

FIG Commission 7 Annual Meeting 2018 and International Seminar

24 - 28 September 2018, Bergen, Norway, Europe

Around 100 participants from all over the world followed the invitation to join the FIG Commission 7 Annual Meeting and the international Seminar organized by the Norwegian FIG member association TEKNA in Bergen/Norway.

International Seminar on Cadastral in a digital world - Nordic and Global Perspectives

The International Seminar was organized in cooperation with the Western Norway University of Applied Sciences (HVL) in the premises of the university. It was an extraordinary opportunity to bring an international audience together with university teachers, professionals and students from the region.

A very special song performed by one of the professors and welcome speeches given by the TEKNA President Arve Leiknes, FIG Commission 7 Chair Gerda Schennach and FIG President Chryssy Potsiou opened the seminar.

TEKNA had invited international speakers to give their global perspectives. FIG Honorary President Stig Enemark (DK) opened the technical program. Paula Dijkstra (NL), Chryssy Potsiou (GR), Helge Onsrud (NOR) and Nick Land (ESRI) presented about inspirational global perspectives and the role of the surveyors in the global agenda which is primarily about poverty alleviation and implementation of the the SDGs as an outcome of commitment of the global community represented in UN. Paula Dijkstra proposed an action plan for FIG to work on a publication related to the SDGs.



Security of land tenure for all kind of tenure and for all groups of citizen and associated improvements in land governance, land management and land administration are fundamental for social balance and prosperity all over the world. Surveyors are in the middle of this challenge. There is a need to redefine the role of the surveyor and to rethink training and skills and make the profession more attractive to a new generation. The current technical language is inappropriate for decision and policy makers. International professional associations who provide excellent professional expertise from a wide range of the profession, such as FIG, need to engage more effectively with UN agencies and global NGOs.

Nick Land from Esri presented on the digital transformation we are working on and at the same time building a digital twin to reality. The twins are quickly coming closer and surveyors could take the role as facilitator to integrate both to a most appropriate unit.

The icebreaker in the student bar at the university concluded the day and gave room for more discussions and reflections on the first day.

On the 2nd day a Nordic perspective from diverse topics was given by speakers from Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark. While Norway has been struggling for years with getting a new law on land administration and professional regulations adopted by parliament, authorities and citizen are still challenged by an incomplete cadastral system. However the property market works well.

Sweden shared their issues on finding for and keeping surveyors in the public authority Lantmäteriet. The arrival of the millennials in the workforce requests to rethink how to transform professional work of surveyors for a new generation.

Finland is working on research on the future role of land administration and how to ensure to meet the needs of the end users. Together with the Aalto University the public authority works on a vision for their future.

Denmark presented on the added value of their NSDI and the system of basic datasets. Key data sets are provided as open data to the public and private sector. The number of users, usage and value is thus increasing year by year.

In the afternoon there were additional presentations on the global perspectives on Cadastral in a Digital World. FIG Commission 7 Vice-Chair Robin McLaren (UK) highlighted the [publication](#) from the World Bank on "New Technologies and Emerging Trends: The State of Play for Land Administration".

FIG Commission 7 Chair Gerda Schennach presented on Cadastral 4.0, how to develop an e-strategy for making land management more integrative to all participating groups, how to adjust procedures in times of digitization and web-based services and about the role and involvement of society and citizen in particular as equal partners in future land administration systems.



The top 5 take-aways of the International Seminar as have been discussed

1. A capacity crisis is emerging across the profession which requires rethinking how the profession is promoted in public and how to attract and retain millennials.
2. The professionals need to be more effective at explaining and promoting the role of the profession and the added value provided to society.
3. There is an urgent need to more fully integrate the information into wider information infrastructures to support better decision making on land.
4. Mature and complete land administration solutions are not the end game – solutions need continuous review and improvement to ensure they meet the increasingly challenging needs of the end users.
5. FFP land administration is the scalable solution for reducing insecurity of tenure worldwide.

The international seminar was concluded with a guided city walk by Professor Geir Atle Erstrand, to UNESCO Heritage Site Bryggen with all kind of challenges in property borders with their 3-dimensional building overlaps based on historic style of construction in a medieval town. Local food dinner took place in an old restored farm house in Sagen, overlooking the city of Bergen.

The presentations of the International Seminar can be obtained from the event's website at <http://com7fig.wixsite.com/fig-commission7-2018/programme-fig-com7-am-2018>

Commission 7 Annual Meeting 2018

The agenda of the Annual Meeting addressed in 5 sessions each a topic related to Commission 7 and with different settings.

