

Building the Capacity: Progress in the work of The FIG Task Force on Institutional and Organisational Development

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Chair

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The Message



- The Capacity Building Challenge is about establishing
 - Sustainable institutions
 - Sustainable land administration infrastructures
 - Sustainable human resources and skills
- Institutional and organisational development is a crucial component in this, given the fundamental requirement for secure tenure of land.
- An FIG Task Force is taking this key work forward. It has recently completed an assessment of weak areas and is assessing how to respond to them.

I. Background and context

Capacity Building – what is it ? ...

- **UN definition:**

Capacity can be defined as the ability to of individuals and organisations or organisational units to perform functions effectively, efficiently, and sustainable
- **Three important aspects:**
 - Not a passive state but part of a continuing process
 - Ensures that human resources and their utilisation are central
 - Requires that the overall context is also a key consideration

The value to society

12.5% of Britain's GDP is based on the activity of Ordnance Survey of Great Britain - £100 billion

Institutional and Organisational Development

Institutional development - The enhancement of capacity to perform key functions effectively, efficiently and sustainably.

This requires:

- Stable remits enshrined in legislation
- Appropriate mechanisms for dealing with shortcomings

Organisational development - The enhancement of structures and responsibilities to meet the agreed remit.

This requires:

- Adequate, suitable resourcing
- A clear and appropriate focus
- Suitable mechanisms to turn focus into practice

A model



The five elements shown above all need to be in place for an organisation to succeed.

Swaziland - example



- UK Government support
- To replace long-term secondments by building internal capacity
- Project running 1995-99
- 12 visits by 10 different consultants

Tasks completed



- Review of strengths/ weaknesses/ impacts
- Creation of vision, mission, aims
- Creation of business plan
- Fundamental restructuring
- Revised policies
- Clear performance measures
- Technical support

By completing these tasks, covering all elements of the model, the Swaziland Surveyor General's Department gained the confidence and the competence to operate successfully without external inputs.

II. Work to date

The FIG Task Force

- Formed late 2006
- Designed to build on previous work.
- FIG is well-placed to lead, as it brings together leading professionals from around the world.
- The work must assess needs and decide how to respond to those needs most effectively.
- Such work will further FIG's Mission.

Key questions

- Where are the key barriers to effectively functioning institutions and organisations?
- Who are the key influencers who can help to remove the barriers?
- What key materials are needed to remove the barriers?
- Which types of organisation are most affected?

Membership

- Iain Greenway (UK) – Chair
- Santiago Borrero Mutis (Colombia)
- Adam Greenland (New Zealand)
- Teo Chee Hai (Malaysia)
- John Parker (Australia)
- Richard Wonnacott (South Africa)
- Spike Boydell (Australia)

Developing a model to assess capacity

- Input from ITC
- Tested at Cambridge Conference, July 2007
- Three levels (societal, organisational, individual)
- Five components – further enhanced to six

The components

- Development of appropriate policy/ legislation
- Conversion into systems/ programmes
- Splitting activity between stakeholders
- Production of the necessary outputs
- Effective use of the outputs
- Effective learning and development

Survey

- Four different statement to rank
 - For each level
 - For each component
- Preliminary results
 - Societal level is the weakest
 - Cooperation is instead suspicion
 - There are skills gaps
 - Stakeholder understanding falls short
 - Insufficient time given to learning

III. Next steps

What outputs will underpin improvement?

- Running workshops?
- Creating best practice guides?
- Supporting the development of networks?
- Other methods?

How can the outputs be effectively delivered?

- FIG Publications?
- FIG website?
- On-line portal (GSDI)?
- National mapping agency networks?
- Donor agencies?
- Other?

The world belongs to our children

