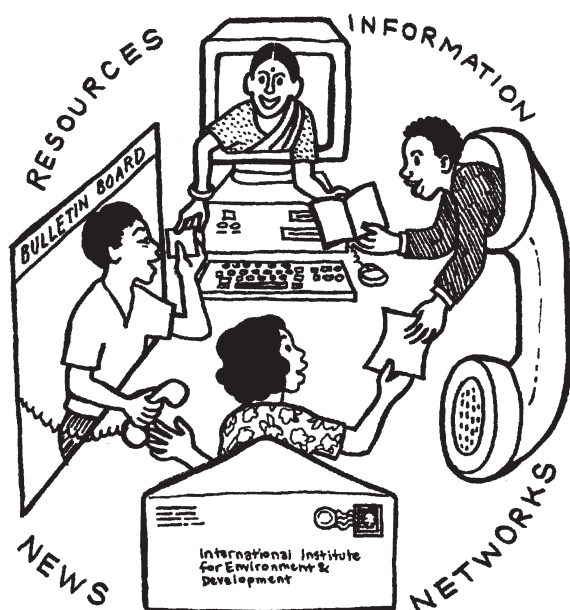


# in touch



Welcome to the In Touch section of *Participatory Learning and Action*. Through these pages we hope to create a more participatory resource for the *Participatory Learning and Action* audience, to put you, as a reader, in touch with other readers. We want this section to be a key source of up-to-date information on training, publications, and networks. Your help is vital in keeping us all in touch about:

- **Networks.** Do you have links with recognised local, national or international networks for practitioners of participatory learning? If so, what does this network provide – training? newsletters? resource material/library? a forum for sharing experiences? Please tell us about the network and provide contact details for other readers.
- **Training.** Do you know of any forthcoming training events or courses in participatory methodologies? Are you a trainer yourself? Are you aware of any key

training materials that you would like to share with other trainers?

- **Publications.** Do you know of any key publications on participatory methodologies and their use? Have you (or has your organisation) produced any books, reports, or videos that you would like other readers to know about?
- **Electronic information.** Do you know of any electronic conferences or pages on the Internet which exchange or provide information on participatory methodologies?
- **Other information.** Perhaps you have ideas about other types of information that would be useful for this section. If so, please let us know.

Please send your responses to: *Participatory Learning and Action*, IIED, 3 Endsleigh Street, London WC1H 0DD, UK. Fax: + 44 20 7388 2826; Email: [pla.notes@iied.org](mailto:pla.notes@iied.org) *Participatory Learning and Action* is published in April, August, and December. Please submit material two months before the publication date.

## Book Reviews



### Participatory 3-Dimensional Modelling: guiding principles and applications

● Giacomo Rambaldi and Jasmin Callosa-Tarr

National Integrated Protected Areas Programme, 2002  
Book and CD set. ISBN: 9718986472

Aimed at enhancing the abilities of marginalised, isolated, and frequently natural resource-dependent communities to deal with spatial data and to communicate with the rest of the world on an equal footing. Participatory 3-D Modelling (P3DM) is a relatively new facilitation method used in processes related mainly to resource use and tenure and offers the opportunity to produce relatively precise geo-referenced and scaled qualitative and quantitative data, adding substantial value and communication power to local knowledge. This resource book provides hands-on guidelines on how to organise and implement a P3DM exercise. Includes insights on adult learning and spatial cognition, on the history of relief modelling and the analysis of P3DM experiences in the Philippines and Vietnam.

The companion CD-ROM includes the film *Giving Voice to the Unspoken*, showing the hands-on aspects of 3-D modelling (MPEG format).

■ Available from NHBS, 2-3 Wills Road, Totnes, Devon TQ9 5XN, UK. Tel: +44 1803 865913; Fax: +44 1803 865280; Email: [customer.services@nhbs.co.uk](mailto:customer.services@nhbs.co.uk)  
Also available to download online: [www.iapad.org/p3dm\\_guiding\\_principles.htm](http://www.iapad.org/p3dm_guiding_principles.htm)



### Gender and ICTs for Development: a global sourcebook

● Edited by Minke Valk, Sarah Cummings and Henk van Dam  
KIT/CTA/Oxfam GB, 2005

Women are far more likely than men to experience discrimination in the new information society. In spite of this, resource-poor and non-literate women and their organisations are aware of the power of information and communication technologies (ICTs) and are using them to advance their basic needs and strategic interests, to improve their livelihoods and help them achieve their human rights. This book brings together case studies about women and their communities in China, Bhutan, Ghana, Sierra Leone and the Caribbean, showing how they have used or been influenced by ICTs.