In the 1st session new dimensions on cadastre were shared: 3D crowdsourcing and outcome from research on this by Prof. Charalampos Ioannidis (GR), the multi-dimension cadastre case from Switzerland by Daniel Steudler (CH) and the developments on open data in Turkey by FIG Vice-President Orhan Ercan (TR).

In the second part of this session high level experts exchanged positions in a panel-discussion moderated by Commission 7 Chair Gerda Schennach on how to bridge the gap between cadastre and geo-information, between public authority data and community created data and how to integrate data with different content and information density as available from free services and sources.

In the 2nd session participants were informed in more detail about UN-GGIM, the Expert Group on Land Administration and Management, the Academic Forum and the SDGs. Developments that influence national policies related to land management and land administration were presented as well.

At the end of the session the Cadastral Template 2.0 was addressed by Daniel Steudler and different options for updating and integrating the service into the UN-GGIM workflow in the future were discussed.

In the 3rd session the focus was shifted to the role of the private sector. CLGE President Maurice Barbieri and CLGE Executive Director Jean-Yves Pirlot presented on EU Regulations and the future of the profession of surveyors. A vital discussion made clear that initiatives to be taken to strengthen the position and co-operation and to improve qualification and CPD are urgent.

All participants were invited to attend the gala dinner at Cornelius, one of Norway's best seafood restaurants. It is situated right by the sea on a small island with spectacular views of the fjord and mountains.



The second day of the Annual Meeting started with a presentation about a study on efficient cadastral survey methods after natural disasters in South Korea. Leading professionals of the public authority of South Korea (LX) elaborated on this interesting topic, which will stay on the Work plan of the next term of Commission 7.

A joint presentation of the incoming Chairs of FIG Commission 7 Daniel Paez (COL) and Commission 8 Marije Louwsma (NL) and by the UK Delegate and RICS Director James Kavanagh for Commission 9 introduced the cross commission topics and how these would like to be addressed jointly in the coming term from 2019 – 2022.

After this session an intensive interactive discussion, using slido to gather input and statements from the participants, elaborated on a more focussed approach and options to implement the Work plan.

A facilitated open discussion chaired by Paula Dijkstra (NL) on the question if presently practiced models are fit-for-people evaluated the situation and summarised to a reality check about FFP solutions and showed some interesting perspectives on how the visions need to be adjusted to citizen needs.

The 5th and last session of the Annual Meeting focused on the future of Commission 7. Daniel Paez, incoming Chair for Commission 7, shared his vision and ambition for the Commission and asked input of all the participants. The participants discussed in three groups about the relevance of Commission 7 and what topics and settings were of most benefit for the delegates. This resulted in an overview of topics. Each of the delegates had the opportunity to score the topics to indicate the priority. Daniel Paez and Paula Dijkstra (Vice-Chair of Commission 7) will share this with the delegates that could not participate and will include the results in the work plan for the next term.

Announcements for FIG events in 2019, particularly the Annual Meeting 2019 which will be hosted by the South Korean authority LX in the Republic of South Korea in autumn 2019, highlighted incoming activities in the near future.

At the end of the Annual Meeting there was a ceremony of handing over from the outgoing Chair of Commission 7 Gerda Schennach (AT) to the incoming Chair Daniel Páez (COL). A review on the four-years term and thanks to the outgoing chair as well best wishes for the future concluded the ceremony.



In the evening the Commission 7 dinner took place in a traditional restaurant in Bryggen, the old town of Bergen.

All presentations of the Annual Meeting can be accessed via <http://com7fig.wixsite.com/fig-commission7-2018/programme-fig-com7-am-2018>

Technical Tour through a UNESCO protected area with a focus on the regulations and the compensation of land rights

The final technical tour took the group by train from Bergen to Voss, followed by a scenic drive by bus to Gudvangen and then through Norway's most breath-taking UNESCO-protected fjord and mountain scenery. The tour finished with a trip on Europe's top scenic rail journeys, Flåmsbanen to Myrdal station.

The guided tour gave an excellent impression on challenges of land management in protected areas, on impacts of being a UNESCO protected area on the environment, on local communities and on the restrictions of land use by local land owners from different regulations which apply for these specific regions.

A very special thank-you is given to Dr. Leiv Bjarte Mjøs, FIG Commission 7 Delegate and Head of the organising committee and his team and to Dr. Arve Leiknes, President of TEKNA Samfunnsutviklerne, Norway as well to the sponsors for making this memorable event such a success.

Paula Dijkstra and Gerda Schennach

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