

**Report to the 33rd General Assembly
FIG Congress in Sydney, Australia 2010**

FIG Commission 3 – Spatial Information Management

Report of Activities 2009

1. General

Since 2007, FIG Commission 3 has focused on spatial information for sustainable urban development. FIG Com3 delegates had agreed to:

- Activate the national delegate, the correspondent and the academic member network in order to work together, identify the needs in our common fields of interest, and exchange experience and knowledge for the common benefit
- Organize Commission 3 annual meetings and workshops focused on the specifically identified needs and topics
- Provide and certify optional peer review for authors of focused papers submitted for Commission 3 Workshops. Papers of authors not wishing peer review are equally welcome in the proceedings.

In particular, FIG Com3 has so far focused on the topic: “Rapid Urbanization and the Importance of Spatial Information in Managing Mega Cities”, and has prepared a research study on that topic by 2010. For that purpose Commission 3 has coordinated international research through

- Three specific annual Workshops focused on the following topics:
 - “*Spatial Information Management toward Legalizing Informal Urban Development*” March, 2007, Athens, Greece
 - “*Spatial Information in Environmental Management of Mega Cities*” January 2008, Valencia, Spain
 - “*Spatial Information for Management of Sustainable Urban Areas*” February 2009, Mainz, Germany
- Three Working Groups to systematically support the international research.

2. Preparation of FIG Publication No 48 “Rapid Urbanization and Mega Cities: The Need for Spatial Information Management”

The major activity of Commission 3 during the period between Eilat Working Week and Sydney Conference was the compilation of the FIG publication no 48. A series of invited presentations and papers which were presented at the workshops through an open call for papers were edited and used for deriving specific experience and knowledge for the preparation of the research study.

Working Group 3.2 continued its research in existing literature through internet research, and on-site visits to specific mega cities, interviews with decision-makers, and editing of the replies to the questionnaire. Chair of WG 3.1 continued the research on e-Government and

good practice in establishing Spatial Data Infrastructures. Unfortunately chair of WG 3.3 is no longer active and Chair Elect Prof Yerach Doytsher has kindly supervised the work of this WG.

The first draft of the research study was prepared by November 2009. The authors met together in a three-day expert group meeting in Paris, organized by the French Ordre des Géomètres Experts, to finalize the text. During the meeting experts met with planners of Ile de France region, where the new Master Plan of greater Paris (www.sdrif.com) was presented and discussed.

The final version of the study was reviewed by FIG President Prof Stig Enemark. The study addressed issues like rapid urbanization and the emerging problems that need to be managed within mega cities, city governance aspects and the need for spatial information, the state of the art of using SDIs to more efficiently manage, access and use spatial information across mega cities, and innovative uses of spatial information tools and spatial information policy constraints. The study provides conclusions and recommendations derived from experience, current trends and lessons learnt, and are available at FIG website.

3. Publication of the peer reviewed papers

Those papers that have successfully passed the peer review in the 2009 Mainz Workshop are published in the *Nordic Journal of Surveying and Real Estate, special issue vol 4 (2009)* <http://ojs.tsv.fi/index.php/njs/issue/view/473>. Peer reviewed papers of the previous workshops were published by Technika Chronika and SaLIS journals.

4. Preparation of Publication “Self-Made Cities, In search of sustainable solutions for informal settlements in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Region”

FIG Commission 3 has contributed to the preparation of the United Nations publication on “Self-made cities”, May 2009, ISBN 978-92-1-117005-4. This publication provides a general overview of the phenomenon of informal settlements in the European region and identifies policy responses to address these challenges. As it is acknowledged in the publication, “*papers presented at FIG Commission 3 / UNECE workshop on informal settlements in 2007 were particularly helpful in highlighting the different approaches in the region*”. The publication is available at the following web address:

<http://www.unece.org/publications/oes/SelfMadeCities.pdf>

5. Preparation of UN-HABITAT/GLTN Publication “Informal Urban Development in Europe. A case study from Albania and Greece”

Commission 3 chairperson has prepared the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) research study “*Informal Urban Development in Europe. A case study from Albania and Greece*”. The study makes an in-depth investigation of the current informal development in two European countries with different background and history. It examines the causes, the impacts, the land administration, planning and development permitting procedures, and the tools used to formalize the situation. It provides lessons learnt and recommendations for both countries, useful to other countries facing similar problems. This publication will be published by UN-

HABITAT/GLTN as a joint publication with FIG. FIG Council has provided the expert to this project by asking Dr. Chryssy Potsiou, chair of FIG Commission 3 to undertake this study funded by GLTN.

