



FIG Commission 7

Report from the 2024 Working Week
May 19 - 24 Accra, Ghana

Kirsikka Riekkinen, Vice-Chair
Rohan Bennett, Chair

Akwaaba to Accra!

Setting the Scene

The 2024 FIG Working Week was held between 19 to 24 May in Accra, Ghana (<https://www.fig.net/fig2024/>) at the Royal Palm Beach Resort. The event was hosted jointly by Licensed Surveyors Association of Ghana (LISAG, www.lisagh.org/) and The Ghana Institution of Surveyors (GhIS www.ghisonline.org/), demonstrating that collaboration is our superpower!

This was the second Working Week for the 2023-26 period, under the Presidential leadership of Diane Dumashie. For whole-of-FIG content, conference statistics, and so on, please see the conference website and FIG website conference report. The content presented here focuses mainly on the activities, sessions, and outcomes for FIG Commission 7 (C7). This was also the second time Ghana hosted a FIG event, the previous being a regional conference in 2012 in Elmina.

Aims of the Week

The theme of the Working Week was “Your World, Our World: resilient Environment and Sustainable resource Management for All” and indeed, an array of interesting technical sessions and discussion were included. The aims for C7 were to follow the workplan and present the progress of our 8 working groups and contribute to collaboration with other commissions and task forces. Of course, as we know, another aim for these events is to catch up with other C7 delegates and friends, and of course the with whole community.

Workplan

As a reminder, the C7 workplan including the 8 working groups is here: https://www.fig.net/organisation/comm/7/workplan_23-26.asp and the working group chairs including contact information below:

Chair of Working Group 7.1 – Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA, UN-GGIM)

Amalia Velasco, Spain

amalia.velasco@catastro.hacienda.gob.es

Chair of Working Group 7.2 – Fit for Purpose Land Administration (FFPLA)

Israel Taiwo, Nigeria
taiwo_io@fedpolyado.edu.ng

Chair of Working Group 7.3 – 3D Land Administration and the Land Administration Domain Model (3DLADM)

Peter van Oosterom, Netherlands
P.J.M.vanOosterom@tudelft.nl

Chair of Working Group 7.4 – Remote Sensing and Artificial Intelligence for Land Administration (RS&AI4LA)

Mila Koeva, Bulgaria
m.n.koeva@utwente.nl

Chair of Working Group 7.5 – Women’s Access to Land (in support of S4HL)

Marisa Balas, Mozambique
marisa.balas@gmail.com

Chair of Working Group 7.6 – Digital Transformation of Land Management (including integration of land tenure and land use planning)

Claudia Stöcker, Germany / Walter de Vries claudia.stoecker@uni-muenster.de

Chair of Working Group 7.7 – Land Administration Education

Simon Hull, South Africa simon.hull@uct.ac.za

Chair of Working Group 7.8 – Comparative Cadastres

Charl-Thom Bayer, Namibia charl-thom.bayer@landportal.info

The Program

The 2024 Working Week was a very full program for C7, in fact, we were running the most sessions of all the Commissions. Every C7 Working Group had its own session, and beyond that, we also had extra sessions and a good number of joint sessions organized jointly with other commissions and/or networks and partners. This meant C7 had well over 100 papers presented at the conference. In total, we had 19 sessions:

- Climate Change and Land Administration (joint with TF Climate Compass)
- Fit for Purpose Land Administration (FFPLA)
- The Impact of Youth on Land Administration Globally: Showcasing the VCSP (joint with GLTN, Trimble, YSN)
- 3D Land Administration and Digital Twins (joint with C3, ISO, OGC)
- Land Administration Domain Model: Status Check (joint with C3)
- Cadastral Data Quality, Openness and Methods
- Land Administration Education Workshop (joint with C2, GLTN, NELGA Southern Africa)
- Accelerating Land Administration Success with GNSS CORS Networks: Insights for Senior Decision Makers (joint with C5, ARN, IAG, IGS, UN-GGIM-Africa, UN-GGCE)

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- What Specific Actions can Individual Surveyors and Professional Bodies take to Achieve Women’s Land Rights? (joint with C1, S4HL, WB)
 - Land Governance and Legal Solutions
 - GNSS CORS Reference Stations and Networks – Session 2 for Technical Experts (joint with C5, ARN, IAG, IGS, UN-GGIM-Africa, UN-GGCE)
 - Investment and Finance Issues in Land Administration (joint with C9)
 - Cadastral Innovations World Tour
 - Land Administration Education (joint with C2, GLTN, NELGA Southern Africa)
 - Measuring Progress, Driving Impact: Surveyors at the Forefront of Sustainable Development (joint with C2 and TF SDG)
 - Land Policy Issues and Innovations (joint with UN-GGIM EG-LAM)
 - Digitally Transformed Land Governance in Action (joint with C8)
 - Climate Resilience Actions for the Future (joint with TF Climate, C2, C3, C8)
 - Cadastral AI and Remote Sensing

You can view the full program together with the abstracts, papers, and slides here:

https://www.fig.net/fig2024/technical_program.htm

Israel Taiwo, Chair of WG 7.2 also organised a side-event on FFP, enhancing discussions on *“Adapting, Adopting and Evolving Approaches to Land Administration; Towards Effective Upscaling of FFP Approaches.”* There were approximately 20 in attendance. The results of the workshop are feeding into the planned FIG publication that will act as a complimentary update to the 2014 FIG FFPLA Overview publication and the 2016 FFPLA Guidelines publication (a collaboration with UN-Habitat and GLTN).

C7 Meeting and Joint Dinner

C7 also ran its dedicated meeting on Tuesday 21th May. Great to see so many long-time and newer face joining the meeting, even though the meeting room location remained secret until last minute! The slides from this meeting are available on the C7 website and the conference website. In the meeting, we provided an introduction to Commission 7 for the newcomers, and a status check for cadastre, followed by presentations of the Working Groups and Chairs, the plans for Annual Meeting 2024 in Kuching, Malaysia, and continued our discussion over lunch afterwards.

The dinner was a joint one with Commissions 8 and 9. This meant that the C7 world-famous song was not played. Instead, we had a perfect musician from the house, who played a brand-new song to address the whole FIG community – including dedicated verses for Stig Enemark (“the FIG Legend”); our awesome sponsors esri, Leica, and Trimble; and even least-squares adjustment. As always, it was a really fun evening with a lot of inter-commissional dance moves, laughter, and pleasingly no (known) casualties.

Wrap-Up

All our aims were met, and new ideas are booming. If you’re still not formally involved, you may still get active. All the WGs are already in action, but this is a great chance still to be

involved in the work, be it, providing national level inputs, helping to coordinate the WG activities, or being part of event or publication development.

If you're an official delegate of a member association, to C7, please get in touch. If you're not, and perhaps would like to be, please get in touch with your national association. Find out who your C7 delegate is, and if they're not active, ask why. If you'd just like to be a friend to C7 and the WGs, you are more than welcome. You can contact me (Rohan Bennett, C7 Chair) or Kirsikka Riekkinen (C7 Vice Chair (Wise Chair)) directly: FIGCommission7@FIG.net. You can also contact the Working Group Chairs directly, if there is a specific theme or topic you know you or your member association would like to engage with.

Finally, we thank all those who attended FIG Accra Working Week onsite. FIG and the Commission relies on your active engagement and participation. We also again thank our hosts, LISAG and GhIS, for the great week and especially the warm hospitality! Thanks to the FIG Office for assisting with the coordination.