

FIG Commission 3 – Spatial Information Management

Report of Activities 2019-20

to the 43rd General Assembly FIG Working Week 2020, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Mission Statement

The mission of Commission 3 is to:

- Increase awareness about successful SIM approaches and achievements by showing good practice like availability, reliability, efficiency and accessibility of spatial information for better decision making and processes;
- Support the use of spatial information and SIM-tools by surveyors and by all participants in decision-making to serve the goals of good governance;
- Share good practice on managerial processes and infrastructure required for geospatial data handling, using information and distributing knowledge;
- Share good practice and develop high-level methods and techniques for merging and managing updated spatial information at various levels according to market requirements;
- Establish and maintain geospatial data - and data-quality-standards relevant to SIM, while cooperating with international spatial data standard committees;
- Encourage the use of spatial information within e-government and e-commerce;
- Support the knowledge exchange among inter-generations in spatial sciences;
- Cooperate and coordinate with the related United Nations Committees and other geospatial information societies and organizations active in the field based on request from the Council.

Highlights of Commission work in 2019-20

At the Working Week in Hanoi in April, members of the Commission presented the new FIG publication no 73 'New Trends in Geospatial Information: The Land Surveyors Role in the Era of Crowdsourcing and VGI, current state and practices within the land surveying, mapping and geo-science communities' which was well received by a broad audience.

The Commission's Annual Meeting and Workshop 'Advances in Geodata Analytics for Smart Cities and Regions', was organized as part of the Romanian Surveying Week. In particular, the two new joint Working Groups 3.5 'GIS tools for Spatial Planning' (joint with Commission 8) and 3.6 'Geospatial Next' (joint with the Young Surveyors Network) performed very well. WG 3.5 presented the first draft of its study 'GIS tools for participatory planning, an exploratory study on internationally available tools'. By organising a special Young Surveyors session WG 3.6 'Geospatial next' has proved very successful in connecting Young Surveyors with long-term FIG activists. Moreover, Commission delegates identified Open Spatial Data Infrastructures OpenSDI as the overarching theme for the current period 2019 to 2022.

Achievements since the endorsement of Commission Work Plan by the 42nd General Assembly, Hanoi, April 2019

- Outstanding perception of FIG publication no. 73 “New Trends in Geospatial Information: The Land Surveyors Role in the Era of Crowdsourcing and VGI” launched at FIGWW Hanoi, with research interest higher than 98% of research items published in 2019 on the prestigious research platform Researchgate.
- Official publication of MDPI IJGI (IF 1.840) special issue on "Volunteered Geographic Information: Emerging Applications in Public Science and Citizen Participation", including 10 peer-reviewed publications.
- Extensive preparations for Com3 Annual Meetings and Workshops in Romania 2019 and in Germany 2020.
- Agreement with the organizers of GI_Week, Salzburg, Austria in July 2019 on the organisation of special Com3 session(s) on Geospatial Information Management at GI_Week 2020.
- Participation of Com3 Chair at the official opening of X International Training Summer School; Matera, Italy, 22 July 2019, Chair gave a keynote presentation on Surveying and Geodata Management in the Life Cycle of Buildings
- Participation of WG3.5 Chair at the official closing of X International Training Summer School, Bari, Italy, 02 Aug 2019.
- Connection with YSN and sister organizations (e.g., ISPRS SC) through (WG3.6).

Talking about FIG Working Week Hanoi, Vietnam, April 2019

Commission 3 experienced a very successful event, packed with many activities and new opportunities, in particular with regard to the Asia Pacific region:

- Six dedicated Technical Sessions related to Commission 3, several Inspirational and Co-related Sessions, all well attended, with many healthy discussions,
- Presentation of the new FIG publication no 73 ‘New Trends in Geospatial Information: The Land Surveyors Role in the Era of Crowdsourcing and VGI, current state and practices within the land surveying, mapping and geo-science communities’,
- Stronger presence of Commission 3 in the Asia Pacific region, Australian chair of WG 3.1, new connection with Surveying & Spatial Science Professions, Australia,
- Intensified cooperation with UN-GGIM, Prof Abbas Rajabifard, Chair of UN-GGIM Academic Network,
- Cooperation and alignment with new FIG Task Force on achieving the UN SDG’s,
- Decision for continued Annual Commission Workshops to bring together delegates, to gather information for future publication by FIG Congress 2022.

