



C·A·S·L·E

Commonwealth Association of Surveying & Land Economy (CASLE)

HAPPY NEW YEAR - January 2020

Editorial

As we enter a new year it is a time for reflection and for planning the future. We look back at the Golden Jubilee celebration of CASLE in 2019 and a hugely successful conference and General Assembly in London. Although we were overwhelmed with registrations, a significant number of potential delegates did not receive their Visas in time and were not able to attend. In some cases, visas were refused and the main reason given for this, was that financial information, declared in statements, did not match sums of money held in personal bank accounts. Although, this may be mainly due to normal business transactions, the 'powers that be' at the Home Office in UK are very suspicious of money laundering and take a very firm line on this when issuing visas. In professional practice in UK, business dealings are mainly transacted through a client account and are quite separate from any personal accounts.

The programme from the conference is now available on the CASLE website www.casle.org and, later in this edition, we are printing the excellent Rapporteur notes provided by Dr Diane Dumashie from the CASLE Golden Jubilee two-day conference. Although CASLE did not aim to make a significant profit from the CASLE Golden Jubilee conference, it created a lot of goodwill and members of the CASLE Management Board were very pleased to welcome 45 new Individual Associate members. We were also very pleased to receive invitations for CASLE to collaborate in the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Kigali, Rwanda in June 2020 and events in Zimbabwe in August 2020 and the Republic of Cameroon and Malawi at dates to be decided in 2020/2021.

This will be the 13th edition of the CASLE E-newsletter since April 2015. There has always been a newsletter since CASLE was inaugurated in 1969 but the format has changed; mainly in response to new technology, and the change in our financial circumstances after the Commonwealth Foundation withdrew all core and activity grants in 2012. We now collate the information from the regions and produce the newsletter online. We have received a lot of support from the regions and from Individual Associate members who have sent photographs and reports of events and activities for us to include, particularly after the CASLE Conference. We hope that members will continue to send photos and reports of any relevant activities in their region.

As many of you will be aware, I announced some time ago, that I would be retiring after the Golden Jubilee Celebrations and that is still the case. However, at the General Assembly in London in September, due to 'compelling circumstances' members of the CASLE Management Board took the decision to defer any changes in the Management Board until the next General Assembly in two years' time, possibly in Ghana. Under the circumstances, I was asked if I would stay on and I have taken the decision to withdraw gradually over the next few months. During this time, with the assistance of the members of the CASLE Task Force, we shall be looking at a more efficient way of running CASLE and devolving some of the work to the regions. We hope that this will free up some of the finances so that CASLE will have modest funds available to send a representative to important events such as the World Urban Forum (WUF) and, in particular the Annual World Bank Land & Property Conference, which is scheduled to take place from 16th to 20th March 2020 in Washington DC. CASLE needs to be seen more on the world stage!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank members of the CASLE Management Board and members of the CASLE Task Force for their day to day advice and support which is greatly appreciated.

Susan Spedding (Mrs)
Secretary General

NEWS FROM THE REGIONS
AFRICA REGION - KENYA



**Delegates at the Annual Summit of the Institute of Quantity Surveyors of Kenya on Thursday 24th and Friday 25th October
at the Pride Inn, Paradise Resort Mombasa, Kenya**



Mr Joseph Ajanlekoko in green sweatshirt dancing with colleagues

The CASLE President, Mr Joseph Ajanlekoko attended and participated in the Annual Summit of the Institute of Quantity Surveyors of Kenya on Thursday 24th and Friday 25th October at the Pride Inn Paradise Resort Mombasa, Kenya. The photograph shows Mr Ajanlekoko giving his address at the summit and we are including a copy of the letter of appreciation sent to him by QS. Peter S. Kariuki - CHAIRMAN, IQSK



Mr. Segun Ajanlekoko,
President of the Commonwealth Association of
Surveying and Land Economy (CASLE)

Dear Sir,

**RE: Appreciation for being a keynote speaker
during the IQSK Annual Summit held on Thursday
24th and Friday 25th October 2019 at the Pride Inn
Paradise Resort, Mombasa.**

