

FIG CONGRESS 2022  
VOLUNTEERING FOR THE FUTURE: SMART SURVEYORS FOR SOCIAL GOOD

I attended the FIG Congress in Warsaw, Poland, which was my first international trip and a memorable conference. I'm grateful to the FIG Foundation for the opportunity.

In April 2022, I received an award from Geosys for achieving the overall first position in a national essay competition. On my way back, I spoke with Surv. David Elegbede to express my gratitude to Geosys for the award. He informed me about FIG for the first time and provided me with the link to apply.

With only six days left before the deadline, I immediately drafted my application. I also reached out to my lecturer and HOD (Head of Department) for reference letters, which they promptly provided due to the urgency. I submitted my application on the deadline day.

Not expecting much, I forgot about my application. However, one day in July, while my mom, Comfort Oduwegwu, was making my hair, I decided to check my email. To my surprise, I found an email from FIG sent two days earlier. Overwhelmed with excitement, my mom and I started dancing in the living room.

On September 07th, I was on my way to the conference. I flew from Asaba to Lagos, then Lagos to Istanbul, and finally Istanbul to Warsaw. However, I missed my flight from Istanbul and lost contact with FIG and my family due to the lack of internet connection. I was able to get in touch when a kind stranger shared their wifi with me. I'm grateful for the quick response from Surv. David Elegbede, Everlyn, and Losechukwu Oduwegwu. Everlyn assured me that she would ensure I made it to the conference and booked another flight for me.

The conference was a new experience for me. I attended various technical sessions, gala dinner, commission dinner exhibitions. Together with other young surveyors, we toured the city of warsaw and also visited the vodka museum. I had the privilege of participating in the Leica AP20 competition and also volunteered to manage the social media handles for commission 2. I made several connections, I intend keeping in touch with.

During the conference, I met Mr. John Hohol- FIG Foundation President, who initially informed me of my selection. He treated me like a daughter, ensuring I was comfortable and providing me with valuable guidance throughout the conference.

## A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words



On flight from Asaba to Lagos.  
My mum seeing me off to catch  
my flight to Poland in Lagos.



Arrived Warsaw with so much Joy and Gratitude  
to the FIG Foundation for the invaluable  
opportunity to explore.



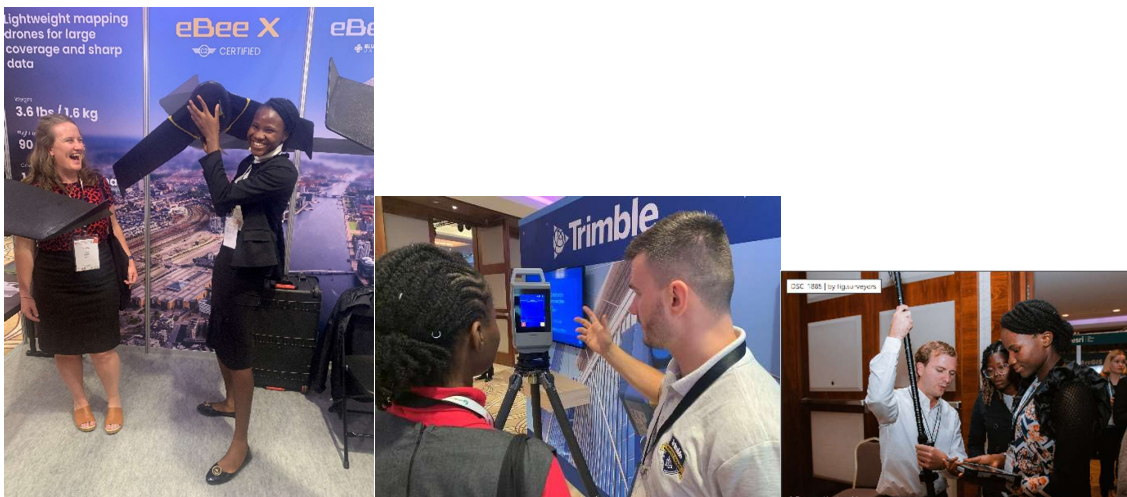
I am honored to have received the certificate of winning the  
grant from Mr. John Hohol. I extend my sincere gratitude to  
Mr. Hohol and the FIG Foundation for this opportunity and  
their support.



Meeting Surveyors from diverse backgrounds



The technical sessions were inspiring, packed with valuable information. After one of the sessions, I reached out to my mentor, expressing my feelings of inadequacy upon witnessing the advanced developments in surveying from other parts of the world.



During the exhibition, I discovered many instruments I didn't know existed. What intrigued me the most was how they simplified the surveying process.



We visited the Polish Vodka Museum in Warsaw which is dedicated to the rich history and cultural significance of vodka in Poland.



A nice time at the Commission 2 dinner.



Gala dinner with Mr. John Hohol and other FIG Foundation young surveyor grant recipients was heart warming.



On the last day of the conference, the FIG Foundation young surveyor grant recipients were asked to introduce themselves and share their future aspirations.



Returning to Nigeria, I felt more motivated than ever to pursue my career as a surveyor. I decided to focus more on my studies and advocate for FIG. This experience also inspired me to become a role model for many young female surveyors.

Oduwegwu Obianinulu

Nigeria