This is the seventh Global Sourcebook in the *Critical Reviews and Annotated Bibliographies* series and also includes a bibliography of print and online resources.

■ Available from KIT Publishers, PO Box 95001, 1090 HA Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Email: [publisher@kit.nl](mailto:publisher@kit.nl). Website: [www.kit.nl](http://www.kit.nl)



### Institutionalising Rights in Development through Citizen Participation: case studies from Kenya, Uganda and Zimbabwe

● Edited by Eliud Wakwabubi and Lokiru Matendo  
PAMFORK, 2005  
ISBN 9966 9740 7 5

The Rights Based Approach (RBA) is gaining prominence in development and is mentioned in current policies such as the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), without significant evidence of its implications at the grassroots level. RBA has huge potential for reversing power imbalances and reducing poverty. However institutionalising rights in development remains marginalised at the grassroots level due to inappropriate models of citizen participation. As this publication shows, this does not mean that there is a lack of understanding as RBA is used in grassroots programmes. The challenge is that they are not known to be used, due to a lack of documentation and homegrown initiatives.

This publication bridges the gap between macro- and micro-level understanding and use of RBA. The case studies show how civil society actors are transforming problems and needs of communities into rights as priorities for poverty reduction and capacity building, thereby increasing ownership of poverty reduction initiatives and governance. The book proposes some guidelines that may be used not only at project level, but also at national level, to mainstream RBA in development using citizen participation.

■ Available from PAMFORK, PO Box 2645-00202 KNH Post Office, Nairobi, Kenya. Email: [pamfork@nbnnet.co.ke](mailto:pamfork@nbnnet.co.ke)



### Chained by Food – Marginalized Voices from Peri-Urban India: poor households as food producers and consumers in peri-urban India

● Neela Mukherjee and Meera Jayaswal  
Concept Publishing Company, 2006  
ISBN 81 8069 238 8

This book is based on field research undertaken in the peri-urban areas of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. The fieldwork, based on participatory research, presents the perspectives of the farmers, both as producers and consumers, on the role of agriculture, food production and consumption, as well as quality of life and the effectiveness of existing support networks, and gives a good gender perspective. The book is laid out in a comprehensive way and includes a glossary of Indian terms. The findings highlight the pivotal role peri-urban agriculture plays in social and cultural issues such as gender, health, and food safety, as well as the traditional concepts of livelihoods, employment and income.

This is the fourth book in the *Community Perspectives in Environment and Development* series.

■ Available from Concept Publishing Company, a/15 Commercial Block, Mohan Garden, New Delhi-110059, India. Email: [publishing@conceptpub.com](mailto:publishing@conceptpub.com)



### Innovative Communities: people-centred approaches to environmental management in the Asia-Pacific Region

● Edited by Jerry Velasquez, Makiko Yashiro, Susan Yoshimura and Izumi Ono  
United Nations University, 2005  
ISBN 92 808 1116 9

This book introduces the concept of community innovation and illustrates its role and impact in promoting

sustainability. It includes nine case studies from the Asia-Pacific region where communities are adopting innovative methods to address complex and unpredictable environmental problems. This requires new cultures, institutions and governance structures, as well as changes in people's perceptions, attitudes, roles and behaviours.

The initiatives examined include natural resource management, eco-tourism, forest management, solid waste management and water management. The book gives a balance of perspectives from experts in community development, urban planning and local environmental management, as well as community leaders, local government officials, journalists, NGOs and academics. It provides theoretical and practical

insights for communities and for those who provide support at the local, regional and national levels of governance.

■ Available from United Nations University Press, 53-70 Jinjuma 5-chome, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-8925, Japan. Email: sales@hq.unu.edu. Website: [www.unu.edu](http://www.unu.edu)



### Participatory Rural Appraisal Guidebook

● Blesida M. Calub  
Farming Systems and  
Soil Resources Institute,  
University of the  
Philippines, 2003

ISBN 971 8778 54 3

This guidebook combines concepts and tools needed in carrying out PRA. It has three parts: the basic concepts of

PRA, PRA tools, and organising a PRA. It presents the experiences of conducting PRA, mainly in the Philippine highlands, and the lessons learnt. Its simple layout makes it ideal for beginners and it contains many visuals – maps, drawings and photos – and many useful tips. It is designed for local people, communities and organisations involved in implementing and promoting participatory methods in rural development work.

