



JAPAN SOCIETY OF GEOINFORMATICS  
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### **Message from President, Japan Society of Geoinformatics**

Japan Society of Geoinformatics (JSGI) was established in 1990 to apply, advance and promote a new multidisciplinary area of research encompassing Geosciences and Informatics. Most of the recent developments in Information & Communication Technologies were unimaginable at the time when the JSGI was established. Geoinformatics has now become a key technology for sustainable development planning and management of the earth's natural, social and human environment. Since its inception, JSGI has actively pursued cooperation with leading international institutions and academic societies to share experiences and knowledge for the common benefit of mankind. JSGI was actively involved in academic exchanges with Vietnam that led to the establishment of the Japan-Vietnam Geoinformatics Consortium (JVGC) in 2001.

I feel highly privileged to heartily felicitate JVGC for organizing the Second International Symposium on Geoinformatics for Spatial Infrastructure Development in Earth and Allied Science (GIS-IDEAS) being held in Hanoi, on 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> September 2004. I had the pleasure of participating in the first GIS-IDEAS Symposium held in Hanoi in September 2002 and was impressed not only by its outstanding scientific caliber but also by the abundant enthusiasm and warm hospitality of Vietnamese people. I am convinced that the activities of JVGC and the deliberations of the GIS-IDEAS Symposium would bring immense mutual benefits through cooperative research, academic and cultural exchanges.

On behalf of JSGI, I express my sincere wishes to the organizers and participants of the GIS-IDEAS 2004 Symposium. I firmly believe that we owe the success of GIS-IDEAS to their support and contributions. JSGI also looks forward to actively support and nurture strong ties with JVGC and thereby strengthening the deep bond of friendship existing between the peoples of Vietnam and Japan.

Finally, I would like to express my best wishes for fruitful deliberations at GIS-IDEAS 2004 and for the future endeavors of JVGC.

Prof. Kiyoji SHIONO  
President  
Japan Society of Geoinformatics