

# Commission 7

Report to General Assembly - Poland - September 2022

## Introduction

As chair of Commission 7, I am pleased to present our Commission 7 annual report for the years 2021-22. We had an outstanding year with great participation of all working group chairs, delegates and friends of the commission. In this, the highlight was our 2021 online annual meetings and the publication of two outstanding international reports: the **Urban-Rural land linkage guidelines** (in cooperation with UN-Habitat) and the update of the **Principles for Public-private Partnerships in Land Administration** (worked developed with UNECE). In 2021, the Commission also participated in the book developed by Melbourne University called "COVID-19 Pandemic, Geospatial Information, and Community Resilience: Global Applications and Lessons" in which one of the co-editors was Dr Daniel Paez, Chair of the Commission.

Despite a very complex personal circumstance that affected my ability to perform my duties during parts of 2021, I am pleased to report that thanks to the cooperation of multiple committed members of the Commission including our elected chair, Dr Rohan Bennett, the Commission delivered outstanding online sessions during our 2021 Working groups.

The commission is ready for 2022 with an organised annual meeting in Spain, participation in multiple events and a contingency plan in case more activities are required to be conducted online.

## Work Plan progress

Our Commission 7 Work Plan for 2019-2023 was designed during our 2018 annual meeting in Bergen (Norway). The Commission's work plan is based on the pressing issues challenging developed and developing countries. Commission 7 main areas for the last 4 years were:

- The role of the private sector in land tenure systems
- Tracking land-related SDGs indicators
- Digital twin and new technologies
- Urban challenges (with Commissions 8 and 9)

Thanks to the great work of Commission 7's working group chairs, delegates, friends and other colleagues, the Commission has made progress on all of its topics in 2021. We are responding rapidly

y to the needs during the pandemic and demonstrated we can develop online annual meetings with significant participation from across the world. Below is a report on each of the Working groups

## Private sector role in land tenure

The role of the private sector in land tenure has been a key topic for many years in the international community. Commission 7 is taking on a leading role in supporting developing and developed countries in understanding this role. In this, we have joint efforts with UNECE Working Party in Land Administration (WPLA) in providing updated principles to use public-private partnerships (PPPs) as an instrument to engage the private sector in land reform projects. Kirsikka Riekkinen, Deputy Chair of WPLA is leading the task force in charge of this with outstanding colleagues that have volunteered for this review including Gerda Schennach from Austria, former chair of Commission 7.

I am pleased to report that the task force has completed its work and the new principles have been developed. The publication can be found at the following link:

<https://unece.org/info/publications/pub/361157>

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

## Public-Private Partnership in Land Administration



## Tracking SDGs

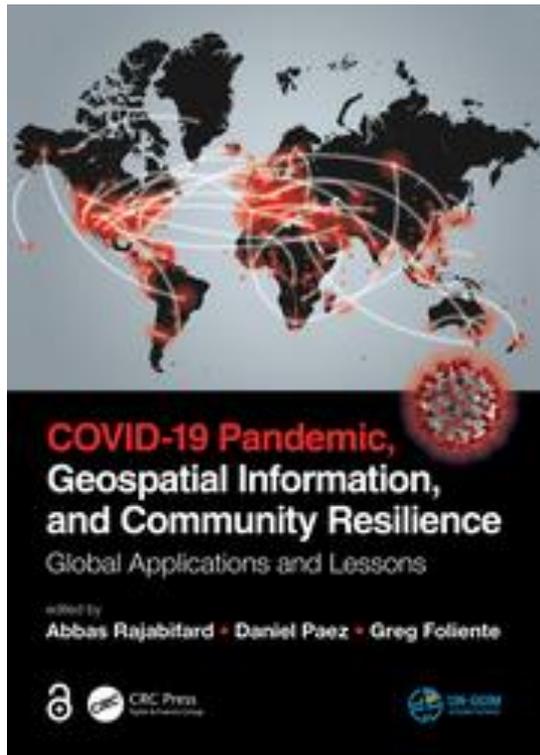
FIG has been committed for a long time to supporting the UN and many other international organizations in achieving the SDGs globally. SDGs are not just for developing countries, many developed nations have committed to them as they have an important role to play in the climate crisis.

Since 2002 Commission 7 has been helping countries in benchmarking their land administration systems. During the time of Ian Williamson as Chair of the Commission, [www.CadastreTemplate.org](http://www.CadastreTemplate.org) was created by Daniel Steudler from the Swiss Cadastre in 2002 (almost 20 years ago!). After all these years, Commission 7 has continued with this effort and it is now working with Professor Abbas Rajabifard from Melbourne University on new indicators and systems to track land-related SDGs in the context of community resilience.