The guidebook has been reprinted and distributed throughout Southeast Asia and translated into the Khmer language and is currently being translated into Lao.

■ Available from the Farming Systems and Soil Resources Institute, College of Agriculture, University of the Philippines Los Baños College, Laguna 4031, Philippines. Website: [www.uplb.edu.ph](http://www.uplb.edu.ph)

## Events and training

### A UNESCO meeting report: cultural mapping

Havana, Cuba, 7th-10th February 2006

In February 2006, UNESCO organised a regional meeting, *New Perspectives on Cultural Diversity: The Role of Communities*. The meeting was organised within the larger framework of the recently adopted UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005), and just prior to the ratification of the UNESCO Convention of the Safeguarding of the Intangible Heritage (2003).

The aim was to learn lessons about community involvement in three interrelated areas:

- intangible heritage inventories;
- processes of strengthening the

recognition of living bearers of cultural traditions; and

- cultural mapping with indigenous communities.

Three workshops on each of these issues brought together 40 participants, mainly from Latin America and the Caribbean, including decision makers, academics, bearers of cultural traditions and experts with responsibility for cultural heritage protection and cultural inventories. Five international resource persons shared their experiences in cultural mapping with indigenous communities in the third workshop of the meeting entitled *Cultural Mapping as a Tool for Community Involvement in Shaping Future Development*.

This workshop assessed the lessons learnt from some case studies of cultural mapping with indigenous communities from around the world to:

- identify ethical and methodological

principles that could orient work in the future;

- understand the impact of cultural mapping on building mutual consent among and with indigenous peoples on development issues; and
- explore the possibility of applying cultural mapping in other cultural inventory processes, i.e. safeguarding and promoting intangible heritage and cultural expressions.

Case studies covered a broad range of geographic and thematic diversity:

- **Inuit and First Nations in Canada** using mapping to prove their indigenous status and build sustainable communities and livelihoods, especially by visualising land use from the past to the present;
- **the Khomani San community in South Africa** using mapping and other techniques of cultural resource auditing, re-assemble their collective identity and salvage elements of their

UNESCO's Yoshida Reiko at the Mapping for Change conference in Nairobi, 2005.



fragile intangible culture;

- **the Maori in New Zealand** using mapping in the larger context of different forms of social mobilisation including to build mutual consent on the future of education;

- **the Kalinga Peoples in the Philippines** using participatory 3-dimensional-modelling (P3DM) for conflict resolution; and

- native Fijians on **Ovalau Island** using a blend of P3DM and GIS to develop collaborative natural resources management and development plans based on indigenous values, knowledge and practices.

In a final communiqué, participants agreed that cultural mapping can be a powerful tool for making intangible heritage and local and indigenous knowledge systems visible in a medium that can be understood by both dominant and non-dominant cultures. However, cultural mapping has to be demand driven, contextualised and community owned and controlled to avoid the risks implied in 'extractive' and 'externally lead' approaches, such as the risks of 'folklorisation', disrespect of human dignity or the violation of peoples' human and cultural rights. Unethical and badly conceived mapping can expose communities,

their knowledge, and the natural environment to exploitation and abuse.

Cultural mapping, according to the communiqué, presents an opportunity for intercultural dialogue which allows non-dominant or marginalised cultural systems to be represented respectfully – and which creates an opportunity for intercultural dialogue with more dominant societies and stakeholders as well as between generations and gender groups. Community-controlled mapping methods, and specifically those based on 3D models, e.g. P3DM, where communities and especially the different elders reflect on their own knowledge and listen to each other, surfaces their tacit knowledge, which then becomes coherent and identifiable for the holders of that knowledge. This can be missed using other techniques. It is the link between memory, land and maps that creates a particular focus.

If carried out respectfully, cultural mapping reinforces a community's consciousness for its specific cultural traditions, resources and institutions so that its members are better prepared to express their rights, visions and priorities when confronted with development interventions initiated by a third party, whether in the area of

land use, education, health, conflict prevention or other.

