

ONE DAY



2nd INDIA AUSTRALIA SPACE AND GEOSPATIAL BUSINESS SUMMIT



4 March, 2025 | Vivanta, Dwarka, New Delhi

CONCEPT NOTE

The 2nd India Australia Space and Geospatial Business Summit is being organised by Geospatial World Chamber of Commerce (GWCC) in association with Geospatial World (GW) as the Knowledge Partner in Delhi on 4th March 2025 alongside 15th edition of GeoIntelligence Conference & Exhibition – Indo Pacific GeoIntelligence Forum (IPGF2025), on 4th-5th March 2025 at Hotel Vivanta Dwarka, New Delhi, India.

OPPORTUNITIES IN GEOSPATIAL & SPACE

It is, indeed, an exciting time as India is witnessing a coordinated and holistic approach towards opening up much needed geospatial and space industry for commercial companies while continuing its commitment to nurture and handhold commercial companies to play meaningful role in national development.

The Geospatial industry is emerging as the next 'Big Opportunity' worldwide, both as an 'advancing market in itself' as well as 'augmenting business processes' of mainstream IT, Engineering and Autonomous industries. 'Data Insight' is today the driving wheel of the knowledge economy, penetrating and integrating across workflows and processes of every industry. Data serves as 'oil' to the knowledge economy resulting in economic business models, greater efficiency, productivity, transparency and compliance. Therefore, geospatial industry would continue to provide accurate and rich foundation to data infrastructure and increasingly add the 3rd dimension to 'everything we do' leading to 'geospatial by default' embedded in digital twin and metaverse impacting how humans interact with the digital and physical world in near-real-time.

Regarding the Space Ecosystem, increasing number of countries in the Asia Pacific region feel a compelling need for new thinking for space strategy and space activity is one of the major drivers of security systems. Many are also aspiring to acquire indigenous capabilities for space activities. Moreover, increasing private/commercial activities are seen in this region resulting in the growth of competitive market for technology, applications and services. Many have been actively using space systems like communication and remote sensing satellites to meet various social needs, disaster monitoring, natural resources management, tele-education, tele-medicine, national communication, navigation services, etc.

COOPERATION BETWEEN INDIA AND AUSTRALIA

India and Australia elevated their bilateral relationship from a 'strategic partnership' in 2009 to a 'Comprehensive Strategic Partnership' in 2020. Over the past few years, several institutional mechanisms have been implemented to promote bilateral cooperation. Bilateral mechanisms include high-level visits, Annual Meetings of Prime Ministers, Foreign Ministers' Framework Dialogue, 2+2 Defence and Foreign Ministers' Dialogue, Joint Trade & Commerce Ministerial Commission, Defence Policy Talks, Australia-India Education Council, Defence Services Staff Talks, Energy Dialogue, JWGs on different issues etc.

The Cooperation between India and Australia puts emphasis on a) working to shape technology, technology governance in support of the shared vision of open, inclusive and prosperous Indo-Pacific region and b) enhancing the already strong critical tech work being done between Australia and India. The two countries have expanded their strategic partnership, focusing on maritime security, counter-terrorism, and regional stability in the Indo-Pacific region.



CURRENT TRADE TRENDS BETWEEN INDIA & AUSTRALIA

India and Australia have entered into an Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement. The #IndAusECTA was signed on 2nd April, 2022; after Ratification and Exchange of Written Instruments, the Agreement has come into force on 29th December 2022. India's imports from Australia amount to 17 US \$ billion while its exports to Australia amount to 10.5 US \$ billion. However, what we need to realize that India's imports from Australia are primarily (96%) raw materials & intermediate goods. They are highly concentrated in Coal (74% of Australia's exports to India) out of which 71.4% is coking coal. On the other hand, India's exports to Australia are broad-based and dominated by finished products (consumer goods). India also spends \$ 4 bn approx. each year on education of students in Australia.

