

CASLE at FIG Brisbane

Over 1350 delegates from over 100 nations, a full line up of national presidents, several 100 papers etc. The stats of [Invitation to FIG Working Week 2025 in Brisbane, Australia](#) are always impressive but this one was special in many other ways than mere numbers. The Geospatial Council Australia (along with Surveyors Australia) welcomed the global surveying profession to Brisbane Australia and held one of the best working weeks in recent years. CASLE had a strong presence with member institutions in attendance from across the Commonwealth. In the climate action and land plenary session, CASLE president Dr Charisse Griffith-Charles spoke on resilience in human-land relationships in the face of powerful resource, climate, and social change. The plenary was followed up by four special sessions on Small Island Challenges (SIDS). The Pacific nations were very engaged in these sessions. CASLE also held a management board meeting with several associations in attendance and online, and was also represented during the very well attended Aubrey Barker Fund (ABF) session. A full report is available on request and the FIG report can be found [News from FIG - 2025 - G'day to Brisbane and Aussie-land - FIG Working Week 2025 Report](#)



CASLE President Dr Charisse Griffith-Charles with plenary speakers.

CASLE at the Commonwealth Institute

Secretary General of CASLE James Kavanagh MRICS <https://casle.org/> enjoyed a wonderful evening at Lancaster House to welcome the seventh Commonwealth Secretary-General, the Hon Shirley Ayorkor Botchway. Among the prominent guests were the Rt Hon David Lammy, Foreign Secretary UK, as well as other government ministers and senior officials from across the Commonwealth. The Secretary-General also acknowledged the presence of the traditional ruler of the Akwamu people of Ghana. <https://lnkd.in/eHFyhxyE>

CASLE was just one of over 70 Commonwealth Accredited Organisations at the event (our colleagues from Commonwealth Engineers were also present) and he was really struck by the energy and youth in the room. The Commonwealth is increasingly important in a polarised world and a key development and knowledge sharing bridge between the global north and south. CASLE will be building on those links as 2025 progresses. The Commonwealth Institute continues to build its relationships with Accredited Bodies with a major event planned for mid July at Marlborough House, London. The next CASLE newsletter will carry a report, and follow LinkedIn [linkedin.com/in/james-kavanagh-65448b17](https://www.linkedin.com/in/james-kavanagh-65448b17) for updates.



SURVEY REVIEW

Survey Review is a peer-reviewed international journal that has been published continuously since 1931. It brings together current research, theory and practice in the broad areas of geospatial positioning and information, geodesy, remote sensing, survey and mapping, and land administration. These disciplines are vital to tackling global challenges including enhancing security of land tenure and land rights for all, climate change and sustainability, and disaster response. The journal is an invaluable resource for those who seek to maintain their currency of knowledge in these rapidly developing fields. The journal may be known to some CASLE members, but others may not have come across it. Survey Review has a rich pedigree, having originated from a decision by the Empire Survey Officers Conference in 1928. It was later managed by CASLE for a period in the late 20th century when it was at risk of ceasing to exist. The efforts of Clifford Dann, Susan Spedding and a few others at that point were vital in putting it back on a stable footing. The content of Survey Review is broad – it covers the majority of the range of CASLE activity.



The contents of the July 2025 edition include:

- Developing a new interface for Qibla direction applications based on MATLAB
- Research on indoor points of interest evaluation models based on machine learning
- Aligning the legal and institutional frameworks of Ekiti state (Nigeria) land administration against the fit-for-purpose land administration framework principles
- Formalizing land tenure in West African secondary towns: a comparative study in Benin and Togo
- An obituary of Arthur Allan

This gives a flavour of the range of articles in the journal. Papers are published online as well as in hard copies of the journal. Taylor & Francis publishes the journal on behalf of Survey Review Limited. All articles from the first edition in 1931 are available electronically. For more information visit <https://www.tandfonline.com/journals/>

Aubrey Barker Fund – New funding stream – Urban Kickstart Programme 2025-2026

The Aubrey Barker Fund, working in collaboration with Geoffrey Payne and a panel of international experts, including Banashree Bannerjee, Eugene Chigbu, Forbes Davidson, Tony Lloyd-Jones, Jean du Plessis and Michael Slingsby. The ABF Urban Kickstart scheme aims to improve secure access to land and housing by supporting research and other activity which advances and disseminates knowledge and skills in land management and related disciplines. This will be done by providing opportunities for young graduates from the urbanising countries of Africa and Asia to undertake research or other assignments that can help meet the needs of vulnerable urban communities for access to land and adequate housing on affordable terms. Successful applicants will also receive mentoring from international experts with expertise relevant to the product scope and location. For details check the website: <https://aubreybarkerfund.org/abf>

