

# IGRSM

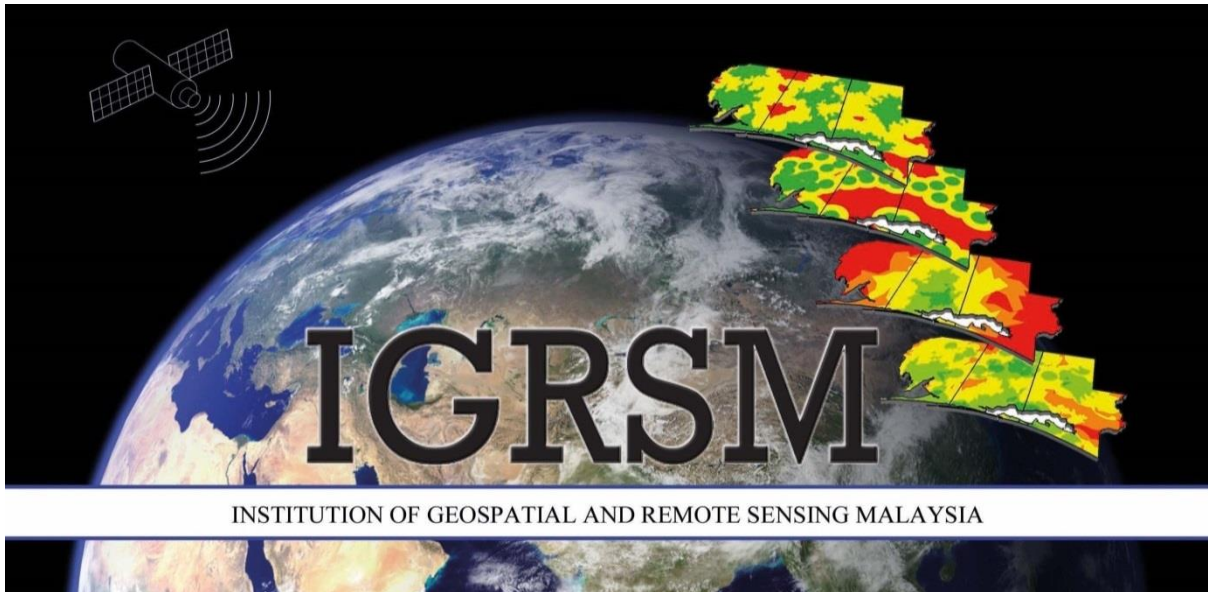
INSTITUTION OF GEOSPATIAL AND REMOTE SENSING MALAYSIA



# NEWSLETTER

2025/1 (JANUARY 2025)

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



**Newsletter**  
**2025/1 (January 2025)**

As we welcome the New Year with renewed hope and aspirations, it is an opportune moment to pause and reflect on the activities and initiatives undertaken by the Institution of Geospatial and Remote Sensing Malaysia (IGRSM) throughout 2024. This past year has been marked by significant milestones, impactful collaborations and notable advancements in the geospatial and remote sensing fields. From organising / co-organising conferences and workshops to fostering partnerships with industry leaders and academic institutions, IGRSM has consistently worked towards enhancing the professional development of its members and promoting the importance of geospatial technologies in addressing national and global challenges. By revisiting these achievements, we can not only celebrate our collective progress but also draw inspiration for the exciting possibilities that lie ahead in the coming year.





# 12<sup>th</sup> IGRSM International Conference and Exhibition on Geospatial & Remote Sensing (IGRSM 2024)

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IGRSM 2024 was held on 29-30 April 2024 at Berjaya Times Square Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. The conference, with the theme *Innovating Geospatial Technologies for the Future*, was aimed at disseminating knowledge and sharing expertise and experiences in geospatial sciences in all aspects of applications. It also aimed to build linkages between local and international professionals in this field with industries.

