

# FIG Young Surveyors Network

## Report 2011-2014



### 1. Introduction

This document serves as a report on the 2011-2014 period of the Young Surveyors Network. It identifies the learnings and outputs as the YSN has grown during its second term as a Network within the FIG. It references the revised workplan of the YSN, presented at the 2012 FIG Rome Working Week.

Key achievements of the YSN in the 2011-2014 term include:

- Hosting the inaugural Young Surveyors Conference in Rome with over 120 young surveyors attending from across 40 countries.
- Taking a leading role in delivering FIG commitments, such as the Social Tenure Domain Model training and leading the organisation of the Pacific Small Island Developing States Symposium
- Working closely with the FIG Commissions, Task Forces, Foundation, and members to facilitate technical sessions, young surveyor representation and attendance at key FIG events
- Growth of social media network, including 500 followers on twitter, 3500 on Facebook and 500 on LinkedIn
- Development and hosting of four regional young surveyor meetings across Europe (Lisbon, Portugal), North America (San Diego, California, coinciding with the Californian Land Surveyors Meeting), Africa (Cape Town, South Africa, coinciding with AfricaGEO) and Asia (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, coinciding with the 2014 FIG Congress).

### 2. Terms of Reference

The FIG Young Surveyors Network addresses the need for young surveyor representation within the FIG, and the need to ensure FIG activities are meeting the needs of not only students and young professionals, but also youth as a broad category within society.

Young surveyors are defined as<sup>1</sup>:

- Surveyors aged 35 years or under
- Students of surveying
- Surveyors within 10 years of graduating from a Bachelor or Masters Degree.

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<sup>1</sup> It must be stressed that the network is provided for those who need it , so there may be many who qualify as 'young surveyors' but who do not require the services of the network, and similarly many who do not qualify but who may still benefit from the network.

Throughout this term, the YSN has grown to better acknowledge the varying needs of young surveyors as they progress within the profession. Students and recent graduates are likely to need much greater support and encouragement to attend and fully contribute to FIG events. They are also more hesitant to take on roles within FIG Commissions. Graduates with 5 – 10 years experience, and/or PhD candidates are much more established in their fields, may have access to a wider variety of grants and fellowships, and have different needs and expectations from FIG events – yet still require support and encouragement to realise the full benefits of participation.

### **3. Mission**

The FIG YSN in its 2011-2014 term has departed from the model of other Networks and Commissions within the FIG, to propose a vision, mission and goals alongside key identified activities. The mission of the YSN was articulated across three core components: to represent, to link and to act. The following details how each of these aspects was achieved:

#### *Represent:*

- Young surveyors were enabled to be present at all FIG events through awareness raising, promotion of sponsorship opportunities and advocacy with national member associations
- The YSN Chair and/or Incoming-Chair were present at all ACCO meetings, and held meetings with the FIG Council and Working Groups to ensure the representation of YSN views.
- YSN was invited to several UN-Habitat Expert Group Meetings on Youth and Land, to contribute to the identification of youth needs from land.

#### *Link:*

- YSN linked with the FIG Foundation to provide fellowships to FIG events and to host regional YSN meetings that connected young surveyors with the international arena.
- All YSN opportunities are promoted through national member associations, with promotion of co-funding initiatives, to ensure young surveyors were connected to these associations as much as possible.
- The YSN newsletter and social media groups regularly promoted events, both local and international.
- National young surveyor networks have been promoted, with many newly formed during the 2011-2014 period with the support of the YSN (eg. South Africa and Senegal).

#### *Act:*

- The FIG YSN has proactively engaged with FIG Commissions, Networks and Partners, including the Global Land Tool Network, ESRI and Trimble to develop projects and opportunities for young surveyors. These have included Social Tenure Domain Model trainings, scoping of a Struve Arc project and the young surveyor stream of the AfricaGEO 2014 event.

### **4. Goals**

1. Young surveyor representative to each Commission

Achieved. Although work will need to be done to ensure this continues with new representatives in the 2015 – 2018 term, and more formal and effective roles are achieved for these young surveyors. Challenges include ensuring continuity in case of changes to young surveyor representatives, and ensuring effective feedback and promotion of Commission events to the wider YSN community.

#### 2. Young surveyor contacts for FIG National Member Associations

Achieved. The African Task Force meetings and Regional Young Surveyor Meetings have contributed to the YSN having contacts across more than 50% of FIG National Member Associations (and several non-member countries). The challenge is now to build on this capacity and better link these young surveyors to the FIG Commissions and Task Forces.

#### 3. Young surveyor delegates from FIG National Member Associations

Partially achieved. Many FIG Member Associations now have dedicated young surveyor streams. Unfortunately these streams are yet to identify the need for an official FIG Young Surveyor delegate. Still, there are many organisations promoting and supporting their young surveyors to attend and participate in FIG events, which is an excellent initial step.

#### 4. Young surveyor event held in each region

Achieved. Regional Young Surveyor meetings have been held in Europe and North America, and will be held at the FIG Congress (Asia) in May 2014 and at AfricaGEO (Africa) in July 2014.

