



2020

ANNUAL REVIEW in brief

FIG VISION

Surveying is a modern profession acting worldwide for a better infrastructure for our society and planet earth. The International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) wants to keep, and even improve, its role as the premier non-governmental organisation that represents the interests of surveyors worldwide.

Greeting from the President



Dear Delegates, Colleagues and Friends,
The year 2020 was a very special one, which will be remembered even after decades as the year of the global lockdown due to the outbreak of the Covid19 pandemic. Due to this it was also a special year for the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG).

A remarkable journey was my visit to Nigeria in February 2020. The president of the Republic of Nigeria received me together with a Nigerian delegation of surveyors under the leadership of SURCON registrar Muhamad Mansur Kabir. This was not only a good occasion for our Nigerian colleagues to strengthen their strategic relationships in the country, it was furthermore a splendid possibility to underline the importance of our profession for the infrastructure in each society.

After the outbreak of the pandemic the communication with all stakeholders inside and outside of our federation was switched to virtual mode. And from today's point of view I can say that it worked and it still works well, although we would like to meet again in person.

Not only our working week was cancelled or postponed, this was also the case for other relevant events like the world bank conference on "Land or poverty" or the 10th session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), which was held as virtual conference. Last summer the FIG president became the spokesman of the UNGGIM Geospatial societies (nine international non-governmental organizations representing the geospatial profession and sciences in the UN arena).

Due to the cancellation of our working week 2020 and the General Assembly 2020 we had to postpone the elections of two new vice presidents. Mikael Lilje (Sweden) and Orhan Ercan (Turkey) agreed to extend their term of office until the election in June 2021.

In April 2020 it became obvious that we had to cancel the working week 2020. In this context I would like to thank the Dutch local organizing committee for the idea and the realisation of the "Working from home Week". This was a great event with a lot of engagement especially from our office and from the Dutch colleagues.

Today, the world has a more positive view into the future due to the arrival of several vaccines. I hope that we all can come back very soon to a normal and save life as we were used to before March 2020.

Rudolf Staiger, FIG President



New Publications

- No 75 "FIG and Me" – My Twenty Five Years in the International Surveying Arena. Earl James AM, FIG Honorary President. FIG Report 2020.
- No 76 International Boundaries on Unstable Ground. Ed. Haim Srebro. FIG Commission 1. FIG Report 2020.
- No 77 Good Practice for Resilience Planning to Address Water Governance Challenges in Africa. FIG Commission 8 – Spatial Planning and Development, Working Group 8.5 on African Water Governance. FIG Report 2021.



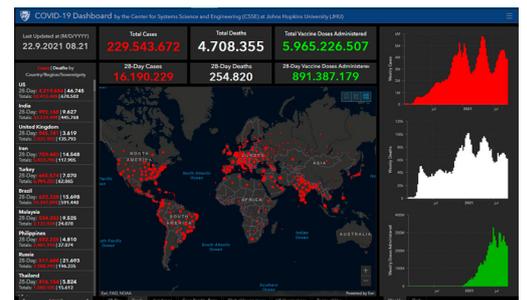
Visit to SURCON Nigeria.



FIG "Working from home Week" 2020.



During 2020 we all got used to online meetings and webinars. Here from the FIG Commission 7 event and a webinar held with FAO substituting a session that should have taken place at the FIG WW 2020.



Most likely the most viewed map during 2020 using the ArcGIS software provided by ESRI. Many FIG members have been responsible for their national COVID19 geodata and creating maps and useful national apps.



8TH PARTNERS' MEETING



Sida Event 6
Collecting best practices Fit-For-Purpose
Land Administration & Social Tenure
Domain Model
15. september 2020



GLTN Partners meeting 2020 took place online. As co-lead of the International Professional Bodies cluster FIG Vice President Diane Dumashie chaired the cluster meeting.



An example of a hybrid meeting in summer 2020 in Italy, with Rudolf Staiger, Maria Scorza, Enrico Rispoli and John Hohol on the screen.

