

**Report for the 26th General Assembly  
FIG Working Week in Paris, 13-17 April 2003**

**FIG Commission 2 – Professional Education  
Report on Activities 2002–2003**  
<http://www.fig.net/figtree/commission2>

## **1. General**

As in the other Commissions, the new team in Commission 2 started its duties after the Washington Congress, April 2002.

In the Congress it was established the number of WG and JWG, their Chairs and the new concept of “Liaison Groups” (Groups of activities related to a determined region in the world and chaired by a distinguished person in the field of education in such a region), 5 for all the world with their Chairs, as it can be seen in the Commission Work Plan  
<http://www.fig.net/figtree/commission2/workplans/workplan.htm>.

And why such Liaison Groups were created? Because of the need for a closer relationship and cooperation with the different regions around the world, bearing in mind that it is easier to approach and understand the problems arisen in each region by those, who live in or near the place. Therefore we organized five different Liaison Groups in the following regions and with the following Chairs:

- Arabic Africa and the Middle East – Chair: Mr. Mohamed Timoulali (Morocco)
- Sub-Saharan Africa – Chair: Prof. Heinz Rüther (South Africa)
- Latin America – Prof. Graciela Loyácono (Argentina)
- Asia – Chair: Prof Liu Yang Fan (China P. R.)
- Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific – Chair: Prof. Chris Hoogsteden (New Zealand)

## **2. Changes in Working Groups**

During the Symposium held in Puerto Rico in October 2002 it was decided to organize a new Working Group devoted to “The Studies of Surveying in Latin America”, chaired by Prof. Loyácono from Argentina so that he will chair both this new WG and the Liaison Group for Latin America.

Prof. Frank Kenselaar, appointed Chair of the WG 2.2 “Curricula Models and CPD” has, unfortunately, due to personal reasons, given up his position as the Chair of the Working Groups. The tasks of this working group have been divided between WG 2.4 and the new one devoted to Latin America. In the new terms of reference everything related to curricula belongs now to this

new working group, which will now be numbered WG 2.2, and everything related to CPD will be moved to WG 2.3 chaired by Prof. Bela Markus.

### **3. Meetings**

“VI Convention of Surveying and Related Sciences” was held in the School of Surveying of the Concepción University, in Chile May 15-17, 2002. The meeting was a total success, not only because of the high number of participants (more than 150), but also because of the high quality of all papers given. Most papers were given by Chilean speakers but there were also some speakers from abroad. This School is the first FIG Academic Member from Chile and it example will probably be followed by some more. At this moment there is a process of renewal of curricula in the four Schools of the country and Commission 2, represented by the Chair in this event, will cooperate with them in implementing the new curricula.

Few days after the Concepción meeting there was the “V International and VII National Congress on Surveying”, organized by the Uruguayan Association of Surveyors. It was held in Punta del Este, where there was a big number of participants from different professional fields and from the surrounding countries, despite the difficult economic situation. Once again the level of the papers was really high and very well focussed on the problems of our profession in these latitudes.

Information about both events was sent to the FIG Office in Copenhagen.

Between both international events the Chair of Commission 2 was able to visit by invitation the School of Surveying in the National University of Córdoba in Argentina, the oldest in the country. He had the opportunity to learn about the current situation of the studies. They are at a very high theoretical level, but with really poor docent equipments as a consequence of the economic situation. A great effort must be done to help our colleagues to develop their reality. FIG has a big role to play here.

Under the responsibility of Commissions 1 and 2, there was an International Symposium, organized by the College of Engineers and Land Surveyors of Puerto Ricos (Colegio de Ingenieros y Agrimensores de Puerto Rico), held in Mayagüez University, with about 130 participants, many papers given by several foreign colleagues, some of them from countries not yet members of FIG. Their participation was an excellent experience to all of us. Universities of Costa Rica, Santo Domingo and some others will apply in short time for academic membership. Commission 2 was invited to participate in the creation of the studies of Surveying in Guatemala, where there is not now any surveying education. FIG was represented in Puerto Rico by President Robert Foster, Prof. John Parker, Past Chair of Commission 1, Prof. Stig Enemark, Past Chair of Commission 2 and the current Chair of Commission 2.

