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**Ulrich Michel
Daniel L. Civco
Karsten Schulz
Manfred Ehlers
Konstantinos G. Nikolakopoulos**
Editors

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Introduction

These proceedings contain 46 papers presented at the SPIE Conference 8893, Earth Resources and Environmental Remote Sensing/GIS Applications, formerly known as 'Remote Sensing for Environmental Monitoring, GIS Applications, and Geology.' The conference took place 23–25 September 2013 in Dresden, Germany. It was the thirteenth conference with this topic after its inauguration in Toulouse, France, in 2001.

The conference sessions with presented papers and interactive posters were grouped into the following themes: Infrastructures and Urban Areas, GIS Education, Processing Methodologies, Remote Sensing for Archaeology, Cultural and Natural Heritage, Environmental Monitoring and Hazard Mitigation Geologic Applications. Lively discussions often continued into the coffee breaks. Although the session topics seemed rather diverse, there was a common thread to many papers, i.e., application of remotely sensed data for the protection of our environment, the integration with geographic information Systems (GIS) and change detection. There was strong support from the audience to continue these themes for future conferences.

The paper submission and review process were again perfectly organized by the SPIE staff. We like to thank the SPIE staff on-site for their responsiveness and support. We are also grateful to our program committee for their help in the reviewing and session compilation process.

Ulrich Michel
Daniel L. Civco
Karsten Schulz
Manfred Ehlers
Konstantinos G. Nikolakopoulos