Whether community-based mapping is used as a leading aspect of an inventory process, or as one tool amongst others, the communiqué emphasises that cultural mapping should always be applied within a broader strategy of affirming cultural diversity and creating opportunities for greater intercultural understanding and dialogue. Furthermore it was considered essential that cultural mapping be officially recognised as part of processes of building mutual consent between marginalised communities and more dominant groups, including the State. Participants recommended that UNESCO should consider promoting training, best practices and practical ethics in the use of cultural mapping, particularly as they relate to cultural inventories, regenerating and transmitting local and indigenous knowledge and learning systems, conflict prevention, gender equity and safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

■ For more information see [www.unesco.org/culture](http://www.unesco.org/culture)  
 Susanne Schnuttgen and Nigel Crawhall, Pluralism and Intercultural Dialogue Section, Division for Cultural Policies and Intercultural Dialogue, UNESCO, 1 rue Miollis, 75732 Paris cedex 15, FRANCE. Tel: +33 1 45 68 37 11; Fax: +33 1 45 68 55 97; Email : [s.schnuttgen@unesco.org](mailto:s.schnuttgen@unesco.org)

#### **URISA (Urban and Regional Information Systems Association) Third Caribbean GIS Conference**

● 29th October to 2nd November 2006  
 Atlantis Resort, Bahamas  
 This conference will discuss issues including:

**Disaster management, law enforcement, public health and safety**



- GIS applications for disaster management to cover all phases of the disaster management cycle
- GIS in hazard mapping and vulnerability assessment
- GIS applications for law enforcement and crime analysis
- GIS and its role in public safety

**Standards, policy and management**

- Data collection and data management
- Procedures and protocols to manage data exchange and access across agency and regional jurisdictions
- Metadata
- Issues and policies in establishing an NSDI
- Accessing and managing information requirements for conventions and treaties to which a country may be signatory
- Online mapping policies, procedures, infrastructure and maintenance requirements
- Building partnerships

**Land, environment, planning and natural resources**

- GIS for the management of state-owned lands
- Land registration
- GIS applications for marine and coastal environments including coral reef monitoring
- Managing natural resource information for the nation
- Address Ranging – tools and applications to establish national address ranging to better manage emergency services, road networks (maintenance/new corridors), house numbering, postal delivery etc.
- Urban planning GIS applications for the development of land use master plans and management of the planning development process (i.e. monitoring development applications, building permits etc.)

- GIS for planning national land and sea parks

**Utilities, business and organisational GIS**

- Managing infrastructure
- Geo-economics (affording GIS in developing states)
- GIS services
- Modernising government utilising modern technologies
- Integrated GIS implementation on agency-wide platform: cost and sustainability issues
- Costs/benefits of adopting GIS within an organisation
- Installation and management of national GPS infrastructure for the region

**Education and training**

- Online mapping policies, procedures, infrastructure and maintenance requirements
- Building partnerships

**Other hot topics**

- Wandering through the maze of satellite imagery: what and when to use
- GIS in the fight for poverty alleviation
- Emerging trends in GIS and related technologies
- Evaluating and understanding the current GIS trends
- GIS and our communities
- Census

■ Pre-conference workshops and an exhibition will accompany the comprehensive educational programme. For more information, visit:

[www.urisa.org/Caribbean/Program/caribbeanconf.htm](http://www.urisa.org/Caribbean/Program/caribbeanconf.htm) or email: [info@urisa.org](mailto:info@urisa.org)

**PhD studentship: pluralistic approaches to co-management of protected areas: the Ashaninka Communal Reserve in Peru**

● October 2006  
University of Kent at Canterbury/

Rainforest Foundation, UK  
University of Kent, Canterbury, UK and Rainforest Foundation UK are offering a fully funded PhD studentship. Applicants must be UK citizens or EU citizens, with three years' residency in the UK, and must be competent in Spanish. The student would be based at the University of Kent, but would spend some time in the office of Rainforest Foundation UK in London during the first year of the research. They would be expected to spend a substantial amount of time in the field in the Selva Central region of Peru, living with Ashaninka communities in the area.

■ Further details are available on the University of Kent website: [www.kent.ac.uk/anthropology/files/CASE\\_details.pdf](http://www.kent.ac.uk/anthropology/files/CASE_details.pdf) or contact: Helen Newing, DICE, Dept of Anthropology, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent, UK. Tel: +44 1227 827034. Email: [H.S.Newing@kent.ac.uk](mailto:H.S.Newing@kent.ac.uk)

**Mosaic July 2006 Workshops**

Mosaic will be holding the following workshops this July, in Ottawa, Canada.

