Changes in Geo-Information Education in Relationship with Challenges in Society

Marinus De Bakker (Netherlands)

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SUMMARY

Many challenges like climate change, energy transition, food security to our society are related with and depended on reliable geo-information. But to collect geo-information of a high and relevant quality and useful for society we need good well educated people. The four year bachelor course Geo Media Design of the HAS University of Applied Sciences in the Netherlands started 7 years ago. At that time especially to incorporate design thinking in a geo-information curriculum was new. But more and more societal challenges ask for changes in the curriculum. From educating students as intermediaries between (spatial) questions and technology, we see that the students should also be versed in the challenges of our society. In this presentation we will discuss how to balance in a curriculum technology (GIS software); data (collection, analysis, visualization in relation with the developments in data-science); user interface development (due to other users like policy-makers and managers); soft skills (like communication and project management) and most important the relevance and usage of geo-information for the societal challenges. The Sustainable Development Goals will be used as a direction for the different subjects in the four year curriculum.