

Pro-poor Coastal Zone Management: FIG's Position

Michael SUTHERLAND, Canada

Keywords: coastal zone management, administration of marine spaces

ABSTRACT

The Costa Rica Declaration is a Policy Statement of the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) on the role of land professionals in addressing coastal zone management that is beneficial to economically poor – in other words addressing pro-poor coastal zone management. The Declaration arose out of the efforts of FIG-affiliated land professionals in attendance at the 6th FIG Regional Conference held in San José, Costa Rica.

The Declaration recommends development in a number of areas including:

- Development of coastal zone policies that recognise the right of access for local communities to coastal resources.
- Development of coastal management methodologies that recognise social justice and specifically embrace pro-poor policies and environmentally balanced use of the coastal areas.
- Reinforcement of institutional change and reassessment of legal issues based on a pro-poor approach to tenure security.
- Adoption of a resilient approach to coastal zone strategies by recognising that long-term sustainability will occur only as a result of continuous adaptation (resilience) to changing conditions.
- Provision of increased support for professional institutions, including capacity building and the development of best practice solutions.

[Costa Rica Declaration 2008]

These points will be discussed with regard to FIG's position on pro-poor coastal zone management.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Michael Sutherland holds both a Master of Science in Engineering and a Ph.D. in land information management from the Department of Geodesy and Geomatics Engineering, University of New Brunswick, Canada. He has more than 18 year's international experience in land information management. He is currently a lecturer and Programme Coordinator of the Land Management B.Sc. degree Programme, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago. Michael is a member of the Canadian Institute of Geomatics and the Institute of Surveyors of Trinidad and Tobago. He is a Vice-Chair and Chair-Elect of the International Federation of Surveyor's Commission 4 (i.e. hydrography, coastal zone management, ocean governance, and marine cadastre).

CONTACTS

Dr. Michael Sutherland
Department of Surveying and Land Information
Faculty of Engineering
University of the West Indies
REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
Email: michael.d.sutherland@unb.ca

C-FOAM Associate
Canadian Fisheries, Oceans, and Aquaculture Management (C-FOAM)
Telfer School of Management, University of Ottawa
55 Laurier Avenue East, Ottawa, Ontario
CANADA K1N 6N5