

MILANI THARUKA (SRI LANKA)
FIG FOUNDATION YOUNG SURVEYOR GRANT RECIPIENT
EXPERIENCE ATTENDING FIG WORKING WEEK 2023
ORLANDO, FLORIDA

One of my greatest achievements was being one of the four grant recipients for the FIG Foundation Grant 2020. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for letting me travel to Orlando, Florida, in 2023 to attend both FIG Working Week and the first America's Young Surveyors Meeting. This was my second trip abroad and my first long-distance trip alone.

It was a great deal of exposure to the surveying sector occurred throughout this wonderful week. I was able to participate in FIG events and had a better understanding of how they might be incorporated into survey education as a whole. Sharing our knowledge and ideas with young surveyors, working professionals, and academic specialists was a tremendous opportunity. The program has become more diverse through mentoring sessions, technical programs, fun activities, and working-week dinner. Additionally, it was a great chance to submit and present a paper at the conference.

With the most recent scientific and technological developments in surveying, I could expand my expertise with the technical sessions organized at the event. It was a wonderful chance to learn more about the tasks performed by each FIG commission. It inspired me to participate more actively in upcoming FIG activities as well. After attending the FIG Young Surveyors Meeting, I had the idea that it would be very helpful if we could launch a young surveyor's network in Sri Lanka and connect it to the Asia-Pacific YSN.

Finally, I can say that thanks to this scholarship, I not only won a fantastic break, access to these amazing events, the chance to meet and interact with people from all cultures, new friends, and lots of memories, but also new ideas and a strong drive to work and achieve the best in this surveying field.