Receive warm greetings from IQSK.
The IQSK Council and the Secretariat takes this
opportunity to say a big thank you for sharing your
professional knowledge during the IQSK Annual
Summit held on Thursday, 24th October and
Friday 25th October, 2019 at the Pride Inn
Paradise Resort, Mombasa. The theme of the
summit was **"Collaborations & Partnerships."**
Your key note presentation on ***'Is Collaborations
the New Innovation?'*** was informative,
enlightening and certainly challenged all the
professionals in attendance.
Your expertise in addressing different approaches
of the topic was exceedingly cherished by
everyone. Kindly note that we have also received
copious post-conference demands for the paper
you conveyed. We once again thank you for

CASLE President, Mr Joseph Ajanlekoko,
contributing to the success of our event and we look forward to engaging with you in our future events. Thank you.
Yours sincerely, **Qs. Peter S. Kariuki - CHAIRMAN, IQSK**

AFRICA REGION - NIGERIA



**Mr Obafemi Onashile, Past President of NIQS, Mrs Ronke Oyelami, Chairperson of WAQSN and Mr Joseph Ajanlekoko,
President of CASLE and Life Grand Patron of WAQSN**

The Women's Association of Quantity Surveyors in Nigeria (WAQSN) has appointed Mr. Segun Ajanlekoko as its Life Grand Patron. In a letter to Mr Ajanlekoko signed by the Chairperson, Mrs Aderonke Oyelami and Secretary, Dr. Kulomri Adegbo paid tribute to him for establishing WAQSN in 2004 as the 17th President, Nigerian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (NIQS).

The association was established primarily to encourage the continued involvement of women in the quantity surveying profession and provide appropriate support for the institute.

In the letter, the association said: "As the founding father of the association we recognise your foresight and greatly appreciate and value your support and contribution to WAQSN, hence the unanimous decision of the members at its annual general meeting to appoint you as Life Grand Patron of WAQSN."



Mr Ajanlekoko is the President of The Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy (CASLE), and Managing Partner at CEP Limited.



CASLE President, Mr Joseph Ajanlekoko, Kaduna State Governor, Mr Mallam Nasir El-Rufai and NIQS President, Mr Mohammed Abba Tor at the dinner organised for stakeholders in the NIQS Centre in Abuja.

Kaduna State Governor, Mr Mallam Nasir Ahmad El-Rufai has urged the federal government to discard the use of Bills of Engineering Measurement and Evaluation (BEME) for construction projects in the country, describing the document as alien to international procurement standards.

Speaking at the Nigerian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (NIQS) President's Business Dinner in Abuja, El-Rufai called on federal and state governments to adopt "Bills of Quantities" as the exclusive document for costing of projects in order to ensure that national procurements for infrastructure are in line with global practices.

The governor noted that the current practice in the construction industry where designers are also the cost advisers was wrong, insisting that such a practice was not transparent and should be stopped in Nigeria if the nation truly wishes to move forward.

He said: "In Kaduna State, we have since outlawed Bills of Engineering Measurement and Evaluation (BEME) for all our construction projects. I don't know where that document came from and we are not going to use it. The best book on measurements all over the world was written by a quantity surveyor and the document used for the costing of all civil and building engineering projects is called the Bills of Quantities (BOQ), so I don't know where BEME came from." He said he was happy that more quantity surveyors are now joining politics and urged members of the institute to seek elective positions so they can be relevant in the scheme of things in the country.

In his speech, NIQS President, Mohammed Abba Tor said the event was put together to give the leaders of the institute the opportunity to brainstorm and map out strategies, which quantity surveyors can engage in with the critical stakeholders in the public sector, organized private sector and the general public.

He said the last 50 years of NIQS have been eventful, replete with achievements that are difficult to ignore, adding that the membership strength of the Institute has grown to about 10,000 made up of fellows, corporate members, probationers, technicians, and students.

According to him, the NIQS has signed a reciprocity agreement with the Canadian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (CIQS) as part of the current strategic reforms that the Institute is undergoing towards the growth of the Nigerian construction industry.

Tor said with the endorsement by international quantity surveying institutions across the globe, NIQS was now at par with global standards and its members are now acceptable for employment anywhere in the world.

He listed the completion of the new NIQS Head Office Complex in Abuja, the establishment of the QS Academy and the digitization of the institute operations as some of the achievements of the NIQS.

