

Guiding Principles for Building Fit-For-Purpose Land Administration Systems in Developing Countries: Capacity Development, Change Management and Project Delivery

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SUMMARY

Most developing countries are struggling to find remedies for their many land problems that are often causing land conflicts, reducing investments and economic development, and preventing countries reaching their true potential. Existing investments in land administration have been built on legacy approaches, have been fragmented and have not delivered the required pervasive changes and improvements at scale. The solutions have not helped the most needy - the poor and disadvantaged that have no security of tenure. In fact the beneficiaries have often been the elite and organizations involved in land grabbing. It is time to rethink the approaches. New solutions are required that can deliver security of tenure for all, are affordable and can be quickly developed and incrementally improved over time. The Fit-For-Purpose (FFP) approach to land administration has emerged to meet these simple, but challenging requirements.

This FFP approach has been recognized and supported by FIG and the World Bank and is described in a joint FIG and World Bank 2014 publication. UN-HABITAT / GLOBAL LAND TOOL NETWORK (GLTN) decided to elaborate this approach further by initiating a project in cooperation with Dutch Kadaster on developing guiding principles for Fit-For-Purpose Land Administration in collaboration with key partners. This guide underpins the GLTN land tool development activities and enables and accelerates implementation of sustainable land administration systems in developing countries at scale.

The proposed change model is anchored on strengthening capacity of land sector stakeholders to promote and implement FFP land administration policies, tools and approaches that are pro-poor, gender appropriate, effective and sustainable. The model accommodates change interventions that are non-linear, dynamic and iterative and allows touch and entry points for change to be at several levels across the land sector. An assessment framework is used to monitor and evaluate the

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effectiveness of capacity building and change interventions and provide feedback for improvements. Catalytic support to invoke change is required and this is provided through identified change agents. The overall change process is supported by a context review, land sector assessment and an engagement / communications strategy that are an integral part of the Country Specific FFP Strategy for Land Administration.

This paper describes the approaches and key issues associated with implementing FFP land administration, including change management and project delivery.

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