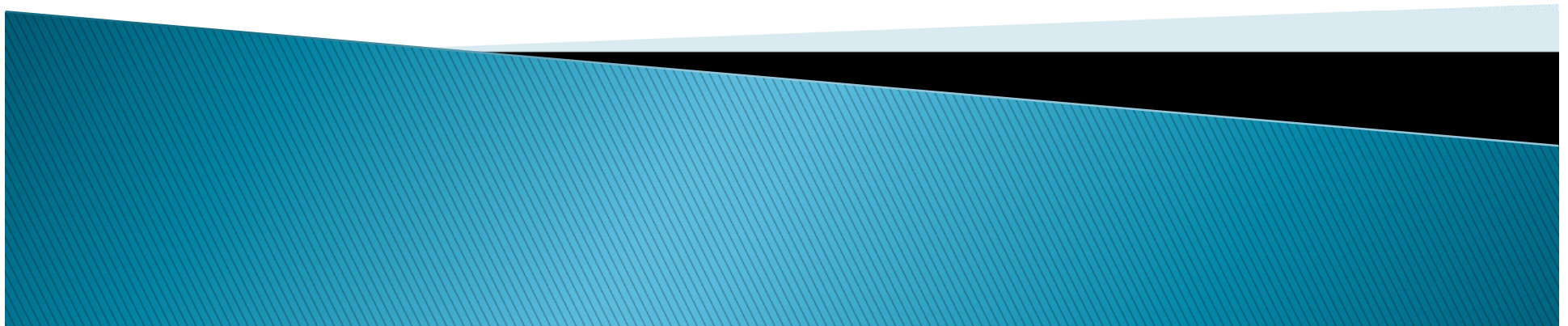


FIG AT 140  
THE AFRICAN PERSPECTIVES:  
ENHANCING PROFESSIONAL  
COLLABORATION AND CREATING  
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS  
2014 - 2018

- Mr. KABIR, M.M  
REGISTRAR SURCON, NIGERIA.



# IMPERATIVE OF COOPERATION -AFRICAN PROVERBS

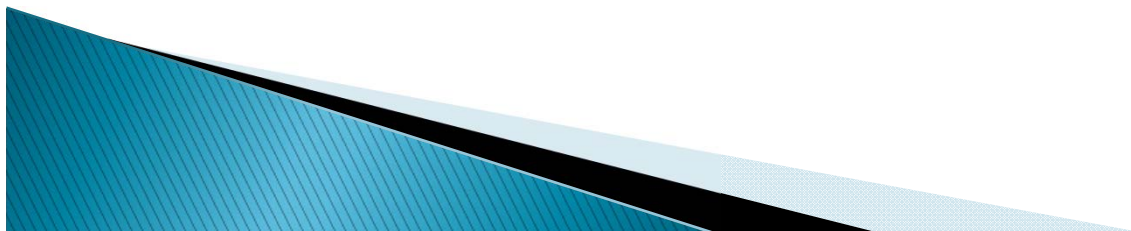
- ▶ When spiders unite they can tie up a ferocious lion - Ethiopia
- ▶ One finger cannot lift a pebble - Ghana
- ▶ You cannot clap with one hand - Nigeria



## AFRICAN SURVEYORS PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT WITH INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS/ AGENCIES

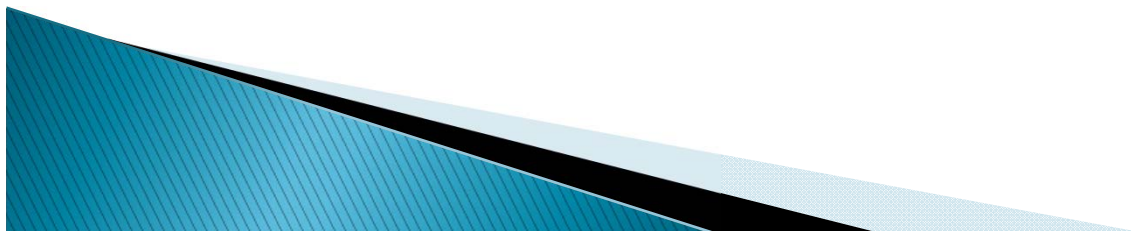
- ▶ FIG International Federation of Surveyors
- ▶ IHO International Hydrographic Organisation
- ▶ IAG International Association of Geodesy
- ▶ ICA International Cartographic Association
- ▶ IAENG International Association of Engineers
- ▶ IREA International Real Estate Association
- ▶ CASLE Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy

