

Implementation of Fit For Purpose Land Administration Approaches in Nepal

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SUMMARY

In Nepal the drive to ignite Fit For Purpose (FFP) Land Administration gained importance following two important events: The earthquakes in 2015 and the promulgation of a new Constitution in 2015. During the severe earthquakes (EQ) 8979 people died, more than 100,000 people were displaced and some 769.000 structures were destroyed. The promulgation of a new Constitution proposes the state to restructure into a federal structure with land administration services split into central, state and local government entities.

Many inhabitants of Nepal are still experiencing the consequences of the 2015 disastrous earthquakes. Most of the houses in the earthquake-affected areas have been damaged or destroyed. Land is an important issue underlying many of the reconstruction challenges. Shelter needs to be provided for the affected population, either temporary or permanent. Infrastructure needs rebuilding, and urban and rural livelihoods need to be re-established.

Land administration experts from Nepal, together with international experts from the UN Habitat, Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) and Kadaster, are working on methods to accelerate reconstruction and to improve tenure security. The team focuses on communities that are confronted with a) rebuilding their settlement b) resettlement or c) tenure insecurity.

Within the Project some of the GLTN tools were applied in an integrated manner like the participatory enumeration, Social Tenure Domain Model, Gender Evaluation Criteria and Participatory and Inclusive Land Re-Adjustment (PILaR). These tools were modified and customized to fit with the local context. The experience of these interventions, which were driven mainly by a local NGO, HURADEC, and local community members, will also inform possible changes in the current policies and regulations.

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This paper describes the context of the field test, the Fit For Purpose Land Administration methodology, the tools and technology that are being used. In addition to that it will be described how the results of the field test are used in development of a responsive National Land Policy and Fit-For-Purpose Land Administration strategy. The work at national level was conducted in close collaboration with national government authorities, key land actors and Community Self-Reliance Centre (CSRC), an NGO affiliated with International Land Coalition.

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