

To: AGILE council

20th AGILE conference 2017, May 10 -12th 2017 at Wageningen University, The Netherlands

The 20th AGILE conference, entitled *Societal Geo-innovation*, is the annual conference of staff members and PhD-students of the Geo-Information Science Laboratories in Europe (~80 partners). The conference aims to exchange latest findings and initiatives in research and fuel the discussion on the research agenda.

[1] <https://agile-online.org/index.php/conference/conference-2017>

This year's local and scientific committees linked the conference to respectively the societal benefits from and societal request to the geo-information science community. The benefits were reflected by a dedicated talk of prof. Ian Masser, the first president of AGILE and author of a milestone white paper (1996) on this topic. Also there was a presentation that reviewed the trends of 20 years of AGILE conference themes, proceedings, and scientific papers.

[2] <https://agile-online.org/index.php/programme-2017/keynotes-2017>

The request side was inspired by the seven-teen UN development goals and addressed by the key note speakers, prof. Arthur Mol (NL) on *Food security*, prof. Daniel Sui (USA) on *Health quality* and prof. Marketta Kyttä on *Empowerment by participation*. Their presentations have been streamed online and recorded as well.

[3] <https://wurtv4.wur.nl/P2G/cataloguepage.aspx#>

In these presentations the shift from analysis and simulation studies based on only scientifically defined and calibrated geo-spatial data into studies using geo-spatial data ensembles show the inclusion of perception data, like the ones gathered by citizen science and social media.



conference opening



venue poster route of 17 UN goals

The 50 presentations in the 4 parallel sessions have been structured accordingly the role of different data types. Besides the presentations a poster session with 32 posters took place on the 2nd day.

[4] <https://agile-online.org/index.php/programme-2017/accepted-papers-and-posters-2017>

All submitted materials, full papers, abstracts and posters, have been reviewed by members of AGILE's scientific committee. Full papers had blind reviews by three peers and were ranked as well. The best papers have been published in the *Lecture Notes on Geo-information and Cartography* series of Springer.

[5] <http://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783319567587>

All abstracts and posters have been reviewed by two peers. Abstracts and poster are available by the AGILE website and the conference App (using YAPP).



lively debating



recorded plenary sessions

The *conference APP* showed to be a great means for creating a community, informing conference participants on the programme changes and detailed logistics, offering content, sharing impressions and voting. The voting system has been used to select by the participants the best full paper (out of 3 selected by the reviewers), the best abstract (3 selected by the reviewers) and the best poster (besides the best poster award by a professional jury of poster designers).

Participation in all sessions have been stimulated by mediators who initiated discussions and speaker-boxes which could be thrown through the room and invites to speak.



speaker-box inspired participation



and by posters as well

In the final session the two chairs of the conference wrapped up the trends into an outlook on new challenges and gave floor to the organisation of the 21st AGILE conference in Lund, Sweden.



using the conference APP



see you in the 21st AGILE conference

[6] <https://agile-online.org/index.php/programme-2017/agile-workshops-2017>

The conference was accompanied by a day of 11 workshops (on May 9th), an open AGILE board meeting (1.5h on May 11th) and social events (ice breaker opened by the Mayor of Wageningen (on May 9th in the evening), excursions (early morning bird watching, campus architecture by foot, and landscape sightseeing by bicycle). On Thursday evening the walking conference dinner showed the Taste of Wageningen given a location based time specific route. These social events did greatly support the conference community.



landscape excursion by bicycle



walking conference dinner

Including the local and scientific committees of this conference, the AGILE council and invited speakers in total 219 persons from 31 different countries did participate. By tweets, App messages and emails the participants evaluated the conference positively as the following citation of an AGILE council member shows *"this is just a personal 'thank you' for organising such a great conference! I really enjoyed it and I think you and your team have set a new standard in how conference organisation! Everything and everyone were just brilliant! I am sure it was hard work but the attention, thought and detail that had been put in by the organisers were evident."*

Our organisation greatly thanks the many sponsors that made this conference possible.