However, he said the quantity surveying profession still faced some challenges, which include the non- adoption of BOQ as the exclusively recognized costing document by Bureau of Public Procurement and MDAs; establishment of quantity surveying department in the public service; lack of involvement of quantity surveyors in government-sponsored projects at initiation and budgeting stages amongst others.

Speaking on the "Stakeholders Engagement and Brand Management for the NIQS", Hassan Abdul of Media Range Limited, said that the quantity surveying profession needs to evolve and reposition itself to meet the challenges of the next 50 years and also increase its relevance, influence, and reputation.

He said, "There is a need to reinvent the profession to adapt to the changing realities of modern times. You need to look at the ways to influence the system so that the system would accommodate the profession more".

Abdul who observed that ineffective budgeting is responsible for the high number of abandoned projects said that the country is urbanizing and there is a need for more projects and an increasing need for the expertise of quantity surveyors.



ROYAL INSTITUTION OF SURVEYORS MALAYSIA

Report for Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy (CASLE)

RISM ACTIVITIES

CASLE Board Meeting, Golden Jubilee Conference and General Assembly Meeting in London, UK

The above 3 events, stretched over 3 days from 11th to 13th September 2019, was hosted/organised by CASLE in London, UK. RISM, a member of CASLE, was represented by Dato' Sr Lau Wai Seang, Asia Regional President on the CASLE Management Board, and Sr Lim Kok Sang, the RISM Vice President of Quantity Surveying Division.

Memorandum of Understanding Between Department of Valuation and Property Services (JPPH) and the Royal Institution of Surveyors Malaysia (RISM)

The Department of Valuation and Property Services Malaysia under the Ministry of Finance and the Royal Institution of Surveyors Malaysia signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 2nd October to foster public and private strategic alliances with each other. Representing JPPH at the signing was Director General of JPPH, Sr Ahmad Zailan Azizuddin and RISM Property Surveying Division's Chairman, Dato' Sr Thiruselvam Arumugam. The signing ceremony was witnessed by the Deputy Director General (Strategic Policy) Sr Mohd Khairudin Abd Halim while RISM was represented by its President, Sr Kwan Hock Hai.

The MoU will pave the way to create mutually beneficial collaboration between the parties in the field of research, training, education and data information in relation to real estate. In facing the global challenges in the real estate industry, there is a need to work together to strengthen and develop the country's real estate industry. It was that through the co-operation of both organisations, the real estate market can be pushed forward to a higher level and boost the national property market.

The signing ceremony was reported in the local newspapers and radio. Some of the photos of the signing ceremony are below:





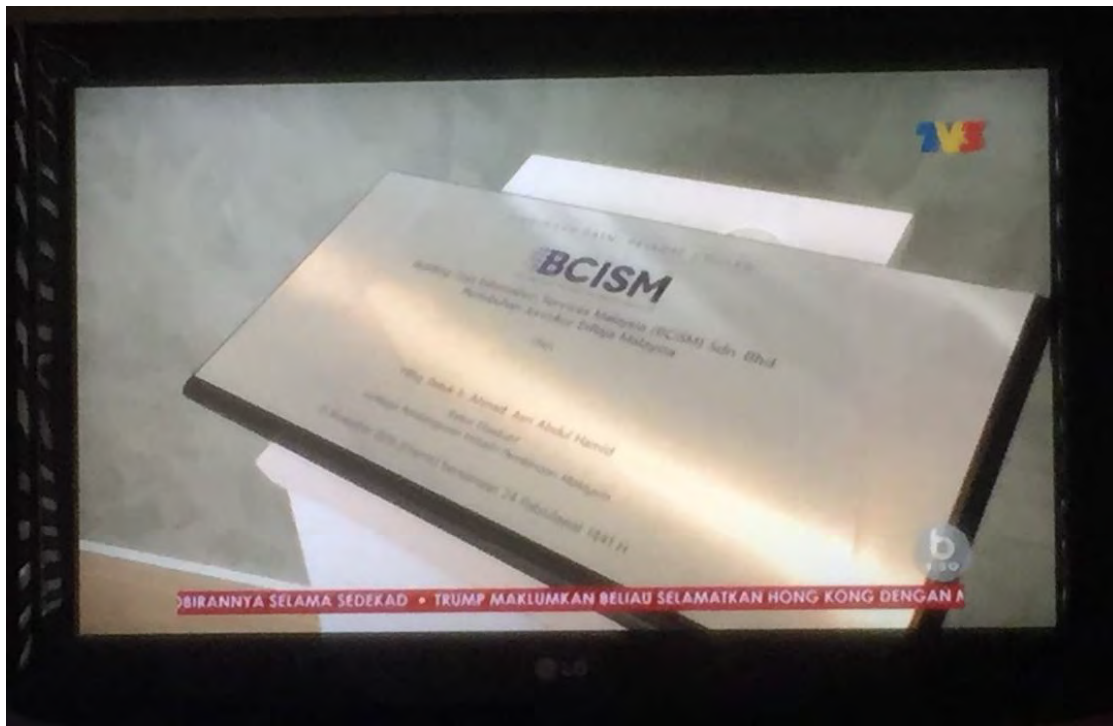
RISM New Look Office & Launching of Building Cost Information Services Malaysia (BCISM)