**Participatory Development in Planning, Needs Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation: Key Concepts, Tools and Application in PLA/PRA Methods**

● 10th–15th July, 2006  
The PD workshop focuses on the entire project cycle from planning, needs assessment to monitoring and evaluation using PRA/PLA methods. This is an intensive six-day workshop set in the community to maximise learning, group interaction and networking. Topics include: the origins of participatory development, learning and application of PRA/PLA tools, the application of participation to project design, monitoring and evaluation,

developing effective facilitation skills, building action plans and team-building. Two-day community assignments proposed by community-based organisations in the Ottawa region will allow participants to apply tools learnt in the workshop to real-life situations. This is also a great opportunity to network with other practitioners, NGOs, donors, and action researchers from all over the world.

### Results-based Management, Appreciative Inquiry and Open Space Technology

● 17th–21th July, 2006

This new workshop introduces participants to Results-based Management, Appreciative Inquiry and Open Space Technology. It will show how to develop programme/ organisational plans, which are results-based, and design performance monitoring systems based on indicators and participatory methods. Participants will learn how to apply gender analysis to their work. They will also be introduced to Appreciative Inquiry and Open Space Technology, and how these can be applied in their organisations, programmes and projects. These approaches are increasingly being used around the world to develop new ways of working that are more results-oriented, more appreciative, less problem-focused and more self-organised.

### Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation

● 24th–29th July, 2006

Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation (PM&E) involves local people, project stakeholders and development agencies in deciding together how to measure results and what actions should follow once this

information has been collected and analysed. This intensive six-day experiential workshop is practically focused, with daily excursions into the community and a three-day community assignment. Topics covered at the workshop include: origins of PM&E, skills and attributes of a PM&E facilitator, learning PM&E tools, designing a monitoring and evaluation framework and actions plan.

■ All workshops organised by Mosaic are sensitive to issues of gender, ethnicity, race, class and sexuality and how these can influence outcomes and how we see the world. For further information, see our website at [www.mosaic-net-intl.ca](http://www.mosaic-net-intl.ca) or email Françoise Coupal at [wkshop05@mosaic-net-intl.ca](mailto:wkshop05@mosaic-net-intl.ca).

### MA in Participation, Power & Social Change

● October 2007; 18 Months (full time, including part-time work-based learning)  
The Participation, Power and Social Change Group at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK

IDS is offering an MA in Participation, Power and Social Change starting in October 2007. The programme aims to deepen knowledge, innovation and practice of participatory approaches for engaging people in decision-making and active citizenship. It is designed for experienced practitioners, to help them deepen their abilities for critical reflection, analysis and application of participatory methods. The course combines two periods (10 weeks) of intensive group learning in residence at IDS with a 12-month period of work-based action research with an organisation engaged in participatory approaches.

● For further information, please visit the IDS website at: [www.ids.ac.uk/ids/teach/mapart.html](http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/teach/mapart.html) or contact Julia Brown, Teaching and Training Unit, Institute of Development Studies, Direct line + 44 1273 678869; Email: [J.L.Brown@ids.ac.uk](mailto:J.L.Brown@ids.ac.uk)

### Participatory Poverty Assessments based on Participatory Learning and Action (PLA)

● Development Tracks in Research, Training & Consultancy, plc  
18th–22nd September 2006.

This training workshop is aimed at targeting those who have some field experience in participatory approaches and who wish to update on the latest methodological developments in Participatory Poverty Assessments, especially in India and China, and apply them to their own fields. The workshop will be held in New Delhi. After the training, participants should be able to:

- appreciate participatory approaches, methods, principles and processes;
- design simple participatory poverty assessment exercises and apply voice tools; and
- link participatory poverty assessment from the micro to the macro level.

■ Cost: US\$500 (INR 22,000) to include training, board and lodging (simple arrangements), workshop expenses, and workshop facilitation. Part of the fee will be ploughed back into on-going participatory action research initiatives with indigenous communities. Participants must make own travel arrangements to the workshop.

For more information, please contact the principal trainer: Neela Mukherjee. Email: [neelamukherjee@vsnl.com](mailto:neelamukherjee@vsnl.com) or [developmenttracks@vsnl.net](mailto:developmenttracks@vsnl.net)



# e-participation

*For this issue, our e-participation pages are dedicated to online resources related to mapping practice, technologies, and communications.*

## The Aboriginal Mapping Network

[www.nativemaps.org](http://www.nativemaps.org)

A collection of resource pages for First Nation mappers about mapping, information management and sharing, and GIS throughout the aboriginal community.

## The Borneo Project

[www.earthisland.org/borneo/index.html](http://www.earthisland.org/borneo/index.html)

The Borneo Project partners with communities and local organisations that document and map ancestral land claims, litigate to halt forest destruction, teach villagers their rights, market traditional handicrafts, reforest degraded areas, install micro-hydro electrification, and protect Borneo's wildlife and biodiversity.

