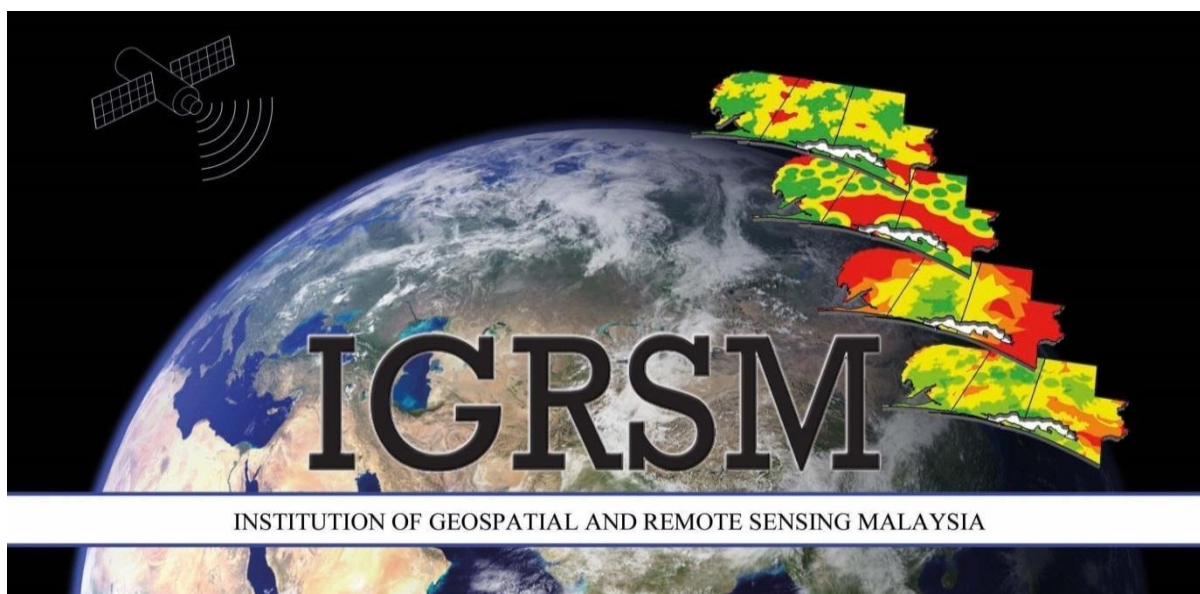




Newsletter

2026/3 (August 2026)

13th IGRSM International Conference and Exhibition on Geospatial & Remote Sensing (IGRSM 2026)

The Institution of Geospatial and Remote Sensing Malaysia (IGRSM) marked its 30th anniversary at its 13th International Conference & Exhibition on Geospatial and Remote Sensing (IGRSM 2026), held in Berjaya Times Square Hotel, Kuala Lumpur on 5–6th August 2026.

Held under the theme *Geospatial Intelligence for a Sustainable Future*, the event brought together 192 participants, including 52 speakers, alongside government representatives, researchers, academics, industry professionals and technology providers. The exhibition featured 16 exhibitors, reinforcing the conference's role as a meeting point for Malaysia's wider geospatial community. There was one silver sponsor (Space Accelerator, Japan) and four strategic partners; National Geospatial Centre (PGN), National Water Research Institute of Malaysia (NAHRIM), Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) and Malaysian Space Agency (MYSA). The media partner for the conference was Coordinates.

The session commenced with welcoming addresses by Prof. Gs. Dr. Abdul Rashid Mohamed Shariff, Conference Chairman and President of IGRSM, followed Dato' Prof. Ir. Dr. Ahmad Farhan Mohd Sadullah, Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM). IGRSM 2026 was then officially declared open by Dato' Gs. Haji Azlikamil bin Napiah, Director-General of the Malaysian Space Agency (MYSA), representing YAB Dato' Sri Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof, Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia. This was followed by three keynote addresses, delivered by one distinguished speaker from Malaysia and two from Japan.

A major theme throughout the event was the changing role of geospatial technology. No longer limited to mapping and surveying, geospatial capabilities such as Earth observation, GIS, GNSS, remote sensing, AI, big-data analytics and digital twins are increasingly supporting national planning, environmental management, disaster resilience, infrastructure and public services.

The anniversary also provided an opportunity to consider how Malaysia's geospatial sector should develop over the coming decades. IGRSM called for renewed consideration of the National Geospatial Master Plan (NGMP), including the establishment of a National Geospatial Council. Such a body could help bring government, academia, industry and professional organisations together around a more coordinated national strategy.

The organisation also highlighted the increasingly multidisciplinary nature of the sector. From hydrography, photogrammetry and UAV mapping to AI, environmental monitoring and underground utility mapping, the modern geospatial landscape encompasses a wide range of specialist expertise. IGRSM emphasised that recognising these different professional competencies while encouraging greater collaboration will be important to the sector's continued growth.

