



Commission 7

News Brief | Quarter 1 2026





What is in this edition?

- Final C7 preparations for the FIG Congress 2026 in Cape Town, South Africa in May
- Abstract submission open for the FIG Annual Meeting in Istanbul, Turkiye in November
- Proceedings available for the 2025 C7 Annual Meeting in Florianopolis, Brazil
- Updates from several C7 Working Groups
- Launch of new FIG publications with C7 involvement
- Other upcoming C7 events and activities.

Message from the Chair

Dear Commission 7 colleagues and friends,

Welcome to 2026, the final year of the 2023–2026 Work Plan, and it is a year defined by delivery, visibility, and transition. The emphasis is on completing what we set out to do and ensuring our work is captured through clear, high-quality outputs. A major priority this year is publication, with several new releases planned, including substantive contributions on women's land rights and fit-for-purpose land administration, extending the reach and relevance of Working Group efforts.

Our work will be showcased at the Congress in Cape Town in May, providing a focal point for presenting results, exchanging experience, and connecting our work to broader professional and policy debates.

This momentum then carries into Istanbul, where our Annual Meeting will bring mark the transition to the 2027–2030 period under the leadership of Dr Kirsikka Reikkinen. We're working on this event with Commission 9 and 2, and also collaborating with the United National Economic Commission for Europe (UN ECE), Working Party on Land Administration (WPLA). A big thanks to our hosts, the Chamber of Geomatics Engineers of Türkiye - they are also celebrating 100 years since the first cadastral laws were passed in that country

In addition, we will contribute to GeoInfo / GeoSofia 2026 (28 September - 3 October) and participate in a Commission 9 event in Ragusa, Italy (13–16 October), strengthening cross-commission engagement and technical exchange.

Rohan Bennett
Chair, FIG Commission 7



XXVIII FIG Congress 2026

The 2026 FIG Congress in Cape Town, South Africa, is fast approaching and will take place from 24–29 May 2026. The Congress marks the culmination of the 2023–2026 work period and will bring together thousands of professionals to explore the future of surveying, land administration, and geospatial innovation.

For Commission 7, engagement will again be strong, with more than 80 abstracts and full papers submitted. In collaboration with other Commissions, Commission 7 will contribute to approximately 10 sessions across the Congress. We have seven core Commission 7 sessions confirmed, alongside several joint sessions, ensuring broad coverage of key themes.

Highlights include fit-for-purpose land administration, digital transformation, women's access to land, 3D cadastres, LADM, AI and remote sensing, and education and capacity development. In addition, a pre-Congress event with Commission 9 will explore the links between tenure, cadastre, and land valuation, fostering critical dialogue on the future of land markets and governance systems.

Registration is now open. Join us in Cape Town for an outstanding week of learning, collaboration, and professional exchange.

For details:

<https://fig2026.org>



FIG C7 2026 Annual Meeting

The FIG Commission 7 Annual Meeting 2026 will be held in Istanbul, Türkiye, from 28–30 October 2026, bringing together the international cadastre and land administration community for focused technical exchange and collaboration. The meeting will be hosted by the Chamber of Geomatics Engineers of Türkiye (HKMO) and organised jointly with FIG Commission 9, 2 and the UN ECE Working Party on Land Administration (WPLA).

The annual meeting will centre on joint theme **“Bridging land tenure, value and education for security, sovereignty, and sustainability”**, exploring how digital registers, artificial intelligence, and valuation systems can support transparent, efficient, and resilient land administration. The programme will bring together experts, practitioners, and policymakers to share experiences, showcase good practices, and discuss forward-looking strategies across cadastre, valuation, and land governance.

Set in Istanbul, a city bridging Europe and Asia, the meeting offers a unique professional and cultural setting for dialogue at the intersection of land, technology, and policy. Full details and updates are available at:

Abstract and registration is now open at:
<https://figcadastre.hkmo.org.tr/en/homepage>