## The Communication Initiative

[www.comminit.com](http://www.comminit.com)

A partnership of development organisations seeking to support advances in the effectiveness and scale of communication interventions for positive international development. It aims to facilitate horizontal linkages between people engaged in communication action. The CI hosts a website that summarises more than 17,000 links on communication and development. It also produces a weekly electronic magazine as well as discussion forums and listings of events and vacancies.

## Community Access to Natural Resource Information (CANRI)

[www.canri.nsw.gov.au](http://www.canri.nsw.gov.au)

CANRI is a New South Wales Government programme. This

website provides access to the State's environmental maps and data for the widest audience at minimal expense to the government and communities. Includes an online NSW Natural Resource Atlas.

## CyberTracker

[www.cybertracker.co.za](http://www.cybertracker.co.za)

Involving local communities in key areas of biodiversity, CyberTracker combines indigenous knowledge with state-of-the-art computer and satellite technology and is an efficient way to gather large quantities of geo-referenced data for field observations, even by non-literate users.

## DIVA-GIS

[www.diva-gis.org](http://www.diva-gis.org)

Free GIS for biodiversity research. DIVA-GIS can be downloaded for free. It is particularly useful for biodiversity applications but it is used in many other areas of work as well. Uses shape-files and grid-files. Comes with high-resolution climate data for the whole world.

## Drum Beat

[www.comminit.com/drum\\_beat\\_322.html](http://www.comminit.com/drum_beat_322.html)

A weekly electronic publication exploring initiatives, ideas and trends in communication for development. The current issue (322) is about Participatory Mapping and PGIS.

## East-West Center

[www.eastwestcenter.org](http://www.eastwestcenter.org)

Established by the United States Congress in 1960 'to promote better relations and understanding between the United States and the nations of Asia and the Pacific through cooperative study, training and research'.

## Environmental Research Mapping and Information Systems (ERMIS)

[www.ermisafrica.org](http://www.ermisafrica.org)

ERMIS Africa is a local NGO based in Nakuru, Kenya which supports and empowers rural and urban communities to participate in policy and legislative engagements that promote community-sensitive processes of formulation and implementation of land, environment and natural resource policies, laws, guidelines, tools and institutional innovations for ensuring environmental care, conservation and protection while addressing overall gender equity for sustained development in Africa.

## Environmental Science for Social Change (ESSC)

[www.essc.org.ph](http://www.essc.org.ph)

A Philippine-based research and mapping institute. Primary purpose is to engage in national and regional research with the intention of contributing to an understanding and sustainability of the environment through developing a science for social change. The ESSC-Visayas (ESSC Regional Office for the Visayas region) focuses on the assessment of community-based forest management implementation by people's organisations, and the facilitation of complementing dialogues among the watershed stakeholders for sustainable management. It is also engaged in community resource mapping and accounting (CRMA) in the Maasin watershed in Iloilo and Caruod watershed in Bohol province.

## Global Ethics Observatory (GEO)

[www.unesco.org/shs/ethics/geo/user/?action=select&lng=en&db=](http://www.unesco.org/shs/ethics/geo/user/?action=select&lng=en&db=)

The observatory is a system of

databases with worldwide coverage in bioethics and other areas of applied ethics in science and technology such as environmental ethics, science ethics, and technology ethics. This UNESCO initiative is freely accessible online to all Member States and the general public.

### GIS Development

[www.gisdevelopment.net](http://www.gisdevelopment.net)

GIS Development is a publishing group in the field of geographic information sciences. Its aim is to propagate the importance of Remote Sensing, GIS and GPS in the field of development, planning and management with a special focus on Asian countries. It covers not only the technological know-how but also deals with the application of the technologies in different fields of development planning.

### GIS for developing countries (GISDECO)

[www.geog.uu.nl/gisdeco/gisdeco.html](http://www.geog.uu.nl/gisdeco/gisdeco.html)

GISDECO is an international network of GIS experts, planners and project managers engaged in GIS applications in developing countries. GISDECO focuses on the exchange of practical experiences with GIS applications by organising seminars and workshops in various countries.

### GRASS (Geographic Resources Analysis Support System)

<http://grass.itc.it/index.php>

GRASS is a free/open-source software GIS programme. One attractive thing about it is the potential to localise it for different languages (see <http://grass.itc.it/devel/i18n.php>).

