

“Spatial Information and Planning in a World Facing Multiple Crises - A Surveyors' Perspective”

Workshop Joint FIG Commissions 3 and 8

Athens – 13th and 14th December 2022

The workshop took place as the first edition of the "International Scientific Conferences of European Surveyors". The event was jointly organized by EGoS (European Group of Surveyors), FIG Commission 3 (Spatial Information Management) and FIG Commission 8 (Spatial Planning and Development) in Athens on 13th and 14th December 2022.

About 40 participants from 10 countries (Germany, Greece, Italy, Macedonia, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Turkey and the USA) came together on the 12th of December for the ice-breaker meeting. The workshop officially started on the 13th of December with speeches chaired by Nikos Zacharias, President of EGoS.



Figure 1: The participants came together in Athens on the first day of the workshop.

The opening ceremony was followed by a plenary session where Rudolf Staiger, FIG President, and John Hohol, President of FIG Foundation, gave a presentation on FIG and the FIG Foundation’s roles in providing possibilities for surveyors all around the world.



Figure 2: John Hohol presented the FIG Foundation's activities. From left: John Hohol, President of FIG Foundation, Rudolf Staiger, FIG President, Enrico Rispoli, FIG Commission 3 and 8 Joint Working Group Chair

The first technical session addressed the theme of “SDI’s and the way forward”. Moderated by Markus Schaffert, the session saw presentations from Helge Onsrud, Nick Land, Marjan Čeh, Panos Lolonis and Evangelia Balla on different cases from the Balkans and Greece in addition to the insights into the role of the SDI’s for the next generations.



Figure 3: The presentations were followed by question & discussions From left: Nick Land, ESRI, Markus Schaffert, FIG Commission 3 Vice Chair of Administration, Hartmut Müller, FIG Commission 3 Chair

The second technical session on the LADM model for spatial planning and the new roles of the surveyors in project management, chaired by Marije Louwsma consisted of Abdullah Kara's presentation on the extension of the LADM model for spatial planning. A lively discussion with the audience brought up general considerations and some suggestions for further development. Cemal Özgür Kivilcim gave a well-rounded speech on the role of surveyors in project management and presented some cases for resilient city applications from Istanbul, Turkey.

The third technical session discussed a large variety of subjects related to current land management issues, such as positioning and monitoring forest fires with crowdsourced data, law restrictions in spatial planning, alternative pathways for cadastral registrations, formalization of informal settlements, digital twins, remote sensing applications in the urban environment, and the current status of Hellenic cadastre. Presentations came from Cidália C. Fonte, Efi Dimopoulou, Nikos Zacharias, Rik Wouters, Rahmi Nurhan Celik, Katerina Fotiou and Stathakis Dimitris. The session was moderated by Randolph Camilleri.



Figure 4: Rahmi Nurhan Celik finalised his presentation with a nice new year message. Chair Randolph Camilleri, EGoS

The first day of the event was concluded with an informal Greek dinner on the roof terrace with splendid views on the Acropolis by night. We enjoyed the food and drinks and had the chance to talk further about everything presented on the first day. It was a superb closure of the first fruitful day.



The second day of the workshop started with the fourth technical session on the theme of “*Fostering applications and the use of geospatial data*”, chaired by Hartmut Mueller, where authors presented the FIG publication *Geospatial data in the 2020’s*. Give-away practices that can contribute to understanding the urban daily practices through geospatial data were discussed by Cemre Sahinkaya. Cemal Özgür Kivilcim, Leonardo Franchi and Cromwell Manaloto gave a presentation on “*Collaboration and Synergy across generations: Young Surveyors in FIG Commission 3*”, and Cromwell Manaloto presented the *Agenda 2030 for Geometra 2030* that indicated the challenges and insights in spatial planning for the Italian Young Surveyors.



Figure 5 The authors of the FIG publication provided brief presentations on their chapters. From left: Markus Schaffert, Hartmut Müller, Marije Louwsma, Maria Scorza, Cemre Sahinkaya, Cemal Kivilcim

In the fifth technical session, current land management issues were discussed in presentations by Apostolopoulos K., Gkeli M., Eleftheriou, V., Sonja Dimova and Bashkim Idrizi which covered the topics of improving the quality of crowdsourced cadastral surveys, machine learning and indoor mapping regarding the fit for purpose 3D cadastre, housing and tenure security for the social integration of refugees in Greece, building legalization processes, and using geo-information and VGI in formal education.

The workshop was closed with conclusion notes by Hartmut Mueller, Marije Louwsma, Nikos Zacharias and Chryssy Potsiou.



Figure 6: The Young Surveyors also participated in the closing session. From left: Cemre Sahinkaya, Cromwell Manalato, Cemal Kivilcim (FIG Commission 3 and Young Surveyors Joint Working Group Chair), Nikos Zacharias (EGoS President), Hartmut Müller (FIG Commission 3 Chair), Rudolf Staiger (FIG President), Chryssy Potsiou (FIG Honorary President), Marije Louwsma (FIG Commission 8 Chair)

The activity ended with a very nice visit to Acropolis.



Figure 7: The participants enjoyed Acropolis with a guided tour after the workshop.

*Reported by
Cemre Sahinkaya*