The RISM New Look office and launching of Building Cost Information Services Malaysia took place on 21st November 2019.

Guests and Past President were invited to inaugurate the RISM New Look office.

The Building Cost Information Services Malaysia was formed as a collaborative effort between the Malaysian Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) and Royal Institution of Surveyors Malaysia (RISM). Chief Executive Officer of CIDB, Datuk Ir. Ahmad Asri Abdul Hamid was the Guest-of-Honour at the launching of BCISM and the local media did coverage for news in television.





Technical Visit to United Nations Headquarters by the Royal Institution of Surveyors Malaysia

This technical visit was attended by 30 over delegates from RISM from 3rd till 12th December 2019. RISM visited the UN Headquarters and other UN agencies in New York, with focus on the Geospatial Information Management as a future trend.

The delegates also visited the New York office of United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) which is the coordinating agency within the United nations System for Human settlement activities. This UN Agency is headed by a Malaysian who is responsible for promoting and implementing the 17 Sustainable Developments Goals and the current engagement that can be looked into by RISM. The visit was extended to the Malaysia Permanent Mission to the UN that embarks on global diplomacy. The delegates had a fruitful visit as well as sight-seeing around the places as it was towards the celebration of Christmas and New year.





RISM Up-Coming Event in 2020

The RISM 22nd International Surveyors' Congress (ISC)

The date of the 22nd ISC has been confirmed on 25th and 26th June 2020 with the theme “The Big Shift: Beyond 5G. Below are the plenary sessions that have been confirmed by the Committee:

- Plenary 1 Sub-theme : Adopting the Current Scenario
- Plenary 2 Sub-theme : Then, Now and Forever
- Plenary 3 Sub-theme : Are You Ready for the Big Shift?

The brochure has yet to be finalised, however all other arrangements are in progress.

The 30th Pan Pacific Congress (PPC) 2020, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

As reported earlier, the arrangements for the coming 30th Pan Pacific Congress (PPC) of Real Estate Appraisers, Valuers and Counselors from 4 - 7 October 2020 at the Berjaya Times Square Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia are all in progress.

RISM is indeed honoured to be hosting the 30th Pan Pacific Congress 2020. The Organising Chair is Dato’ Sr Lau Wai Seang, Past President of RISM. This event will see the presentation of papers along the theme of the congress, namely **Digital Disruption: Digital Economy & Real Estate Industry**. Best Paper Awards will be presented too. Apart from paper presentations, there will be several networking events and a Technical Visit.

Do visit the 30th PPC 2020 dedicated website www.panpaccongress.org for more information.



Delegates at the CASLE Golden Jubilee conference at etc.venues, Pimlico, London on Thursday 12th and Imperial College, London on 13th September 2019



Mrs Feechi Grant-Ken Akobundu receiving her certificate of attendance at the conference from CASLE President Mr Joseph Ajanlekoko

CASLE Golden Jubilee Conference 2019: 'The Surveying Profession; Past Present & Future'
Thursday 12th September 2019 - Rapporteur Notes,
Dr Diane Awo Dumashie, FIG Vice President



Photos courtesy of Tom Westcott



Dr Diane Dumashie

It was an honour to be asked to rapporteur at **CASLE's Golden Jubilee Anniversary conference**, held in London September 2019. Below are my notes emanating from an excellent two days of deliberations.

