

Evolution of FIG during the last 20 years

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FIG Handover Ceremony
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The Bureaux and Councils of the period to be discussed

- 1988-1991 Finnish Bureau, President Juha Talvitie
- 1992-1995 Australian Bureau, President Earl James
- 1996-1999 UK Bureau, President Peter Dale
- 2000-2002 US Bureau, President Robert W. Foster
- 2003-2006 German Council, President Holger Magel
- 2007-2010 First Elected Council, President Stig Enemark

The term of the US Bureau was shortened to three years because of the administrative reform

General observations

- The evolution of FIG during the last 20 years could be described by saying that FIG has developed from a modest international federation to a strong and esteemed global actor in the wide field of surveying and mapping
- The development of FIG during the last over 20 years , as for memberships, resources, organisation and activities, has been much greater than changes during the presiding FIG history from 1878 to 1987.

The development of FIG memberships in different categories

| Year | Member associations | Affiliate members | Corporate members | Academic members | Correspondents |
|------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1990 | 56 | | | | 14 |
| 1995 | 72 | | 10 | | 19 |
| 2000 | 79 | 5 | 10 | 28 | 16 |
| 2005 | 95 | 14 | 27 | 82 | 14 |
| 2010 | 103 | 37 | 35 | 89 | 18 |

The financial situation of FIG is on a firm basis

The development of FIG finances in Euros

Total sum includes also other sources of income than shown

| Year | Member associations | Grants | Corporate members | Academic members | Affiliate members | Total |
|------|---------------------|--------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------|
| 1990 | 71 000 | 94 000 | | | | 172 000 |
| 1995 | 83 000 | 39 000 | 17 000 | | | 163 000 |
| 2000 | 198 000 | | 27 000 | 4 000 | 800 | 257 000 |
| 2005 | 245 000 | | 75 000 | 14 000 | 4 800 | 399 000 |
| 2009 | 285 000 | | 110 000 | 18 000 | 16 000 | 422 000 |

Fundamental changes in FIG administration Some highlights

- First FIG work plan and new type of agenda in 1988
- English as the only FIG language from 1995
- Old PC replaced by FIG Working Week since 1997
- FIG office to DdL premises, decision in 1997
- Markku Villikka appointed to FIG Director in 1998
- FIG office and Director in operation at the beginning of 1999
- First ideas for the new FIG governance structure in 1999
- New structure accepted in Seoul in 2001
- New structure fully operational in 2007

FIG Activities have developed
to an unbelievable level

The development of the
co-operation with the UN
agencies and the
World Bank is a real

Success Story

How and when the co-operation with
UN has begun

- First ties with UNESCO were established in 1949 by the Swiss Bureau in the Lausanne Congress,
- UNESCO assisted with the printing costs of the proceedings of the Scheveningen Congress in 1958 and the Vienna Congress in 1962
- In the London Congress 1968 UNESCO had requested information on the role it might play in promoting the professional interests of surveyors. The GA resolved that dialogue between FIG and UNESCO should be strengthened.

The Finnish Bureau decided to do something in developing the co-operation with UN.

In the beginning it was learnt that FIG was in 1970 recognised as a non-governmental organisation with consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the UN.

The door was open for a closer co-operation with UN.

UN-HABITAT and UNEP were selected first partners to be contacted

- Both agencies had programmes related to the tasks of surveyors
- UN-HABITAT housing and land related issues
- UNEP promotion of sustainable development

The Finnish Bureau organised the preparations of the statements on sustainable development and land management.

The purpose was to indicate that FIG was aware of some current global concerns and, that surveyors have also practical tools to address these issues.

Both UN-HABITAT and UNEP assisted with the printing costs of those statements.

FIG Memorandum of Understandings, MoU, with UN agencies and World bank

- 1997 First MoU with UNCHS/HABITAT, signed by Peter Dale**
- 1999 MoU 1997 with HABITAT was evaluated and extended, signed by Robert W. Foster**
- 2000 New MoU with HABITAT, signed by Markku Villikka**
- 2002 New MoU with HABITAT, signed by Robert W. Foster**
- 2002 MoU with FAO, signed by Robert W. Foster**
- 2004 MoU with OOSA, the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs, signed by Holger Magel**
- 2007 MoU with the World Bank, signed by Stig Enemark**

FIG has also close co-operation with these UN agencies

- **United Nations Division for Sustainable Development**
- **United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs/Statistics Division**
- **United Nations Environmental Programme, UNEP**
- **Global Land Tool Network, GLTN, (under auspices of UN-HABITAT)**
- **HABITAT Professionals Forum (civil society partner to UN-HABITAT)**

The FIG connections with the UN agencies are so many that it is difficult to give an overview about this co-operation. In the following I will give some examples.

Co-operation regarding

- Habitat Professionals Forum
- Global Land Tool Network, GLTN
- FAO

Issues where surveying profession can contribute to the process of reaching the Millennium Development goals

- Tenure security,
- Land reform,
- Pro-poor land management
- Capacity assessment
- Institutional development
- Human resource development

The representatives of a respected profession, like surveying, have a moral duty to be involved in the implementation of actual global goals.

Therefore surveyors should be aware of global societal concerns related to their profession.

As a result of these UN related activities FIG and surveyors are now considered respected professionals in land management in its wide meaning and therefore sought-after partners and speakers at international forums.

Stig Enemark has made a big job in developing FIG UN and World Bank relations.

This has been hard work, a lot thinking, reading, writing, speeches, discussions and building contacts and a lot of travelling.

Real evolution has taken place in the field of communication and information

- Think about the time 20 years ago. FIG was tri-lingual, main communication channel was postal services and for short messages fax. Also fixed line telephone was available
- Compare that with the time of Internet, emails, mobile phones and English as the only language in use.

The FIG Office plays an important role in management of the FIG activities

- For the FIG the permanent office is an important thing. It indicates the FIG is a strong actor having continuity and an address to contact.
- FIG is not lacking a person to call.
- FIG was fortunate in having Markku Villikka as the first FIG Director
- Fortunately FIG is now able to pay rent for the premises to the Den danske Landinspektörförening.

Commissions are the professional backbone of the whole organisation

- Diversified activities of the commissions have developed at the same pace as the whole FIG
- One can be surprised how active current commissions are
- ACCO is considered a good think tank for professional development

The Council as the engine of the work of FIG

- The councils have been in the key positions to guide and initiate the FIG activities during the years of transit.
- The outgoing council has been able successfully concentrate on the professional work in Building the Capacity according to their work plan.
- When the activities have diversified all council members have now their own specific duties.
- The role of the president as the figurehead has become more important to lead and represent the whole organisation.

Concluding remarks

Stig Enemark about the changing
role of surveyors

“The change means that surveyors
are increasingly contributing to
building sustainable societies as
experts in managing land”

Dr. Argot Ramachandran ,
Executive Director of UN HABITAT
at the Helsinki Congress

“Land is the starting point for all
development and, at beginning of
this process stand the surveyors”.

The tasks of surveyors develop along the societal progress and are thus on the move all the time.

This work is an ongoing process and needs also the attention of the incoming administration.

No technological black box can substitute surveyors. The human actor in land management is always needed.