Considering the complex situation in the world with the global pandemic, the Working group focused on delivering in a very short period a fully edited and published academic book providing practical solutions with geospatial information to the challenges of the pandemic.

The book was led by Professor Abbas Rajabifard and co-edited by Daniel Paez, Chair of the Commission. The book was published in March 2021 and it is freely available online at the following link:

<https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/oa-edit/10.1201/9781003181590/covid-19-pandemic-geospatial-information-community-resilience-abbas-rajabifard-greg-foliente-daniel-paez>



## Digital twin and future land technologies

All the new technological trends occurring in our daily life - such as mobile devices, automation and cloud systems - are also influencing how land information systems, both in the private and public sectors, are developed. In 2019, [Korea LX](#) (their national cadastre institution) hosted an outstanding Commission 7 meeting in which countries around the world showcased their development, challenges and opportunities. In the 2020 and 2021 online annual meetings, LX participated actively in the meetings with presentations and their ideas on how to use digital twin for the challenges placed by the pandemic.

In 2022, LX has offered to run online seminars and participate in both our 2022 congress as well as the 2022 FIG Commission 7 in Spain, to be held in October (more details below).

## Urban environment and land tenure

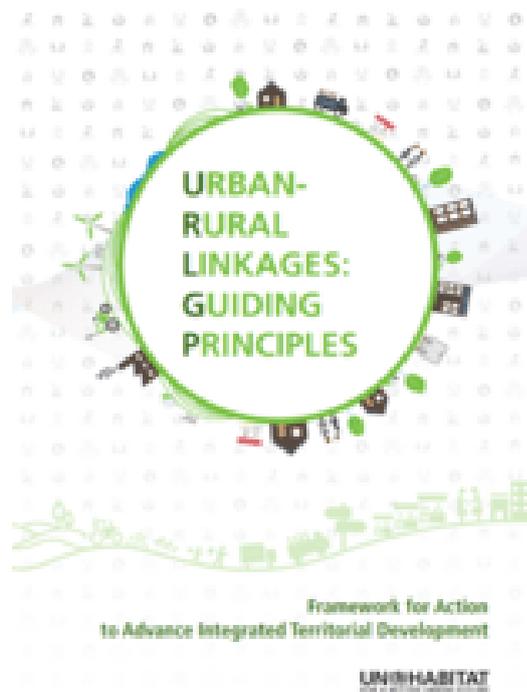
Traditionally, Commission 7 has been focusing on rural tenure issues. Now, there is increased pressure in cities to improve land administration systems and ensure urban and rural development are linked.

In this, and thanks to the fantastic leadership of GLTN, Commission 7 led the Urban-Rural Land linkage Framework development. This work is being supported by the GLTN Professional Cluster. Th

e lead consultant was Dr Eugene Chigbu.

The link to the document is here:

<https://unhabitat.org/urban-rural-linkages-guiding-principles>



The framework was officially launched at the 2021 Online Working week meeting. A video presented by the chair of the Commission can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aUbdI5tcGAE>

## FIG online Working week and Commission 7

The Working Week took place online from 20-25 June 2021. Commission 7 held its annual meeting with the outset in its prepared Report and Agenda.

Commission 7 was also involved in several sessions covering Commission 7 areas within the theme of Smart Surveyors for Land and Water Management.

- Responsible PPPs in Land Administration
- Sustainability, Land Tenure and Land Administration
- Quality Management in Cadastral Surveying
- Cadastral Maintenance and Modernisation
- Achieving Sustainable Development Goals by Cadastral Solutions

- 9th FIG Workshop on the Land Administration Domain Model / 3D Land Administration

To read more about Working Week 2021, the full report FIG e-Working Week 2021 is available here:

[https://www.fig.net/news/news\\_2021/07\\_FIG-e-WW\\_report.asp](https://www.fig.net/news/news_2021/07_FIG-e-WW_report.asp)

## FIG Annual meetings 2020 and 2021

### 2020

Due to the pandemic, the proposed annual meeting in person in 2020 to be held in Switzerland had to be cancelled. However, thanks to the support of the members of the Commission, in 2020 and 2021 we had outstanding online annual meetings.