CASLE's Jubilee year conference theme, **'The Surveying Profession; Past Present & Future'** provided opportunities to reflect but above all to be proactive in our learning and to consider the future. Opened by **Dr Nabeel Goheer**, Assistant Secretary General Commonwealth of Nations, he pointed out two key objectives for CASLE's future consideration, including maintaining our relevance and our added value. This echoes **President Joseph Segun Ajanlekoko** address in 2018 when he reminded us that CASLE is in a period of stocktaking, i.e. asking "Why and What do we wish to do in CASLE in the future". This theme resonates in our conference this year, and is likely to be a continuing feature in the upcoming 12 months.

CASLE's Jubilee year is shared with other sister organisations including 70 years of the Commonwealth of Nations; 50 years of the Ghanaian Institute of Surveyors; and last year, 150 years of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, to name but a few. Importantly we have all grown together and will continue to do so.

Opening our conference, **President Joseph Segun Ajanlekoko**, highlighted that CASLE's DNA is represented by: courage, vision, enterprise, commitment; but above all sacrifice. Mindful that "The future is already here; just not evenly distributed" (Susskind), this impacts on the relevance of the future of all professional disciplines not only those in the land and natural resources sector. Interwoven into professionalism is the principle of ethics, **Surv Kwadwo Osei Asante** Global Chairperson of the International Cost Engineering Council (ICEC) echoed this in his welcoming address, adding the importance of standards and networking especially mutual strategic alliances such as CASLE and ICE (and others). These alliances need to be encouraged to enable the growth and resilience of our societal contribution.

From the excellent presentations my remarks are set in the context of two global trends that are impacting our societies: urbanisation and digital inter-connectedness. The New Urban Agenda (UN Habitat's high-level global agenda), articulates the central role that land has in urban and rural development. The key thematic areas in this agenda are: governance structures; social inclusion; spatial development; urban prosperity; and environmental sustainability. This combined with the SDGs gives a powerful collective global sustainability agenda.



The global sustainability agenda is an important call for societal transformation; but it also provides a framework for the language of the global collective; we have a shared vision, and in our own ways able to implement the necessary adaptations in a language that we can all understand within our own sectors, thus working towards a holistic approach.

Accordingly, my reflections on our upcoming sessions are tagged by which sustainable development goal could apply to the presenter's content

Image courtesy of Economist article)

Day One

Prof John Connaughton, Head of Construction Management, University of Reading. Representative of **SDG 12** (Responsible consumption and production), highlighted the emergency situation for managing and using construction materials in a resource scarce world. His key data analytic demonstrated material use significantly increasing over the period from 1972 to the present day and the challenge to manage material use and productivity which requires a step change to be more effective, more efficient, employing smarter design and introducing circular economic thinking in our view of the building life cycle. Such a shift in our focus will enable financial efficiency gains.

Echoing John's approach to align with the circular economy, **Jim Mason**, Associate Head of Department B.E. Programme UWE, focused on construction law and smart contracts, which reminds us that innovation and vision is fundamentally embedded in the NUA and SDG's. Jim's thinking is predicated upon a shift in the contractual landscape. Noting the evolutionary steps that started as linear contracts (e.g. JCT) moving to the hub and spoke approach (PPC 2,000 and BIM), and now to the Stigmeric approach that he explained will require reliance upon sensors and the Internet of Things (IOT). Following CASLE President's lead, Jim concludes that our profession needs to reimagine our work and our values.

Ian McRae, Chadwick McRae, Commercial Property Agents, reminded us of **SDG 8** (Decent work and economic growth). Outlining the logistics of supply chains for goods and services in our industry, our need to manage expectations is an imperative in the global market. He introduced the term 3rd party logistics (3PL) a key component of partnership working. Again with a nod to global technological changes, he pointed out that we cannot ignore the future in logistics and global delivery expectations that increasingly use AI and robotics as the mainstay technology.

James Dadson, CASLE Africa Regional President provided an excellent country synopsis of Land administration in Ghana, consequently covering a range of SDG's including SDG 1, 2, 5 but above all **SDG 16** (Strong institutions).



