Land Governance in Support of The Millennium Development Goals

Stig Enemark
Paul van der Molen
Robin McLaren

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Facing the Challenges – Building the Capacity
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FIG – World Bank Conference on Land Governance in Support of the Millennium Development Goals

- Jointly organised by FIG & World Bank.
- Involved 200 invited international experts.
- A key milestone in the journey to solve global land issues.
FIG – World Bank Conference on Land Governance in Support of the Millennium Development Goals

Objectives

- To emphasise the important role of Land Governance in implementing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and responding to new challenges such as Climate Change and Urban Growth.
- To demonstrate how FIG and the World Bank are working in parallel to achieve these global aims.
- To set a new agenda for Land Professionals.

Six Conference Themes

- Land Governance for the 21st century.
- Building sustainable, well governed land administration systems.
- Securing social tenure for the poorest.
- Making land markets work for all.
- Improving access to land and shelter.
- Land governance for rapid urbanisation.
Land Governance

- Land governance is about the policies, processes and institutions by which land, property and natural resources are managed.
- This includes decisions on: access to land, land rights, land use, and land development.
- Land governance is basically about determining and implementing sustainable land policies.

Sound land governance is a key to achieve sustainable development and to support the global agenda as set by adoption of the MDGs paradigm.
A Global Land Management Perspective

New Challenges

Climate Change

“climate change is the defining challenge of our time”
UN secretary general
Ban Ki-moon

Source: http://ale1980italy.files.wordpress.com
New Challenges

Climate Change  Urban Growth

Source: http://farm1.static.flickr.com

New Challenges

Climate Change  Urban Growth

Food Shortage

Source: www.foodshortageusa.com
New Challenges

Climate Change  Urban Growth

Food Shortage

Environmental Degradation

New Challenges

Urban Growth

Natural Disasters

Environmental Degradation

Source: http://i.thestreet.com
New Challenges

Climate Change
Urban Growth
Food Shortage
Natural Disasters
Environmental Degradation

All relate to governance & management of land

Theme 1: Land Governance for the 21st Century Challenges

- Today’s world population of 6.8 billion continues to grow to an estimated 9 billion by 2040.
- Food security has become a key global challenge.
- Increasing number of large scale, international land acquisitions.
- To not only control and manage the effective use of physical space, but to also be holistic to ensure sound economic and social outcomes.
Theme 1: Land Governance for the 21st Century
The Way Forward

- Adapt Land Governance to be More Supportive of our Global Challenges.
- Adopt the World Bank Assessment Framework to Improve Current Approaches to Land Governance.
- Increase Participatory Tools to Build Partnerships and Further Democratise Land Governance.
- Provide Contract Evaluation Tools to Safeguard Nations from Inappropriate Large Scale, International Land Acquisitions.
- Adopt Realistic Timeframes to Ensure More Effective Land Policy Implementations.

Theme 2: Building sustainable and well governed land administration systems [LAS]
Challenges

- To ensure that LAS are providing the infrastructure for implementing land policies and land management strategies in support of sustainable development.
- LAS must evolve and must be aligned with the current needs of a country through the requirements defined in a land policy framework.
- To be inclusive and allow the participation of the poor.
Land Administration Systems are only fully operational and work reasonably well in about 30 and mainly western countries.

Source: http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov

Theme 2: Building sustainable and well governed land administration systems [LAS]
The Way Forward

- Create a land policy framework to let the LAS function more effectively.
- Adopt a business led approach to deliver better managed LAS.
- Invest early in positioning infrastructures to realise benefits in a wide range of land applications.
- Promote evidence of LAS to support economic growth and poverty reduction.
Theme 3: Securing Social Tenure for the Poorest Challenges

- Today there are many rural poor and around 1 billion slum dwellers world-wide that will rise to 1.4 billion by 2020, if no remedial action is taken.
- Most of the urban poor do not have secure tenure within these large informal settlements.
- Conventional cadastral and land registration systems cannot supply security of tenure to the vast majority of the low income groups.
- Many communities across the world have land rights under communal or customary systems that are often not secure in law.