2020 online annual meeting had over 200 participants over 3 days with 12 sessions in 3 different languages. We had strong participation from across the globe with excellent contributions to address the challenges of the pandemic. Full information and proceeding from the 2020 Annual meeting can be found in the following link:

[https://www.fig.net/organisation/comm/7/activities/events/2020\\_annual\\_meeting.asp](https://www.fig.net/organisation/comm/7/activities/events/2020_annual_meeting.asp)

#### FIG Commission 7 - Cadastre and Land Management



#### FIG 2020 COMMISSION 7 ANNUAL MEETING

20-22 October 2020 - ONLINE

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### 2021

FIG Commission 7 held its 2021 Annual Meeting on 23rd September. For the second year running the meeting was a fully online activity with 70 participants logging in from around the globe.

Read the full news item in the following link, where you will also find the agenda, and all presenta

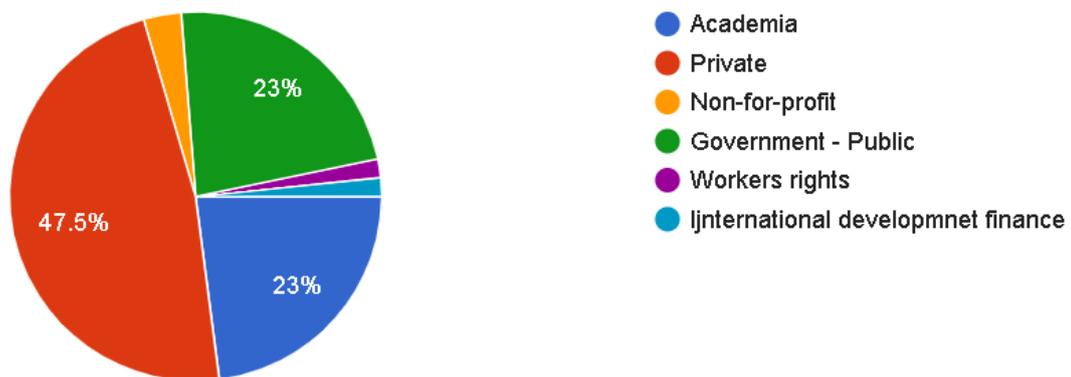
tions and watch a full recording of the meeting:

[https://www.fig.net/news/news\\_2021/10\\_Commission7\\_Annual\\_Meeting.asp](https://www.fig.net/news/news_2021/10_Commission7_Annual_Meeting.asp)



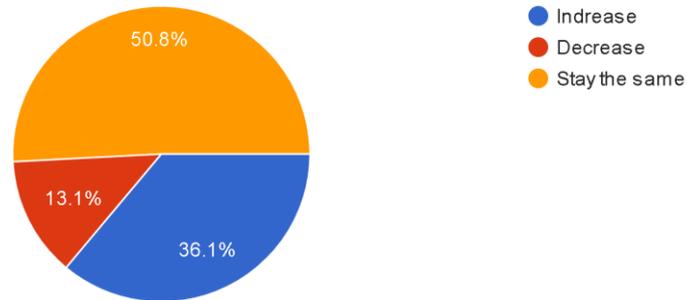
## Response to COVID-19 pandemic and recovery

As part of the Commission's commitment to contribute to the geospatial sector during the pandemic, since June 2020, the Commission has been running a survey on the state of the Geospatial Sector. Results from the survey have been presented in multiple online events and they have contributed to improving the understanding of the consequences on our industry from the pandemic.



What is your perspective for the next three months in terms of professional activity?

61 responses



Dr Daniel Paez, chair of the Commission, developed an article presenting the results of the survey and a strategy for all geospatial practitioners during the pandemic. The article can be found here:

<https://www.geoconnexion.com/publication-articles/survival-of-the-fittest>

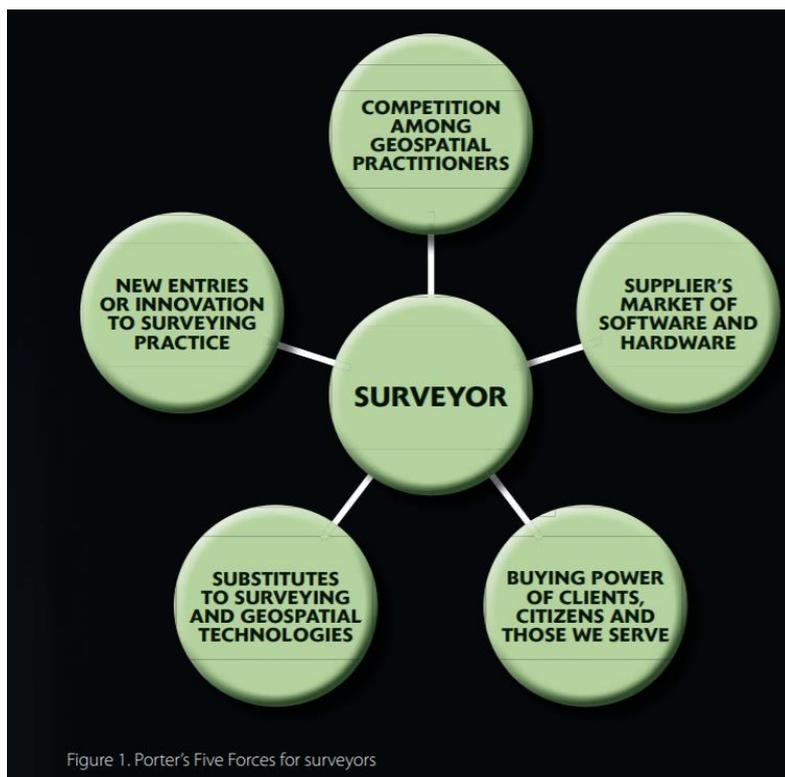


Figure 1. Porter's Five Forces for surveyors

Additionally, Commission 7 participated in a collaborative article with all other FIG Commission. The article was published in GIM International. As the FIG commission chairs are near the halfway point in their terms, they reflect on the global and technological drivers influencing their work. This article describes the breadth of work across the FIG commissions as well as the common areas. The discussion is also informed by global reports such as the UN-GGIM's Future Trends in Geospatial Information Management and the RICS Futures Report 2020. Here is the link for the article:

[https://www.fig.net/resources/articles\\_about\\_fig/gim-international/2021\\_04\\_gim.pdf](https://www.fig.net/resources/articles_about_fig/gim-international/2021_04_gim.pdf)

## Future activities

### Chair-Elect Dr Rohan Bennett

The General Assembly elected Mr Rohan Bennett from Australia/Netherlands, SSSI/GIN, as the Chair-Elect of Commission 7, the elected Chair-Elect term as the Chair of the Commission will be initiated at the FIG Congress 2022 for the period 2023-2026. His video to the assembly can be found here:

[https://www.fig.net/news/news\\_2021/06\\_GA-report.asp](https://www.fig.net/news/news_2021/06_GA-report.asp)

With Dr Bennet, we have already started working cooperatively to ensure the continuation of many of the activities of the Commission during the next 4 years between 2023 and 2027.

### 2022 activities

Activities for 2022 in the Commission are already undergoing. As chair of the Commission, I am pleased to report that progress has been already made on important activities that we have conducted and will be conducting during this final year of my Chair position, including:

- Organizing 8 sessions in our 2022 FIG Congress in Poland. We have all the chairs ready to provide an excellent technical program in the areas concerning Commission 7
- special participation of the Commission in the Geospatial event in Croatia (March)
- Election and development of an association with the FIG Spanish body called "Colegio de topografos de Espana" to develop in Sevilla the 2022 Commission 7 Annual Meeting in October 2022. Below is a preliminary program for the day of the Commission 7 meeting
- collaborative workshops with the Panamerican Association of surveyors during the second semester of 2022
- Participation in the National Colombian Geospatial Week in Bogota, in June 2022
- Ongoing support to the national surveyor's registration board in Colombia

<b>SESIÓN 1:</b>	<b>MAÑANA</b> Lugar: Hotel Barceló Sevilla Renacimiento.
11:00 - 12:30	Acto de Constitución de la Mesa de la Ingeniería de Andalucía. Sala Andalucía 1.
<b>SESIÓN 2:</b>	<b>TARDE</b> Lugar: Hotel Barceló Sevilla Renacimiento.
14:00 - 20:00	Reunión Anual de la Comisión 7 de la FIG. Salón Giralda
16:00 - 20:00	Ceremonia de Inauguración: TOPCART 2022. Sala Triana.
20:00 - 21:00	Copa de Bienvenida. Jardines salón Triana. (Para todos los asistentes TOPCART, FIG, CLGE, APPAT)

As chair of the Commission, I will like to use the opportunity to thank the support received by members of the Commission during part of 2021 while I had to deal with a personal situation. In particular, I will like to thank Dr Rohan Bennett, chair-elect, who provided outstanding support and leadership during the most difficult moments.