

INTRODUCTION

Geodesign borrows from a number of different domains: architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, planning, etc. and takes a holistic and complementary view on the planning and design process incorporating the different stakeholders (DANGERMOND 2010). What makes geodesign fundamentally different from traditional design process is the workflow or the process of creating a design. The ability to create a design collaboratively, to measure the impacts of this creation as you proceed, and implement a platform of collaboration and communication; all of these form the basis of the geodesign workflow. Carl Steinitz, Professor Emeritus of Landscape Architecture and Planning at Harvard University, developed some early and fundamental ideas about the geodesign workflow (STEINITZ 2012).

PARTNERS

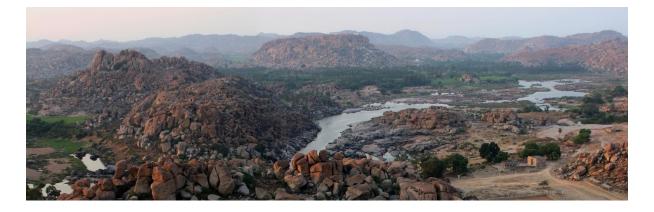
Geodesignhub (www.geodesignhub.com) is software for collaborative geodesign. It enables teams to create and share concepts, to design collaboratively, and to receive change-assessments instantly – all in a highly synergetic, efficient and easy to use environment. It is especially effective in the early stages of a complex study or project, when many alternatives must be rapidly created and considered. Geodesignhub implements the "Steinitz Framework" digitally and enable fast design creation and iteration using digital design synthesis and comparison techniques.

Integrated Design (INDÉ), a Bangalore based consultancy and applied research firm, will anchor a workshop in December 2015. The two main aims of the Lab is one, to apply the Geodesignhub framework and software and two, develop a strategic vision / plan for Hampi, a World Heritage Site in Karnataka. The Lab is not meant to 'solve' a problem is a pre-test for a longer engagement to help build capacities of agencies involved in the conservation, management and development of Hampi.

The Centre for Information Technology and Public Policy (CITAPP) at International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore (IIITB) is an interdisciplinary think-tank which focuses on the policy challenges and the organizational demands made by technological innovation. It seeks to provide a means to nurture and transform public policy through the use of ICTs by engaging with academic faculty and researchers, policy planners, political leaders and community representatives, technology vendors, public officials and civil society organisations.

CONTEXT

Hampi is an extremely complex landscape, replete with both immense resources as well as challenges that include Heritage, Natural environment and human settlements. While there have been several notable proposals to address the challenges of the site, most have not gained much traction on ground. A major reason for this is that most proposals are driven by the agenda of the lead organisation and often fail to recognize the dynamic relationships between critical stakeholders. Added to this, most proposals remain 'top-down' – authored by external agencies with little or no input from the affected stakeholders.









PURPOSE

The two main objectives of the Hampi Learning Laboratory are:

- To learn to use the GeodesignHub tool through a guided process
- To ideate on and quickly create development scenarios for Hampi through a collaborative and iterative process

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The Hampi Lab is proposed to address these critical gaps in the planning processes. A team of about 15 people will work together to ideate and iterate alternative futures for Hampi. The team will include professionals from Environmental Design, Urban Planning, Landscape, Conservation and Architecture. Also, people from civic and state agencies such as the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) will be part of the team. Over a half-day (4-6 hours) period, the diverse team will come together — both online as well as face-to-face - to collaboratively design for the area. Comparative analyses of the various design proposals will inform future action plans for the region.

The purpose of the Hampi Lab is to design a strategic vision that effectively addresses multiple stakeholder concerns. The long term goal is to use the outcomes to enable, inform and guide development efforts in the Hampi World Heritage Area. One hopes that the Hampi Lab process, resulting strategic vision as well as Geodesignhub as a critical tool will together help build capacities at the local level towards an integrated, sustainable and participative planning process.

DANGERMOND, J. (2010). GeoDesign and GIS—Designing our Futures. Peer Reviewed
Proceedings of Digital Landscape Architecture, Anhalt University of Applied Science, Germany.

STEINITZ, C. (2012), A Framework for Geodesign: Changing geography for Geodesign. Redlands, CA: ESRI Press.

Useful references:

In addition to Prof. Carl Steinitz's book 'A Framework for Geodesign', Esri Press 2012, there are several lectures on the Internet.

The best overview based on the framework book (from a lecture last year at U Rapperswil in Switzerland) is http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rwZjeUCSqc0

A lecture-demo by Prof. Steinitz and Hrishi Ballal:

http://video.esri.com/watch/4162/experiments-in-geodesign-synthesis

Description of the technical organization of geodesignhub by Hrishi Ballal is:

The Geodesignhub tutorial video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O188WggmjX8

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dYJyjOPr7gg





