PROCEEDINGS OF SPIE

Ninth International Conference on Remote Sensing and Geoinformation of the Environment (RSCy2023)

Kyriacos Themistocleous Diofantos G. Hadjimitsis Silas Michaelides Giorgos Papadavid Editors

3–5 April 2023 Ayia Napa, Cyprus

Organized by
Eratosthenes Centre of Excellence (Cyprus)
Cyprus Remote Sensing Society (Cyprus)
Excelsior - Horizon 2020 Widespread Teaming, Grant Agreement No 857510

Published by SPIE

Volume 12786

Proceedings of SPIE 0277-786X, V. 12786

SPIE is an international society advancing an interdisciplinary approach to the science and application of light.

Ninth International Conference on Remote Sensing and Geoinformation of the Environment (RSCy2023), K. Themistocleous, D. G. Hadjimitsis, S. Michaelides, G. Papadavid, Eds., Proc. of SPIE Vol. 12786, 1278601 © 2023 SPIE · 0277-786X · doi: 10.1117/12.3005197

The papers in this volume were part of the technical conference cited on the cover and title page. Papers were selected and subject to review by the editors and conference program committee. Some conference presentations may not be available for publication. Additional papers and presentation recordings may be available online in the SPIE Digital Library at SPIEDigitalLibrary.org.

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Please use the following format to cite material from these proceedings: Author(s), "Title of Paper," in Ninth International Conference on Remote Sensing and Geoinformation of the Environment (RSCy2023), edited by Kyriacos Themistocleous, Diofantos G. Hadjimitsis, Silas Michaelides, Giorgos Papadavid, Proc. of SPIE 12786, Seven-digit Article CID Number (DD/MM/YYYY); (DOI URL).

ISSN: 0277-786X

ISSN: 1996-756X (electronic)

ISBN: 9781510668225

ISBN: 9781510668232 (electronic)

Published by

SPIE

P.O. Box 10, Bellingham, Washington 98227-0010 USA Telephone +1 360 676 3290 (Pacific Time)

SPIE.org

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Introduction

The Organizing Committee, Scientific Committee, and Editors would like to thank the authors and participants who attended the RSCy2023 "Ninth International Conference on Remote Sensing and Geoinformation of Environment" which took place 3-5 April 2023 in Ayia Napa, Cypru. The conference focused on emerging issues in remote sensing and geoinformation of environment. This year's conference focused on the thematic areas of Environment and Climate, Resilient Society, and Big Earth Data Analytics. The keynote speakers and thought-provoking technical program encouraged the exchange of ideas and provided the foundation for future collaboration and innovation. The RSCy2023 Conference was organized by the ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence, the Cyprus Remote Sensing Society, and the EXCELSIOR Project (www.excelsior2020.eu), which has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 857510 (Call: WIDESPREAD-01-2018-2019 Teaming Phase 2) and the Government of the Republic of Cyprus). The RSCy2023 was under the auspices of the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy.

We were honored that so many experts from all over the world specializing in so many diverse areas of remote sensing and geoinformation attended the conference. The conference was an excellent opportunity for colleagues to share their knowledge, network, and collaborate on future research. We encouraged the participants to use the opportunity to learn about the latest, most state-of-the-art findings and applications in remote sensing and geoinformation.

The papers in these Proceedings were reviewed for presentation and accepted for publication by the Scientific Committee. They represent continued advancements in remote sensing and geoinformation. The program, which included oral and poster presentations, was organized around fifteen major themes: Agriculture, Atmospheric, Cultural Heritage, Earth Observation, Environment, Forest Fires, GIS, Natural Hazards, Remote Sensing, Resilient Society, Satellites, UAV Systems and Water Resources. The abstracts and subsequent papers made important contributions to the open scientific literature on remote sensing and geoinformation. We thank the authors for sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm. Over 380 authors from nearly 30 countries were represented in the abstracts presented in the

conference program. At the conference closing ceremony, awards were given for the best paper and best poster, following peer-review.

We thank the organizations who have organized, co-organized, and supported the conference. Special thanks are due to the conference chairs, the keynote speakers, the personnel of the ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence, the members of the Cyprus Remote Sensing Society, and the Conference Secretariat who provided invaluable assistance during the event. We would also like to thank the SPIE staff for following the Proceedings through the publication process.

Kyriacos Themistocleous Diofantos G. Hadjimitsis Silas Michaelides Giorgos Papadavid

Sponsors and Cooperating Partners

Organized by

Eratosthenes Centre of Excellence (Cyprus)

Cyprus Remote Sensing Society (Cyprus)

Excelsior - Horizon 2020 Widespread Teaming, Grant Agreement No 857510

Co-organized and supported by

Department of Electronic Communications of the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy (Cyprus)

ESA (Italy)

NASA (United States)

Copernicus / Copernicus Relays / Copernicus Academy (Belgium)

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Supported by Projects

EXCELSIOR: Horizon 2020 Widespread Teaming, Grant Agreement No 857510

Agreemar: Research & Innovation Foundation – RIF PRIMA AI-OBSERVER: HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-03 (Twinning)

Carbonica: HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ACCESS-04-01 Engineer: HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-03-01 ENIGMA: HORIZON-CL2-2022-HERITAGE-01-07

Green CarbonCy: Research & Innovation Foundation (RIF) CO-DEVELOP

Medrin: Global Observations of Forest Cover and Land Dynamics (GOFC-GOLD)

TRIQUETRA: HORIZON-CL2-2022-HERITAGE-01-08

WQeMS: Horizon 2020 R&I Action, Grant Agreement No 101004157