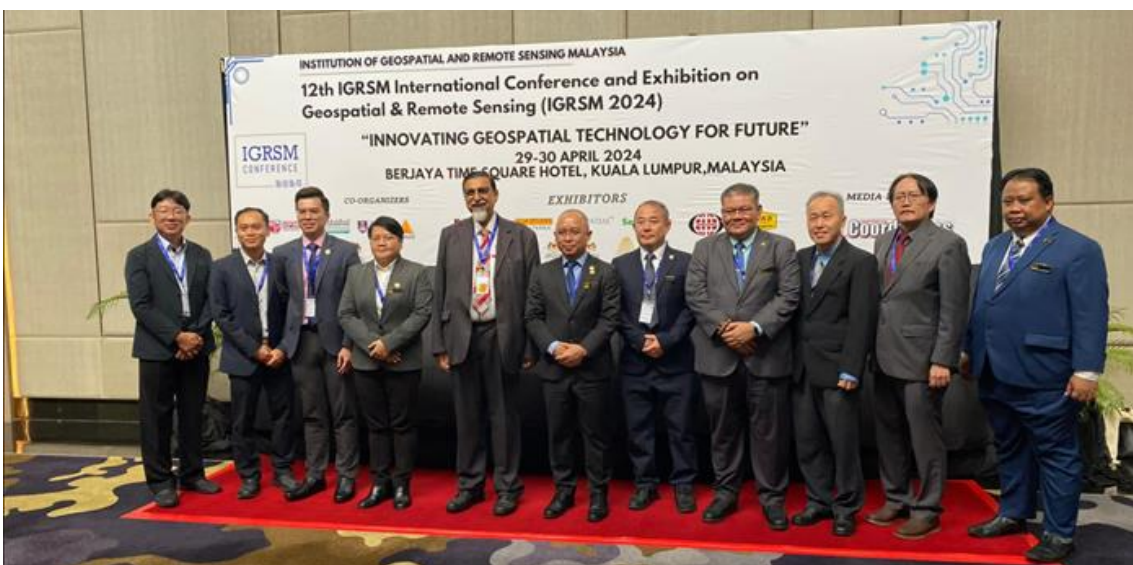
Highlights of the conference include:

- Keynote presentations by:
  - Prof. Dr. Beniamino Murgante, Director, Laboratory of Urban and Territorial Systems, University of Basilicata, Italy: *Improving Decision-Making Processes Through the Adoption of Geo-Computational Models for Building Sustainable Scenarios*
  - Prof. Dr. Biswajeet Pradhan, Director, Centre for Advanced Modelling and Geospatial Information Systems, University of Technology Sydney, Australia: *Artificial Intelligence (AI) - A New Era for the Modelling and Interpretation of Natural Hazard Assessments in the Spatial Domain*
- Industry talk by Gs. Wan Ibnul Bahar, CEO, WIB Integrated Group
- 69 oral and poster presentations across 18 sessions, covering the topics of Remote Sensing and Earth Observation, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Spatial Analysis, Geospatial Artificial Intelligence (GeoAI), Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change, as well as Smart Cities and Urban Planning.



The Co-Organisers of the conference were Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), International Islamic University of Malaysia (IIUM), Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Science & Technology Research Institute for Defence (STRIDE), IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society (GRSS) Malaysia Chapter, National Geospatial Centre (PGN), Malaysian Space Agency (MYSA), Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC), and Universiti Malaya (UM).

The Gold Sponsor was Maltimur Aktif Unggul JV Sdn. Bhd., while the Exhibitors were GPS Lands Sdn. Bhd.; Geospatial AI Sdn. Bhd.; SaraWorks Sdn. Bhd.; JuruPro Sdn. Bhd.; Public Works Department (JKR) Sarawak; Geomapping Technology Sdn. Bhd.; PGN, MYSA; MCMC; Ornet Sdn. Bhd.; Department of Geography, UM; Geospatial Information Science Research Centre (GISRC), UPM; Fire and Rescue Department of Malaysia (JBPM); Bandwork GPS Solutions Sdn. Bhd.; Geoscience and Digital Earth Centre (INSTeG), Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM); IIUM Consultancy & Innovation Sdn. Bhd.; and Department of Surveying Science & Geomatics, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM). The Media Partner was Coordinates.