**poor collaboration among Regulatory Agencies/  
Professional Associations across the continent**



African Surveyors offer professional services and consultancy on land matters to their government and communities

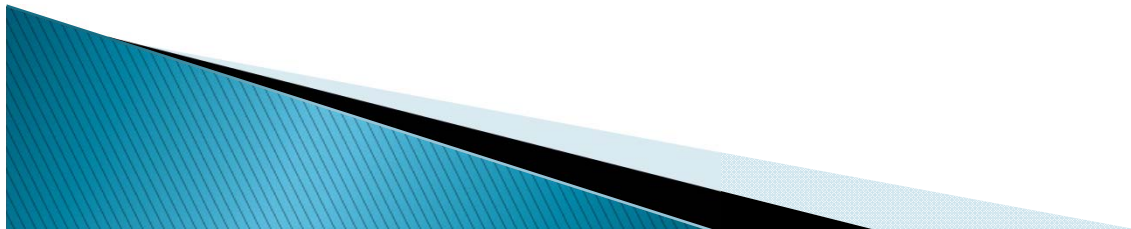
- ▶ Land policy formulation and implementation
- ▶ rapid urbanisation
- ▶ physical infrastructure development
- ▶ poverty alleviation programs
- ▶ disaster management
- ▶ community mapping
- ▶ transparency and good governance etc



# AFRICA IN STATISTICS: PERSPECTIVES AND IMPERATIVES OF ENGAGEMENT

- ▶ **COUNTRIES 54**
- ▶ Africa is the second largest and second most populous continent on earth.
- ▶ **LANDMASS** 30.37 millions square kilometres or 6 % earth surface and 20 % earth land area
- ▶ **POPULATION** 1.297 billion people or 16.64 % world population.
- ▶ **ANNUAL GROWTH** 2.55 %
- ▶ **GLOBAL YOUNGEST POPULATION** median age 19.7 years/global median 30.4 years
- ▶ **PROJECTIONS** 4 billion mark by 2100.

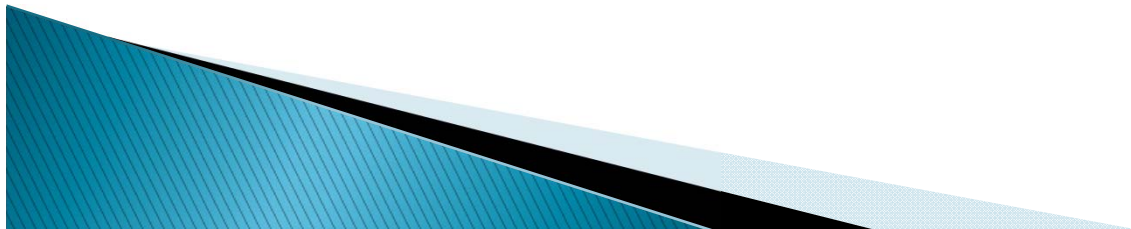
AFRICA is the most important continent to watch and engage with for development, global peace and environmental sustainability



# NIGERIA

- ▶ **POPULATION** 197 million/2018 (UN)
- ▶ **GROWTH RATE** 2.619 per cent (WB 2016)
  - above 15% of African population
  - 1 in every 43 people in the world
  - Africa's wealthiest country as per GDP
  - World's most mobile population
  - Africa's topmost educated entrepreneurs
  - Highest registered land professionals in Africa

