Recent Developments and Promotion of Remote Sensing by ISPRS

ISPRS Technical Commission III on Remote Sensing (2016-2020) has this year once again been working to actively promote and support developments in the remote sensing field. With ten working groups and six inter-commission working groups, 22 workshops had been organized in eight countries/regions by the end of July 2019, with Annals and Archives published reflecting the latest research results in the fields of each working group.

With support from ISPRS Scientific Initiatives, WG III/1 conducted international benchmarking of terrestrial laser scanning approaches for forest inventories, while WG III/4 established a website to provide reliable and high-quality hyperspectral datasets and initiated a benchmark framework for validating novel processing and data analytics methodologies.

With the support of the ISPRS Education & Capacity Building Initiative, WG III/5 delivered two datasets to the scientific society to test new Lidar mobile mapping and multi-spectral Lidar technology. The two datasets paved the way for the scientific community to explore new Lidar technologies. The members of ICWG III/II have developed new techniques of planetary mapping and applied them in scientific analyses of planetary data and to support the Chinese Chang’e-4 lunar landing mission for topographic mapping and analysis of the landing site, localization of the lander and rover. A book entitled *Planetary Remote Sensing and Mapping* was published as ISPRS Book Series.


One of the main events organized by the commission was the successful mid-term symposium of TC III which attracted more than 750 participants from 52 countries and regions. Three international seminars on construction and application of spatial data infrastructure were organized which provide financial support to more than 60 participants from developing countries. Three summer schools have been organized, and cooperation with international organizations has been enhanced. Looking ahead, TC III will continue to serve and support the remote sensing community.

Mosaic generated from the left-eye images of the Chang’e-4 rover’s panoramic camera. The lander and the shadow of the rover are visible.