The following awards were presented during the conference's closing ceremony:

#### **Best Oral Presentation**

*Estimation of Sound Speed Profile at Southbound of South China Sea for Bathymetric Survey using Machine Learning:* Muhamad Khairul Abdullah, Ang Yuhao, Helmi Zulhaidi Mohd Shafri, Mohd Fadzil Mohd Akhir, Nuur Hakeem Mohd Azmi, Mohammed Mustafa Abdulrahman Al Habshi and Mohd Ikmal Fama Mat Dani

#### **Best Poster Presentation**

*Evaluating the Suitability of Waste Dumpsites Using Geospatial Techniques in Kaduna Metropolis, Nigeria:* Maimunatu Aboki, Zakiah Ponrahono, Nazatul Sydia Zainordin and Aisyah Abu Bakar

The proceedings for the conference have been published in IOP Conference Series: Earth and Environmental Science (EES) Volume 1412: <https://iopscience.iop.org/issue/1755-1315/1412/1>

We extend our sincere gratitude to all the co-organisers, sponsors, exhibitors and volunteers for their unwavering support in making IGRSM 2024 a resounding success. Their dedication and contributions have played a key role in bringing this event to life, and we look forward to continued collaboration in the future.

# 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

In conjunction with IGRSM 2024, the 2024 AGM of IGRSM was held on 29 April 2024 at Berjaya Times Square Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. During the AGM, the members approved for motions on:

- 1) Amendment to the constitution for increase of membership fee and formation of branches.
- 2) Call for reconsideration of the amendment to Licensed Land Surveyors Act 1958.

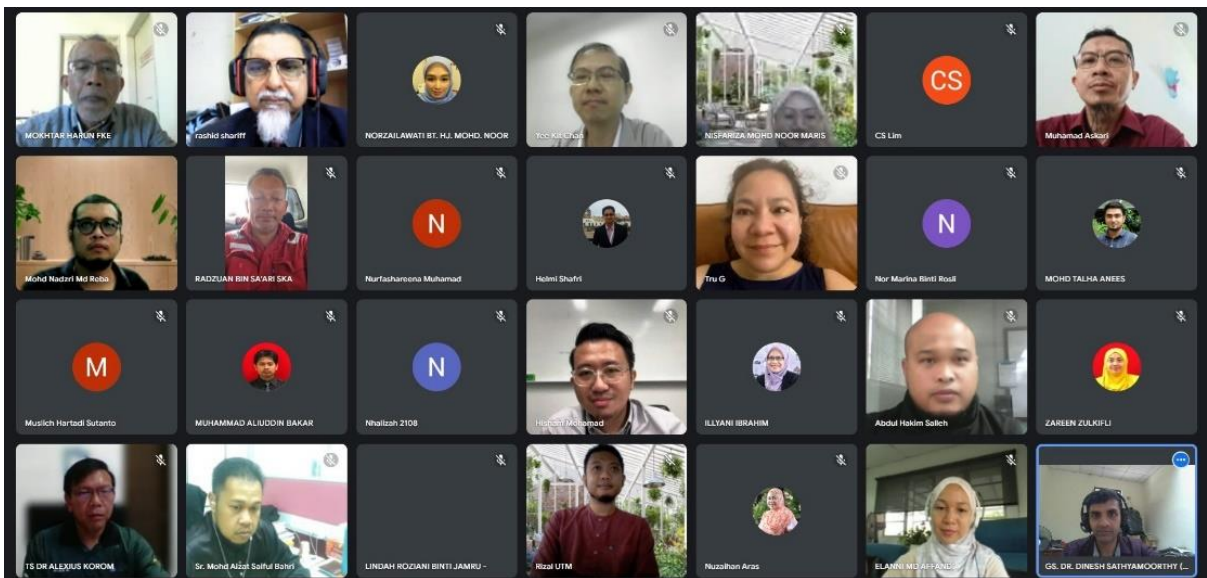


# Advocacy Efforts to Raise Awareness on the Implications of the Amendment to the Licensed Land Surveyors Act 1958 and Call for Its Reconsideration

The amendment to the Licensed Land Surveyors Act 1958, which was approved by the Dewan Rakyat and Dewan Negara on 25 March and 4 April 2024 respectively, was gazetted on 22 October 2024 and came into effect on 23 October 2024. IGRSM only became aware of the legislative amendment when it was presented in the Dewan Rakyat, and it has since come to light that several key stakeholders were not consulted about its implications. The amendment extends restrictions to a wide range of geomatics surveys, previously limited to title surveys, meaning that only Licensed Land Surveyors (LLS) can now conduct geomatics surveys. Non-LLS professionals may face penalties, including fines and imprisonment, for conducting geomatics surveys.

