

Climate Change Task Force
Report to FIG XXV General Assembly

While individual members of the FIG have had a substantial involvement in climate change studies over a number of years, it was at the FIG General assembly in Sydney in 2010 that some of the explicit climate change impacts on small-island states were formally recognised. It was also recognised that within its membership, and by virtue of the diversity of expertise of the surveyor, the FIG had a substantial body of knowledge and experience that could be of assistance to the global community as it grappled with climate change issues. At that time the FIG resolved to establish a Climate Change Task Force that would report back to the 2014 General Assembly.

Since its formal establishment in 2011, the Climate Change Task Force has met at each of the subsequent Working Weeks. It has also conducted its business through email contact. The primary goals of the Task Force have been:

1. To identify those areas where surveyors can assist uniquely the international community to better understand the effects and impacts of climate change and can provide advice on how to mitigate and cope with the effects of climate change.
2. To assist FIG meet its MOU partnership commitments to the FAO, UN-Habitat, International Association of Geodesy, (IAG), and the World Bank with respect to climate change studies and initiatives.
3. To consider and comment, as appropriate to the skills of a surveyor, on the design and use of any global measuring, monitoring and management systems that might be used to identify and mitigate the effects of climate change.

In order to meet these goals, the Task Force produced an outline of the issues it felt should be included in the report and then allocated writing responsibilities to various members of the Task Force. In meeting these responsibilities, it has been greatly assisted by specific members of other FIG Commissions who have had overlapping technical interests. The Task Force has produced a comprehensive report entitled, "*The surveyor's contribution to monitoring, mitigating and adapting to climate change*". A complete draft version of this report has been presented to this Assembly. Subject to final critical comment and subsequent amendments it is anticipated that the report will be published later this year.

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