FIG Commission 7 2023-26 Workplan Dashboard

		2023	2024	2025	2026	Current Status
WG 7.1 FELA						
Activities	Case and Tool Capture	25%	70%	5%	0%	100%
	Advocacy and Awareness	10%	30%	30%	20%	90%
Outputs	FELA Publication (postponed)	5%	10%	50%		65%
WG 7.1 FFPLA						
Activities	FFPLA Implementaiton Survey	10%	30%	30%	30%	100%
	FFPLA Case Stories	25%	60%	15%	0%	100%
	Land Tenure Day' (postponed)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Outputs	FFPLA Publication	0%	15%	50%	35%	100%
WG 7.3 3D&LADM						
Activities	LADM Revision Support	25%	55%	20%	0%	100%
Outputs	Broadening 3D Land Administration	10%	55%	25%	10%	100%
	LADM Revision Document	0%	55%	45%	0%	100%
	2nd SI on LADM Revision	0%	55%	40%	5%	100%
WG 7.4 AI&RS						
Activities	Technique and Tool Identification	25%	55%	20%	0%	100%
	Country Level Case Capture	25%	25%	20%	5%	75%
Outputs	RS&LA Publication (SI) (with ISPRS)	0%	0%	5%	10%	15%
WG 7.5 Women						
Activities	FIG Pub 24 Review	15%	30%	45%	10%	100%
	Stand for Her Land Support	20%	20%	30%	0%	70%
	Case Story Capture	10%	25%	35%	30%	100%
Outputs	Publication 24 Update	5%	15%	40%	40%	100%
	Clinic/Catalogue --> Ethical Conduct	0%	10%	50%	40%	100%
WG 7.6 LA+LUP						
Activities	Capturing country cases	20%	40%	20%	5%	85%
	Capturing tools and techniques	20%	40%	20%	5%	85%
Outputs	Publication DT&LM (onqoina)	0%	10%	30%	5%	45%
	SI on DT&LM (postponed)	0%	5%	0%	0%	5%
WG 7.7 LA Education						
Activities	TERLA development	20%	50%	25%	5%	100%
	Curriculum Review	20%	50%	25%	5%	100%
Outputs	TERLA Publication	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
	Journal Article	0%	20%	80%	0%	100%
WG 7.8 Comparative Cadastres						
Activities	Needs Assessment	5%	20%	0%	0%	25%
	Strategy Development	5%	20%	65%	0%	90%
	Pilot Implementation (Halted)	5%	0%	0%	0%	5%
Outputs	State-of-Play Reports x4	25%	10%	65%	0%	100%
	Pilot / Demonstration / Implementation (Halte	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

C7 Workplan 2023-26 State of Play





WG7.1 FELA

As we head into 2026, Amalia Velasco (amvemava@gmail.com) and this group continue to be, an active supporter of the Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA) endorsed by UNGGIM in 2020.

The contribution of FIG Commission 7 to the UN ECE Expert Group on Land Administration and Management (EG-LAM) and related regional meetings has been consistently recognized and highly appreciated.

To further strengthen this collaboration, discussions are underway with the EG-LAM Co-Chairs to convene an upcoming expert group meeting in South Africa back-to-back with a FIG event, sustaining momentum and reinforcing synergies between the organisations.

While the possibility of re-publishing a stylized version of the FELA document through FIG has been explored, this remains inappropriate at present, as FELA is an official UN document currently under revision. Instead, FIG will work collaboratively on a future FIG-specific document for members, aligned with the updated framework.

FIG's support for the implementation of FELA guidelines continues across several countries through ongoing engagement and collaboration.

WG7.2

FFPLA



Dr. Israel Taiwo (taiwo_io@fedpolyado.edu.ng) has led WG7.2 with great energy and outputs between 2023-26 – and continues to champion practical, scalable approaches to land administration.

WG7.2 is concluding the 2023-2026 work term by wrapping up the publication titled

"Fit-for-Purpose Land Administration: Status, Success and Scaling."

We anticipate launching this publication at the FIG Congress in Cape Town.

There will be supportive online webinars for this event, so please be sure to follow the updates via Whatsapp.

WG7.3 LADM+3D



The three co-chairs of WG7.3 (Peter, Eftychia, and Abdullah) plan to continue for the next 4 year term. Alias (the 4th) will be stepping down - and we thank him for the excellent contributions.

Meanwhile, by August 2025, the first five parts of the Land Administration Domain Model (LADM) Edition II had been formally published as ISO and CEN standards, marking a major milestone in the development of interoperable land administration systems. These standards, proposed by FIG to ISO/TC 211 (Geographic information / Geomatics), are now available from ISO in English and French. Further details are available at

https://fig.net/news/news_2025/10_ladm_2nd-ed.asp and

https://www.fig.net/news/news_2026/01_LADMfinal.asp

The five published standards are:

ISO 19152-1:2024 – Generic conceptual model

ISO 19152-2:2025 – Land registration

ISO 19152-3:2024 – Marine georegulation

ISO 19152-4:2025 – Valuation information

ISO 19152-5:2025 – Spatial plan information

In parallel, FIG released two new publications in April 2025 (<https://www.fig.net/resources/publications/figpub/>). FIG Publication No. 84, The Land Administration Domain Model (LADM) – An Overview (Lemmen et al.) provides the first consolidated FIG overview of the decades-long development of LADM, aimed particularly at management audiences. An extended publication, LADM in the Classroom (Lemmen et al.), focuses on structuring real land administration situations within land information systems, using a single hypothetical case study to demonstrate a wide range of scenarios and to operationalise concepts such as rights, restrictions, and responsibilities.

