Developments in Switzerland

FIG-Commission 7 Annual Meeting, June 2005, Madison, Wisconsin, USA
Level of Organizations

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Confederation
National

- ~270 Private Land Surveying Offices
- ~15 City Surveying Offices

Federal Directorate of Cadastral Surveying
~15 employees

Tasks
- Federal legislation
- supervision
- co-ordination
- subsidies

Canton
State

- 21 Cantonal Surveying Offices

~300 employees

Tasks
- cantonal legislation
- carrying out
- supervision
- verification

Community
Local Gov.

- ~270 Private Land Surveying Offices
- ~15 City Surveying Offices

~2800 employees
- ~ 200 employees

Tasks
- production
- maintenance
- services to clients and citizens

Art. 5a: Subsidiarity
The principle of subsidiarity has to be observed in the definition and completion of public tasks.

Art. 75a: Surveying
1 National Survey is a matter of the Confederation.
2 Confederation issues regulations concerning official cadastral surveying.
3 Confederation can issue regulations on the harmonisation of official information concerning land.
Federal Law on Geoinformation

• in consultation phase
• in force ~2006/7
• regulation of geodata on national level
• legal basis for the cadastre
• legal basis for public-right restrictions and responsibilities being documented in space cadastre ("Raumkataster")
License for Cadastral Land Surveyor

The institution of the license for "licensed cadastral land surveyor" is under scrutiny by the government with the pretext of deregulation.

Switzerland has a long tradition of Private-Public-Partnership for cadastral surveying and is being considered as very successful.
• development of a National Geo Data Infrastructure (NGDI)
• initiative by the Federal coordination body on geoinformation (KOGIS), acting under an interdepartmental Steering Committee, subordinated to national mapping agency (swisstopo)
• initiative developed within a framework where all concerned governmental levels and private organizations contribute
New Think Tanks instead of Technical Commissions

- All FIG delegates meet twice a year (since 2004)
- Topics are "Geomatics" and "Land Management"
- Task is:
  - to assess the professional situation from their own different points of view
  - to make recommendations for the executive committee and the members
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LANDMANAGEMENT
- Themenbezogene Rechtsfragen
- Raum- und Umweltplanung
- Moderne Meliorationen
- Landumlegung
- Landschaftsentwicklung
- Industrieberechnung
- Standortmanagement
- Projektentwicklung
- Vermessung
- Geoinformatik
- Geodäsie
- Kartographie
- Photogrammetrie
- Fernerkundung
- Grundbuch
- Geodienste
- Navigation
- Monitoring
- Maschinensteuerung
- etc.

GEOMATIK
Cadastre 2014

• establishment of a business unit "c2014" by IGS (Association of private cadastral surveyors) in 2001
• browsing through laws with spatial relevance (‡ spatially definable public-law restrictions)
• data model with same modeling language as cadastral surveying (‡ INTERLIS)
• information will be made available to the public via a "c2014" internet-portal as a service
• portal operational in 2005
Profession is under pressure:

- GIS professionals are pushing for more client- and market-oriented products
- surveyors have the image of being slow and expensive
- data acquisition for digital cadastral data is soon completed
But there are opportunities:

• SG is second in command (human settlement)
  † required skill is not only surveying
  † but surveyors have to remember that as a profession they can provide the whole range of skills that is required
  † remember the roots

• cadastral surveyors can provide know-how for all spatial issues that also need legal competence