The thrust of his message is societal growth predicated upon people and their need for tenure security and recordation in the context of a plural land governance system. Drawing on the forces that shape the future he demonstrated his country's quest for sustainable and resilient development that needs to be embedded in partnership working at all institutional levels. This includes: national systems, both the Lands Commission and Traditional Authorities; professionals improving and ensuring credible practices in land recordation; and above all excellence in client service delivery. Concluding, he sees the opportunity for learning requires diligent consideration of what change is, and to remain open to ideas such as Fit for Purpose and green technology. And returning to his central theme; above all "let us develop our people for the long term with resilient and long-term robust training".



Expanding on professionalism in Valuation, **Prof Sarah Sayce**, Reading University, developed ideas around 'Are we being accurate in our valuation practices?'. Beginning with the impact of cities (see also Knight Frank Cities report 2019) and urbanisation, reflects **SDG 11** (Cities). Accuracy is important because the role of a Valuer is to assess market value given that analysis is a "reflection of markets, not a maker of markets". In the context of Big-data and technology she explained what standardisation has achieved, questioning if it provides greater accuracy bearing in mind this depends upon quality of the inputs in for example AVM. That RICS now regulates Valuers is evidence of a shift from guidance to standards. Her delivery was throughout, thought provoking on the emerging questions such as: who owns the transactional data; are automated valuation methods (AVM) acceptable given that accuracy is limited to around 95%. These challenges may be dwarfed by upcoming issues, such as: Long term value, Natural capital and Social value.

Continuing a focus on markets, **James Kavanagh**, RICS Director of Lands, expanded on land value and how it is integral to provide services in the economy. As Sarah raised the challenge in valuation, James expanded on arising questions, above all asking what is legitimate ownership and noting the central role Valuer's play in the provision of services. He outlined the readjustments happening now, such as the move away from western land administration process, increasing reliance on the urban/ rural relationships, adequate compensation and issues around large-scale land acquisition in both rural and (peri) urban areas. Attempts are being made to address some of these issues, such as FAO's Voluntary Guidelines (VVGTS) that have now become firmly established. James has been instrumental in an international working group working on valuing unregistered lands - a project that is set to be taken to another level in the next 12 months. A further success is from an international coalition who recently launched a practice code, the "International Land measurement standards"

Gbenga Olaniyan - adopting a great participatory and engaging style, he truly brought home the realities of real estate and urbanisation in Africa, demonstrating a range of the challenges listed in several **SDG 11** indicators. Drawing on his professional experience and knowledge he outlined key lessons in professional practice to address the challenges and opportunities in African cities. Concluding that we are in a good place; but above all professionals need to maintain high standards of conduct and ethics.



Dr Tom Appleby, Associate Prof in Property Law, UWE, draws upon **SDG 14** (Life below water) with a focus on marine law, appealing to our hydrographers; but also his message is pertinent for us all. He explained that ocean coverage across our planet is in the region of 45%, putting into perspective our planetary resource scarcity issues on land; but increasingly below water. Modern day high seas governance is under the remit of UNCLOS, knowing the rights and responsibilities associated with territorial definitions is important, illustrated by examples: of the fish resources, an animal that does not know artificial legal boundaries; of the impacts of sea level rises on Small Island Developing States and coastal settlements. Tom's message, that professionals need to get more involved in ocean governance policy issues given the circular impact on life on earth (above and below the tide mark). Such a message of policy influence is a reminder that this is applicable across our profession, i.e. we continually talk about getting closer to policymakers, parliamentarians and politicians; we now need to do this with some urgency.

Continuing the Climate change theme **Owen Hewlett**, considered the importance of **SDG 13** (Climate action), his presentation draws from behavioural science as it applies to a climate mitigation approach. In particular cities growth and consequential land use change (e.g. deforestation), transport infrastructure and the built environment he tasked our profession to act to make a difference by adapting our approach in land, property and resources; but also as individuals. Although the Paris Agreement has stated impact commitments (around 3-4%) the reality in our future development approaches needs to mitigate impacts at 1.5%; but to move quickly to zero% in the next few years. He challenged us to be empowered as the profession to deliver and implement based on impact of less than 1.5%/ net zero and to treat this as normal.

