



**rural development
& land reform**

Department:
Rural Development & Land Reform
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Press Release

Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, South Africa to Co-organise Map Africa 2009

May 22, 2009 New Delhi, India: GIS Development is pleased to announce Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, South Africa as the Co-organiser for Map Africa 2009 - the 4th Annual African Conference and Exhibition on Geospatial Information, Technology and Applications. The conference is scheduled for 16 - 18 September, 2009 at Birchwood Hotel & O R Tambo Conference Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa. Apart from the plenary sessions which will cover the large gamut of Geospatial applications and technology areas the other focus area of the conference are Local Governance, Utility and Infrastructure and Agriculture and Environment Management. Map Africa will have the conglomeration of speakers from end user organizations, industry and government at large.

Dr. Derek Clarke, Chief Director - Survey and Mapping, Department of Rural Development and Land Reform expressed his pleasure at joining the conference by saying, "It is our privilege to be associated with Map Africa as a co-organiser for the third time. Map Africa has always provided us with a unique platform to communicate with the geospatial community at large. I am sure this time also we will gain new perspective and be able to contribute to the African Geospatial Community."

Welcoming Department of Rural Development and Land Reform on board, Sanjay Kumar, Chief Executive Officer, GIS Development said, "We are very pleased to have Department of Rural Development and Land Reform as the co-organiser of Map Africa 2009. With this extended support and collaboration, we are sure to provide them with an opportunity to reach out to a global audience. Department of Rural Development and Land Reform has made tremendous contribution to the development of geospatial technologies in South Africa. We assure that Map Africa 2009 will provide a broader perspective on the application and usage of geospatial technologies at various vertical segments."

Map Africa 2009 aims at facilitating interaction, discussion, and collaboration amongst the participants. It will provide a platform to share the latest developments in the GeoInformation field and also promote the products and services among a large gathering consisting of top decision makers from government and private sector to prospective users, academicians, vendors, policy makers and representatives of various national and international organizations working in the arena of this technology. This year we intent to add a new dimension to involve and engage an intense dialogue and discussion with major

end user groups of geospatial technologies, in turn, helping a better understanding between map producing agencies and user departments.

An exhibition will be held in conjunction with the conference where organizations will have the opportunity to showcase their product and services.

About GIS Development

GIS Development promotes and propagates the usage of Geographic Information Science, Technology and Applications in various areas of development, worldwide and Asia in particular. It assists community and government in developing their productivity, policies and management capabilities by facilitating knowledge transfer in the domain of geographic information. It fosters the growing network of those interested in geo-informatics and encourages the exchange of scientific know-how through its key platforms: Magazines, Portal, Conferences, Research and Training.

www.GISdevelopment.net

About Department of Rural Development and Land Reform

The Department of Rural Development and Land Reform has replaced the previous Department of Land Affairs and is responsible for the national Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP). The CRDP will be realized through a three prong strategy of Agrarian Transformation, Rural Development and Land Reform. The Department is also responsible for land planning and information, including the national spatial data infrastructure, and aspires to be the foremost supplier of geo-spatial information and services to the people of South Africa. It provides training as well as organizes workshops on surveying, mapping and land deeds registration.

<http://www.dla.gov.za/>

For media-related queries, contact:

Vaishali Dixit

GIS Development

Tel: +91-120-4612500

Fax: +91-120-4612555, 4612666

Mobile: +91-9313292284

Email: vaishali.dixit@gisdevelopment.net