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Digital Earth in a Transformed Society

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Last September, about 400 delegates gathered in Florence, Italy from all over the world, to attend the 11th International Symposium on Digital Earth (ISDE11). The Opening Plenary session (held in the historic Salone dei Cinquecento at Palazzo Vecchio) included a celebration ceremony for the 20th anniversary of the International Symposium on Digital Earth, which was initiated in Beijing, China in November 1999 by the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS).

In the framework of ISDE11, about 30 sessions illustrated the various challenges and opportunities in building a Digital Earth. They included five Grand Debates and Plenary sessions dealing with issues related to: “Trust and Ethics in Digital Earth”; “Digital Earth for United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”; “ISDE in a Transformed Society”; “Challenges and Opportunities of Digital Transformation”; and “New Knowledge Ecosystems.” Moreover, ISDE11 endorsed and approved a new Declaration by the International Society for the Digital Earth (i.e. the 2019 ISDE Florence Declaration) that, after 10 years, lays the path to a new definition of Digital Earth that will be finalized in the first months of 2020.

This presentation will discuss the main outcomes of ISDE11 as well as the future vision of Digital Earth in a Transformed Society.