



FIG Working Week 2024

19-24 May Accra, Ghana

Your World, Our World: Resilient Environment and Sustainable Resource Management for All

How sustainable and resilient are the global geodesy foundations we are building on?

Abstract: We live in a world where people like to focus on growth. People often like to discuss new things they would like to build, or new technology they would like to apply. In this presentation I will be discussing how sustainable and resilient the geodetic foundations are that we are building on. In 2022, the revenue generated from Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) Position, Navigation and Timing, Earth Observation and satellite telecommunications services was over US\$450 billion and is expected to be over US\$737 billion / yr within a decade. These satellites and the industries they support, including land tenure, resources management and mining, among many others, depend on geodetic products to ensure satellites operate reliably and accurately. In this presentation, instead of focusing on growth, or new things, or new technology, I would like to focus on the foundations on which this growth and development is built. I would like to discuss weaknesses in these foundations and highlight the potential impacts of not strengthening those foundations for the industries of land tenure, resource management and minerals exploration.