



Welcome to our 2017 Autumn Edition of Geo-Wiki News!

Our latest citizen science app, FotoQuest GO, is finally here! If you are in Austria and think being outdoors is fun, healthy and rewarding, download the FotoQuest GO app now and join our citizen science community! Enjoy Austria's beautiful outdoors while helping to preserve its nature for future generations and earn some money as part of the adventure!

The Geo-Wiki team has also been busy creating new land cover maps and publishing their research. We have recently released a 2015 African land cover map at a 100m resolution. "Mapping and the Citizen Sensor", a new book co-edited by IIASA researchers, is now available online as a free PDF download and at bookstores. Read on for a full recap of this edition's news!

Geo-Wiki Team



FotoQuest GO launches TODAY

FotoQuest GO, our latest citizen science campaign for collecting observations of land use and land cover in Austria, launches today! The objective of the campaign is to track changes in the Austrian landscape so that we can better analyze the impact of these changes on the environment. The data that FotoQuest GO aims to collect are important because every day in Austria, around 150,000 square meters of soil are turned into impervious surfaces, e.g. businesses, living space and recreational or traffic areas, causing a near complete loss of the ecological function of the soil and increased runoff.

FotoQuest GO is an app that guides participants to specific locations distributed across Austria to take photographs and identify the land cover, such as crops, grass, forest or buildings. During the new campaign, which will run for around three months, FotoQuest GO will pay participants 1 EUR for each quest that is successfully completed.

Are you ready for this new adventure? If you enjoy being outdoors and care for the environment, and want to earn a bit of money, download the app (available for Android and IOS) and be a part of our citizen science community! For more info on the campaign, visit our FotoQuest GO website.

Download the app for [Android](#) or for [iPhone](#).



“Mapping and the Citizen Sensor”, a new book co-edited by IIASA researchers is out

This book outlines the role of citizens in mapping and discusses some of the main issues surrounding the use of Volunteered Geographic Information (VGI) in this field. It also elaborates on the motivational factors that drive volunteer participation with some best practice examples provided. The book addresses the increasing role of citizen sensing and discusses novel ways to involve citizens in scientific activities and policy-making.

“Mapping and the Citizen Sensor” is available as an open source book from [here](#) or it can be purchased in print version.

For more info, visit [here](#).



A 2015 land cover map for Africa at a 100m resolution has just been released

We are happy to announce that a new 2015 land cover map at a 100m resolution for Africa has just been released by the Copernicus Land Monitoring Service! This map is the result of a joint collaboration between [VITO](#), [WU&R](#) and the Geo-Wiki team.

The map contains land cover classes as well as four continuous vegetation

fractions: trees, shrubs, grassland and bare land. The maps are distributed through both the [Copernicus Global Land Data Portal](#) and the [Geo-Wiki platforms](#) (see the Land Cover branch). Check it out here and send us your feedback to help us further improve this product.



First Issue of the LandSense Newsletter

The first issue of the [LandSense project](#) newsletter has been released! You can check it out [here](#) and subscribe for future issues.

The LandSense mission is to establish a citizen observatory and innovation marketplace for land use and land cover monitoring by bringing together leading citizen science partners across Europe. Coordinated by IIASA, the project aims to uncover the collective potential of citizen science and Earth Observation data to improve the way people see, map, and understand the world.



What's coming up in the next newsletter: Urban Campaign

This fall we will launch a new campaign to validate two maps of built-up surfaces: the [Global Human Settlement Layer](#) (GHSL), produced by the [European Commission's Joint Research Centre](#) (JRC), and the [Global Urban Footprint](#) (GUF+), produced by the German Aerospace Center (DLR). Help us to identify these areas on very high resolution satellite imagery to capture built up areas. Stay tuned for more info.



Recent Past and Upcoming Events

The Geo-Wiki team was/will be present in the following events:

- [World Data Lab \(WDL\)](#), Bellagio Convening, 7-11 August, Como, Italy
- [1st CCI Land Cover User Workshop](#), 31st August, Frascati, Italy
- [GlobBiomass User Workshop](#), 13 September, Rome, Italy
- [Conference for Protection of Old Growth Forests in Europe](#), 13-14 September, Brussels, Belgium

- [Lower Austria Science Festival](#), 15 September, Vienna, Austria
- [IUFRO 125th Anniversary Congress: Interconnecting Forests, Science and People](#), 18-22 September, Freiburg, Germany
- [EO Open Science Conference](#), 25-28 September, Frascati, Italy
- [LandSense Year 1 Workshop](#), 2-4 October, Laxenburg, Austria
- C-Glops 2 Project Kickoff Meeting, 4-5 October, Laxenburg, Austria
- [GEO-WEEK 2017](#), 23-27 October, Washington DC, USA



Recent Publications

See L, Laso Bayas JC, Schepaschenko D, Perger C, Dresel C, Maus V, Salk C, Weichselgartner J, et al. (2017). LACO-Wiki: A New Online Land Cover Validation Tool Demonstrated Using GlobeLand30 for Kenya. Remote Sensing 9 (7): e754. DOI:[10.3390/rs9070754](https://doi.org/10.3390/rs9070754).

Foody, G, See, L, Fritz, S, Mooney, P, Olteanu-Raimond, A-M, Fonte, C C and Antoniou, V (eds.) 2017 Mapping and the Citizen Sensor. London: Ubiquity Press. DOI:[10.5334/bbf](https://doi.org/10.5334/bbf). License: CC-BY 4.0

Laso Bayas, J.C.; See, L.; Perger, C.; Justice, C.; Nakalembe, C.; Dempewolf, J.; Fritz, S. Validation of Automatically Generated Global and Regional Cropland Data Sets: The Case of Tanzania. Remote Sens. 2017, 9, 815.