infrastructures through international arrangements are also included in the Symposium's programme.

The Symposium is a significant event to take stock of progress made during this first decade of the 21st Century in the development and use of observation technologies and data and information systems. Oral and poster sessions will cover the development, deployment and operational use of Earth observing systems both space- and airborne. They will include presentations on instruments, systems, new analytical techniques, results and applications in the full range of relevant fields. An exhibit area will also display commercial, industrial programs and technical realizations.

By attending the ISRSE-33 remote sensing practitioners, scientists, system engineers and policy makers will be able to get a full view of the current situation in a range of fields now deemed critical in improving the Earth's sustainable management. Students are also encouraged to participate and share their knowledge and views on new R&D activities and technologies through pre-conference tutorial initiatives.

The Symposium will cover the following topics (not exclusive):

1. Reducing loss of life and property from natural and human-induced **disasters**.
2. Understanding environmental factors affecting human **health** and well-being.
3. Improving management of **energy** resources.
4. Understanding, assessing, predicting, mitigating and adapting to **climate** variability and change.
5. Improving water resource management through better understanding of the **water cycle**.
6. Improving **weather** information, forecasting and warning.



33rd International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment



7. Improving the management and protection of terrestrial, coastal and marine **ecosystems**.
8. Supporting sustainable **agriculture** and combating desertification.
9. Understanding, monitoring and conserving **biodiversity**.
10. **Earth Observation advances**: Instrumentation, data management, capacity building and education.

In this context attention will also be given to the following topics:

- National remote sensing programmes
- Spatial data infrastructures in support of development
- Airborne remote sensing
- Contribution to International programmes

Call for Papers

Interested individuals are encouraged to consider proposing papers for oral presentation and poster sessions. Those abstracts of those proposals (max 100 words / Word format) should be addressed before 1st November 2008 to the ISRSE-33 Programme Committee at www.symposia.org

Venue

Palazzo dei Congressi, Stresa, Italy
<http://www.stresacongressi.it>

How to get there

Stresa is close to the Milan Malpensa (Italy) and the Lugano-Agno airport (Switzerland). Stresa can also be reached by train (the Sempione Milano-Geneva line). Coach transportation will be organized from Malpensa to Stresa on the first and last days of the conference according to a time schedule to be announced.

Registration

See www.symposia.org
Fees are to be confirmed.

Lodging

The city of Stresa and its vicinity offer a wide range of hotel facilities. Hotel booking will be made through the Stresa Palazzo dei Congressi via the Symposium web page.

Social events

We will organize a tour of the lake's spectacular Borromean Islands (Isola Bella, Isola Madre and Isola dei Pescatori), including a visit to the grand palazzo of the Borromeo family.



33rd International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment



Gignese offers another special destination, the Alpinia Botanical Garden. The garden is just a short walk from the mid-station of an aerial tramway connecting Stresa to Monte Mottarone, with its spectacular 360° view from the Po Valley to the summits of the Alps.

Somewhat further afield, the high mountain valleys of the Ossola region offer glimpses of bygone ways of life in an area where nature is the real protagonist. Extensive natural parks and the National Park of the Val Grande are aimed at the preservation of alpine flora and fauna, while numerous local museums recall the historical ways of life of the people of these valleys.

For shopping aficionados, we will organize a tour to Milan's elegant shopping districts of Via Montenapoleone and Via Sant'Andrea. It is here that you will find the atelier-showrooms of world famous fashion houses.