Commission 3 Launching of FIG Publication no 73 on Crowdsourcing and VGI



- Chaired by Prof Abbas Rajabifard, Chair of UN-GGIM Academic Network 
- Open discussion with authors
- Great interest of the audience in hardcopies signed by the authors



Presentation of the new FIG publication no 73 'New Trends in Geospatial Information: The Land Surveyors Role in the Era of Crowdsourcing and VGI, Hanoi, Vietnam, 24 April 2019.

Talking about Commission Annual Meeting and Workshop, Cluj-Napoca, September 2019

The event report was kindly written by Cemal Özgür Kivilcim (WG3.6 Chair).

FIG Commission 3 Annual Meeting and Workshop with the theme "Advances in Geodata Analytics for Smart Cities and Regions" was held within the 1st Romanian Surveying Week, organized by the Romanian Surveyors Union (UGR) and the University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca (USAMV Cluj-Napoca) in the city of Cluj-Napoca, Romania from 23-26 September 2019. The Commission is very grateful to our hosts for organising this event in such a charming and highly professional manner.

The meeting attracted 130 participants from Algeria, Croatia, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Moldavia, Netherlands, Romania and Turkey. FIG Past President Chryssy Potsiou and FIG Vice-President Orhan Ercan were present throughout the event and offered very helpful advice. In addition, a record number of 35 Young Surveyors and professionals registered.



Participants of FIG Commission Annual Meeting and Workshop within the 1st Romanian Surveying Week, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

The event addressed the roles of geospatial community in shaping the future of urban and regional development. The meeting consisted of two plenary sessions, five technical sessions, and one interactive session. In addition to the technical program, dinners, and a Gala night featuring local cuisine and traditional folk dances of Romania were also organized. A city tour before the meeting with volunteers and a day long post-symposium day trip to Transylvania villages also enriched the cultural and social experience of the program.



Some presentations during the technical sessions. Presenters provided a broad perspective of recent trends and developments within the scope of Commission 3.

Among the sessions, the youngest WG of Commission 3, Working Group 3.6 Geospatial Next organized a Young Surveyors session. The session was divided in two parts: presentations of young surveyors' technical experiences and geo-innovation followed with an interactive discussion with the leading the participants. This inter-generation session provided a unique opportunity for networking and learning from each others' experiences both in terms of technical and soft skills.



Interactive WG 3.6 session included online questions from the audience and a group picture of generations



Volunteers contributed both to the organization of the event and had possibility to learn about the recent trends in their profession.

Ongoing and planned activities and events 2020-21

- Organisation of Technical Programme and participation in FIG Working Week in Amsterdam.
- 11th edition of the International Summer School, Italy.
- Com3 Annual Meeting and Workshop 2020, October, Berlin, Germany, preparations in progress, Plenary Session of the Intergeo congress on Wed, 14 Oct organized by FIG commission 3, keynote speakers have already been confirmed.
- Questionnaire on 'Participatory geo-tools for spatial planning' developed and sent out, evaluation of the collected results in progress (WG 3.5).
- Delphi survey on 'multi-dimensional land management systems' developed and sent out, evaluation of the collected results in progress (WG 3.3 and WG 3.4).
- Social Media (Twitter) account to promote our activities and meetings.
- **Launch of the podcast interview series in February 2020: A showcase to address the current trends, innovative projects in Commission topics and geospatial society to reach a wider audience for Commission 3 (WG 3.6).**
- Preparation of FIG Working Week May 2021, Accra, Ghana.

- Preparation of FIG Com3 Annual Meeting and Workshop 2021, location tbd.
- Preparation of FIG Congress 2022 Cape Town, South Africa.
- Preparation of FIG Com3 Annual Meeting and Workshop 2022, location tbd.

Warm thanks to all contributors, for organizing events, and for promoting Commission's work in many different ways, especially to the Vice Chairs of Commission 3,

Vice Chair of Administration

Vice-Chair and Chair of Working Group 3.1

Vice-Chair and Chair of Working Group 3.2

Vice-Chair and Chair of Working Group 3.3

Vice-Chair and Chair of Working Group 3.4

Vice-Chair and Chair of Working Group 3.5

Vice-Chair and Chair of Working Group 3.6

Prof Ulrike Klein, Germany,

Prof Kevin McDougall, Australia,

Prof Charalabos Ioannidis, Greece,

Prof Sagi Dalyot, Israel,

Prof Peter van Oosterom, Netherlands,

Dr Enrico Rispoli, Italy,

Cemal Özgür Kivilcim, Turkey,

to the FIG council and office for continuous support, and to all others who work in the background and are not listed here by name.

Hartmut Müller

Chair, FIG Commission 3

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