

Newsletter commission 8



This year, unfortunately, we had to miss the opportunity to meet each other at the FIG Working Week in Amsterdam. Many commission 8 activities were scheduled during the FIG Working Week, including a fully booked tour about land and watermanagement. To bridge the time to the next Working Week, we will reach out to you in various digital ways; by this newsletter but also by organizing digital activities. However, not all planned activities can be replaced by digital means. Working groups 8.3 and 8.5 would have organised specials sessions at the FIG Working Week in Amsterdam about respectively urban challenges and creating sustainable community with density, and water governance. We have to discuss how we will follow up.

Urban-rural linkages

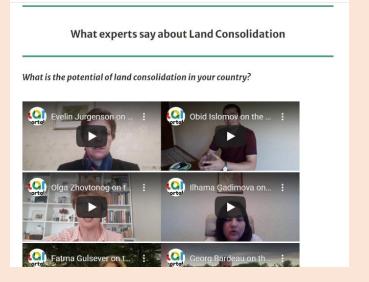
From the Working Group 8.1, dr. Uchendu Eugene Chigbu is leading the draft of the "Urban-rural land linkage framework" document which is a collaborative work between the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) of UN-Habitat and the FIG. Between the period of March 2020 until August 2020, this work has been able to progress from the production of a full draft which is now being peer-reviewed by wider global stakeholders on land. Specifically, the following deliverables have been achieved:

- Literature review on the land elements in urban-rural linkages process
- Documentation of the literature/scoping on a "framework for urban-rural land linkage"
- Production of a full draft on the "framework for urban-rural land linkage"
- Two on-line stakeholder meetings to assess and make inputs into the document
- Stakeholder consultation on inputs into the document

We are glad that the "Urban-rural Dependency Working Group" (8.1) is leading the draft of this document. It strengthens our collaborations internally with the FIG Commission 7 (who is coordinating the task) and externally with the GLTN/UN-Habitat.

Land Consolidation

From Working Group 8.4, several activities were initiated or took place. The joint session of FAO and commission 8 about the launch of the FAO Legal Guide on Land Consolidation was replaced by a well-attended webinar. After the welcome words and presentations, a lively discussion took place based on the questions addressed by the participants. Despite the different time zones, participants from all continents joined the webinar to learn more about land consolidation and how to shape a legal framework. More background information as well as short videos of fellow land consolidation experts from various countries can be found on the LandPortal website.



The annual LANDNET workshop is planned to be organized with FAO in Kiev in November 2020, provided that the COVID-19 pandemic allows us to travel. Otherwise it will be organized as a virtual event should travel is not possible.

After an initial round of discussion and consultation the concept of a generic tool for land consolidation was launched. The main underpinning principles of land consolidation are captured in a generic tool that can be adjusted to the local tenure system, land consolidation law, procedures, valuation method etc. Such a generic tool makes it unnecessary for countries or projects to develop their own customized system from scratch. A paper was submitted to be presented at the FIG Working Week in Amsterdam. Since we have not had the possibility to discuss the concept in a broader setting, we would like to organise a webinar or the like with peers soon.

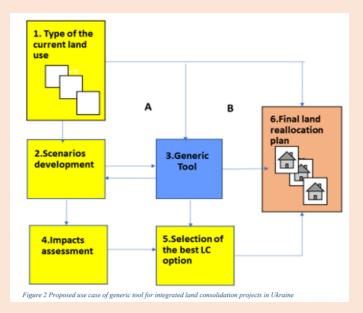


FIG Working Week 2021

Thanks to the Ghanaian offer, the Local Organizing Committee of the Netherlands will extend their work up to the FIG Working Week in 2021. Preparations for the Working Week next year will start soon or have actually already started. Due to the uncertainties that the COVID-19 pandemic still imposes, it will be a somewhat different preparation than other years. How the Working Week will take shape is part of the discussion. Keep an eye out for the FIG newsletter that will keep you informed with the latest developments. For sure, there will be a call for papers. Also, the procedure for the election of new commission chairs for the term 2023 - 2029 is expected to open. Normally, the new chairs are elected a year before the term starts as to allow for a smooth handover.

Finally, we are happy to remind you of the possibility to contact commission 8 directly,

please use the following email address: figcommission8@fig.net

Kind regards,

Marije Louwsma, chair