AUSTRALIA GEOSPATIAL ECOSYSTEM OPPORTUNITIES

Australia's geospatial industry is growing, driven by technological advancements and a growing awareness of the value of spatial data. The industry is making significant contributions to a variety of sectors, including Urban planning, Emergency response, National security, Consumer well-being. The Geospatial Council of Australia (GCA) recently released a report that highlights that geospatial technology will have a cumulative economic impact of \$689 billion on Australia by 2034, with annual economic output projected to reach as much as \$90 billion by 2033-2034. The report estimates that geospatial technology contributed \$39 billion to Australia's economy in the 2023-2024 financial year.

Key findings

- Current impact (2023-24): \$39 billion in GDP and 12,000 full-time jobs.
- Projected future impact (2033-34): \$90 billion in GDP, and an additional 32,000 full-time jobs.

Expressing strategic relevance of geospatial technologies, the report highlights the significant financial returns of investing in them, while demonstrating how they are critical for keeping Australia safe, informed, sustainable, and resilient. These technologies are essential for fostering economic growth, creating jobs, and enabling smarter decision-making across industries. The projected \$689 billion cumulative gain by 2034 reinforces the urgent need for improved policy settings to drive investment and uptake in geospatial technology. It presents an exciting opportunity for Australian businesses and innovators to power growth, productivity, and turbocharge most industries across the Australian economy.

This is big shout to all sectors to seize the opportunities presented by geospatial data, encouraging collaboration and strategic investment to unlock its full potential for Australia's future. Some major players in the Australian geospatial analytics market include: NGIS Australia Pty Ltd (NGIS), Alteryx, Hexagon AB, Esri Australia, and Lynker Analytics Ltd.

Additionally, Australian Defence Force (ADF) has presented the Defence GEOINT 2030 vision report articulating Defence's vision and strategy to develop, deliver, and integrate GEOINT capabilities that meet the needs of the future force. This document builds on the Defence Geospatial Strategy 2010, which set out a plan for delivering an enhanced geospatial capability for Defence by taking a more integrated and coordinated approach. The Defence GEOINT Community must evolve further along this path, and transform into an integrated and future-focused capability to meet the challenges of 2030 and beyond.

INDIAN GEOSPATIAL INDUSTRY OUTLOOK *(source: Geospatial Artha 2022)*

The Indian geospatial industry is gradually undergoing a transition from data to knowledge, and from being a service driven to a solution driven industry. Owing to the recent significant policy reforms announced by the Government of India, Geospatial industry can be regarded as the foundation of digital infrastructure in India and is at the helm of becoming one of the most potential industries to provide the nation with enormous socio-economic advantages.

- India's domestic geospatial market is estimated to grow at a significantly high CAGR, i.e., approximately 13.5 percent between 2021 and 2025. The market is forecasted to rise from INR 13.90 thousand crores (approximately 1.68 billion USD) in 2021 to INR 23.09 thousand crores (approximately 2.79 billion USD) in 2025



- India's GNSS and Positioning to hold approximately 59 percent market share in 2022, followed by GIS and Spatial Analytics market with approximately 23 percent of the total market share
- GIS and Spatial Analytics and Earth Observation (Satellites/Drones) to drive the Indian Geospatial Market between 2022 and 2025
- The geospatial market of India in 2022, and 2025 is dominated by Defense and Intelligence, Urban Development, and Utilities sector. Together in 2022, these sectors accounted for 38.91 percent, up from 37.98 percent in 2021 – with each sector accounting for 14.35 percent, 13.29 percent, and 11.27 percent, respectively

AUSTRALIA-INDIA SPACE PARTNERSHIP

India's space program is one of the fastest growing in the world. It is expected to grow by US\$43 billion to 2025. Australia and India have a long history of working together in space. In 2021, our nations signed a memorandum of understanding relating to space. The Australian Government is unlocking opportunities for Australian businesses and researchers to tap into India's booming space industry. The \$25 million expansion of the International Space Investment (ISI) initiative will support Australian organisations to work with Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Broader Indian space sector.

