

# **Appreciative Report as a Grant Awardee for the FIG Foundation**

## **1.0 Acknowledgment**

I want to express my profound gratitude to God Almighty for making this journey possible through the FIG Foundation. I extend my heartfelt thanks to the FIG Foundation for granting me the opportunity to attend the FIG Working Week in Accra, Ghana, in 2024. This conference was a remarkable experience, filled with enriching activities and events that were both educational and inspiring. It served as a significant stepping stone in my career development.

During the conference, I was honored to be appointed as the Vice Chair Technical for the FIG Young Surveyors Network. Additionally, I was thrilled to receive the grant award. None of this would have been possible without the support of the FIG Foundation and Mr. Steve Djaba. This opportunity allowed me to witness these experiences, meet numerous professionals, and even participate in the NSPS Surveyors Talk Podcast ([Podcast link](#)). I am truly grateful for this opportunity.

I also extend my sincere thanks to Bryn Fosburgh and John Hohol for their unwavering support and warm hospitality throughout the event. From the breakfast meeting to the gala dinner, it was an honor to sit with men filled with wisdom who genuinely wanted to hear my story and were interested in bettering the lives of young surveyors. Although visa issues prevented me from attending the FIG Working Week 2023 in the USA, I believe everything happens for a reason, and I remain appreciative.

## **1.1 Participation**

### **1.1.1 Perception of Attending the Working Week**

The Working Week was an activity-filled conference, from planning to execution. Aside from chairing a session and rapporteuring various sessions, my involvement with the FIG Diversity and Inclusion Task Force, the Volunteer Community Surveyor Program (VCSP), and the Climate Compass Task Force was exhilarating. Seeing the teams I have been working with bring our planned sessions to fruition was incredibly rewarding.

### **1.1.2 Sessions and Activities Attended**

#### **Organizing Team Member: 8th YSC for 2024**

Being the lead communication person for the 8<sup>th</sup> FIG Young Surveyors Network organizing Committee was amazing. Ensuring publicity and recognition was a priority, and it would be unfair not to appreciate the hard work of the organizing team for such a fun-filled and insightful conference. Being a part of this was rewarding.



### Speaker at YSN Conference: VCSP and Green Skills

In the engaging session titled "Green Skills and the Role of Young Surveyors," I showcased the pioneering spirit of next-generation mappers in promoting sustainable practices. Representing the FIGYSN Volunteer Community Surveyor Program (VCSP) as the Engagement Lead, I delivered an inspiring presentation on how VCSP volunteers are championing Sustainable land rights. Quoting the recent VCSP publication, I highlighted the critical role of young surveyors in advocating for equitable land use and environmental stewardship.





## ESRI Training Session

The ESRI Technical Session, led by the charismatic Pauline Okoye, Senior Solutions Engineer at ESRI, was a highlight of the Young Surveyors' training workshops. The session was a masterclass in leveraging the Africa GeoPortal for sustainable development. Pauline expertly guided participants through the intricacies of using ESRI's cutting-edge data, mapping tools, and apps to identify optimal sites for high-efficiency wind turbines. Putting this session together with Pauline, Richard, Michael, and the team involved extensive discussions on how to make it work, and it was a resounding success.



## FIG Charity Event

Our involvement can make a significant difference. The FIG YSN-VCSP is dedicated to empowering young surveyors and communities through volunteerism, offering vital support and resources where they are needed most. Meanwhile, the FIG Foundation focuses on advancing the geospatial sciences, aiding in research, education, and outreach worldwide. We sold caps contributed by Leica and had fun while making money. Though my team lost, playing beach volleyball was a balance between work and play. As the famous saying goes, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy."



# Award Grant

Receiving the grant and speaking about my story was a memorable moment for me.





## **Panel for World Bank and Land Administration**

Consultations on the Global World Bank Program on Access to Land for Sustainable Climate Action and Infrastructure featured Mr. Mika Torhonen, Global Lead Land Administration Specialist at the World Bank, and Mr. Linus Pott, Sr. Land Administration Specialist at the World Bank as rapporteur. The consultations sought to hear voices from Africa but were open to participants from all regions. Representing the FIG Young Surveyors Network and being a member of the Climate compass Task Force, I echoed the need for sustainable land practices for climate action. I want to thank the World Bank and its representatives for giving a voice to the young generation. It was truly amazing to see young women as fellow panelists taking the stage for this discussion.