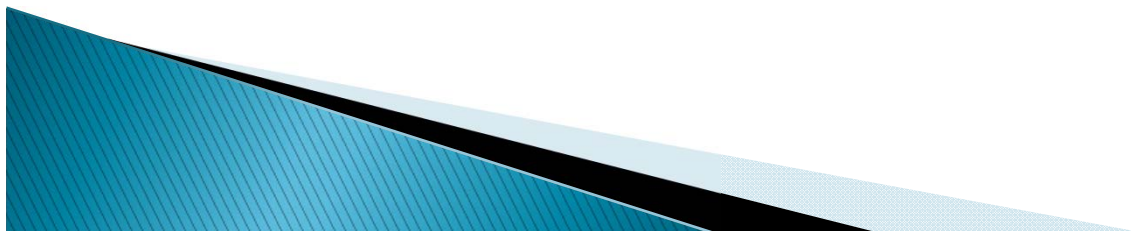
Nigeria dictates the trend of events in Africa.



# AFRICA LAND OF EXTREMITIES

- ▶ scores low in all SDGs
  - ▶ extreme poverty
  - ▶ Global Highest illiteracy rate
  - ▶ Underdevelopment & low GDP
  - ▶ Highest level of unemployment
  - ▶ Insecurity, insurgency, disillusionment
- and
- ▶ Minerals richest and most endowed of natural resources
  - ▶ Most diverse flora and fauna
  - ▶ Vast expanse productive soil
  - ▶ Abundant sunshine
  - ▶ World's most geological and meteorological stable continent.

These paradoxes underlie the need and urgency for global collaboration and more engagement with Africa to develop abundant resources for its citizens and world.

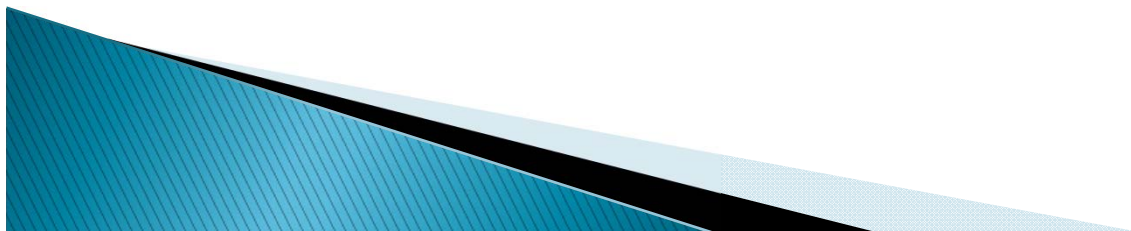




# COLLABORATION AND ENGAGEMENT WITH FIG: THE AFRICAN LAND SURVEYORS' PERSPECTIVES

## International Federation of Surveyors

- ▶ FIG numero uno global professional associations in geospatial information
- ▶ shaping Africa's professional worldview
- ▶ African capacity development
- ▶ Africa is building future together with FIG





## 2014 – 2018 FIG intensified reach to Africa by

- ▶ deliberate push to engage Africans
- ▶ Timely dissemination of information
- ▶ opening of new spaces for African land professionals
- ▶ Opportunity for African professionals to share experiences with global counterparts
- ▶ relevant inclusive themes from **Engaging the Challenges, Enhancing the Relevance to Embracing Our Smart World Where the Continents Connect** leaves none behind.

and

African professionals respond positively and gained

- more knowledge sync with global trends
- developed new skills
- established new strategic partnerships

This may translate into their ability to cope with present and future challenges facing the continent



# FIG WORKING WEEKS AND CONGRESSES: AFRICA ANSWERS THE CALL

## 2013

- Largest ever attended working week in FIG history Africa, Nigeria
- 12 African Countries in 2013