Australia is also supporting India's inspirational Gaganyaan human spaceflight mission. That will make India the fourth nation to send humans into space. The expansion of the ISI comes after 10 projects were supported in 2020 with a total of \$11 million. 24 Australian businesses and research organisations were involved in the projects.

AUSTRALIA-INDIA CYBER & CRITICAL TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP

The \$12.7 million Australia-India Cyber and Critical Technology Partnership (AICCTP) contributes to Australian Government priorities to promote a stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific. The AICCTP complements the Australia-India Framework Arrangement on Cyber and Cyber-Enabled Critical Technology Cooperation signed by Australia's former minister for Foreign Affairs Senator the Hon Marise Payne and India's External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar as part of the Australia-India Comprehensive Strategic Partnership announced during the Leaders' Virtual Summit on June 2020.

The next generation of technological developments merges new discoveries in physical, digital, and biological systems. India and Australia have a key role to play in contributing to the global development of critical and emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), next generation telecommunications (5G/6G), Internet of Things (IoT), quantum computing, synthetic biology, blockchain and big data.

1st INDIA AUSTRALIA SPACE & GEOSPATIAL BUSINESS SUMMIT

The 1st India Australia Space & Geospatial Business Summit took place on June 7, 2023 at Indo Pacific GeoIntelligence (IPGI) Forum. The Bilateral summit was organised by Geospatial World Chamber of Commerce (GWCC) in association with Australia India Chamber of Commerce (AICC) and Geospatial World (GW) as Knowledge Partner at #IPGI. The Summit witnessed a ceremonial Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Australia India Chamber of Commerce (AICC) #collaboration Chamber of Commerce (AICC) and Geospatial World Chamber of Commerce (GWCC).

SUMMARY OF DELIBERATIONS

1. **Enhanced Collaboration** - There is a pressing need for improved cooperation between Indian and Australian authorities to promote commercial space and geospatial enterprises.
2. **Shared Concerns** - Both countries face mutual challenges, including climate change and disaster management, which necessitate strong partnerships between their geospatial and space organizations.
3. **Proactive Participation** - Indian space and geospatial organizations should actively engage in Australia to bolster existing bilateral cooperation, facilitating the creation of a robust supply chain.



4. **Opportunities in Space Ecosystem** - Australia's growing space ecosystem offers significant collaborative opportunities for commercial space organizations from both India and Australia.
5. **Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA)** - The India-Australia ECTA can play a crucial role in promoting cooperation within the space sector between the two nations.
6. **Contributions to Australian Initiatives** - Indian organizations can support Australian efforts in areas like forest management and flood control, addressing critical environmental issues.
7. **Importance of Trade and Commerce** - Trade and commerce are essential for both countries, with the emerging space industry opening further avenues for collaboration.
8. **Recognition of Geospatial and Space Technologies** - Geospatial and space technologies should be acknowledged as strategic and critical emerging technologies.

Conclusion - The deliberations highlight the significant potential for collaboration in the space and geospatial domains, emphasizing the importance of strategic partnerships to address shared challenges and leverage economic opportunities.

2nd INDIA AUSTRALIA SPACE & GEOSPATIAL BUSINESS SUMMIT

With the above background, the 2nd India Australia Space and Geospatial Business Summit being organised on 4th March, 2025 in Delhi. The 2nd edition shall provide greater opportunities for strengthening institutional and business relationship between the two countries. The Bilateral Business Summit emphasises on continued engagement and cooperation in the field of technology transfer, manufacturing, and joint ventures in the field. Additionally, we wish to do bilateral business summits leveraging geospatial and space capabilities towards strengthening the strategic relations that the two countries share.

