4th FIG YSN

African Regional Meeting Report

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Reflections and Key Takeaways

Executive Summary

This report expresses deep gratitude to the **FIG Foundation** for supporting participation in the 4th FIG YSN African Regional Meeting in Mombasa. The conference provided critical insights into the surveyor's role in driving **positive change in land management**, leveraging cutting-edge technology including **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** and **Machine Learning (ML)**, and implementing **geospatial resilience** strategies against climate change. The experience was professionally transformative, fostering a deep commitment to future contributions within the FIG community.

Deepest Gratitude

*"It is with immense gratitude and enthusiasm that I, Daniel Nyalandu from Tanzania, submit this report reflecting on my participation in the **4th FIG Young Surveyors Network African Regional Meeting and 10th ISK African Regional Conference** in Mombasa, Kenya, made possible through the generous support of the **FIG Foundation Grant**."*

Receiving this grant was a significant opportunity that allowed me to connect with fellow young professionals, learn from global experts, and gain a profound understanding of the evolving role of the surveyor in addressing today's critical global challenges. My experience was truly eye-opening, educational, and professionally transformative. I wish to express my deepest gratitude once again to the **FIG Foundation** for providing me with the grant that made this crucial participation possible.

Intellectual Sessions: The Future of Surveying in Africa

The joint conference, themed **'Lead. Innovate. Transform'**, provided a powerful platform centered on the main course of our profession. The sessions were delivered by outstanding presenters who offered deep insights and practical perspectives on the key issues facing young surveyors in the African context and globally.

1. Positive Impact in Land Management

A major focus of the meeting was how young surveyors can actively contribute to **positive change in land management sectors**. Discussions highlighted the importance of secure land tenure systems, the digitalization of land records, and the necessity of inclusive land policies.

2. Equipping with Technology and Innovation

The sessions provided extensive updates on **cutting-edge geospatial science and technology** and their impact on our industry. We explored the application of advanced tools —including UAVs, Satellite Remote Sensing, and advanced GIS platforms—in solving complex infrastructure and environmental problems. The deployment of **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** and **Machine Learning (ML)** within spatial data processing was a recurring and impactful topic, demonstrating how these technologies are enhancing data accuracy and speeding up delivery in surveying and mapping projects.
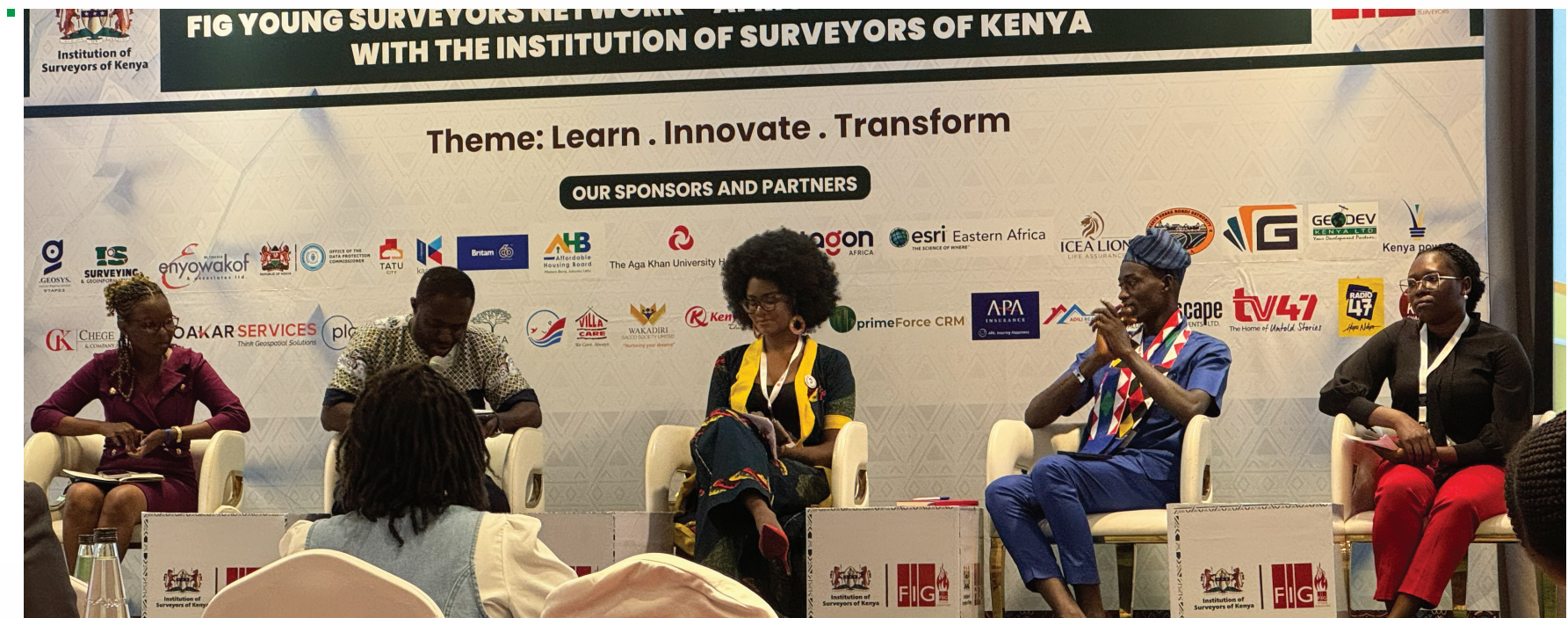
3. Climate Awareness and Geospatial Resilience

A critical and highly relevant thread throughout the meeting was the urgent need for surveyor involvement in **climate change awareness and mitigation**. Presentations clearly illustrated how accurate and timely geospatial data is fundamental to disaster risk reduction, monitoring sea-level rise, and planning resilient coastal and urban development. Our profession is uniquely positioned to provide the foundational data necessary for informed decision-making by policymakers regarding climate adaptation strategies.

4. Diversity and Inclusion in the Surveying Profession

The presentation by the Chair of the FIG Diversity and Inclusion Task Force was truly wonderful, emphasizing the critical importance of a diverse and inclusive professional environment. The session focused on the need to actively recruit and support individuals from all backgrounds, cultures, and genders. It highlighted how diverse teams lead to more innovative solutions for complex land and environmental challenges, ultimately strengthening the resilience and relevance of the global surveying community.

Mombasa Experience: Networking and Memories

The event was an unparalleled opportunity for **networking**, allowing me to connect with fellow young surveyors and established professionals from across Africa and the world. Beyond the intellectual sessions, we engaged in vital **social activities** like games and a tour of the beautiful and **historical city of Mombasa**. These interactions were crucial for fostering camaraderie and strengthening the bonds of friendship, transforming colleagues into lifelong friends.

A Commitment to the Future

The 4th FIG YSN African Regional Meeting and 10th ISK African Regional Conference was an outstanding success. It provided me, Daniel Nyalandu, with a wealth of intellectual information, equipped me with an understanding of new technological trends, and instilled a deeper commitment to making a positive impact in the land sector and beyond. I am energized by the experience and look forward to implementing the knowledge and connections gained as I continue my professional journey and contribute actively to the FIG community.

Wishing you all the best and hoping to see you again in the future!

Gallery