



2023年“一带一路”数字地球论坛 2023 Belt and Road Forum on Digital Earth

2023年12月6日-8日 中国北京 6-8 December, 2023 Beijing, China

Concept Note of the 2023 Belt and Road Forum on Digital Earth

Background

The year 2023 marks the tenth anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). With the great achievements of the BRI, it is being actively transitioned from vision to action to adhere to the principles of “green and sustainable development.” So far, more than 200 cooperation documents on the joint construction of the "Belt and Road" have been signed between China and 152 countries and 32 international organizations. From the aspect of academia, research, and industry, BRI host countries have made great efforts to link up to find a way to solve the challenges they are facing and to enhance a long-term foundation for sustainable development.

As the leading organization in the Digital Earth field, the International Society for Digital Earth (ISDE) has expressed a strong commitment towards closer exchange and cooperation of Digital Earth technology and application to ensure collective progress and sustainable development, globally and regionally. In 2017, ISDE launched the Digital Belt and Road Alliance (DBRAlliance). With years of effort, Digital Earth technology has achieved great development and played significant roles in various application areas in BRI host countries.

The 2023 Belt and Road Forum on Digital Earth

Digital Earth technological developments, in particular the rapid digital transformation, hold tremendous potential in enabling innovative solutions to address the developmental challenges we are facing today. As emerging economies of the world, BRI host countries have unique opportunities to cooperate in science and technology to develop, adopt and demonstrate innovative solutions and lead the development of digital technology. The response to climate change, the effort towards green development, the sustainable development practices in agriculture, forest and water resources monitoring, land management, disaster prevention and reduction, and heritage protection are high-potential areas of cooperation towards sustainable development among BRI host countries.

With these motivations, ISDE proposed to organize the 2023 Belt and Road Forum on Digital Earth. This forum will provide a good opportunity for leading scientists, engineers, policymakers, educationists, entrepreneurs, and other stakeholders in BRI



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host countries as well as representatives of relevant international organizations to discuss and communicate on Digital Earth science and technology innovation and technology application practices to address common challenges for sustainable development in BRI host countries.

Hosts

The 2023 Belt and Road Forum on Digital Earth will be hosted by the International Society for Digital Earth (ISDE), the International Research Center of Big Data for Sustainable Development Goals (CBAS), and the Aerospace Information Research Institute, CAS (AIR, CAS).

ISDE, founded in 2004, is an international organization mainly promoting academic exchange, science and technology innovation, education, and international collaboration towards Digital Earth at a global scale. It has organized 13 International Symposia on Digital Earth and 9 Digital Earth Summits in 16 countries worldwide, published two international journals – the *International Journal of Digital Earth* (IF 5.1), and the *Big Earth Data* (IF 4.0), and built up close collaboration relationships with international organizations like ISC, UN-GGIM GS, GEO, CODATA, ISPRS, etc. ISDE-DBRAlliance is a network platform of stakeholders from the BRI host countries which are devoted to scientific exchange and industry cooperation in the field of Digital Earth, and help to solve the challenges we are facing.

CBAS has been established to facilitate the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda, which was announced by President Xi Jinping, during his statement at the general debate of the 75th session of the UN General Assembly on 22 September 2020. It was inaugurated on 6 September 2021 and is working to facilitate the integration of research, technology innovation, data services, talent fostering, and capacity building to promote informed policy and decision support in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

AIR, CAS is a research institute that integrates both research and higher education in the fields of aerospace information and Optoelectronics. It aspires to achieve major scientific breakthroughs and take the lead in constructing a national laboratory in the field of aerospace information by pooling research advantages inherited from its former institutes and in line with major national needs.

Time and Venue



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The 3-day Forum is scheduled to be convened on 6th - 8th December 2023, at East Bay International Center, Chaoyang District in Beijing, China.

Theme and Topics

The theme of the Forum is “Digital Earth and Sustainable Development of the Belt and Road Countries”. The following topics are proposed for organizing discussions at the Forum, including but not limited to:

1. Digital Earth Science and Technology Innovation
2. Digital Earth in Support of Resilient Cities and Communities
3. Digital Earth in Support of Heritage Protection
4. Digital Earth in Support of Disaster Risk Reduction
5. Digital Earth Technology Application in Climate Change and Meteorological Disasters
6. Digital Earth in Support of Sustainable Development and Management of Coast
7. Digital Earth in Support of Environment and Ecological Sustainability
8. Big Data-Driven Disaster Risk Reduction Knowledge Services
9. Digital Earth in Support of Agricultural Sustainability
10. Digital Earth in Support of Sustainable Utilization of Water Resources
11. Digital Earth in Support of Land Resource Management
12. Enterprise Technology Roadshow

Forum Arrangement

The 2023 Belt and Road Forum on Digital Earth will be a three-day event, with plenary sessions, panel discussion, parallel sessions and technology visit to local research institutes and enterprises. Attendees will have opportunities not only to exchange academic thoughts on cutting-edge technologies and application cases, but to see technology and product display from industries of the Belt and Road countries as well.

Plenary Sessions: Two to three keynote speakers will be invited to give presentations at the plenary sessions.

Panel Discussion: Six to seven experts will be invited to share their thoughts on a thematic theme in the panel discussion, discussing the threats and challenges the Belt and Road countries are facing and providing potential solutions for future cooperation and development.



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Parallel Sessions: Parallel sessions will be organized, covering a wide range of topics including, but not limited to, the aforementioned topics.

Technology Visit: Participants will be invited to visit local Digital Earth relevant research institutes and enterprises.

Expected Outcomes

The event will be organized with the following key outcomes:

1. Establish academic exchange and industry liaison mechanisms on Digital Earth supporting sustainable development in Belt and Road countries.
2. Develop a scientific and technological think tank and cooperation network focusing on Digital Earth supporting sustainable development in Belt and Road countries.
3. Release an initiative on Digital Earth for Sustainable Development in Belt and Road Countries.