### Green Map System

[www.greenmap.org](http://www.greenmap.org)

A global movement that promotes

healthy, sustainable communities through locally-created maps of the natural and cultural environment.

### Innovative Resources Management Inc (IRM)

[www.irmgt.com](http://www.irmgt.com)

IRM uses participatory mapping as one element of an integrated approach to decentralised natural resource management.

### Integrated Approaches to Participatory Development (IAPAD)

[www.iapad.org](http://www.iapad.org)

IAPAD shares information about – and technical progress on – community-based mapping and Public Participation GIS (PPGIS). Hosts a unique collection of community mapping and PGIS-related streaming video documentaries. See [www.iapad.org/multimedia.htm](http://www.iapad.org/multimedia.htm).

There is also a manual on Participatory 3-dimensional modelling: [www.iapad.org/p3dm\\_guiding\\_principles.htm](http://www.iapad.org/p3dm_guiding_principles.htm). Watch the documentary via [www.iapad.org/p3dm\\_video.htm](http://www.iapad.org/p3dm_video.htm). Also hosts a useful and comprehensive online glossary of terms for community mapping: [www.iapad.org/glossary/default.htm](http://www.iapad.org/glossary/default.htm)

### Landscape\_gis

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/landscape\\_gis/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/landscape_gis/)

A new Yahoo Group aimed at generating discussion amongst professionals and academics involved in landscape visual impact analysis and 3D landscape/urban modelling using GIS, VR and CAD technologies.

### Maine Islands Community GIS

[www.islandinstitute.org/communitygis/default.html](http://www.islandinstitute.org/communitygis/default.html)

The Island Institute currently supports the development of a community-integrated GIS approach in Maine's

island and remote coastal communities. The goal of this work is to increase local information management capacity to support planning, conservation, education, and governance.

### Mappe Aperte (Open Maps)

[www.mappeaperte.net/](http://www.mappeaperte.net/)

Collaborative on-line mapping website.

### Mapping for Change – PGIS 2005 International Conference

<http://pgis2005.cta.int/>

Website of the Mapping for Change: International Conference on Participatory Spatial Information Management and Communication (PGIS '05) held at KCCT, Nairobi, Kenya, 7th–10th September 2005. Contains information and resources related to the conference.

### Mayan Atlas

<http://geography.berkeley.edu/ProjectsResources/MayanAtlas/MayaAtlas/MayanAtlas2.htm>

The Mayan Atlas was made by the forty-two Ke'Kechi and Mopan communities of southern Belize. The maps, text, photographs, drawings and interviews were done by Maya village researchers and cartographers elected by the communities. In their own words and with their own maps, the Maya describe their culture and rainforest, and their desire to protect and manage their own land.

### The National Consortium for Rural Geospatial Innovations (RGIS)

[www.ruralgis.org](http://www.ruralgis.org)

RGIS assists state, tribal, regional and local governments, and both profit and non-profit organisations in implementing advanced geo-spatial information technologies. Their goal is to improve the quality of life,



environmental health, and the economic competitiveness of rural communities.

### Native Geographies

[www.uwec.edu/grossmzc/native.html](http://www.uwec.edu/grossmzc/native.html)

Native Geographies covers the historical and contemporary relationships of American Indians to place, including land use and environmental issues, indigenous mapping techniques, sacred sites, territorial nationhood, and legal rights to ceded and sovereign lands. Native Geographies focuses on place and territorial identity in the historical and contemporary life of North American Indians and as a result, provides insight regarding other indigenous (Native) peoples around the world.

### Native Lands

[www.nativelands.org/bin/view.fpl](http://www.nativelands.org/bin/view.fpl)

Native Lands works to protect biological and cultural diversity with indigenous peoples in Latin America, with a focus on Central America and southern Mexico. It has programmes in participatory and regional mapping as well as conferences, workshops, and technical exchanges.

### Nature-GIS

[www.gisig.it/nature-gis](http://www.gisig.it/nature-gis)

A European thematic network for protected areas/nature preservation and geographical information.

### Open Forum on Participatory Geographic Information Systems and Technologies

[www.ppgis.net](http://www.ppgis.net)

PPgis.net is a global forum for discussing issues related to community mapping, Participatory GIS and other geo-spatial information technologies and systems for development. The PPGIS site is

managed by IAPAD. Members can share information and lessons learnt relevant to the practice. This site includes a Virtual Library – the largest bibliographic and literature collections on PGIS:

<http://ppgis.iapad.org/bibliography.htm> and [http://ppgis.iapad.org/ppgis\\_literature.htm](http://ppgis.iapad.org/ppgis_literature.htm)

### Philippine Association for Inter-Cultural Development (PAFID)

[www.iapad.org/pafid/index.htm](http://www.iapad.org/pafid/index.htm)

PAFID uses Participatory 3D Modelling, GPS and GIS applications to support indigenous cultural communities throughout the Philippines in claiming their rights over ancestral domains.