Day 2

With a focus on geospatial information, our morning speakers demonstrated admirably the meaningful contribution that Big-data has in our societies supporting the strapline that "data is to this century what oil was to the last one" (Economist 2017).

Christin Walter, Ordnance Survey outlined the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIM), important to enhance government geospatial decision making to help and build communities at country level. Drafted in three parts, the first section explains why the IGIM is important and usefully justifies budget allocations for implementing nation state agencies. There are 9 strategic pathways that are really helpful to gain an insight and visualise the component parts. Notably, the United Kingdom, through Ordnance Survey and supported by the UN-GGIM Europe Regional Committee, is leading a third review of the 'Future trends in geospatial information management: the five to ten-year vision', and expecting to release a final discussion report at the Sixth High Level Forum on UN-GGIM, 20-22 April 2020, where it is also proposed to launch the IGIM guide.



Hugh Phillips Cabinet Office, UK, explained how a UK agency uses geospatial data (GSD) to support UK development that proves economic and social value. Walking us through the rationale, the UK agency has identified and opened -up the use of GSD in housing land development, resulting in the possibility of additional government revenue in the order of £6-11Billion pa. He concluded that better data means better decision making and to better serve the customer with data availability, data access and data use.

A big thank you to all our presenters for sharing their experiences, a big thank you to our moderators and you dear audience, some strong questions from you which helped our deliberations further.

My concluding thoughts that the breadth of our discussion, the linkages to a number of SDG's is ample proof of the central role of our profession to economic and wellbeing and growth of society – We have heard that in our future we need to re-imagine our value and adapt our work, echoing the DNA thinking from **President Joseph Segun Ajanlekoko**,

I add to being courageous, we need to be brave, agile and adaptive. The call for action in the NUA provides an agenda for us to pin our activities and to prove our worth and ensure we add value.

My last word comes from **Dr Nabeel Goheer**, Assistant Secretary General, Commonwealth of Nations, he stated that “It is good to look back as it is important to proceed soundly into the future”, he “congratulated CASLE on a purposeful 50 years; and he looks forward to CASLE’s next stellar 50 years”

UNESCO 2nd International Conference ‘Call for Papers’ – ‘Water, Megacities and Global Change’



2ND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
WATER, MEGACITIES
AND GLOBAL CHANGE

UNESCO HQ, PARIS
1 - 4 DECEMBER 2020

CALL FOR PAPERS

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| CHALLENGES | Disaster Risk Reduction Service Continuity Technical and social conditions Land issues and challenges Ethics towards nature Governance Holistic water management Sustainable Development Goals | LIST OF TOPICS | Planning tools Innovative initiatives Technical and technological solutions New Water Culture Sustainable solidarity |
| SOLUTIONS | | | |



Information and submission of articles : <https://en.unesco.org/events/eaumega2020>

Global Land Tools Network (GLTN) – Letter from Oumar Sylla – Leader, GLTN



Dear GLTN Partners and Members,

The year 2019 has been very productive for GLTN as we continue supporting countries to deliver on the SDGs. This has been the first full year of implementing the GLTN phase 3 programme. We continue to support land reforms and institutionalization of our tools at country level with the

increasing ownership of national and local governments, as guided by the GLTN Strategy 2018-2030 and the new GLTN Partnership Charter.

This year, we also fully applied our new Governance Structure that seeks to support a vibrant and effective Network. We now have in place an inclusive Steering Committee supported by the Secretariat. This is indeed a big step in the right direction for our Network.

GLTN builds knowledge on land tenure and broader development outcomes and develops the capacity of land actors to apply our innovative approaches. To this end, we are proud to announce the completion of our [e-learning platform](#). This open-source mobile device-friendly platform gives access to courses and learning resources designed to help our partners understand and use a selection of the GLTN land tools. Additional courses will be added in due course and the platform will be launched and progressively rolled out in 2020.

We have contributed to addressing the global land challenges through the research on ['Land Tenure and Climate Vulnerability'](#) which examines the inter-relationships between land tenure and climate vulnerability, and the ['UN Secretary General's Guidance Note on Land and Conflict'](#) which was developed to help the UN System be more fit for purpose in addressing land and conflict issues. The two publications strengthen GLTN's collaboration with the UN family towards addressing these significant global challenges.