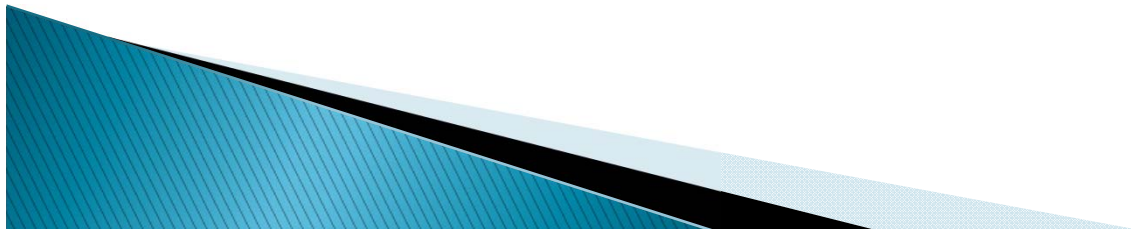
## 2014 CONGRESS

- Total delegates 2,132
- 15 African Countries
- 323 delegates or 15 % from Africa
- 237 delegates or 13 % of participants Nigerians
- 84 % of Africans Nigerians



## 2015 WORKING WEEK

- Total delegates 823
- 12 African countries
- 285 delegates or 35% from Africa
- 235 delegates or 29% from Nigeria
- 82 % of Africans Nigerians
- Nigeria 3 times more delegates than the host country Bulgaria which stood at 73

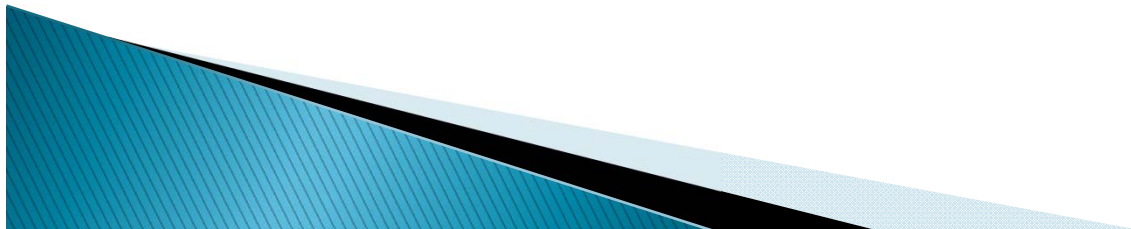


## 2016 WORKING WEEK

- The same status

## 2017 WORKING WEEK

- Total delegates 1346
- 21 African countries
- 241 delegates or 18% from Africa
- 149 delegates or 11% from Nigeria
- 62 % of Africans Nigerians.



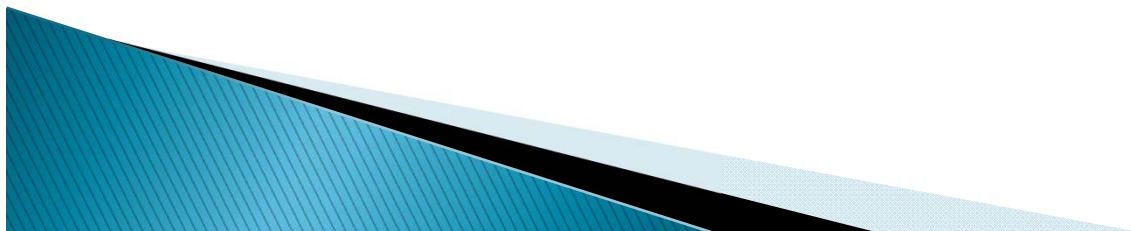
## MEMBERSHIP ASSOCIATIONS IN FIG

- 23 member associations from 20 countries or 22% of the FIG105 Associations.
- 13 academic memberships from 8 countries out of 86 members from 52 countries.
- 3 affiliate members from 3 countries.