### Public Health Mapping and GIS

[www.who.int/health\\_mapping/en/](http://www.who.int/health_mapping/en/)

World Health Organisation website which describes GIS and other ICT applications in geographical analysis of health problems and services. Included are sections on WHO-developed tools, mapping diseases and health, country support, and information resources.

### Public Participation GIS (PPGIS) Web Ring

[www.webring.com/hub?ring=ppgis](http://www.webring.com/hub?ring=ppgis)

The PPGIS Web Ring shares common interests in community mapping and in all forms of collaborative spatial information management aimed at supporting integrated conservation and development, sustainable natural resource management, customary property rights and peer-to-peer communication.

### Public Participation Geographical Information Systems Research

[www.ppgis.man.ac.uk/](http://www.ppgis.man.ac.uk/)

This website develops and tests web-

based GIS to enhance public involvement and participation in environmental planning and decision-making processes.

### Public Participation GIS

[www.crssa.rutgers.edu/ppgis/](http://www.crssa.rutgers.edu/ppgis/)

A slightly more academic gateway to the world of PPGIS.

### Red Road HIV/AIDS Network Society

<http://red-road.org/map/index.html>

An organisation using PGIS to connect people affected by or infected with HIV or AIDS to the current services available.

### School of Earth Sciences

[www.geo.vuw.ac.nz](http://www.geo.vuw.ac.nz)

Part of the Institute of Geography, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. Maintains a website focusing on Mobile Interactive Geographical Information Systems (MIGIS). MIGIS is an approach to community based planning using GIS in conjunction with, and fully informed by, Participatory Rural Appraisal. See [www.geo.vuw.ac.nz/geography/projects/migis/](http://www.geo.vuw.ac.nz/geography/projects/migis/)

### SOS-IG: Sociétés, Organisations et Sciences de l'Information Géographique

[http://sos-ig.scg.ulaval.ca/ppgis/accueil\\_ppgis.htm](http://sos-ig.scg.ulaval.ca/ppgis/accueil_ppgis.htm)

Web-based observatory for PPGIS initiatives. It intends to provide a classification framework of PPGIS. In the next few months, the site will be translated into English and new PPGIS projects will be added.

### Society for Conservation GIS

[www.scgis.org](http://www.scgis.org)

A non-profit organisation that builds communities, provides knowledge,

and supports individuals using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and science for the conservation of natural resources and cultural heritage.

### Sun Centre of Excellence (CoE)

[www.coe.hu-berlin.de/](http://www.coe.hu-berlin.de/)

The CoE is a joint cooperation between Sun Microsystems, Salzburg Research Forschungsgesellschaft, and Z\_GIS, University of Salzburg. Its main goal is to conduct research in map-based online public participation and to design and implement concepts and technology prototypes that demonstrate how citizens' participation in public decision processes and decision finding can be improved.

### Uma Bawang Residents' Association (UBRA)

[www.tve.org/ho/doc.cfm?aid=1389&lang=English](http://www.tve.org/ho/doc.cfm?aid=1389&lang=English)

Mapping the land to safeguard traditional rights in Malaysia. The link is to a TVE HANDS ON programme on Communication for Change featuring the UBRA.

### UNESCO Sector for Culture

[www.portal.unesco.org/culture/en](http://www.portal.unesco.org/culture/en)

UNESCO's site of pilot projects on mapping of indigenous cultural resources and identification of best practices in regard to cultural pluralism. Use the search function on the right hand side to find resources related to 'Mapping of Indigenous Cultural Resources'.

### URISA Public Participation GIS (PPGIS) Conference

[www.urisa.org/PPGIS/ppgis.htm](http://www.urisa.org/PPGIS/ppgis.htm)

URISA (Urban and Regional Information Systems Association) holds an annual conference on Public Participation GIS (PPGIS). This refers to a range of topics raised by the intersection of community interests and GIS technology.

### Village Earth: the consortium for sustainable village-based development

[www.villageearth.org](http://www.villageearth.org)

Contains useful information and learning related to Village Earth mapping projects.