WG7.3 LADM+3D (cont.)

A major scholarly milestone was the publication of the special issue “Broadening 3D Land Administration” in Land Use Policy. This issue expands the scope of land administration beyond traditional tenure and cadastre to include marine georegulation, valuation information, and spatial planning, with strong attention to 3D representations. Edited by Peter van Oosterom, Alias Abdul Rahman, Eftychia Kalogianni, and Mila Koeva, the issue contains 12 full papers, based on extended and substantially revised contributions from earlier FIG LADM and 3D LA workshops.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/special-issue/10G9MDVMKB7>

In addition, the Survey Review Special Issue on LADM and 3D Land Administration (Volume 57, Issue 405, 2025) has been published, guest-edited by Peter van Oosterom, Abdullah Kara, and Eftychia Kalogianni, and includes eight papers and an editorial introduction.

The Working Group also celebrates individual academic achievement. WG co-chair Eftychia Kalogianni successfully defended her PhD thesis, 3D Land Administration in line with the Spatial Development Lifecycle, at TU Delft on 3 October 2025, receiving the cum laude distinction. Warm congratulations to Dr Kalogianni.

On the events side, the FIG Joint Land Administration Conference 2025 in Florianópolis, Brazil (3–5 November 2025) marked the first-ever FIG event in Brazil. Hosted by the Federal University of Santa Catarina, the conference attracted 265 delegates, including 86 online participants, and featured a single-track, trilingual programme (Portuguese, Spanish, English), full online streaming, and the innovative “poster pit” format. More information is available at:

https://fig.net/news/news_2025/12-brazilladm2025.asp

Proceedings from the 13th Workshop on LADM and 3D Land Administration, held in conjunction with UN-Habitat’s STDM as part of the Brazil conference, have been published (ISBN 978-87-93914-29-2, ISSN 2311-8423). The full technical programme and proceedings are available at:

<https://www.gdmc.nl/3DCadastres/workshop2025/programme/>.

Finally, on 24 November 2025, the OGC Standards Working Group (SWG) on LADM was formally launched with new co-chairs Hans-Christoph Gruler (Leica/Hexagon), Amir Ba (Esri), Javier Morales (University of Twente), and Joost Venema (Kadaster). The SWG to develop LADM Edition II, Part 6: Implementation Aspects—covering country profile methodology, encodings, code list management, and workflows—as a joint OGC and ISO 211 standard.



WG7.3 LADM+3D (cont.)

The 14th International FIG Workshop on the Land Administration Domain Model & 3D Land Administration will take place from 1 to 2 October 2026 in Sofia, Bulgaria as part of GeoSofia 2026, together with 3D GeoInfo conference and Smart Data and Smart Cities conference. More info on:

<https://conference.gate-ai.eu/GeoSofia2026>

Important dates for the LADM & 3D LA Workshop (3DLA2026):

- Abstract Submission: June 15, 2026
- Abstract Acceptance: July 15, 2026
- Final Paper Submission: August 30, 2026
- Conference Dates: October 1-2, 2026

Extended abstracts (2 pages, 800–1000 words) for the workshop should be submitted via Conftool online submission system. Authors of accepted submissions will be requested to submit the full paper (10-16 pages, 5000–8000 words). Full papers will be included in the proceedings (on-line available at start the workshop) published by FIG with ISBN / ISSN reference. Based on the full papers and the presentations at the workshop, a limited number of authors will be invited (after the workshop) to submit a significantly different/ extended paper (40% new material) to the special issue of the international scientific MDPI Land Journal.

Submissions for the Scientific Sessions should be prepared according to the LADM and 3D LA guidelines, using the MS Word template.

WG7.5 Women's Access to Land (Administration)



The Working Group is led by Marisa Balas and Kate Fairlie. The Women's Land Rights Working team Group is focused in 2026 on the delivery of two major publications, both scheduled for launch at the Congress in May.