The similarities among the countries in the region, the fact of speaking the same language, the strength and wishes of our colleagues for creating a network among them, carried out us to organize, as I previously said, a new Working Group on “The Studies of Surveying in Latin America” whose Chair will be Prof. Loyácono, from Córdoba University. For the same reasons another Working Group on “The Profession in Latin America” was established, chaired by Mr. Luis Berrios, from Puerto Rico. Information about this meeting was sent to the FIG Office.

February 13-14, 2003 there was a regional meeting in Córdoba (Argentina) to start the work of the new WG on “The Studies of Surveying in Latin America”. This was the first meeting of this WG and it attracted a good number of participants; in fact all nominated and elected in Puerto Rico

and, in addition, representatives of universities from Brazil, Uruguay and Colombia. The main idea is to establish a thematic network on education in this continent; to research the possibilities of some “harmonization” of curricula, bearing in mind the big similarities in most of the countries in this region and to see how FIG can help countries without university studies of surveying (such as Guatemala) and some others. It was decided to repeat these meetings in the future, usually chaired by Prof. Loyácono, trying to involve in this WG all the Latin American countries and Universities with studies of Surveying. After seeing the enormous wishes and efforts of our colleagues working in this field, their excellent quality and background and the unbelievable force, knowledge and wishes for success of the WG Chair, I dare to predict that a magnificent work will be made by the end of our term of office.

#### **4. Next Meetings**

For the Working Week in Paris, April 13-17, 2003 at the occasion of the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of FIG, we have received a good number of papers; all accepted will be presented in three joint sessions.

According to the WG Chairs there will be a Commission 2 meeting with the national and academic representatives in this Commission attending the meeting.

December 2-5, 2003 there will be the FIG Regional Conference in Morocco with the theme “Urban-Rural Interrelationship for Sustainable Environment”, with a subject devoted to “Education and curricula for Surveyors”, where our Commission has much to say. The Liaison Group Chair for the Arabic Countries and the Middle East, Mr. Mohamed Timoulali is working in the organization committee so I would like to thank him for his enormous efforts.

#### **5. Working Group activities**

In addition to what has been described above on the activities of the WG on Latin America, the other WGs have had their own work plans. Working Groups WG 2.1 and 2.3 will give their reports during the FIG working week in Paris. Working Groups 2.4 and 2.5 have submitted their interim reports, which are summarized as follows:

##### **Working Group 2.4 – Knowledge in Spatial Information Management**

A Joint Working Group with Commission 3

Chair: Prof. Bela Markus (Hungary)

##### Progress Report

##### **GI in Land Management - International Summer School**

Székesfehérvár, Hungary, 14-19 August 2003

After the agreement with national representatives of FIG Commission 2 in Washington an International Summer School in GIS is organised by the College of GeoInformatics (GEO) at the University of West Hungary, with support from the International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC, NL – namely Prof. Paul van der Molen, chairman of Commission 7), the University of Agriculture (BOKU, AT – namely Dr. Reinfried Mansberger, Vice Chair of Administration of Commission 3) and Bundesamt für Eich- und Vermessungswesen (BEV, AT – namely Gerhard Muggenhuber, Chair of Commission 3) with the collaboration of the leading GIS and land management experts.

This year GISS will focus on the area of GIS applications in Land Management and by widening the practical perspective towards land administration, cadastre, land use planning, land consolidation, land development, data integration, change detection and analysis, environmental management and nature protection. Special emphasis will be given to the impacts of the EU accession.

The International Summer School will be devoted to provide a practical multi-disciplinary framework for different issues. The students will be enrolled into 4 thematic working groups, lead by the following tutors:

- **WG1: Land Administration and Cadastre** – Paul van der Molen (ITC) – Ádám Podolcsák (GEO),
- **WG2: Land Management and Rural Development** - Reinfried Mansberger (BOKU) – Judit Nyíri (GEO),
- **WG3: GeoInformation in Nature Protection** – Zoltán Vekerdy (ITC) – Takács András Attila (GEO),
- **WG4: Lands and Mapping – Impact of the EU accession** – Gerhard Muggenhuber (BEV) - Gábor Remetey-Fülöpp (MoARD).

The project-oriented programme includes lectures in plenary session, methodological seminars, training sessions, fieldwork, work in computer labs and presentation on the lessons learned by students.

**ECTS:** Course credit is given as an element of the European Masters in GIScience framework co-ordinated by the University of Salzburg.

The International Summer School is linked with FIG, UNIGIS, AGILE, EUROGI, RCoE LandNet and the Nature-GIS project of GISIG ensuring participation by students from many partner universities. The course is not limited for students of the EU member and candidate countries.

