

# **FIG Commission 1 – Professional Standards and Practice**

## **Work Plan 2019–2022**

### **1. Title**

Professional Standards and Practice.

### **2. Terms of Reference**

- Professional practice, legal aspects and organisational structures;
- Codes of ethics and applications;
- Changes to society and ways of working and the corresponding impacts on professional practice;
- Community perceptions and understanding about the surveying profession, in particular on gender issues;

### **3. Mission Statement**

The mission of Commission 1 is to:

- Establish a set of ethics principals that fits the surveying profession
- build the capacity of professionals to adapt to changing circumstances. Changes are affecting the operation of surveying practices, their management and their professional structures under the challenges of widening professional activities and a changing world;
- create a community of practice to share knowledge about professional standards and practice challenges and responses by surveying professions;
- build links to regional and world structures for surveying professionals that focus on issues around professional standards and practice;
- support professional surveyors by providing tools and approaches to dealing with common practice issues;
- develop individuals as professional surveyors and provide opportunities for them to continue to develop as part of the surveying community.

## 4. General

Commission 1 will continue the work carried forward from the last term on international boundaries, implement the International Ethics Standards in the international context and to set up Women in Surveying Network.

The Commission will liaise with the FIG Standards Network, the Young Surveyors Network and other Commissions as required in order to continue the work of those groups.

## 5. Working Groups

### Working Group 1.1 - International Ethics Standards

**Chair:** Gary Strong, RICS, London [gstrong@rics.org](mailto:gstrong@rics.org)

#### Background:

This Working Group was formed in 2015, subsequent updates of the progress of the work had been reported at the FIG Working Weeks / Congress since 2016. A publication of International Ethics Standards (IES) by International Ethics Standards Coalition (IESC), which was established in the United Nations in 2014, was published in Dec 2016. More than 120 professional institutes, including FIG, have joined the IESC as members.

#### Policy Issues:

- To study ethics within the surveying profession and prepare proposals how to respond to the competition to market the profession as ethical for current and future generations;
- Surveying professionals practice in a variety of work environments increasingly internationally and are required to respond to constant changes ethically in how they deliver services. This creates challenges to them in how they practice and challenges on how to adapt to change; and
- Identifying and sharing new ethical ways of working from around the world will provide practical examples of ways others have successfully adapted and will build a set of case studies of change.

### Specific Project(s):

- To promote the current and future role of ethics in surveying;
- To develop implementation plan for the International Ethics Standards (IES) published by the International Ethics Standards Coalition (IESC) in Dec 2016, and to review the results after the implementation by individual member associations;
- To participate on behalf of FIG as a member of the IESC and to gather results and identify the best practice examples of the implementation of IES for specific surveying cases from the members of the IESC upon the implementation of the IES;
- To review, based on the results of the best practice examples, if the Ethical Principles in the 'Statement of Ethical Principles and Model Code of Professional Conduct published in 1998' (FIG Publication No. 17) should be revised and replaced by the IES.

### Workshop(s):

- Participation in FIG Working Weeks and other major FIG events with dedicated technical sessions and/or workshops as appropriate.

### Publication(s):

- International Ethics Standards by IESC in 2016 – FIG and many member associations accredited;
- Revised FIG Ethical Principles in 2022

### Timetable:

- Round table discussion on the implementation of IES in FIG Working Week 2019 in Hanoi Vietnam
- Report on the results of implementation of IES in FIG Working Week 2020 in Amsterdam
- Report on review of the FIG Ethical Principles of the 'Statement of Ethical

Principles and Model Code of Professional Conduct' published in 1998 (FIG Publication No. 17) in FIG Working Week 2020 in Amsterdam Holland.

- Plenary session for IES, once the best practice examples are identified with practical applications to the surveying profession, in FIG Working Week 2021 in Accra Ghana.
- Case study guidance in 2020-2024.

## **Working Group 1.2 Women in Surveying**

**Chair:** Robyn McCutcheon

### Background:

During the period from 2015-2018, the WG asked the question: Are women still underrepresented in the surveying industry? The results of our research have indicated that this is still the case.