6. Working Groups

Working Group 3.1 – e-Government for e-Citizens

Chair: Kari Strande (Norway) and Peter Laarakker (the Netherlands)

Working Group 3.2 – Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI)

Chair: Paul Kelly (Australia) and Prof Hartmut Mueller (Germany)

Working Group 3.3 – Multi Dimensional Aspects in Spatial Information Management

Chair: M. Roic (Croatia) and supported by Vice chair of Com3 Prof Yerach Doytsher (Israel)

7. Cooperation

7.1 Cooperation with FIG member associations

- Commission 3 has established a close co-operation with the Technical Chamber of Greece, the Spanish Colegio Oficial de Ingenieros Técnicos en Topografía, and the DVW - Deutscher Verein für Vermessungswesen - Gesellschaft für Geodäsie, Geoinformation und Landmanagement, for the organization of the workshops of 2007, 2008 and 2009.
- Commission 3, through the organization of the expert group meeting in Paris, has established a close cooperation with the Ordre des Geometres Experts and has agreed to continue a joint research in future on specific issues of broad interest in the European region. The possibility of organization of the 2011 annual FIG Commission 3 Workshop in Paris is under consideration.
- Commission 3 supported the 2nd Turkish GIS Congress "GIS 2009" organized by the Turkish Chamber of Engineers and Architects (TMMOB). The theme of the congress was "NSDI and working cooperatively for a livable future". One of the main goals was to identify the issues of "real world GIS applications" and specifically the problems caused by the lack of interoperability among different parties. The resolutions of the congress show that there is an urgent need to initiate an NSDI of Turkey. The transformations of the major institutions like General Command of Mapping acting as the national mapping agency and Land Registry and Cadastre of Turkey are major tasks. The legal basis of NSDI in Turkey is in the "e-Turkey action plan", which has been set aside by the government. http://www.fig.net/news/news_2009/turkey_november_2009.htm
- Commission 3 has agreed with the Chamber of Graduated Surveyors of Bulgaria to organize a joint FIG Commission 3 and 7 Workshop on: "*Information and Land Management. A Decade after the Millennium*" in Sofia, in November 2010. The topic and the specific subtopics have been discussed with the local organizers and are published on the Commission 3 website.

7.2. Cooperation with UN agencies

- Commission 3 is closely cooperating with UNECE Working Party on Land Administration especially on the issue of Informal Settlements and managing unplanned

urban development in Europe. Through this cooperation Commission 3 has contributed to compilation of the publication *“Self-Made Cities, In search of sustainable solutions for informal settlements in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Region”*. Commission 3 also supported the UNECE WPLA Workshop on *“Experiences with Data Management to Improve Land Administration in ECE Countries”*, held in Sofia, Bulgaria, 23-24 April 2009. The main objective of the workshop was the presentation and discussion on the Land Administration Review of Bulgaria,

<http://www.cadastre.bg/presentations.html>

- Commission 3 is in close cooperation with UN-HABITAT. The result of this cooperation is the publication on *“Informal Urban Development in Europe. A case study from Albania and Greece”*. (To be published)

7.3. Cooperation with other FIG Commissions

FIG Commissions 3 and 7 have supported the Conference on *“Citizens Rights to Real Property”* held from 30th November to 1st of December in Chisinau, in Moldova, organized by the Agency for Land Relations and Cadastre of Republic of Moldova. The objectives of the workshop included the following: increase awareness of the role of the donor/lender in emerging economies; direct attention to the impact of the real property issues on the local economy; discuss how local political situations affect land administration projects and how negative effects can be minimised; review the best types of project from the point of view of the donor/lenders and of the clients, and examine the key factors controlling success and failure from both points of view; review how future projects in the land administration sector might be better organised. Proceedings can be found at the following address:

<http://www.4cli.org/moldova/>

8. Events

2009

- *Commission 3 Annual Meeting and Workshop on “Spatial Information for Management of Sustainable Urban Areas”* in Mainz, Germany, 2-4 February 2009
- *FIG/ World Bank Conference “Land Governance in Support of the Millennium Development Goals: Responding to New Challenges”* - Washington DC, USA 9-10 March 2009
- *UNECE WPLA Workshop on “Experiences with Data Management to Improve Land Administration in ECE Countries”*, Sofia, Bulgaria, 23-24 April 2009
- *FIG Working Week 2009*, Eilat, 3-8 May 2009
- *7th FIG Regional Conference - Spatial Data Serving People - Land Governance and the Environment - Building the Capacity*, Hanoi, Vietnam, 19-22 October 2009
- *2nd GIS National Congress in Turkey*, Izmir, Turkey, 2-6 November 2009
- *Expert Group Meeting on “Rapid Urbanization and Megacities: The need for Spatial Information Management”*, 19-22 November, Paris, France
- *Conference on “Citizens Rights to Real Property”* 30th November -1st of December, Chisinau, Moldova

2010

- *UNECE WPLA Workshop on “Efficient and Transparent Land Management in ECE Countries”*, Baku, Azerbaijan, 4-5 March 2010
- *FIG Congress 2010*, Sydney, Australia 11-16 April, 2010
- *International Land Management Symposium on “Strategies for Improving Urban – Rural Inter-Relationships, Best Practice and Regional Solutions”*, Hannover, Lower Saxony, Germany, 10-11 May 2010
- *Joint FIG Com3 and Com7 Annual Meeting and Workshop on: “Information and Land Management. A Decade after the Millennium”*, Sofia, Bulgaria, 14-17 November 2010

Dr Chryssy Potsiou

Chair of FIG Commission 3

February 2010

Website: www.fig.net/commission3