The first is the **Statement of Ethical Principles** and Model Code of Professional Conduct for Surveyors and Other Land Professionals, the second edition of FIG Publication 17. This publication has been developed jointly by Commissions 1 and 7, with leadership from the Women's Land Rights Working Group. All drafting and editing have been completed, and the finalised manuscript has undergone peer review, providing additional technical and professional input. The publication is now ready for submission to the FIG Office.

The second publication, **Advancing Women's Land Rights from a Land Professionals' Perspective**, has received all planned contributions, and the first round of peer review has been completed. Current work is focused on compiling chapters and undertaking editorial harmonisation to ensure consistency and quality. Following this, the publication will be circulated for a final peer review prior to submission to the FIG Office.

WG7.7 Land Administration Education



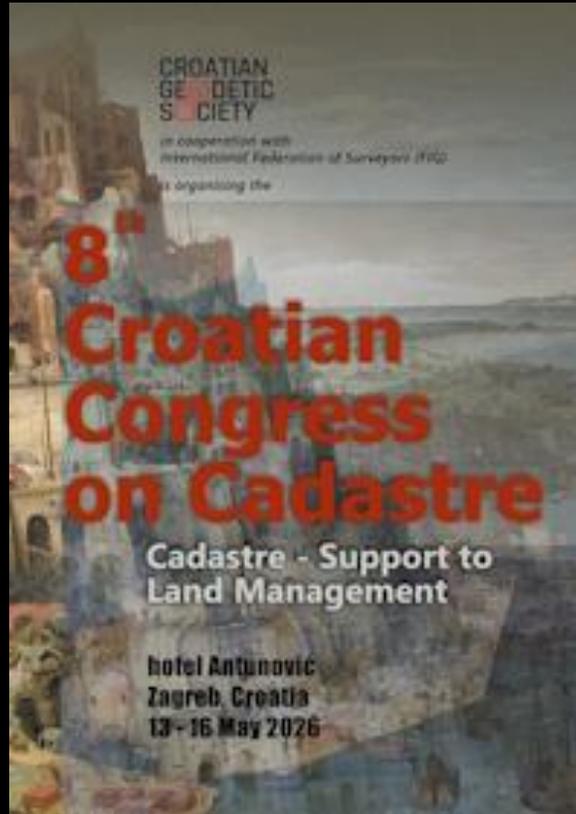
Led by Assoc. Prof. Simon Hull (simon.hull@uct.ac.za), WG7.7 has had a dynamic quarter focused on strengthening education and capacity-building in land administration.

In 2026, Working Group 7.7 is strongly focused on advancing thinking and dialogue around land administration education. A central activity will be a two-session workshop titled “Reimagining Land Administration Education: Towards Conceptualising a Core Body of Knowledge”, to be held at the FIG Congress in Cape Town in May, scheduled for Tuesday afternoon (Day 2).

The workshop will feature keynote contributions from Uchendu Chigbu (NUST / NELGA) and Christelle van den Berg (Kadaster International / School of Land Administration), alongside an expert panel including Walter de Vries (TUM), Clarissa Augustinus (FIG Climate Compass), and Rosario Casanova (incoming Chair of Commission 2, University of Uruguay). Interactive breakout sessions will explore core bodies of knowledge, emerging technologies and processes, moving beyond mainstream approaches, and the role of regional and global bodies in supporting land administration education.

Beyond Congress, WG 7.7 will launch a webinar series in mid-2026, beginning with “LADM and STDM for Dummies”, aimed at demystifying key models through practical explanations and international use cases.

Other C7 related events in 2026...



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October 13–16, 2026
Ragusa, Sicily
Italy

3D GeoInfo | Smart Data and Smart Cities | LADM & 3D LA

28 September - 2 October 2026, Sofia, Bulgaria

About The Event

3D GeoInfo | SDSC | LADM & 3D LA 2026, the co-located 21st International 3D GeoInfo Conference 2025, 10th International Smart Data and Smart Cities Conference and 14th International FIG Workshop on LADM & 3D LA, will be held in Sofia, Bulgaria on 28th September - 2nd of October 2026. The event is hosted by the Big Data for Smart Society (GATE) Institute, Sofia, Bulgaria.

WHERE

5 James Bourchier Blvd., Sofia, Bulgaria

WHEN

Monday to Friday
28 September - 2 October 2026

**See you in
Cape Town!**

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https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/fig-commission-7-cadastre-and-land-management/?trk=public_post_follow-view-profile