Professional representation and policy were another area of discussion, with IGRSM reiterating the need for an inclusive approach to future regulatory and professional frameworks affecting Malaysia's geospatial community.

Looking ahead, the message from IGRSM 2026 was less about celebrating the past than preparing for what comes next. As geospatial intelligence becomes increasingly important to sustainability, climate resilience, food and water security, infrastructure and national security, collaboration across disciplines will be critical.

The next IGRSM International Conference & Exhibition is planned for 2028, continuing the organisation's biennial event series.

For further information, please visit - <https://conferences.igrsm.org/igrsmc2026>



Photo 1: Registration Team for IGRSM 2026 processing details of attendees



Photo 2: Exhibitor from University of Tokyo



Photo 3: Keynote speakers with the President of IGRSM, Director General of MYSA and Vice-Chancellor of UPM (Day One)



Photo 4: Director General of MYSA and President of IGRSM visiting the booth of Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM)

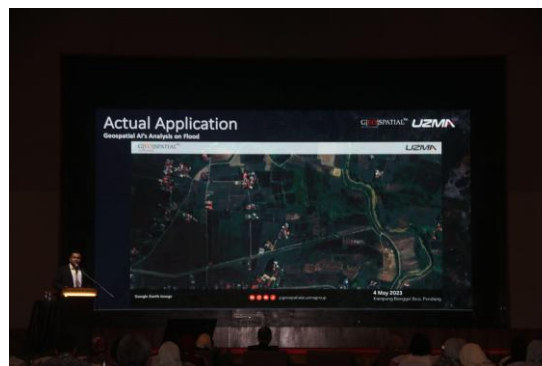


Photo 5: Parallel session presentation

IGRSM Talk 2026/3

IGRSM Talk 2026/3 on *The Evolution of Remote Sensing Towards Autonomous Drone-Based Geospatial Workflows*, was presented by Mr. Muhammad Khalis Azman, Technical Specialist, Glocomp Systems (M) Sdn. Bhd. on 23rd July 2026 (Thursday), 10.00 am - 12.00 pm

The talk revolved on geospatial operations that have evolved significantly from conventional remote sensing approaches to more agile, high-resolution and data-driven drone-based workflows. This talk explored the differences and complementary roles between traditional remote sensing technologies and modern enterprise drone solutions, highlighting recent

developments in autonomous flight operations, real-time data acquisition, advanced sensing payloads and cloud-based workflow management. The session discussed how drone technologies are transforming mapping, inspection, monitoring and geospatial data collection workflows across various industries, while sharing practical insights into current operational practices and emerging trends shaping the future of geospatial operations.



Photo 6: Opening Slide of IGRSM Talk 2026/3 by Mr. Muhammad Khalis Azman



Photo 7: Group photo at the end of the session

Update on High Court Hearing Concerning the Judicial Review of the Licensed Land Surveyors (Amendment) Act 2024

We wish to update members, colleagues and supporters regarding the judicial review of the Licensed Land Surveyors (Amendment) Act 2024.

The High Court hearing originally fixed for 23rd November 2026 has been rescheduled to 21st January 2027 at 9.30 a.m. as the new hearing date for the following matters:

- The Respondents' application to strike out the judicial review; and
- IGRSM's application for a stay of enforcement of the Licensed Land Surveyors (Amendment) Act 2024, to be heard subject to the Court's determination of the strike-out application.

The Court did not provide any reason for the change of date.

To recap, although the interim stay order presently applies to IGRSM and its members, our judicial review and the accompanying stay application have always been pursued in the broader public and professional interest. This legal challenge seeks to protect not only the rights of IGRSM members but also the legitimate interests, livelihoods and professional practice of the many geomatics and geospatial practitioners, academics, consultants, contractors, researchers and organisations whose work may be affected by these amendments.

IGRSM remains unwavering in its commitment to pursue every lawful avenue to ensure that the profession continues to develop within a fair, proportionate and legally sound framework. The issues before the Court extend far beyond any single organisation—they concern the future of Malaysia's geomatics profession and the ability of competent professionals across multiple disciplines to continue serving the nation. We will continue to stand firmly with all affected practitioners throughout this legal process and remain committed to seeing this matter through to its final determination.

We are pleased to remind all IGRSM members that the interim stay order granted by the High Court remains in full force and effect until further order of the Court. Accordingly, IGRSM members may continue to undertake their professional activities in the same manner as they did before the Licensed Land Surveyors (Amendment) Act 2024 came into force, subject to the terms of the Court's order.

A copy of the High Court's Interim Stay Order may be accessed here: <https://shorturl.at/sRoHV>

If any IGRSM member encounters any tender, procurement exercise, consultancy appointment, project, employment opportunity or any other requirement that appears to prevent, restrict or disqualify them from participating because of the Amendment Act despite the subsisting stay order, please notify IGRSM immediately in writing, together with the relevant documents or

evidence. Prompt reporting will enable us to assess the matter, provide appropriate assistance where possible and, if necessary, bring relevant issues to the attention of the Court.

