

# XXII ISPRS Congress, Melbourne

Can you imagine organising a conference where 75 percent of the attendees will suffer from jet lag, an economic downturn will result in the withdrawal of over 40 percent of submitted abstracts, and 292 manuscripts – the equivalent of three years’ worth of articles in a journal – require a double-blind review? Most people would answer with an unequivocal and heart-felt “No”. In spite of these challenges, however, congress director professor Cliff Ogleby, technical program chair professor Mark Shortis, the Council, Technical Commission presidents and Working Group officers of the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) and the Local Organising Committee of Melbourne, Australia, managed to organise and host an extremely successful XXII ISPRS Congress to finish their 2008-2012 quadrennial term (Figure 1).

Held in the spacious and newly opened Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, over 1,950 participants from 74 countries were welcomed to Australia by ISPRS president, professor Orhan Altan, during the opening ceremony. A welcome reception followed, with participants having direct access to Australian animals such as a metre-long crocodile, koala, dingo puppies and various cream-coloured pythons under the careful supervision of animal handlers from the Melbourne Zoo (Figure 2).

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