ABF - Urban KickStart Grant 2025-26



For details check the website: <https://aubreybarkerfund.org/abf>

What is it?	What will be funded?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grants of up to £15,000 • Applications from individuals under 35 who have graduated in last 10 years with Master's degree or graduate diploma in subjects relevant to land management • Mentoring provided 	<p>Projects of up to 12-months</p> <p>Research and other activity which advances and disseminates knowledge and skills in land management and related disciplines</p> <p>Demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing country location or nationality, particularly Asia or Africa • Lasting benefit to a community; relevance to urban-related development challenges
Applications close: 1 September 2025	
<p>Apply at: https://aubreybarkerfund.org/ urbankickstart@aubreybarkerfund.org</p> <p>www.linkedin.com/company/aubreybarkerfund</p>	

FIG update

CASLE is very engaged with our colleagues within the various commissions and taskforces of FIG.

Commission 2 research – Comparison of curricula guidelines in land administration and associated disciplines

In Commission 2 we are currently conducting a research on Comparison of curricula guidelines in land administration and associated disciplines. If you have ever worked on programme design, please respond to our survey: https://uwe.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_71UICA9kaVFmfk



Commission 9 research - Transparency in the real estate market: A global comparative study

Help us finish our research on the Transparency in the real estate market: A global comparative study – respond to our survey: https://uwe.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6zCR9PWpZsuo63A For more see our past publications: [TS12B_wiejak-roy_ache_et_al_12458.pdf](#) and [FIG-Viewpoint_Transparency.pdf](#)



CASLE will be in attendance at FIG Cape Town 2026 and is looking forward to another interaction session with our colleagues from across the Commonwealth. More details can be found [Invi-](#)

Submit your abstract

The call for papers includes both specific topics related to FIG Congress 2026 and general topics under each FIG commission, network, task force and permanent institution. Read more in the [call for papers](#) and submit your abstract. 1,500 surveying, geospatial, construction management, spatial planning, and valuation experts from Africa and worldwide are expected to attend. The Congress is held jointly with the national association, the South African Geomatics Institute (SAGI). As the premier global survey event of the year, FIG Congress 2026 is supported and endorsed by the Department of Land Reform and Rural Development (DLRRD) and the South African Geomatics Council and will register CPD points for participants. The FIG Congress is the major event held every four years and includes elections of the **new FIG President and two Vice Presidents**

RICS releases digital risks in buildings paper

Businesses risk sleepwalking into cyber attacks unless immediate preventative action is taken - [RICS releases digital risks in buildings paper](#)

RICS identifies cybersecurity and digital risk as one of the biggest and fastest growing threat to owners and occupiers of buildings. Owners, managers and occupiers of commercial buildings neglecting to take responsibility for digital security of their properties face increasingly prevalent and far-reaching consequences threatening the safety, resilience and sustainability of their assets and operations. A new practice information paper published by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) highlights the rapidly increasing and diverse threat of digital risks to commercial properties worldwide.



CASLE Events

CASLE is delighted to work in collaboration with our colleagues from the Institution of Surveyors of Kenya (ISK) and FIG on the forthcoming **10th ISK Africa Regional Conference**, held in

conjunction with the **28th CASLE Conference** and the **4th FIG Young Surveyors – Africa Meeting**, scheduled to take place from **27th to 31st October 2025** in **Mombasa, Kenya**. [10th ISK Africa Regional Conference - Institution of Surveyors of Kenya](#)

CASLE Management Board member **Nelly Mbugua** is chairing the local organising committee and this promises to be a great event with the theme - “Future-Ready Landed Professionals: Fostering Excellence and Resilience,” and “Learn. Innovate. Transform” . We would encourage as many of our CASLE colleagues to attend this event as possible.

Surveyors Institute of Zimbabwe (SIZ) -

SIZ held their annual conference June 2025 [Zimbabwe Surveying Institute](#) and CASLE was delighted to see so many Zimbabwe and African surveyors in attendance. CASLE maintains informal contact with our professional surveyor colleagues at SIZ notwithstanding Zimbabwe’s current Commonwealth membership status.



