

## **Education development in Geo-informatics in the UAE**

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### **Abstract**

In the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the development of Geo-informatics technology does not progressed so well due to shortage of qualified personnel and professionals who are able to make judicious use of this technology. The field of Geo-informatics is multidisciplinary and the variety of educational and research needs, ranging from simple training in the use of Geo-informatics software to advance research at theoretical level. It is not possible to fulfill these various needs through a single integrated educational program. The formal education in the field of Geo-informatics in the UAE is very less. There are very limited numbers of institutes which offer Geo-informatics course. This paper presents the results of a short survey questionnaire on Geo-informatics education circulated in early 2009 in the UAE. The questionnaire incorporated the institutions which conduct courses on Geo-informatics and the institutions which do not conduct or plan to conduct courses in this field. Both undergraduate and postgraduate Geo-informatics courses and modules at the degree level are represented in the survey. The present situation, existing program and facilities in the context of latest trends in education, quality of the program, skill development, and sufficiency of the qualified persons and scope of research will be stated. There will also be an indication to difficulties and ambiguities in using Geo-informatics techniques and some solutions will be offered for them.

**Key Words:** Geo-informatics, Education, United Arab Emirates.