#### 5. YSN assisted in coordination of FIG events

Achieved. The YSN has not only developed and coordinated Young Surveyor Conferences at the 2012 Rome Working Week and the 2014 Kuala Lumpur Congress, but has also coordinated STDM trainings at the Abuja Working Week, at the Commission 7 LADM Workshop and at the 2014 Kuala Lumpur Congress. YSN also played a leading in coordinating the 2013 FIG Pacific Small Island Developing States Symposium.

#### 6. FIG YSN webpage kept up to date

Achieved. With the support of the FIG Office, the YSN newsletters have been posted at the website, alongside promotions for various funding, training and other opportunities.

#### 7. FIG YSN contribution to FIG website redesign

Not achieved. The FIG website upgrade has been delayed.

#### 8. FIG Young Surveyor Facebook page membership and usage

Achieved. The FIG YSN Facebook page has grown exponentially from 2011 – 2014, now including over 3500 people in the Facebook group. Facebook is by far the most dynamic and

collaborative space for young surveyors, with an average of 2 posts per day, and with young surveyors from all over the world regularly posting and contributing.

9. FIG Young Surveyor Linked In page membership and usage

Partially Achieved. The FIG Young Surveyor LinkedIn page is growing in membership and posts, but still struggles to gain the same traction as the Facebook page. This is likely a function of culture, and a lack of YS championing this page.

10. FIG YSN newsletter publications

Partially achieved. The FIG YSN newsletter has published three issues each year, nearly achieving our original aim of quarterly editions. The newsletter is an excellent tool to promote young surveyor activities around the world, and regularly receives submissions from around the world.

11. FIG YSN works with FIG Commissions and Partners to promote surveying

Achieved. The FIG YSN participated in the Commission 1 meeting on the Definition of surveyors and is working with Trimble and the FIG Institution for the History of Surveying and Measurement to develop an African Struve Arc project. Young Surveyors around the world continue to promote surveying in their communities, as demonstrated by numerous posts on Facebook and articles within the YSN Newsletter.

12. FIG YSN works with Commission 1 to develop a report to the FIG Council

Not achieved. This did not develop, but publications from the young surveyors should be a key focus for the future.

**5. Key Events**

<b>2014</b>	
24 - 27 March	Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty: Land Governance in the Post-2015 Agenda: Harnessing Synergies for Implementation and Monitoring Impact , Washington DC, USA <i>YSN contributed to a joint UN-Habitat/FIG/GLTN Strategy Session on Youth and Land.</i>
13-14 April	FIG Young Surveyors 1st North American Network Meeting, San Diego, California <i>Regional Young Surveyors Meeting organised by FIG YSN</i>
13-21 June	XXV FIG Congress and General Assembly in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia to include Second FIG Young Surveyors Conference and STDM Training of Trainers, organised by FIG, GLTN and FIG YSN
25 June – 1 July	The 27th International Geodetic Student Meeting (IGSM), Istanbul, Turkey <i>FIG YSN continues to link to the IGSM and will support and provide a representative to attend.</i>
1-3 July	2 <sup>nd</sup> AfricaGEO Conference, Cape Town, South Africa <i>FIG YSN is supporting a young surveyors stream to this conference</i>

7 – 9 October	Intergeo, Berlin <i>A second Regional Young Surveyors European Meeting will coincide with Intergeo.</i>
<b>2013</b>	
6-10 May	FIG Working Week 2013 Abuja, Nigeria <i>Joint UN-Habitat GLTN and FIG Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) Training of Trainers Workshop for Young Surveyors /Professionals hosted.</i>
18 – 20 June	South East Asia Survey Congress 2013, Manila , Philippines <i>YSN worked with local young surveyors to deliver a Filipino Young Surveyors Meeting.</i>
18 – 20 September	FIG Pacific Small Island Development States Symposium – Policies and practices for Responsible Governance , Suva, Fiji Website: <a href="http://www.fig.net/fiji/">http://www.fig.net/fiji/</a> <i>YSN led the coordination and reporting of this event.</i>
23 – 25 September	International FIG Workshop on the Land Administration Domain Model (LADM2013) including Young Surveyor session on <i>STDM – An introduction to a pro-poor land information system</i> , Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia <i>YSN coordinated the one-day STDM side-event.</i>
10 – 16 October	V International Professional Training Course on Topography for Young Surveyors, Lisbon, Portugal <i>YSN worked with local hosts to coordinate the affiliated FIG Young Surveyors European Meeting</i>
17 – 18 October	1 <sup>st</sup> FIG Young Surveyors European Meeting, Lisbon Portugal <a href="http://figysn.ordemengenheiros.pt/pt/">http://figysn.ordemengenheiros.pt/pt/</a>
<b>2012</b>	
24-25 January	Expert Group Meeting on Exploring the Youth Dimensions of the Global Land Tools Agenda <i>FIG YSN invited to present</i>
4 – 10 May	FIG Young Surveyors Conference and FIG Working Week, Rome, Italy <i>FIG YSN hosted a Young Surveyors Conference Side-event and sessions throughout the working week.</i>
2 – 6 September	UN-Habitat World Urban Forum 6, Naples, Italy <i>YSN represented FIG and spoke at a panel event on youth and land.</i>
17 – 28 September	IV International Training Course in Topography, Madrid, Spain <i>50 Young surveyors attended. Event organised by CNGeGL.</i>
26 – 28 September	FIG Commission 2 Workshop "Global Trends and Convergence in Surveying Education", Russia <i>FIG YSN supported one young surveyor to attend.</i>
9 – 11 October	Intergeo, Hannover, Germany <i>Students meeting held at which YSN presented</i>
22 -23 October	Africa Task Force meeting in Ghana <i>FIG YSN represented by 6 young surveyors.</i>

