



Improving Professional Skills in support of Resilience and Sustainability The Role of Surveyors in the Era of Crowdsourcing and VGI

Prof Chryssy A Potsiou, NTUA
FIG Honorary President
UNECE WPLA Vice Chair

chryssy.potsiou@gmail.com

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content



Thanks to the UN GGIM Academic Network for selecting the topic: **Building Technical Capacities for resilience & sustainability**

- Resilience & Sustainability: Challenges and Opportunities
- The FIG publication 73: “New Trends in Geospatial Information: The Land Surveyors Role in the Era of Crowdsourcing and VGI,” now available at:
<http://www.fig.net/resources/publications/figpub/pub73/Figpub73.pdf>.

What is the biggest development challenge?

Food security? Job creation? Climate change adaptation? Gender and inclusion?
Security? Health? education? Debt? Digital transformation? institutions? Energy?
sharing economic opportunities?

Building Capacity and Mindset change



Sustainable development

No poverty-How do we get there?

Development is: having high human capital, good health, food, water, education, institutions, adequate infrastructure, good jobs (in the formal economy that pay well and provide benefits and security to people), ...

But:

a. "where do we start?", "What should we prioritize"? Countries may not have the capacity to work in all fronts simultaneously.

We need to address **all fronts simultaneously** in order to achieve sustained growth.

b. It is not just "what we do" but "How do we do it?"

Careful implementation and monitoring is a challenge.

c. We need information, to share experience, to provide reliable data/ geospatial data timely in affordable manner; to **increase relevance in education and professional skills.**



Climate change mitigation/adaptation and resilience

“How do we make good development decisions for an uncertain world?”



In absence of good development policies the number of those in poverty may increase.

Climate adaptation and resilience is needed, so that people will survive. Adaptation is a local issue that requires global knowledge.

Countries should integrate climate change into their development decisions, e.g., road planning, housing projects, water infrastructure, agricultural patterns, forestry, coastal zone management, ...

...

By spending 3% more, we can save 4.2 trillion\$ in the overall lifetime of infrastructure

a. To show to politicians the cost of inaction.

b. To contribute in developing smart land management tools.

c. Mindset change.

Mitigation: Pricing/taxing carbon creates an incentive to reduce emissions

Adaptation: Pricing risk, rating projects in terms of resilience is a challenge



The digital economy - data economy - is it an opportunity for everyone?

the branch of economics studying zero marginal cost of intangible goods over the Net



Digital networking and communication infrastructures have provided a global platform over which people and organizations devise strategies, interact, communicate, participate, collaborate and search for information

e-government, e-business, e-commerce, e-democracy, e-participation and m-government

This year we celebrate a milestone: the world reached 50% of connectivity

- Much of the information exchanged through this activity is geo-referenced, structured and unstructured.
- Extended use of affordable smart devices



“with a 10% increase in high-speed Internet connections, economic growth increases by 1.3% and leads to democratization of innovation”

“we may boost the global GDP by \$1 trillion by connecting the remaining 50%”

“5G will enable low-cost, low-power sensors to be embedded in building, appliances, and vehicles & will be a key enabler of the “internet of things.”

The road to digital transformation is not yet

clear: There are hundreds of opportunities, but also there are several challenges and many unanswered questions



- Competition became more global and more intense-Many fear the loss of jobs digitalization may bring
- Challenges that governments still face may include:
 - providing the **digital infrastructure**;
 - providing **robust regulations; preventing digital crime**;
 - Enabling **more investment**, dealing with existing **informalities** to improve openness, stability and trust for investors;
 - investing in **affordable energy**;
 - increasing **connectivity in society** (business & people) to maximize benefits from investments; urbanization? Prioritize metropolitan areas?
 - enabling **digital financial inclusion** for sustainable digital and technological entrepreneurship; **the digital poor? The gender dimension?**
 - Internet of everyone?**
 - Increasing **adaptation speed**; creating a digital society, **improving the digital skills of the public**, providing on-line training to **minimize the gap** between the developed and the developing worlds, and providing **information about skill-flow and job opportunities** ; retraining; etc



Building Capacity: See the opportunity not the complexity

- Surveyors & geospatial experts are challenged to take a long, hard look at their role as **change agents to ensure democratization and make digitalization a peaceful transition for the benefit of all**
- to make a practical application of the available technology, update their tools and manage a “tsunami” of available geo-data; to be able to collect, integrate, manage, visualize, process and provide reliable and personalized geospatial information for their clients reliably and timely, as it is needed.
- to provide affordable, reliable and fit-for-purpose solutions for their clients.
- It’s about using the latest technology and developing the appropriate tools and methods **to do what we already do – but better; more services, different services**



The FIG publication 73: “New Trends in Geospatial Information The Land Surveyors Role in the Era of Crowdsourcing and V



- work may be done **faster and cheaper** but most importantly it allows the collection of such data that **would never be possible** to be collected by traditional methods
- **better services** with **even fewer errors**
- the issue of **validation** is critical
- its primary value is in the geo-data *collection* process
- It may assume a certain amount of **preparation and training** of members of the so-called crowd
- people **motivation**
- in the data **collection** phase, but also in the **editing** of geo-data and even further in **providing their experience for defining policies and procedures**

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