Delegates at the SIZ conference including representatives from other African nations



Mr E Matavire President

Mr M Bowa Vice President and Members of Young Surveyors



CASLE Events



The Institute of Surveyors of Trinidad and Tobago (ISTT), presents its bi-annual Regional Surveying Conference on October 2-3, 2025 entitled ***Transforming Property Management: Navigating Trends and Challenges in Surveying for a Resilient Caribbean.***

The objectives of the conference shall be:

- 1. To discuss digital transformation, innovation, emerging trends and the role of surveying technologies in keeping with best practice;*
- 2. To explore sustainable surveying and property solutions for continuity and growth amidst the evolution of the world's resilience movement/policies; and*
- 3. To provide a forum for professionals within the built environment to share their experiences and research.*

This Conference is a blended in-person and online participation event which aims to showcase the state of Property Management in Surveying and Land Management and the development of Resilience technologies and practices in the region. It also seeks to provide a forum for graduates and professionals within the built environment to share their experiences and research on the development of property management, resilience and the role of surveying technologies, practices and policies in keeping with best practice and international standards. For further Information on the submissions of abstracts and the conference, please contact the Conference Committee at info@instituteofsurveyors.com and conference@instituteofsurveyors.com

Nigerian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (NIQS) paid a courtesy visit to the Director General of the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP), DR. Adebowale A. Adedokun 08/07/25



Right: Director-General, Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) Dr. Adebowale A. Adedokun, FCIPS, ACFE, receiving a plaque from the President, Nigerian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (NIQS), QS Kene C. Nzekwe, FNIQS

On July 8, 2025, the President and some distinguished members of the Nigerian Institute of Quantity Surveyors paid a courtesy visit to the Director General (DG), Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP), Dr. Adebowale A. Adedokun at the BPP Office in Abuja.

Part of the prayers of the Institute (NIQS) were:

Inclusion of Quantity Surveyors in Capital Project Procurement: NIQS urged the Bureau to ensure the involvement of registered Quantity Surveyors in the procurement process for capital and heavy engineering projects. Adding that Quantity Surveyors are trained professionals to provide cost-effective procurement strategies, monitor project performance, and ensure that the government gets full value for every naira spent.

Capacity Building and Policy Input: He mentioned to the DG, the Institute's willingness to work collaboratively with the BPP in areas such as capacity building for procurement officers, peer review of standard bidding documents, contract audit frameworks, and cost benchmarking for capital projects, adding that the NIQS stands ready to partner with the Bureau in pursuit of our shared goal: a public procurement system that is efficient, transparent, cost-effective, and professionally managed.

CASLE Events

(NIQS cont'd)

Ensuring Professional Compliance in Consultancy Procurement: The NIQS President observed a recurring trend where MDAs award consultancy contracts as a single package, including Quantity Surveying services to firms that are not registered or authorized to practice the profession. This, in his words, undermines not only the legal framework regulating professional practice in Nigeria but also exposes public funds to inefficiency and malpractice.

He then concluded with an appeal to the Bureau to enforce compliance with professional standards by ensuring that:



o Only firms duly registered with their professional regulatory bodies are awarded contracts for the services they are licensed to provide. Where a consortium is being considered, each member of the consortium should be individually vetted and verified to practice the specific role they are undertaking in line with extant laws and guidelines.

In response, Director General, BPP, Dr. Adebowale Adedokun assured the Institute that he will adopt all the prayers presented before him as they align with his objectives. He disclosed that the Bureau was open to collaboration with NIQS and its technical collaborators. These partnerships, he said, could cover contract auditing, benchmarking, procurement training, and more efficient monitoring systems. He reiterated reforms for repositioning public procurement in Nigeria, stating that procurement must shift from being a transactional activity to being a strategic development tool anchored in innovation, youth involvement, professional collaboration, and gender responsiveness. Adedokun expressed concerns that for over two decades, Nigeria had operated a procurement system focused solely on awarding contracts without deploying procurement as a pivot in national development. According to him, “We have failed by making procurement transactional. It must now become transformative and embedded in how governance and business are done.” He urged the NIQS to rethink traditional approaches and embrace a forward-looking, strategic orientation that aligned with global best practices. In a practical move towards long-term capacity building, Dr. Adedokun called on NIQS to collaborate with BPP in sourcing and deploying young, passionate quantity surveyors, particularly from the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) in training and mentorship. He proposed that five quantity surveyors be seconded to the Bureau’s Price Intelligence and Benchmarking Department (BPP PIBD) on a non-staff basis. These individuals, he said, should be driven by purpose and patriotism—not merely seeking employment.

CASLE would like to encourage all Commonwealth surveying associations to send in details of their events and occasions for inclusion in the quarterly newsletter—send your pictures and text to jkavanagh@rics.org

Your colleagues in the Commonwealth are always keen to read about events and updates from across our global professional family. [CASLE Aims & Mission | Surveying & Land Economy in Commonwealth](#) Next CASLE Newsletter is due Autumn 2025, send your news items in by 30th September.