Future FIG Conferences

- FIG Congress 2022: Warsaw, Poland
- FIG Working Week 2023: Orlando, USA
- FIG Working Week 2024: Accra, Ghana
- FIG Working Week 2025: Brisbane, Australia
- FIG Congress 2026: Cape Town, South Africa

FIG 2020 in Brief

2020 was a different year in many ways which is also reflected in this short Annual Review. FIG General Assembly 2020 had to be postponed to 2021, including elections for the venue 2024 and the posts for two Vice Presidents. This meant that the current Vice Presidents would remain until after the elections in 2021. The Working Week was planned to take place in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, but was replaced with the "Working from home Week". Together with the Local Dutch Organisers all Chairs of FIG Commissions, Networks, Task Forces and other groups produced 25 articles with topics that should have been covered during the conference. It was amazing to see so many many articles written in such a short time! It was wonderful to see the spirit that drove everyone despite the cancellation of the Working Week. We all sympathized especially with the Dutch local organisers with this cancellation less than two month before they were about to greet all participants in Amsterdam. We also know that it was not easy for all the participants who had already organised the trip and were looking forward to travel. But the world closed down and there was nothing we could do.

The world stayed more or less closed down during 2020 and all events and meetings had to take place online. The positive outcome is that we got used to and better at online meetings and hopefully, online cooperation can be used much more where it makes sense. It is a sustainable way of getting work done, it is easier to attend, easy to connect, and many things can be worked on online. FIG Council has met more frequently, all chairs have met regularly, especially with the preparations for the e-Working Week 2021, and for commissions and networks online meetings are a brilliant way to easily bring people together, e.g. in working groups, for annual meetings, expert group meetings etc.

I think we also learned that sometimes it is good and makes sense to meet in person!

The joint FIG/FAO session that should have taken place at FIG Working Week 2020 was turned into a well-visited webinar. Commission 7 converted their annual meeting into an online meeting with sessions fitting to different time zones and with good participation. FIG President Rudolf Staiger and his council members attended online events, giving online presentations, addresses, and attended UN meetings and events online. The Young Surveyors invited to their first VCSP Virtual Wisdom Workshop, the Task Force on Governance managed to have several online consultation rounds. So still a productive year despite big changes.

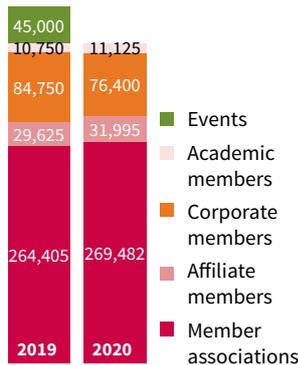
From an office point of view it has been positive to see how technology has been embraced throughout FIG. FIG Office had to work from home most of the year. We are however used to working on a distance and from various places, so this worked seamlessly.

The financial result both for FIG and FIG Foundation suffered in 2020 from a lack of income from our annual event. FIG is dependent on gaining an income from the Working Weeks and congresses. The annual result was however not catastrophic since the close-down also meant that there were hardly any travelling costs, and therefore it has been possible to achieve an almost balanced result with only a small deficit.

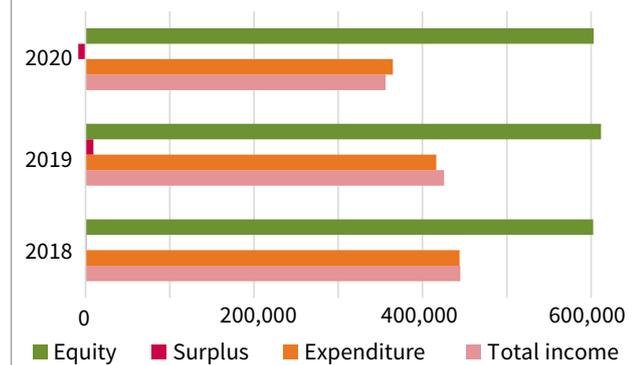
Louise Friis-Hansen, FIG Director

Finances 2019-2020

FIG Income



Financial Result



Members

- 102 Member associations
- 44 Affiliate members
- 89 Academic members
- 22 Corporate members
- 5 Correspondents

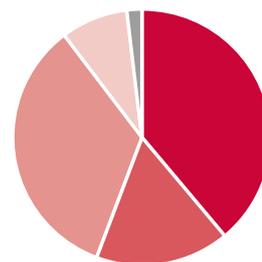


FIG PLATINUM CORPORATE MEMBERS

