

The FIG Foundation- Building a Sustainable Future: A Report on Activities Supported by Foundation Grants

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SUMMARY:

Some of the key challenges to the growth and maintenance of FIG and the global surveying community is to encourage young people to enter the profession as well as finding ways to support education, especially in developing countries. This means building a sustainable future.

The FIG Foundation has a mandate to do this through the awarding of grants in support of these efforts.

This presentation presents the awards granted and discusses the challenges of building a sustainable future.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Key to the future of surveying in general and FIG in particular is the critical importance of ensuring a vibrant and dependable flow of able young people into the surveying profession. Much discussion has been made of the difficulties in maintaining surveying education programs and recruiting enthusiastic and talented young people. It is most critical that FIG and the global surveying community support these efforts, most especially in developing countries.

2. CHRONOLOGY OF FIG FOUNDATION

The FIG Education Foundation was established in 1996 as a public company under the Corporation Laws of Australia.

In 2000 the administration of the FIG Education Foundation was transferred to the FIG permanent office in Copenhagen. The General Assembly of FIG adopted the new Statutes for the FIG Foundation at its meeting in Seoul 11 May 2001. At the same time the original FIG Education Foundation was closed and the new FIG Foundation officially opened under the FIG umbrella.

3. THE FIG FOUNDATION- WHAT IS IT?

The FIG Foundation is an independent body under the International Federation of Surveyors.

- The Foundation has been established for the purpose of raising funds to finance surveying education development projects and supporting young surveyors in order to build a sustainable future.
- The Foundation aims to raise a fund of 1 million US Dollars in the coming years. This will allow activities to be funded by using the annual interest. Until then the Foundation May use 50 per cent of its annual income for supporting its aims.
- The Foundation funds shall not be used to support the normal activities of FIG.
- The Foundation is administered by the FIG Office in Copenhagen and directed by a Board of Directors appointed by the FIG Council.

- The Directors of the Foundation will announce every year the scholarships and grants available. The Directors will also announce the distribution of funds and promote the results of supported projects.

4. OBJECTIVES OF THE FIG FOUNDATION

The objects for which the Foundation is established are:

- To give grants and scholarships to projects, for instance to develop curricula for surveying education and capacity building, especially in developing countries;
- To promote high standards of education and training for surveyors and to facilitate continuing professional development;
- To educate people in the disciplines of surveying, particularly in developing countries and countries in transition;
- To promote virtual academies and the use of distance learning in surveying education;
- To encourage research into all disciplines of surveying and to disseminate the results of that research;
- To promote the exchange of surveying personnel for greater understanding of all facets of the profession of surveying;
- To support by seed funding conferences and similar events in co-operation with international agencies such as the United Nations.

5. THE FIG FOUNDATION WILL...

Build a Sustainable Future by:

- Giving grants and scholarships to support curricula development and capacity building, especially in developing countries
- Promoting high standards of surveying education and facilitating CPD (Continuous Professional Development) activities
- Promoting virtual academies and the use of distance learning in surveying education
- Encouraging research activities and the dissemination of research results

- Promoting the exchange of young surveying personnel
- Supporting conferences and other events by seed funding in co-operation with international agencies such as the United Nations and World Bank.

6. FIG GRANTS

6.1 FIG GRANTS- 2003

- Cadastral Development - the contribution of scientific enquiry
- Development of an actualization course in order to prepare the academic infrastructure in Colombian universities for the new technologies in the surveying profession
- The European Challenge - An Overview
- International Geodetic Students Meetings- Germany and Finland
- Property formation modelling with application of the Republic of Belarus
- Survey orientation programme- India

6.2 FIG GRANTS- 2004

- The Argentine Cadastre over the Last Fifty Years and an Overview of the Brazilian Cadastre
- Capacity Building and Postgraduate Research in Land Tenure and Cadastral Systems in Southern Africa
- Increasing the Range of Services of the Colombian Surveyors by Demonstrating DISCUSS, a Decision Support System that Uses Latest Surveying Technologies
- Managing Land Information for Urban Governance in Botswana

6.3 FIG GRANTS- 2005

- Education of NGOs in the coastal districts of Tamilnadu on the surveying education after the tsunami
- Growing a profession – a comparative study of Southern African professional bodies
- Identification of technical deficiencies and human factors in land disputes: In the context of Nepalese cadastral surveying

- Land disputes resolution and restitution in post-conflict societies
- Promoting surveying education in Colombia by awarding best Colombian paper published during the year
- Promoting the understanding and value of new developments in remote sensing and global navigation satellite systems for interdisciplinary professional groups in a developing country
- Studying land subsidence of Bandung Basin (Indonesia) using GPS survey technique

6.4 FIG GRANTS- 2006

- Educating Voluntary Organizations in Disciplines of Surveying in Various Districts of Tamilnadu
- The Impact of HIV/AIDS on Land Values and the Women's Property Rights in the Context of HIV/AIDS
- Institutional and Legal Aspects in Land Disputes: the Context of Nepalese Cadastral Surveying

6.5 FIG FOUNDATION GRANTS 2002-2006

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
12 676 €	6484 €	6000 €	7000 €	6938 €

Total (2002-2006): 33 Grants / 39 098 €

	<u>Applications</u>	<u>Grants</u>
2002	20	12
2003	15	7
2004	12	4
2005	14	7
2006	9	3

6.6 DISTRIBUTION OF FIG FOUNDATION GRANTS 2002-2006

Argentina
 Australia
 Botswana
 Canada
 P.R. China
 Columbia
 Finland

Germany
India
Indonesia
Kenya
Nepal
Netherlands
Romania
South Africa
Sweden
Turkey
Ukraine
United Kingdom
Zambia

CHALLENGES

- Increased participation from developing countries
- Concise detailed information in written proposals
- Reasonable estimate of costs/success of proposed grant requests
- Timely status/completion of reports to Foundation
- Potential for cooperative work with others such as World Bank, UN-Habitat, FIG Corporate Members, etc.
- More interaction with students and young professionals

THE FIG FOUNDATION- HOW CAN I CONTRIBUTE?

Companies, associations, institutions, events, surveyors' groups and individuals May contribute to the Foundation by:

- Donations which will be recognized by a plaque or a certificate of different categories reflecting the amount of donation. All contributions will also be recognized in the FIG Annual Review
- Donations to support specific projects or by offering scholarships. Donors and Benefactors May use the FIG Foundation logo to promote their project donations or scholarships
- Voluntary donation when registering to FIG events

- Attending social functions such as the FIG Foundation dinners held during FIG Congresses and events

FIG FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2007-2010

- John D Hohol (USA), President
- Professor Mike Barry (Canada), Director
- Iain Greenway (United Kingdom), Director
- Ken Allred (Canada), Director
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REFERENCES

FIG Foundation brochure, 2001

Decision of FIG Foundation Board of Directors- Awarding of Grants 2002-2003-2004-2005

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