

# **Extraordinary General Assembly 2018**

## **Disruptive Technologies Workshop**

EuroGeographics is organising a workshop on Disruptive Technologies following its annual Extraordinary General Assembly.

This topic was highlighted by our members in last year's membership survey. From the responses it was clear that our members are greatly interested in new, innovative and disruptive technologies, and their impact.

Consequently, during the General Assembly in October 2017, a session was dedicated to disruptive technologies and their impact on EuroGeographics members. This garnered a lot of interest and discussion within the audience and demonstrated that this is a topic which the Association should further explore with its members.

The workshop in Leuven this year is intended enable us to delve further and deeper into the topic. It specifically focuses on the impact that disruptive technologies have on the operational structure of NMCAs. We kick off with a keynote presentation from an NMCA which is embracing innovative technology, this will be followed by an overview of current thinking, of future trends in geospatial management and current European thinking and advances in technologies which can impact NMCAs. We are also presenting an example of an external source of disruption, which can be viewed by NMCAs as either a threat or an opportunity.

Disruptive technology is a topic which we know is of interest to our members, and we therefore want your input and discussion in exploring how disruptive technologies impact on different parts of the NMCAs structure and business model. This will be done through breakout sessions of four focus groups on data acquisition, data quality, data disseminations and organisational structure. A panel discussion will follow.

The aim of this workshop is to enhance our members' thinking of what are disruptive technologies, what are the advances being made in technical innovations, which of these can impact NMCAs and to try to recognise how these can affect member organisations.

We are distributing a number of papers in preparation for the workshop. First is a UN-GGIM report on the future trends in geospatial information management. We are also distributing presentations on this topic from the EuroGeographics General Assembly in October 2017. We are also distributing a paper prepared for this workshop which deals specifically with some of the current technologies and innovations which can have an impact on NMCAs. We intend to expand this draft document using the discussions from this workshop into a full paper on Disruption for our members and which can be used by the Association as a basis on future presentations on this topic. This information will help our member NMCAs understand the threats, challenges and the opportunities provided by disruptive technologies.

Finally, we will explore whether there is interest in forming a Knowledge Exchange Network focusing on disruptive technologies.