## **1.2 FIG Climate Compass Task Force**

### **1.2.1 Panel for the Climate Task Force**

I chaired a joint session with Commission 7 and the Climate compass Task Force on "Climate Change and Land Administration." This session rapidly unpacked the links between climate change and administration, exploring how this connection is reflected in policies, laws, challenges, and innovations at both country and international levels. For me, this session was a reflection of what the world truly is. It taught me that climate change is happening at different stages in different regions. Everyone gave their own personal experiences of climate change in their regions. It was educational but yet disheartening to hear the amount of destruction happening in regions such as Fiji and the landslides.

### **1.2.2 Panel for the Climate Compass Task Force/Climate Compass Task Force Rapporteur**

I was the rapporteur for another session of the Climate Action Task Force, which focused on mapping the surveying profession's climate impact potential. Additionally, I was a panelist in the interactive workshop session "Exploring Climate Issues Together," where we discussed the latest thinking from practitioners on climate and surveying and encouraged participatory discussion from attendees.



## **1.3 Volunteer Community Surveyors Program**

### **1.3.1 Youth Impact on Land Administration**

I participated in showcasing the impact of the VCSP in the session "The Impact of Youth on Land Administration Globally." As a rapporteur, it was an honor to see the hard work of the team come to life, particularly during the launch of the first VCSP publication, which I contributed to significantly. Once again, I express my sincere appreciation to the FIG Foundation for this incredible opportunity.

## **1.4 FIG Diversity and Inclusion Task Force**

Recognizing the imperative of fostering diverse perspectives, equitable opportunities, and inclusive practices, this session served as a platform for dialogue, reflection, and action towards building a more inclusive profession.

### **1.4.1 Promoting Inclusive Practices in Geospatial Professions**

This session aimed to explore and advocate for inclusive practices within the geospatial professions, recognizing the importance of diversity in shaping the field's future. Embracing inclusivity involves acknowledging and accommodating individuals from all walks of life, including initiatives like engaging "Kids in Survey." This novel approach introduces young minds to the wonders of geospatial technology, fostering interest and diversity in the profession from an early age. By promoting inclusive practices, we can create a more equitable and vibrant surveying community that thrives on diverse perspectives and experiences.

## **1.5 Questionnaire**

As Chair of Working Group 3.0 on Generational Sustainability under the FIG Diversity and Inclusion Task Force to understand the perspectives of bias in the workplace, we conducted a detailed questionnaire as part of our efforts.

## **1.6 Gala Night**

The gala night was a remarkable event filled with great music and culture. My favorite part was when Roshni Sharma from Australia, Climate Compass Task Force Chair and VCSP Chair, was awarded the Queen Mother at the FIG Working Week 2024.



## 1.7 Conclusion

The most important outcomes for me from the Working Week were the successful execution of our planned sessions and the rewarding experience of seeing the impact of our work with various task forces and programs. Notably, the FIG Diversity and Inclusion Task Force, the Volunteer Community Surveyor Program (VCSP), and the Climate Compass Task Force all achieved significant milestones. Additionally, receiving the grant and having the opportunity to speak about my story was a highlight, along with the chance to represent the FIG Young Surveyors Network and echo the need for sustainable land practices for climate action during the World Bank panel.

The outcomes of my participation have empowered me to further advocate for sustainable practices and inclusivity within the geospatial profession. The experience and insights gained from chairing sessions and collaborating with diverse teams have enhanced my leadership and organizational skills. Furthermore, the connections made and the knowledge shared have been instrumental in promoting the initiatives of the VCSP and the Climate Compass Task Force in my ongoing work. The grant and the recognition received have also provided additional credibility and support for my future projects.

I would recommend other applicants actively engage in various sessions and task forces to maximize their experience and learning opportunities. Embrace the chance to network with professionals from different regions and backgrounds, as these connections can be invaluable. Take on leadership roles or volunteer for responsibilities, as these experiences can significantly enhance your skills and career prospects. Lastly, approach the conference with an open mind and a willingness to share and learn, as the collaborative environment is perfect for fostering innovation and growth.





*Angela Anyakora*  
*Nigeria*