We sincerely thank every member, supporter and well-wisher who has stood with us throughout this journey. This legal challenge is about far more than one organisation—it is about protecting the future of the geomatics profession, preserving legitimate professional practice and ensuring that future generations of practitioners can continue contributing to Malaysia's development.

Pursuing litigation of this significance requires substantial legal resources and sustained commitment. Every contribution, regardless of amount, directly strengthens our ability to continue this important legal effort. Your support is not merely a donation—it is an investment in protecting the future of our profession and demonstrating that the geomatics community stands united in defending what is fair, lawful and in the public interest.

If you believe in this cause, we respectfully invite you to stand with us by contributing generously to the Geomatics Legal Fund. Every contribution brings us one step closer to ensuring that the voices of affected professionals continue to be heard before the Court.

Together, we can make a meaningful difference.

Contributions can be made to:

- Bank: Maybank
- Account Number: 562142808476
- Account Name: Persatuan Geospatial dan Remote Sensing
- Reference: Your Name / Organisation

For receipts or enquiries, kindly contact us at igrsmalaysia@gmail.com

Thank you once again for your trust, encouragement and unwavering support. Together, let us continue to stand united in safeguarding the future of Malaysia's geomatics profession.

Financial Support for Students Presenting at the 47th Asian Conference on Remote Sensing (ACRS 2026)

As an Associate Member of the Asian Association on Remote Sensing (AARS), IGRSM fully supports the activities of AARS, including its flagship event, the Asian Conference on Remote Sensing (ACRS).

We are pleased to announce that IGRSM will be awarding financial support for up to six students who will be presenting at the 47th edition of ACRS, which will be held on 12 – 16th October 2026 at Hotel Taj Vivanta, Dwarka, New Delhi, India: <https://acrs2026.in>. The selected students will receive RM 1,500 each.

The terms and conditions for the financial support are as follows:

- The students should have membership in IGRSM.
- No outstanding membership fee.
- The students' manuscripts have been accepted at the conference.
- Only a maximum of six students will be given financial support.
- The students should submit the full manuscripts for evaluation.
- The selected students are expected to help promote IGRSM during the conference.
- Upon attending the conference, the selected students should submit proof of attendance to the conference (e.g., certificate of attendance, etc.).
- The decision by the committee is final.

For students who are interested, we request that you submit the registration form along with the full manuscript and acceptance letter to igrsmalaysia@gmail.com by 7th September 2026: <https://shorturl.at/ggNpv>. The results will be announced by 21st September 2026.

For students who are interested in applying for the financial support, but are not members of IGRSM, the membership application form is available at: <https://igrsm.org/memberships>

7th International Conference on Science and Technology Applications in Climate Change (STACLIM 2026)

IGRSM is a supporting organiser of the International Conference on Science and Technology Applications in Climate Change 2026 (STACLIM 2026), which will be held on 8–9 September 2026 at Tenera Hotel, Bangi, Selangor, Malaysia. With the theme *Beyond 1.5 °C: Transforming Commitments into Action for a Climate-Safe World*, STACLIM 2026 provides an excellent platform for researchers, practitioners, industry players, and policymakers to exchange ideas, build collaborations, and explore innovative solutions for addressing climate and environmental challenges.

Further details on the conference are available at <https://www.ukm.my/staclim>

IEEE Workshop on Geoscience and Remote Sensing 2026 (IWGRS 2026)

IGRSM is a supporting organiser of the International Conference on Science and Technology. IGRSM is a co-organiser for the IEEE Workshop on Geoscience and Remote Sensing 2026 (IWGRS 2026), which will be held on 17 September 2026 at Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR), Bandar Sungai Long, Selangor. The workshop, with the theme *Advanced and Emerging Trends in Remote Sensing and AI-Driven Geospatial Analytics*, is aimed at providing a forum to share knowledge and experience on recent developments and advancements in geoscience and remote sensing technologies.

Further details on the workshop are available at <https://grss.ieeemy.org/iwgrs2026>

International Conference on Architecture & Built Environment 2026 (ICABE 2026)

IGRSM is a supporting organiser for the International Conference on Architecture & Built Environment 2026 (ICABE 2026), which will be held on 14 - 15 October 2026 at Kulliyyah of Architecture & Environmental Design (KAED), International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur. The conference, with the theme of *Navigating Transitions: The Built Environment in a Changing World*, serves as a platform for researchers, practitioners and policymakers to exchange knowledge, collaborate and explore forward-looking strategies for the built environment.

Topics covered include Islamic values and ethics in the built environment, sustainable development, ESG and circular economy, climate resilience, artificial intelligence and smart digital transformation, governance, human capital, professional integrity, as well as community integration and social inclusivity.

Further details on the conference are available at: <https://conference.iium.edu.my/icabe>