### **Working Group 2.5 – Capacity Building in Land Management**

A Joint Working Group with Commission 7

Chair : Prof. Ulf Jensen (Sweden).

#### Progress Report

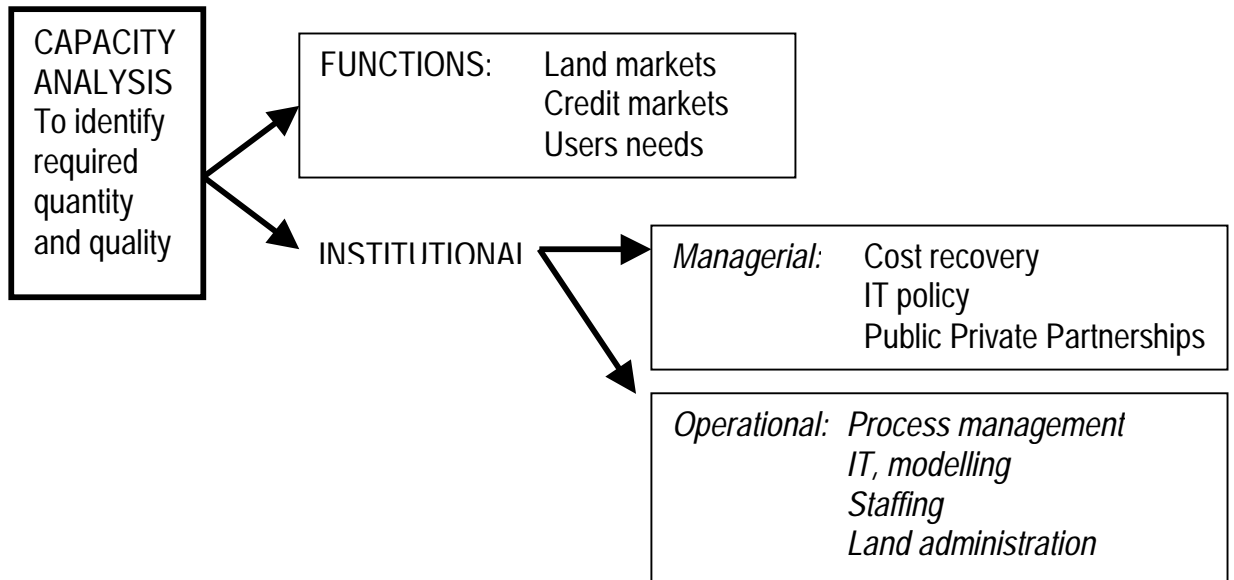
The Joint Working Group, with members from the commissions 2 and 7, on Capacity Building in Land Management was created at the Washington Congress in 2002. It will be working until the FIG Congress in Munich in 2006, when the final report will be presented. During this period, a workshop will be organized.

The JWG has had a meeting in Copenhagen 15-16 January with Stig Enemark, Tommy Österberg, Paul van der Molen and Ulf Jensen present.

The JWG discussed the distinction between the "land administration" and "land management". The terms have been defined in previous FIG statements, but the JWG will still have to be clear on the meaning of *land management*. The difference between the terms is that *land management* deals with the actual use of land, private or public, while *land administration* relates to the public organisation. There is a lot of common ground for the two expressions, especially in the legal area. Another aspect of differences is that *land*

*management* relates more two actual conditions while *land administration* to a certain extent deals with objectives and land policy.

The JWG agreed that a capacity analysis is necessary in the studies of capacity building. The group will try to formulate a structure on how capacity in land management should be analyzed. This preliminary figure reflects these thoughts:



The figure has to be developed further, but it is shown here in order to show how the JWG is directing its work. The basic idea is to create a method for a standardized report on conditions in a land. When the model has been more developed, the JWG will try to get it tested in one transition country and one developing country.

It should finally be mentioned that FAO arranged a workshop on Capacity Building in Land Administration in Rome in November last year. Stig Enemark has reported from this. The JWG will cooperate with this project.

Some other projects for the just started year will probably appear in the horizon of this Commission along the coming months; we will try to attend most of them, mainly that considered of great importance for our Federation, our Universities and our colleagues.

February 2003

Prof. Pedro J. Cavero  
Chair, FIG Commission 2

Commission web site: <http://www.fig.net/figtree/commission2/index.htm>