5 – 7 November	Trimble Dimensions Conference, Las Vegas, USA <i>FIG YSN supported by FIG Foundation to be present and meet with Californian young surveyors.</i>
26 – 29 November	FIG Regional Conference in Montevideo, Uruguay <i>FIG Young Surveyor session hosted jointly with UN-Habitat GLTN</i>
16 - 18 December	GLTN Workshop on Youth and Land, Casablanca, Morocco <i>FIG YSN invited to attend and present by UN-Habitat GLTN.</i>

## 6. Publications

### Newsletters

April 2012: [http://www.fig.net/ys/Newsletters/ys\\_newsletter\\_april\\_2012.pdf](http://www.fig.net/ys/Newsletters/ys_newsletter_april_2012.pdf)

August 2012: [http://www.fig.net/ys/Newsletters/ys\\_Newsletter\\_Aug\\_2012.pdf](http://www.fig.net/ys/Newsletters/ys_Newsletter_Aug_2012.pdf)

November 2012: [http://www.fig.net/ys/Newsletters/ys\\_Newsletter\\_nov\\_2012.pdf](http://www.fig.net/ys/Newsletters/ys_Newsletter_nov_2012.pdf)

April 2013 [http://www.fig.net/ys/Newsletters/ys\\_newsletter\\_april\\_2013.pdf](http://www.fig.net/ys/Newsletters/ys_newsletter_april_2013.pdf)

August 2013 [http://www.fig.net/ys/Newsletters/ys\\_Newsletter\\_August\\_2013.pdf](http://www.fig.net/ys/Newsletters/ys_Newsletter_August_2013.pdf)

September 2013 [http://www.fig.net/ys/Newsletters/ysn\\_newsletter\\_december\\_2013.pdf](http://www.fig.net/ys/Newsletters/ysn_newsletter_december_2013.pdf)

### Selected Articles

[http://www.gim-international.com/news/id6605-FIG\\_Working\\_Week\\_Opens\\_in\\_Rome.html](http://www.gim-international.com/news/id6605-FIG_Working_Week_Opens_in_Rome.html)

[http://www.gim-international.com/issues/articles/id2013-International\\_Federation\\_of\\_Surveyors\\_FIG.html](http://www.gim-international.com/issues/articles/id2013-International_Federation_of_Surveyors_FIG.html)

[http://www.gim-international.com/news/id6265-Third\\_Training\\_Course\\_in\\_Topography\\_for\\_Young\\_Surveyors.html](http://www.gim-international.com/news/id6265-Third_Training_Course_in_Topography_for_Young_Surveyors.html)

[www.profsurv.com/magazine/article.aspx?i=71266](http://www.profsurv.com/magazine/article.aspx?i=71266)

<http://www.profsurv.com/magazine/article.aspx?i=71451>

[http://www.isk.or.ke/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=167:isk-hosts-a-cocktail-for-fig-young-surveyors-network-chair-&catid=41:news&Itemid=207](http://www.isk.or.ke/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=167:isk-hosts-a-cocktail-for-fig-young-surveyors-network-chair-&catid=41:news&Itemid=207)

[www.glt.n.net](http://www.glt.n.net)

### Selected FIG papers and presentations (as at March 2014)

(In Development) Fairlie K. et al. 2014 *Developing Young Surveyors in Africa* To be presented at AfricaGEO, June 2014, Cape Town, South Africa

(In Development) Musungu, K. et al. 2014 *Young Surveyors and International Registration Opportunities*, To be presented at AfricaGEO, June 2014, Cape Town, South Africa

Fairlie, K. and Unger, E. 2012 *The Sustainable Development of Young Surveyors: An Update on Network Status and Needs*. 8th FIG Regional Conference / TS01A - Professional Standards and Practice [17TS01A]

Unger, E. and Navratil, G. 2012 *The Interaction between Student Numbers and the Quality of Teachers - Review and Current* First FIG Young Surveyors Conference - Young Surveyors: Knowing to create the future / Workshop 1.1 - Young Surveying Professionals [16SS03A]

**WUF6 statement (2012)**

<http://youth21dotorg.wordpress.com/2012/09/12/youth-statement-of-the-6th-world-urban-forum-2012/>

**March 2014**

**Kate Fairlie**, Chair, FIG Young Surveyors Network

**Eva-Maria Unger**, Incoming Chair, FIG Young Surveyors Network