

EAB

The Editorial Advisory Board (EAB) of GIM International consists of professionals who, each in their discipline and with an independent view, assist the editorial board by making recommendations on potential authors and specific topics. The EAB is served on a non-committal basis for two years.

MR JOSEPH BETIT

Senior Land Surveyor, Dewberry, USA

MR SANTIAGO BORRERO

Secretary-general of Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH), Mexico

PROF. PETER DALE

Honorary President, FIG, Scotland

PROF. STIG ENEMARK

Honorary President, FIG, Denmark

DR ANDREW U FRANK

Head, Institute for Geoinformation, Vienna University of Technology, Austria

DR AYMAN HABIB, PENG

Professor and Head, Department of Geomatics Engineering, University of Calgary, Canada

DR GABOR REMETEY-FÜLÖPP

Secretary General, Hungarian Association for Geo-information (HUNAGI), Hungary

DR SUSUMU HATTORI

Professor, Department of Information Technology, Faculty of Engineering, Fukuyama University, Japan

PROF. PAUL VAN DER MOLEN

Vice-President, FIG Cadastre, Land Registry and Mapping Agency, The Netherlands

PROF. DR IR MARTIEN MOLENAAR

Rector, ITC, The Netherlands

PROF. SHUNJI MURAI

Institute Industrial Science, University of Tokyo, Japan

PROF. DAVID RHIND

ret. Vice-Chancellor, The City University, UK

PROF. DR HEINZ RÜTHER

Chairman Financial Commission ISPRS, University of Cape Town, Department of Geomatics, South Africa

MR FRANÇOIS SALGÉ

Secretary-general, CNIG (National Council for Geographic Information), France

MR DAVID SCHELL

President, Open Geospatial Consortium, Inc., USA

PROF. DR TONI SCHENK

Professor, The Ohio State University, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, USA

PROF JOHN C TRINDER

First Vice-President ISPRS, School of Surveying and SIS, The University of New South Wales, Australia

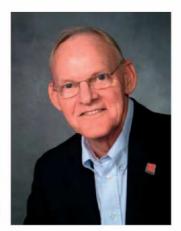
PROF. DR FENG ZHONGKE

Beijing Forestry University, China

Fit for Purpose

Every country has to deal with land governance – with the policies, processes and institutions by which land is managed through the core land administration functions of land tenure, land value, land use and land development. A country's capacity to deal with this may be advanced, combining all the activities in one conceptual framework supported by sophisticated IT models. More likely, however, it will comprise very fragmented and basically analogue approaches, as is the case in most developing countries. In this regard, the emerging concept of spatially enabled society offers some interesting perspectives relating to the issue of survey accuracy, which has been debated recently in *GIM International*.

The term 'spatially enabled society' describes the emerging cultural and governance revolution offered by pervasive spatial information technologies and spatially equipped citizens. Importantly,



PROF. STIG ENEMARK Honorary president, FIG, Denmark enemark@land.aau.dk the concept is not about managing spatial information - rather, it is about managing information, or governing society, spatially. This concept, or vision, emerged in the middle of the past decade through new web-based distribution concepts such as Google Earth. The vision, however, also represents the realisation of the promises offered by building spatial data infrastructures and reforming land administration systems. These building blocks make spatially enabled societies possible where the large-scale cadastral map presents how people are connected to their land. The cognitive understanding of land use patterns then forms the core information sets that enable a country to build an overall administrative framework to manage rights, restrictions

and responsibilities related to land and natural resources in support of sustainable development. The importance of large-scale cadastral maps, or a general spatial framework, relates to the survey accuracy discussion. Building such a spatial framework is of course not primarily about accuracy. Instead, it is about adequate identification of the spatial units or parcels, completeness to cover the total jurisdiction, and credibility in terms of reliable data that is trusted by the users. In some developed countries, this spatial framework has evolved over centuries, and cadastral surveys are conducted to a high degree of accuracy according to long-standing regulations and procedures. Furthermore, technological developments now offer opportunities for further improving the accuracy of cadastral surveys, thus ensuring total consistency between cadastral, topographic and other information such as utility data to form coherent and interactive digital land information systems.

In contrast, most developing countries have a cadastral coverage of less than 30% of the country, and the regulations and procedures are often too costly to allow access to secure tenure for the majority of their citizens. Therefore, focus should be on establishing an appropriate, countrywide spatial framework using a 'fit for purpose' approach rather than looking at accuracy and expensive procedures. Accuracy can then be incrementally improved over time, when deemed relevant and justified in terms of serving citizens' and society's needs.

The surveying profession holds a key position as custodians of formal cadastral systems. Supporting the building of such a fit-for-purpose spatial framework and providing easy access to secure tenure for all will pave the way towards spatially enabled society and sustainable land governance.

FIRST 2012 RELEASE OF GLOBAL DATA PRODUCT SUITE ++ GPS DISRUPTIONS LIKELY DURING MILITARY EXERCISE ++ RWANDA: OVER 4.6 MILLION PARCELS DIGITISED ++ EMAPSITE MI

GIZ XRW OFF TO NORTH POLE ++ IDAR/CAMERA FLIGHT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM ++ NEW POS AV AND POSTRACK SYSTEMS FOR IMPROVING PRODUCTIVITY ++ SNEAK MOBILE MAPPING AIN