



FIG Commission 7

Report from the 2022 Annual Meeting

25-27 October 2022

Seville | Spain

Rohan Bennett and Daniel Paez

Together Again, in Spain



Setting the Scene

The 2023 FIG Commission 7 Annual Meeting was held between 25-27 October in Seville, Spain (https://www.fig.net/news/news_2022/09_com7_annual_meeting.asp) at the excellent Barceló Sevilla Renacimiento Hotel. Due to the Covid19 pandemic, this was the first meeting held face-to-face since 2019.

The event was hosted by El Colegio de Ingeniería Geomática y Topográfica (COIGT), the Spanish institution encompassing geomatics, topographic mapping, and survey engineering, and ran alongside COIGT's TopCart22 conference (<https://coigt.idloom.events/topcart2022>). The annual meeting of The Council of European Geodetic Surveyors (CLGE) also took place at the same event (<https://www.clge.eu/>).

To ensure accessibility to all Commission 7 delegates and friends, the meeting was conducted in hybrid format. This saw 25 onsite and 20 online attendees participating across

the 2.5-day meeting. Newly elected FIG President (2023-26), MS. Diane Dumashie, also attended the meeting as part of contributions to the TopCart22 and CLGE events.

The meeting had three major aims: 1) to report back and round-out the 2019-2022 period of Outgoing Chair, Dr. Daniel Paez; 2) to provide 2021-22 country-level and organisation-level updates from FIG member associations, affiliates, corporate members, correspondents, and academic members; and 3) to concretize ongoing work-planning for the 2023-2026 period, with Incoming Chair, Assoc. Prof. Rohan Bennett.

Of course, a further side-aim, of equal importance, was to enable Commission 7 delegates and friends to catch-up, share stories, and enjoy face-to-face networking for the first time in over 3 years!

Looking Back on 2019-2021

On all counts, the goals of the meeting were achieved. Achievements from 2019-22, reported by Daniel Paez, included Commission 7 support on 3 new publications, in collaboration with UN-HABITAT, UN-ECE and the UN-GGIM respectively. Topics included Urban-Rural Linkages (<https://gltn.net/download/urban-rural-land-linkages-a-concept-and-framework-for-action/?wpdmdl=17174&refresh=636435fc17f481667511804>); Public-Private Partnerships in Land Administration (<https://unece.org/housing-and-land-management/publications/public-private-partnership-land-administration>); and the impacts of the Covid19 pandemic on the surveying and mapping community (<https://eng.unimelb.edu.au/csdila/news/2021/covid-19-open-access-book>).

Despite the disrupted period, the Commission also ran effective Annual Meetings each year, kicking off with the hugely successful 2019 event in Seoul, Korea – hosted by LX (<https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2020/03/url-gp-1.pdf>), before moving online for innovative online offerings in 2020 and 2021. The 2020 event ran across three days, included 12 sessions, all major time-zones, and had sessions in English, Mandarin, Spanish and French languages (https://www.fig.net/organisation/comm/7/activities/events/2020_annual_meeting.asp). It acted as a precursor to the well-received online 2021 Working Week, hosted by GIN in The Netherlands. The 2021 meeting was also hosted online, with thanks to The University of Melbourne (https://www.fig.net/organisation/comm/7/activities/events/2020_annual_meeting.asp).

Country Reports and State-of-Play for 2022

Country-level updates were provided either online, onsite, or in absentia by Australia (Daniel Paez), Croatia (Nikola Vucic), Korea (Republic of) (Mr. Kim Jeong), The Netherlands (Ms. Paula Dijkstra), New Zealand (Mr. Anselm Haanen), and Norway (Prof. Leiv Bjarte Mjos). Topics covered included 3D cadastre, NSDI development, regulation of surveyors, organisational restructures, amongst much more. More minor updates were provided by delegates from Canada, France, Germany, Qatar, Romania, South Africa, and United States, amongst others. Other delegates presented on promising developments in Fit-For-Purpose Land Administration in Africa (Israel Taiwo), and cybersecurity concerns in land administration (Pierre-Francois Blin).



Casting Forward to 2023-26

The 2023-26 work planning sessions were kicked-off by 4 keynotes from sector leaders, going local to global. Mr. Pedro Ortiz provided an overview of the successes, and also institutional and technical challenges for Spanish land administration. Mr. Matjaz Grlic provided a perspective from the European level, outlining the extensive awareness raising, capacity development, and technical agenda of CLGE. Going global, Mr. Brent Jones (esri) and Mr. Markus Koper (Trimble) provided insights and updates on geospatial technology innovations being applied to the international land administration sector.

Building from these perspectives, and utilizing the 2021 survey of Commission 7 delegates and friends on future interests, presentation of the preliminary plans for Working Groups were provided across the two-days. These included:

- **Women's Access to Land (Administration)**, presented by Ms. Marisa Balas, with potential connection to Commission 1, the Stand for Her Land Campaign, and the World Bank Group.
- **Implementing the Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA)**, presented by Dr. Eva-Maria Unger, with connection to the UN-GGIM (Expert Group on Land Administration and Management).
- **LADM and 3D Land Administration**, presented by Ms. Eftychia Kalogianni, with links to Commission 3, ISO TC211 and OGC.
- **Digital Transformation and Integrated Land Management** presented (in absentia) by Dr. Claudia Stoecker, with links to Commission 8, and intended reach-out to UN-HABITAT and FAO.

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- **Artificial Intelligence for Land Administration**, presented by Dr. Mila Koeva, with potential collaboration with ISPRS, esri and Trimble.
 - **Enabling Comparative Land Administration (a.k.a Cadastral Template Reboot)**, presented by Laura Meggiolaro, with intended links to Land Portal and other FIG academic members, and affiliates.

What Next?

The Working Group plans will be modified and finalised by the end of 2022, with endorsement from FIG to be sought early in 2023. The Working Groups will guide the Commission's activities across 2023-26. Interested in being involved? Please contact rohanbennett1@hotmail.com.

Meanwhile, event planning for 2023-26 is now well underway, and Commission 7 looks forward to confirming the date and location for several upcoming meetings, including the 2023 Annual Meeting. Meanwhile, we look forward to seeing you all in Orlanda, United States, in May 2023, for the FIG Working Week (<https://www.fig.net/fig2023/call.htm>). It promises to be a great event, so don't miss out!

Finally, we thank all those who attended online and onsite. The Commission relies on your active engagement and participation. We also thank our hosts, COIGT, for the great week, excellent venue, and the warm hospitality in Seville! Thanks to the FIG Office for assisting with the coordination – both onsite, and also online.