

Land Administration and Land Management – An Institutional Approach

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Key words:

ABSTRACT

Land administration and land management are both interdisciplinary professional activities, and the practitioner has to be a so called “reflective practitioner”. This requires both basic understanding of the phenomenon with which he is working, as well as practical skills in handling problems in their given context, at the same time. Land administration and management, as professional activities in society, but even more as academic subjects, i.e. as themes for research, and as elements in educational programmes, need a comprehensive theoretical framework, allowing the teacher, the student and the researcher to draw on theoretical contributions in law and economics, as well as various social sciences. In the paper institutional theory is discussed and proposed as a most promising candidate for such a role. This body of theories seem able to contribute significantly to insight and understanding of transaction costs, role and function of land registration systems, common versus individual property rights, collective action and behaviour in negotiations and mediation practices. It may also serve as a base for competence in handling practical problems within the field of the profession.

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