Land Administration Challenges in Bhutan
The Need for a National Cadastral Resurvey

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President

GS1012 WORLD CONFERENCE
REALISING SPATIALLY ENABLED SOCIETIES
SINGAPORE, 19 – 22 OCTOBER 2010
Bhutan at a glance

Constitutional Kingdom (since 2008)

Population: 650,000 inhabitants

Area: 38,400 sq km (like Switzerland)

Land use: 70 % forest
    7 % arable

Government:
National: Parliament 150 members
Regional: 20 Dzongkhags (counties)
Local: 205 Gewogs (municipalities)
Land governance

Two big issues on the table in 2008

National Land Policy
- coordinate existing sectoral policies
- preserve natural resources and quality of landscapes
- promote sustainable use of land
- facilitate equitable access to land
- support a vibrant land market and economic growth

Pursuing Gross National Happiness by "managing, regulating and administering ownership and use of land for socio-economic development, poverty reduction and environmental well-being"

40 page document completed 2010

National Cadastral Resurvey
- Existing cadastral established in 1990s by plane table.
- Actual boundaries have changed, encroachment of government land
- Also boundaries of private land have moved and a range of disputes have appeared.

The King decided to solve these problems once and for all through a national Cadastral resurvey identifying the parcel boundaries with surveyed coordinates using modern technology – GPS and total stations.

65 Gewogs (out of 205) completed 2010
In total 105 survey teams will complete the project by the end of 2013.
Informing citizens at local community level

Establishing network of GPS control points

Boundary determination and surveys
The land register (Thram) identifying land parcels and ownership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Dzongkhag</th>
<th>No. of Thram holders</th>
<th>Area (Acres)</th>
<th>Beneficiaries Area (Acres)</th>
<th>Before NCRP</th>
<th>After NCRP Registered Surveyed</th>
<th>Total granted by the King</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lhuntse</td>
<td>2,677</td>
<td>4,484</td>
<td>9,399.911</td>
<td>14,230.55</td>
<td>4,865</td>
<td>5,776.765</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Mongar</td>
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<td>33,662.23</td>
<td>13,072</td>
<td>19,686.718</td>
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<td>4,800</td>
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<td>7,520.53</td>
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<td>14,037</td>
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<td>35,813.82</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Kidu granted by the King

Step 3: Further enhancement of the process, decentralization.

- Transaction fully executed at Gewog level.
- Geodatabase editing at Gewog and Dzongkhag level.
- Authority to approve an archive.
- Central archive.

Approve

Approval based on digital documents

• Transaction fully executed at Gewog level.
• Geodatabase editing at Gewog and Dzongkhag level.
• Authority to approve an archive.
• Central archive.

Update geodatabase

To the archive

Update geodatabase

Update geodatabase

Update geodatabase

Update geodatabase

Update geodatabase
Thank you for your attention