## AFRICAN REGIONAL NETWORK ARN

- Innovative response to African needs
- 3 years of professional capacity development
- Engineering Institutional Reform
- Building partnerships
- Platform for young & seasoned African surveyors to share experience among age groups
- sharing country experiences and learning from each other



## **SURCON/FIG ENGAGEMENTS**

- ▶ Surveyors Council of Nigeria SURCON/FIG TRAIN – THE – TRAINER workshop 2017
  - 200 academicians from 33 polytechnics and 19 universities conducting courses in geomatics
  - Leadership development, fit-for-purpose, new ideas, sharing experiences
  - Hosts 2019 ARN
  - Mandates to reach out to francophone countries for ARN
  - To mobilize more professionals in the built industry in Nigeria for ARN/FIG





## SUPPORT AND COLLABORATIONS with WB, DFID, FAO, UN- HABITAT, USAID etc.

- ▶ SDG in 2015 – 2030 inclusiveness, engagement and strategic partnership is the key
- ▶ Challenges & opportunities posed by Africa
- ▶ All 17 goals are tied to land & land resources
  - Multifaceted approaches for efficient use & management of land
  - Aims to eliminate abject poverty & improve living standard
  - change citizen & government perception of land
  - ease of access to use & ownership of land
  - enhanced security of tenure
  - improvement in gender equality

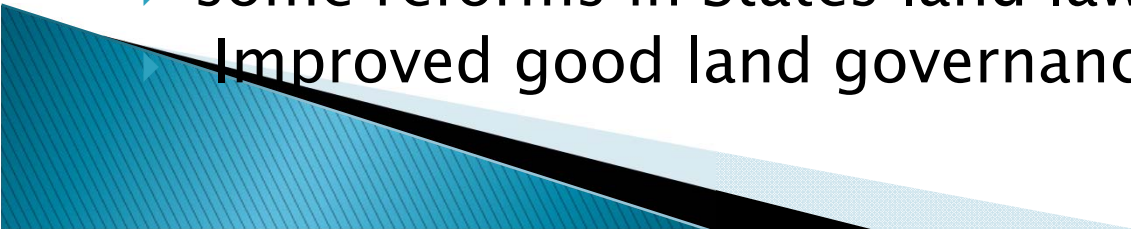


DFID as at 2016 has 15 land programs relevant to surveyors in 13 African countries.

- countrywide support for land titling and land administration
- forestry
- slum upgrade
- improving land information
- support for the poorest and most vulnerable in the society



# SUPPORT AND PARTNERSHIP IN NIGERIA: THE GEMS 3 / SLTR PROGRAM

- ▶ 23 out of 36 States of Nigeria changed from analogue processes to some form of functional GIS platforms
  - ▶ comprehensive overhaul of land & surveys registries
  - ▶ professional, leadership and management training for land managers
  - ▶ introduction of new work ethics
  - ▶ faster, transparent and affordable land transaction processes
  - ▶ land more accessible and affordable
  - ▶ improved security of tenure
  - ▶ gender equity in land ownership and use
  - ▶ higher revenues for States and the Country
  - ▶ significant strengthening of institutions
  - ▶ some reforms in States land laws
  - ▶ Improved good land governance in affected States
- 

## REMAINING RELEVANT IS THE KEY

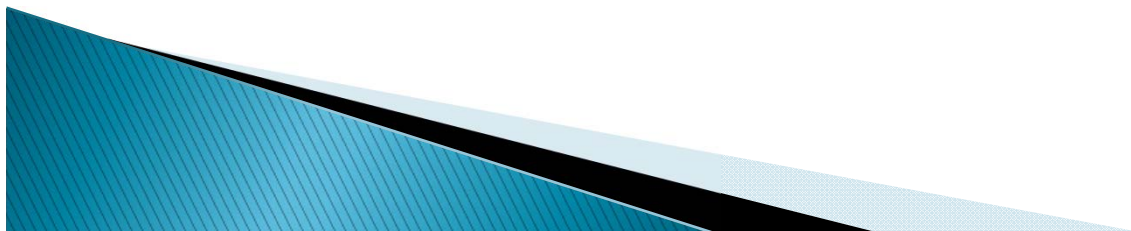
- ▶ African surveyors SWOT analysis to identify strength, need gap and proffer credible alternatives
- ▶ Ability to appreciate challenges and provide geospatial solutions to national issues guarantees relevance