The exclusion of non-LLS professionals will have several consequences, including operational disruptions, increased costs and delays in national projects, reduction in innovation and skills development, as well as potential job losses for experienced geomatics professionals. In order to address these issues, IGRSM undertook extensive efforts, including stakeholder engagements, press conference and appeals to authorities, to raise awareness and call for reconsideration of the legislative amendment. Despite substantial advocacy efforts, the amendment's gazettment and implementation has necessitated further action, including legal remedies to protect the rights and livelihoods of geomatics professionals across various sectors.



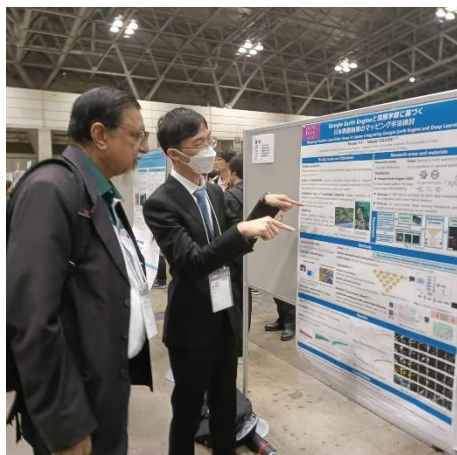




# Japan Geoscience Union Meeting 2024 (JpGU 2024)



IGRSM was a co-convener for the session on *Geospatial Applications for Societal Benefits* at JpGU 2024, which was held on 26 to 31 May 2024 at Makuhari Messe, Chiba, Japan. The meeting was aimed at providing a collaborative platform for global scientists, researchers and students to present and discuss the latest developments in geosciences across a wide range of disciplines, including earth science, climate change, geophysics and environmental science.



# IEEE Workshop on Geoscience and Remote Sensing 2024 (IWGRS 2024)



IGRSM was a co-organiser for IWGRS 2024, which was held on 9 December 2024 at Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Shah Alam, Selangor. The workshop, with the theme *Harnessing Geospatial AI for Next Generation Remote Sensing Applications*, was aimed at providing a forum to share knowledge and experience on recent developments and advancements in geoscience and remote sensing technologies.

The President of IGRSM, Prof. Gs. Dr. Abdul Rashid Mohamed Shariff was invited as a keynote speaker for the workshop on the topic of *Challenges to Geomatics Professionals*.



# 3<sup>rd</sup> International Symposium on One Health, One World (OHOW 2024)



IGRSM was a co-organiser for OHOW 2024, which was held on 10-11 December 2024 at Mercure Living Hotel, Putrajaya. The symposium, with the theme *Empowering Planetary Health Through Science and Engineering Innovations*, was aimed at providing a platform for meaningful interactions and collaborations in a wide range of critical topics, including climate change and green recovery, international public health research in Asia, infrastructure management and sustainable built environment, as well as urban safety and disaster mitigation. IGRSM Professional Member, Assoc. Prof. Gs. Dr. Helmi Zulhaidi Mohd Shafri was invited as a keynote speaker on the topic of *Remote Sensing for Climate Change, Green Recovery and Sustainability*.





# Upgraded IGRSM Website

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We are pleased to announce the launch of the newly upgraded website for IGRSM: <https://igrsm.org>

The new website has been designed with a fresh, modern look and improved functionality to provide better user experience for our members and the public. It now serves as a centralised hub for updates on IGRSM's activities, including upcoming events, publications and opportunities in the geospatial and remote sensing community.

We believe that this upgrade will enhance communication, foster stronger engagement and support our shared vision of advancing geospatial and remote sensing knowledge across various sectors. As we continue to grow as a community, we encourage members to explore the website and share your feedback with us. Your insights will help us refine the platform further and ensure that it meets the community's needs effectively.

## Increase of IGRSM Membership Fee

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During the 2024 AGM that was held on 29 April 2024, the members reached a consensus to amend the constitution to facilitate an increase in membership fee. This proposed amendment received official approval from the Registrar of Societies (ROS) on 29 July 2024.

The updated membership fee structure will take effect starting from 2025. Detailed information on the revised fee can be accessed on our website at: <https://igrsm.org/memberships>

We believe that this adjustment is a step toward enhancing the institution's ability to provide improved services and benefits to our members. With the increased membership fee, we aim to better support the geospatial and remote sensing community, advance the industry, as well as contribute more effectively to national development.

We greatly appreciate your continued support and understanding as we work toward these goals. Should you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us at [igrsmalaysia@gmail.com](mailto:igrsmalaysia@gmail.com)