The outcome from the study showed that there has been little change in the participation of women in the surveying profession and that there is some resistance to changing the ratio of male to female representation in certain areas of the profession, for example, in the makeup of panels of keynote speakers at conferences and seminars.

The WG confirmed in the 2018 Working Week in Istanbul that there is a need and/or demand for a Women in Surveying Network and the Working Group on Women in Surveying will look into how to implement this.

### Policy Issues:

Therefore we have concluded that a policy is required to ensure that there is equal representation of females and males in all FIG arenas. The WG proposal is to present a policy statement to the FIG council to ensure a series of recommendations that came out of the previous WG are applied in FIG.

## Goals:

The proposed action is to continue to build the women in surveying network using the tools available, online social media, meetings at FIG events, online seminars and education. We propose to collaborate with the other commissions, especially the Young Surveyors.

## Actions:

To change the attitudes of the profession to having women participate, to make the profession more attractive and approachable to women, not only young women, but women looking for a long term career choice.

An action plan for getting more women into surveying, for making women more obvious in the industry/profession, for raising respect for women in surveying and for taking the tokenism out of women in surveying

The list of actions are:

- actively promote women in the industry,
- address the hidden bias towards women,
- address the lack of gender diversity

How to do this? By ensuring that we have:

- equal numbers of women on boards,
- equal numbers of women on keynote panels during conferences and seminars,
- continued support for Women in Survey network in FIG,
- recognition of women in the industry

## Measure:

The success of the policy will be measured in future FIG gatherings.

## Timetable:

- Setting up the network as soon as possible using the social media tools;
- Collaboration with other Women in Surveying Networks;
- Creating the policy recommendation to present to the FIG council – in the first year – 2019;

- In the 2nd and subsequent years reporting on the success of the proposed policy.

### **Working Group 1.3 International Boundary Settlement and Demarcation**

**Chair:** Dr. Haim Srebro

#### Background:

The Working Group will continue the work of Working Group 1.4 initiated and led by Haim Srebro, in the 2011-14 Work Plan, which led to the FIG Publication 59: “International Boundary Making”, and will continue the work of Working Group 1.3 led by Don Grant in the 2015-18 Work Plan to publish a supplementary to FIG Publication 59 dealing with international boundaries on unstable ground.

#### Policy issues:

- To deal with theoretical, methodological, legal aspects and analysis of practical cases in international and national boundaries;
- To investigate and report on the long-term definition, delineation, demarcation, documentation, maintenance, recovery and stability of international land and maritime boundaries;
- To liaise with FIG Commissions 4 and 7 on matters of common interest.

#### Activity:

Workshop in a dedicated technical session at the 2020 FIG Working Week in Amsterdam, Netherlands

#### Publications:

- International Boundary Making, FIG Publication 59 in 2013
- International Boundaries on Unstable Ground, Supplementary to FIG Publication 59
- Maritime Boundaries

## Timetable:

- International Boundaries on Unstable Ground, Supplementary to FIG Publication 59 in 2019
- Maritime Boundaries in 2022
- Final report at the FIG Congress 2022

## **6. Co-operation with Other Commissions and organisations**

Collaboration with other Commissions related to education, training, women rights, cadastre and marine boundaries, FIG Standards Network and Young Surveyors Network.

## **7. Co-operation with United Nation Organisations, Sister Associations and other Partners**

In addition to supporting FIG participation in various international standards coalitions such as;

- a. International Property Measurement Standards (IPMS) – through Commission 9;
- b. International Ethics Standards Coalition (IES) – through Commission 1;
- c. International Construction Measurement Standards (ICMS) – through Commission 10;
- d. International Land Measurement Standards (ILMS) – through Commission 7;
- e. New for 2018/19, co-operation and engagement in International Fire Safety Standards (IFSS) supported by the UN & World Bank through Commission 1.

## **Commission Officers**

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