International Federation of Surveyors
Fédération Internationale des Géomètres
Internationale Vereinigung der Vermessungsingenieure

Report to the 43rd General Assembly
FIG Working Week 2024, Accra, Ghana

Task Force on the Role of FIG in international Trends and Future Geospatial Information Ecosystem

Report of Activities 2023-2024

1. General

The Task Force on the Role of FIG in International Trends and Future Geospatial Information Ecosystem was established in 2023 and its Terms of Reference approved at the GA of the FIG WW2023 in Orlando, USA.

This Task Force centred upon the involvement of FIG members in geospatial fields to re-position their international standing and assert the essential relevance of geospatial experts in international markets. The main objectives of the Task Force are to: assess and improve the impact of FIG for its members and partners (existing and new partners); assess and improve the role of FIG in international trends and future geospatial information ecosystem, as well as the role of members in global geospatial market; and provide recommendations for FIG Council to adopt and implement the outcomes of the setout objectives.

The TF is actively working on the strategic pathways for the advancement of FIG international collaboration with relevant authorities and entities in which FIG can make a bigger impact and contribution. Its expected outcome is to reinforce and grow FIG's influence as a key and influential organization within the global geospatial data ecosystem, and the outputs could include a FIG booklet, series of reports/recommendations/contributions to the development of FIG profession.

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2. Members of the TF

The members of the TF are listed as follows:

- Abbas Rajabifard (Chair), Australia
- Kirsikka Riekkinen (Deputy Chair), Finland
- Adamu Bala (Secretary), Nigeria
- Daniel Steudler, Switzerland, FIG Vice President
- Hartmut Müller, Germany
- James Norris, UK
- Ryan Keenan, Australia
- Menare Royal Mabakeng, Namibia
- Mikael Lilje, Sweden. FIG Vice President
- Rosario Casanova, Uruguay

3. Work plan

The TF has been meeting with its members regularly, and in its recent meeting, the team focused on the activities and assessment to address relevant items of its workplan. Below is the updated workplan including planned activities and their aim, expected delivery in the Terms of References and current status of the activity (completed / ongoing / not started).

Activities	Aims	Expected delivery / Status of the activity
TOR Council Approval	TOR Approval	Completed
TF and TOR General Assembly Approval	FIG Week Orlando	May 2023 / Completed
TF detailed Work Plan development with expected milestones and deliveries	Detailed Work Plan	July 2023 / Completed
Assess 1: SWOT analysis of the FIG current strategy and operation, its activities with major partners and members	Evidence base for impact of FIG	Aug-Dec 2023 / Ongoing

Mapping of interrelations between FIG commissions, networks, partners, and international entities	Identify the current established connections and their depth	Oct-Dec 2023 / Ongoing
Assess 2: Review of International geospatial trends and future ecosystem	To better understand potential future directions of development and to ascertain the readiness of FIG in this context	2023-2024 / Ongoing
Identification of challenges and opportunities for FIG and main international players and authorities to interact	To poster solutions and more inclusive synergies between FIG and other relevant key players in the geospatial domains	2024 / Ongoing
Conduct a series of open seminars/panel discussions/workshops (virtual/f2f) to identify and capture relevant inputs for the operation and the communications of the TF	At least one activity per year, and in 2025 the activity would be to launch the outcomes of the TF	2023-2025 / Ongoing
More engagement, publicity and awareness to the public about the FIG and the TF`s activities through various medium like LinkedIn		2023-2025/Ongoing
Regular Reports on the TF findings, and recommendations to Council		2023-2025 / Ongoing

Final Publication- a Strategy Roadmap	For release at the FIG 2025 Working Week in Brisbane	June 2025 / Not started

4. Collaboration

The TF collaborates with other organisations by participating in events and presenting the results of the TF. During 2023-2024 the TF has been participated in the following events:

- UNECE Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management, 84th session, 4-6 October 2023, Geneva, Switzerland. Participation and presentation 'Current and future land administration systems' by Hartmut Müller
- UNECE Working Party on Land Administration workshop "Ensuring tenure security during the reconstruction after natural and man-made disasters." (2-3 November 2023, Madrid, Spain), participation of Kirsikka Riekkinen, presentation by Hartmut Müller
- International Forum on "Digital Infrastructure for Climate Resistance, connecting land, energy and infrastructure", (20th of October 2023, Melbourne). Participated and presented by James Norris and Abbas Rajabifard.
- FIG Young Surveyors Network, Nigeria, 7th. National Conference titled "Geomatics in Artificial Intelligence: Solution for the Modern Survey Practice, Way Out" (15th-17th November, 2023, Kaduna, Nigeria). Adamu Bala participated (virtually) and presented a paper titled "Traversing through International Opportunities and Collaborations for the Young Surveyors."

5. Events and other activities

During WW2023 in Orlando, the TF organized the DG Forum. The forum included three presentations on the TF and related topics, and a panel discussion on the trends and future geospatial information system. The outcomes of the DG forum were presented by Daniel Steudler at FIG GA2023.

The TF has organized with its members three internal meetings to divide the tasks and start the work according to the plan. The following actions are ongoing:

- Review of the Strategic Workplan
- Mapping of internal interrelations
- SWOT analysis on the strategies and operations.
- An official logo for the TF was designed and LinkedIn page launched

During WW2024 in Accra, the TF organizes a workshop on the trends and their impacts for the field.