

Status of Women in the Spatial Industry

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SUMMARY

This paper will present the findings of the Commission 1 WG study into the status of women in the surveying industry.

The study was built on the findings of the Working group - Under represented groups in Surveying - gender issues – concluded in 2008 and the work of the Australian/ New Zealand spatial community which began in 2006 and continued in 2011.

The question that the Commission 1 WG asked in their plan for 2015 /18 was - Are women still underrepresented in the surveying industry?

We were trying to find out if anything has changed since these earlier studies were carried out.

The study includes data collected through a survey of FIG member organisations.

The aim of the group was also to setup an international network of women in surveying to further investigate the issues and promote the participation of women in the surveying industry.

Using the power of social networking and online communications the WG has been analysing the status of women in the surveying workforce across the FIG community.

Statistics have been gathered over the years to monitor the number of women and their work in the surveying and spatial industry in Australia and New Zealand. Using this data the WG has been investigating if the situation is similar for women across the international FIG community.

We now believe there is a need to actively promote women in the surveying industry. To this end we will propose that FIG publicly acknowledge ways to:

- actively promote women in the industry
- address the hidden bias towards women
- address the lack of gender diversity

This study has found that there has not been much change but that we now know how to change...