

Dynamic GIM International Summit Concludes – But is Just the Beginning



The first edition of the GIM International Summit concluded successfully on 12 February 2016. The three-day high-end conference, chaired by Steven Ramage, was held in the Dutch capital of Amsterdam and comprised eight keynotes and eight workshop sessions focused on various challenges which geomatics could help to tackle. While the GIM International Summit conference may have ended, the

follow-up will be substantial since everyone was in agreement that geomatics is a driving force behind solutions to global challenges.

The topics ranged from migration and urban planning to climate change and food security. The keynote speakers – from both within and outside of the geospatial sector – each shared with the audience details of the developments and challenges in their specific field. This led to lively discussions with delegates, resulting in three truly interactive and thought-provoking days. During the keynotes and the interactive workshops alike, it became crystal clear that the conference committee's objective – to connect the challenges the world is facing with solutions from the geomatics industry – is not a luxury, but a necessity. While delegates were in no doubt that geomatics can provide exciting solutions for many such

challenges, coming up with concrete ways for the field to contribute to some of the other societal issues required a little more effort on their part. Nevertheless, by the end of the three days everyone was in agreement that geomatics is a driving force behind solutions to global challenges. The final statement of the inaugural GIM International Summit – which provides the geomatics industry with outcomes and priorities – will be published on the *GIM International* website in the near future.

While the GIM International Summit conference may have ended, the follow-up will be substantial. Still to be released are videos of the keynotes, a video summary of the conference, reports and numerous interviews with participants. As the input and outcomes of the GIM International Summit have generated a great deal of valuable content, the *GIM International* team will soon be publishing ideas for geomatics solutions to challenges such as climate change, food security, housing, migration, urban planning, social justice, water and more. To learn more about how to become involved in terms of editorial contributions and/or advertising, [contact the team](#) for more information!