The GLTN Phase 3 programme was developed through the human rights-based approach to programming and the gender lens was consciously applied throughout the process. It is in this spirit that the [GLTN Gender Strategy \(2019-2030\)](#) was launched in November 2019. This strategy will consolidate GLTN's efforts to secure women's and girls' land and property rights by mobilizing resources and leveraging partnerships to implement activities and monitor progress. At country level, GLTN also supported the development of [Uganda's Gender Strategy for National Land Policy Implementation](#), officially launched in October 2019. The strategy will guide gender responsive implementation of the Uganda National Land Policy.



At regional level, a two-year road map for [the Arab Land initiative](#) has been adopted and we are now building partnerships with land institutions in the Arab region through research, capacity development, knowledge exchanges in themes such as: land and conflict; monitoring land governance and land tenure security; land, women empowerment and socio-economic development; capacity and knowledge development; fit-for-purpose land administration; land, natural resources and climate change; land professionals; land related legal frameworks; civil society; and, the private sector. GLTN Partners interested in supporting this work were also invited through their respective cluster leads.

In 2020 we will continue the implementation of GLTN Phase 3 programme with even more energy and determination and carry on with the roll out of our relevant tools at country level to support efforts by Member States towards achieving the SDGs and sustainable urbanization. We would like to appreciate our donors: the Governments of the Netherlands, Sweden, Germany, Switzerland and Norway, and our development partners: IFAD, UNECA, GIZ, NORAD and UN Women, for their continued investment and support to the GLTN agenda since our humble beginnings in 2006.

I look forward to the upcoming GLTN Steering Committee meeting in January 2020 in Oslo, Norway; this will be an opportunity to take stock of our challenges and contributions to the global land agenda. We are grateful to the Government of Norway for accepting to host this important meeting.

I am honoured to be working with a robust, diverse and dynamic network such as GLTN. Let's together pursue our work to achieve a world where everyone enjoys secure land rights.

I wish you all, dear GLTN Partners and Members, Happy Holidays and a prosperous New Year 2020.

Yours sincerely,
Oumar Sylla – Leader, GLTN

We acknowledge with thanks this letter from Oumar Sylla, leader of GLTN

Forthcoming events

The 26th Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) is scheduled to take place in Kigali, Rwanda from 22nd to 27th June 2020. Possible Built Environment Professions in the Commonwealth (BEPIC) Summit, jointly with Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA), Commonwealth Association of Surveying & Land Economy (CASLE), Commonwealth Association of Planners (CAP) and Commonwealth Engineers Council (CEC) in order to launch the recent survey and issue a 'Call-to-Action' around sustainable urbanisation in the Commonwealth.

The Real Estate Institute of Zimbabwe (REIZ) will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary from 13th to 16th August 2020. REIZ/CASLE collaborative event in Victoria Falls. Further details to be confirmed

The Surveyors Institute of Malawi/CASLE collaborative event is scheduled to take place in Malawi in 2020 – To be confirmed

The Republic of Cameroon/CASLE collaborative event – ongoing discussions on date and venue – 2020/2021 To be confirmed

30th Pan Pacific Congress of Real Estate Appraisers, Valuers & Counsellors.
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia – Sunday 4th to Wednesday 7th October 2020.

CASLE Fifteenth General Assembly – 2021
Date and Venue to be confirmed

Secretary General's Task Force – current members



Mr Max Crofts



Mr Tony Westcott



Mr Brian Waldy



Prof Dr Alan Spedding



Dr Patrick Manu



Mrs Susan Spedding



Dr Jim Mason

Mr Max Crofts

Past President RICS, International Liaison, Chairman of the Standard Setting Committee of the International Property Measurement Standards Coalition (IPMS), Adviser on Valuation and Property.

Mr Tony Westcott

Honorary Treasurer, Webmaster, Education Adviser - Construction Economics/BIM.

Mr Brian Waldy

Commonwealth Liaison, CASLE Europe President, CASLE representative on BEPIC (Built Environment Professions in the Commonwealth),

CASLE representative to The Commonwealth Secretariat, The Commonwealth Foundation and the Habitat Professionals Forum (Habitat III).

Dr Jim Mason

CASLE Europe Vice President, Associate Head of Department, Built Environment Programme, U.W.E.

Professor Dr Alan Spedding

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