The Summit shall be witnessed and deliberated by Think Tanks, Embassy officials, Government Functionaries, Trade organisations, Academia, Civil Society, Business Users, Industry Leaders and Implementing Agencies of Geospatial and Space from India and Australia. [\(By Invitation only\)](#)

SESSION THEMES

Overview of India-Australia Space and Geospatial Business - India and Australia have been strengthening their bilateral ties in the space and geospatial sectors. Collaborative projects focus on satellite technology, remote sensing, and data sharing, leveraging each nation's strengths. India's advanced satellite capabilities combined with Australia's expertise in geospatial data create a robust partnership.

Ease of Doing Business - India has made significant strides in improving its business environment, supported by reforms aimed at simplifying regulations, enhancing transparency, and facilitating foreign investments. Initiatives like 'Make in India' or 'Digital India' contribute to favorable climate for Australian businesses for entering the Indian market.

Geospatial and Space Infrastructure and Services - The geospatial and space infrastructure in India is rapidly evolving, with opportunities in satellite deployment, earth observation, and geospatial analytics. Bilateral relations are bolstered through joint projects, research collaborations, commercial ventures, creating sustainable growth framework.

Technology Transfer & Joint Collaboration - Technology transfer between India and Australia is vital for innovation in space and geospatial sectors. Joint collaborations are encouraged through government initiatives and partnerships between universities and research institutions, fostering knowledge exchange and capacity building.

Space & Geospatial Market Opportunities - The market for space and geospatial services is expanding, driven by increasing demand for satellite data, mapping services, and analytics in various sectors, including agriculture, urban planning, and disaster management. Both countries offer unique market opportunities for businesses looking to innovate and expand their services.

Indo-Pacific Region: Expanding Partnerships - The Indo-Pacific region is witnessing increased cooperation among nations in space and geospatial initiatives. Collaborative efforts aim to enhance regional security, environmental monitoring, and disaster response, with India and Australia leading in forming partnerships that promote stability and sustainable development.



[GEOSPATIAL WORLD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE \(GWCC\)](#)

As you know, Geospatial World (GW) has established Geospatial World Chamber of Commerce (GWCC) – a trade organization- registered as a not-for-profit company to promote trade and commerce globally, and with special attention to India-USA Business Partnerships. GWCC is committed towards advancing and promoting trade and commerce across geospatial and space industries worldwide through trade missions, bilateral/multilateral/regional business summits, networking and partnerships, business information services, market insights, and policy advocacy.

GWCC strives to facilitate dialogues on open trade and commerce advocating towards developing level playing fields and ease of doing business practices for commercial companies at global levels with primary partner countries of India in the context of evolving geo-political world order. We are as much committed to nurture and promote Indian industry growth in international market as we aim to facilitating participation of overseas companies in Indian market and enabling establishment of their businesses and supporting their engagement and partnership with Indian stakeholders. You may find more information at www.GWCC.in

RATIONALE

There is a pressing need to strengthen bilateral business forums that provide mechanisms to promote and strengthen trade and commerce in the field of geospatial and space technology between two countries. Geo-Political alliance and bilateral agreements does provide an excellent atmosphere wherein we could leverage friendly and cultural ties to grow trade and commerce significantly. As space infrastructure and geospatial services serve as the foundation of digital ecosystem, such an engaging collaboration may also help adding new dimensions to overall business relations in the field of Climate Change, Smart Cities, IT and Engineering industry.

GWCC PROGRAMMES

We are pleased to share with you that, in the last 2 years, GWCC did organise 11 Bilateral Business Summits with USA (4 Summits), Japan (3 Summits), Australia, France, Sweden, India Europe, Trade Missions (Two) to France and Sweden, Roundtable Meet in Association with Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), India for the Geospatial and Space Industries, International Seminar on Make in India: Augmenting Space and Geospatial Industry Ecosystem' amongst many other activities, receiving quite an encouraging participation and response. In fact, such activities help augmenting our young space and geospatial industries understand trade and commerce opportunities as well as underlying role of government to facilitate and extend institutional framework to grow the bilateral business potential.

We would appreciate your kind consideration and strategic view to the above proposal and look forward to making a meaningful engagement towards strengthening the bilateral relation between the two countries.

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