

Dear FIG C7 Delegates and Friends,

Happy New Year! Best wishes for 2023 to you all. This is the first of an intended regular News Brief series, specifically for C7. This is in addition to the regular emails you'll receive from FIG Office, and any other Commissions you are involved with. You are receiving this email as you were on a previous C7 mailing list. If don't wish to receive the emails, please let us know via email. If you know of others interested in C7 activities, please get them to get in contact. These briefs will be as short and informative as possible. If you have news or event items relevant to C7, please send them through.

Best regards,
Rohan Bennett
Chair C7 2023-26

1. 2023-26 Kicks-Off

As most of you will know, FIG works in 4-year cycles – for Commission Chairs, Workplans, and so forth. On that, 2023 marks the beginning of a new period, with our new President, Diane Dumashie. For C7, I'll (Rohan Bennett) will now be formally taking over from Daniel Paez as Chair. We formally thanked Daniel in Seville, Spain, at our Annual Meeting in Oct 2022 – but, again, thanks Daniel for all your efforts over 4-years.

2. New Vice-Chair

In great news for C7, Dr. Kirsikka Riekkinen (Finland) has agreed to act as FIG C7 Vice-Chair for the 2023-26 period. Kirsikka is a long-time supporter to C7 and brings a wealth of land administration knowledge and experience with international organisations. Here is a little more from Kirsikka herself:



I work as assistant professor in land management at Aalto University, Finland, in a position which is partly funded by the National Land Survey of Finland. My professional and research interests lie in land administration, more specifically in land consolidation, global land management and future of land administration. I have been taking part in C2, C7, and C8 activities for over 10 years now, and I am also a bureau member and vice-chair of UNECE working party on land administration (WPLA). I believe that we can find synergies in collaboration over the organisations and also between the FIG commissions. C7 is an active commission and does work that is valued by both academia and professionals. I am very happy to step in the role of vice chair and excited about working with you all in the upcoming years!

3. Workplan 2023-26

The C7 2023-26 Workplan has actually been under development for 18 months. We now have a full draft. It will be ready for viewing in the coming weeks. It needs ultimate approval at the 2023 Working Week, Orlando, Florida, May/June. Thanks to all those who have provided inspiration, ideas, and content. A special thanks to those who have dedicated effort to drafting specific Working Group plans. Highlights include: gender balance across the 8 WG Chairs; 4 cross-Commission working groups; direct interaction with FIG taskforces (e.g., SDGs), OICRF, and the FIG Standards Group; collaboration with UN agencies/committees; and intended cooperation with 10 other international agencies, private sector actors, and international networks. Stay tuned.

4. Working Groups 2023-26

In terms of specific Working Groups, the following are intended and drafted:

- **WG 7.1** Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA)
- **WG 7.2** Fit for Purpose Land Administration (FFPLA)
- **WG 7.3** 3D and LADM (3D/LADM) – *joint with C3*
- **WG 7.4** Artificial Intelligence 4 Land Administration (AI4LA)
- **WG 7.5** Women's Access to Land and S4HL – *joint with C1, SDGs Taskforce*
- **WG 7.6** Integrated Land Management – *joint with C8*
- **WG 7.7** Education in Land Administration – *joint with C2*
- **WG 7.8** Comparative Land Administration – *links with OICRF*

5. Working Group Chairs 2023-26

Nominal WG Chairs are as follows (Note: several WGs will have multiple Co-Chairs, but, we only include one here for simplicity)

- **WG 7.1** Amalia Velasco, Spain
- **WG 7.2** Israel Taiwo, Nigeria
- **WG 7.3** Peter van Oosterom, Netherlands
- **WG 7.4** Mila Koeva, Bulgaria/Netherlands
- **WG 7.5** Marisa Balas, Mozambique
- **WG 7.6** Claudia Stöcker, Germany
- **WG 7.7** Simon Hull, South Africa
- **WG 7.8** Charl-Thom Bayer, Namibia

6. Netherlands to host C7 Annual Meeting 2023

We are excited to announce that the FIG C7 Annual Meeting will this year (2023) be held in The Netherlands. The Netherlands hosted the excellent online FIG Working Week in 2021, but, this will be a great opportunity to experience *in-person* Dutch land administration knowledge, practice, and networks. More details (including a 'save the date') to come. The event will take place later in Q3 or early Q4, giving plenty of time to arrange travel.

7. FIG Working Week 2023, Orlando, Florida

Most important! Working Week 2023 is fast approaching. Remember to register now to ensure the favourable early-bird rate. Read more about the Working Week and what to expect, and register at www.fig.net/fig2023. If you've not already been contacted by a Working Group Chair, remember to submit a relevant C7 abstract:

> [Read the call for papers](#)

> [Submit your abstract](#)

8. International Workshop on Land Use Planning and Land Administration

FIG C7 (and C2) will be representing and supporting an International Workshop on integrating and decentralizing land administration and land use planning, from February 16-17, in Dhulikhel,

Kavrepalanchowk, Nepal. The workshop has close ties to the intended WG 7.6 (see above). The main objective is to create a platform to share research, international practices and professional experiences. The event is invite only, and please contact conference organiser, Ganesh Bhatta (gpbhatta@gmail.com), for further information.

That's all for now.

We look forward to catching up in 2023.

FIG Commission 7