

**RGS - IBG Annual International Conference 2010**  
**1 - 3 September 2010**  
**Royal Geographical Society**  
**London**

**Governance and the Geoweb**

The increasing challenges from crises such as climate change in addition to expectations from the public about modes of engagement mean that traditional methods of public participation are being challenged. eGovernment systems, such as authoritative Web mapping sites, which were heralded as the solution to this challenge, predominantly offer one-way communication from government to the public and do not include effective means to collect citizen feedback nor engage citizens in two-way dialogue. New mechanisms, like the Geospatial Web (or Geoweb), have the potential to address these challenges and present a unique opportunity for both local and central governments.

This session will examine the participatory governance potential of the Geoweb and, in particular, its capacity to enable a two-way dialogue between government officials and the public. From a practical perspective, we will explore how different levels of governments can use the Geoweb as a platform that could build upon current PPGIS/PGIS practices and broaden public engagement. From a theoretical standpoint, we propose to address the scientific, technical, and participatory issues that challenge the accomplishment of this vision.

In this session we encourage the submission of original papers dealing with either the theoretical and/or practical aspects of this emerging research area. The session seeks to attract researchers from all areas of GIScience and wider geography who are concerned with public participation and governance.

The proposed session will consist of five x 15 minute papers with time for questions and discussion. Contributors will be asked to engage directly with the content of other papers in the session where appropriate. The session(s) will be chaired by Dr. Hanif Rahemtulla.

**Conveners:**

**Dr. Hanif Rahemtulla**

Department of Geography, McGill University

**Dr. Muki Haklay**

Department of Civil, Environmental and Geomatic Engineering, UCL

Details of **online submission** can be found at:  
<http://www.rgs.org/AC2010>

**Important Dates**

Deadline for abstracts: **5 February 2010**

Notification of Acceptance: **26 February 2010**

For any questions related to this session, please contact any of the conveners.

RGS 2010 Session - PPGIS