### STRENGTHS, NIGERIAN EXAMPLE

- ▶ Robust Legislation SURCON: define surveyors, register surveyors, set standards, accredit institutions & course work, conduct professional examinations, control the practice, investigate ethical issues, enforce discipline in the profession in Nigeria
  - 3,427 Surveyors / 2,503 under mentorships / 716 Technicians
  - close to 5,000 students in various higher institutions
  - 1,106 new Surveyors 2014 –2018 / +500 expected at 2018 end
- ▶ Gender participation – nearly 350 Women Surveyors
- ▶ vibrant Young Surveyors
- ▶ NIS/ Association of Professional Bodies of Nigeria synergy among professionals
- ▶ Elevation of offices of surveyors – general to extra – ministerial status more involvement in land policy issues & decision making

## WEAKNESSES

- ▶ Africa the least mapped and the most uncharted continent.
- ▶ Data poverty means decisions taken by or on behalf of Africa are not scientific or data based
- ▶ Few professionals to turn around the 30 million square km. Nigeria ratio 1 surveyor to 57,500 ppl or 1 surveyor for each 270 km<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ pervasive poverty: disincentive to savings and investment
- ▶ Security challenges and insurgency
- ▶ Weak institutions enables corruption to thrive
- ▶ Poor implementation of Action and Development Plans
- ▶ Underdeveloped capacity and unutilised intelligence



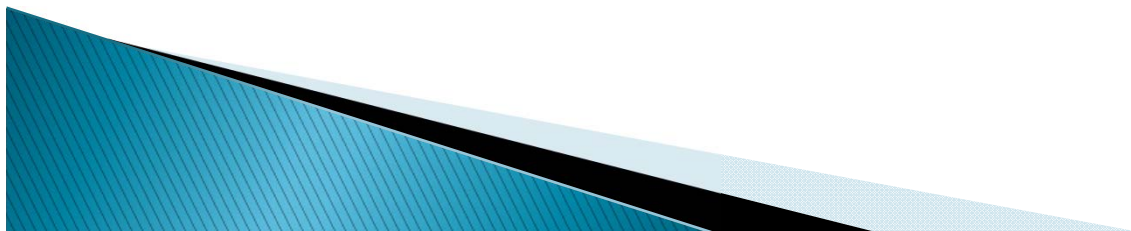
## OPPORTUNITIES: THE FIG

- ▶ FIG at advantageous position to
  - Coordinate synergy among Africa geospatial professionals
  - capacity development of African young surveyors
  - Change world view and introduce alternative solutions
  - Promote international partnerships and strategic regional cooperation
  - strengthen institutions and rule of law



## FIG ACTION PLAN FOR AFRICA SHOULD

- ▶ Support and engage Africa more
- ▶ promote geospatial tools for good land governance and decision making in Africa
- ▶ Contribute to building of African Regional Spatial Data Infrastructure (ARSDI) initiatives for
  - mapping Africa for Africa
  - definition of Geospatial Datasets for Africa
  - creation of African Regional Databases
  - development of African Interoperable Standards particularly AFREF and harmonised administrative boundaries (SALB) projects





## Cont.

- ▶ support land reforms, strengthening institutions and inviolability of rule of law
- ▶ grant more scholarship and opportunities for African young surveyors
- ▶ engage more Africans in FIG commissions and taskforces
- ▶ open more research grants for African scholars, academics and research works in geomatics
- ▶ support the African Land Surveyors Forum ALSurF objectives for setting Africa standards, coordination of professional practice, spatial data integrity in Africa
- ▶ advocate the cause of Africa at all relevant international forums



I STOP HERE

**A DWARF MUST HANG HIS BAG WHERE HIS HANDS  
CAN EASILY REACH**

– African Proverb

