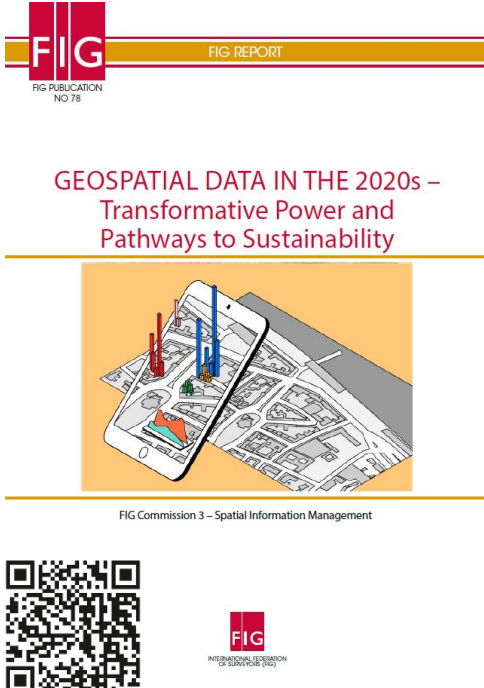
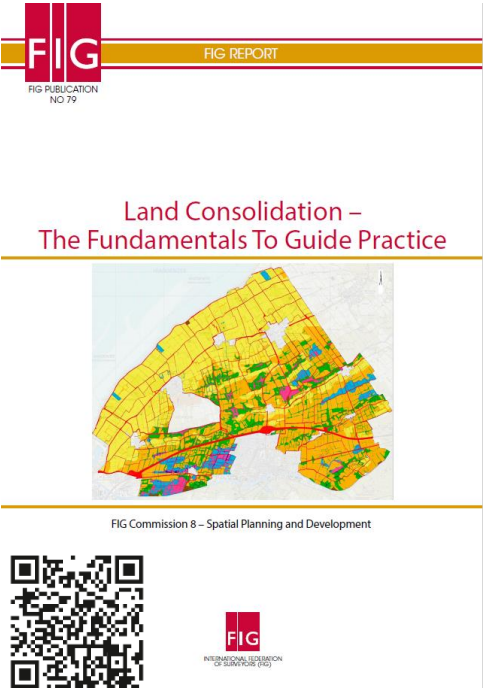


Dear delegates and friends of commission 8,

The end of the year is approaching, just like the end of the current term for the current commission chairs. For sure it was an exciting period to chair a commission. Starting with the Working Week in Hanoi, Vietnam in 2019, which was followed by a sudden pandemic where we had to convert most activities to online ones, we finally had this year a ‘normal’ FIG congress in Warsaw. We had the opportunity to engage onsite in the plenary and technical sessions, gala diner, commission meeting, or commission dinner. After such a long time online, it was very positive to meet each other again and also meet new people happy to be involved in FIG.

The FIG Congress was a good occasion to present some of the results of commission 8 activities. Two FIG publications were presented. The first publication is about “Land consolidation – the fundamentals to guide practice”. It provides an overview of how land consolidation can be applied in various contexts, whereby several aspects are addressed (forms of land consolidation, public participation, how to draw the plan, financial arrangements, and possibilities to use GIS). The other publication presented, was a joint effort of commission 8 and commission 3 (spatial information management). It is about the role of “Geospatial data in the 2020s – Transformative power and pathways to sustainability”. It takes a broad perspective on how geospatial is used in different domains, like spatial planning, health, or land administration. If you would like to know more about the activities of last year, you can check the commission report prepared for the general assembly.



In December a statement on the sustainable development goals (SDG’s) on behalf of commission 8 was published on the FIG website. This is part of the work of the taskforce on the SDG’s. All commissions gave their statement, indicating how the commissions’ work is related to the SDG’s. Now it was our turn. Spatial planning and development deals with many aspects of the SDG’s both on land and water. An inclusive viewpoint on all the interests and needs at stake, overarching individual

land use sectors, is an important basis for integrated decision-making and the road towards sustainable development. Given the challenges imposed by climate change in particular. Over the years we have seen that geodata and spatial information feed the spatial planning sector more and more and in various ways (monitoring, analyses, modelling, visualisations etc.).

FIG and the Sustainable Development Goals - Commission 8



Commission Chair Marije Louwsma gives her Statement on the sustainable development goals in relation to Commission 8 - Spatial Planning and Development

[Read more...](#)

Created on 2022-12-13 | Last modified on 2022-12-13

Commission 8 and the SDG's

Then on 13 and 14 December 2022, commission 3, commission 8 and EGOS jointly organised an international workshop in Athens about "Spatial information and planning in a world facing multiple crises - a surveyors' perspective". It was a fruitful event, with lots of presentations and discussion about contemporary challenges and solutions. Almost 50 participants enjoyed the activities, including a Greek dinner with splendid views on the Acropolis. It marked the end of the term of the commission chairs and Rudolf Staiger chaired the very last closing session in his role as President of FIG. A report of the whole event will follow soon.

Now it is also time to formally hand over the activities to the incoming chair, Kwabena Asiama.

As with the start of every FIG term, the next FIG Working Week in Orlando will come with a new workplan. The proposed workplan is the product consultations and conversations with delegates and friends of commission 8, FIG Council members, commission and network chairs, as well as current working group members and chairs. With the proposed title of "Responsible Knowledge Transfer and Innovation in Spatial Planning", the proposed mission statement of the term is to explore new approaches spatial planning and governance, in order to balance the interests of stakeholders in the pursuit of sustainable development. Five tentative working groups will be formed:

- Working Group 8.1 Urban-Rural Land Linkages
- Working Group 8.2 Unregistered Land and Large-scale Land Acquisition (Joint Working Group with Commission 9)
- Working Group 8.3 Spatial Planning Instruments and Climate Change
- Working Group 8.4 Digital Transformation for Land Management and Spatial Governance (Joint Working Group with Commission 7)
- Working Group 8.5 Planning Sustainable and Responsible Cities

We are still open to suggestions on the areas of focus, and more importantly anyone interested in these topics is welcome to write to us to join a working group to express their interest.

Kind regards,

Marije Louwsma (chair 2019 – 2023) and Kwabena Asiama (chair 2023 – 2026)