Theme 3: Securing Social Tenure for the Poorest The Way Forward

- Include customary tenure in Land Administration Systems to reduce vulnerability.
- Adopt the Social Tenure Domain Model to support pro-poor Land Administration System solutions.
- Develop pro-poor and gender sensitive land tools to improve the lives of the poor.
- Adopt a continuum of rights approach to deliver faster and wider security of tenure to the poor.
Continuum of Rights

Informal Land Rights
- Perceived tenure approaches
- Occupancy
- Adverse Possession
- Leases

Formal Land Rights
- Customary
- Anti-evictions
- Group tenure
- Registered Freehold

Source: UN-HABITAT

Theme 4: Making Land Markets Work for All Challenges

- In many countries certain land rights are not a tradable commodity, such as customary land rights.
- Land markets can still be far from perfect since access to that sales market may be restricted by financial, corruption, social or informational reasons.
- The resulting restrictions mostly disadvantage the poor, while being at the advantage of the powerful elites.
- Inappropriate loans being provided to high risk groups can lead to foreclosures and distress sales, leaving poor people landless.
Theme 4: Making Land Markets Work for All
The Way Forward

- Improve primary land delivery to boost land markets.
- Don’t leave social housing to market forces.
- Guarantee homeowners funds to protect the poor.
- Reduce corruption through transparency of markets and incorruptible land professionals.
- Offer fair compensation when the State acquires land and evicts people.
- Introduce monitoring tools to measure the effective functioning of the land markets.

Theme 5: Improving Access to Land and Shelter
Challenges

- Without a range of appropriate interventions being applied within the broader context of economic growth and poverty reduction policies, social exclusion and poverty will continue to spiral out of control.
- Land markets, are not a magical solution for addressing structural inequalities.
- Every year a significant number of people are forced to migrate from their homes due to conflict situations, evictions or natural disasters.
- Only 2% of registered land rights in the developing world are currently held by women.
Theme 5: Improving Access to Land and Shelter
The Way Forward

- Continue Effective and Sustainable Land Reform to Reduce Poverty and Inequality.
- Accept that Land Reform is an On-going Process.
- Address Land and Shelter Access Issues Up Front in Conflict and Disaster Situations.
- Identify Gender Responsive Land Tools to Widen Women’s Access to Land.

Theme 6: Land Governance for Rapid Urbanisation Challenges

- The urban global tipping point was reached in 2007 when over half of the world’s population was living in urban areas; around 3.3 billion people.
- This incredibly rapid growth of megacities causes severe ecological, economical and social problems. It is increasingly difficult to manage this growth in a sustainable way.
- Urbanisation is also having a very significant impact on climate change.
- Rapid urbanisation is setting the greatest test for Land Professionals in the application of land governance to support and achieve the MDGs.
Theme 6: Land Governance for Rapid Urbanisation
The Way Forward

- Adapt Land Governance Measures to Support Evolving Cities for Economic Growth.
- Develop Urban Indicators and New Information Management Approaches to Manage Complex and Dynamic Urban Environments.
- Develop Comprehensive and Scalable Solutions to the Shelter Problem.

FIG – World Bank Declaration on Land Governance in Support of the Millennium Development Goals
FIG – World Bank Declaration on Land Governance in Support of the Millennium Development Goals

Sustainable Land Governance should:

- **Provide** transparent and easy access to land for all and thereby reduce poverty.
- **Secure** investments in land and property development and thereby facilitate economic growth.
- **Avoid** land grabbing and the attached social and economic consequences.
- **Safeguard** the environment, cultural heritage and the use natural resources.

Source: http://uwnews.org

FIG – World Bank Declaration on Land Governance in Support of the Millennium Development Goals

Sustainable Land Governance should:

- **Guarantee** good, transparent, affordable and gender responsive governance of land for the benefit of all including the most vulnerable groups.
- **Apply** a land policy that is integrated into social and economic development policy frameworks.
- **Address** the challenges of climate change and related consequences of natural disasters, food shortage, etc.
- **Recognise** the trend of rapid urbanisation as a major challenge to sustain future living and livelihoods.

Source: http://treehugger.com
Effective and democratised land governance is at the heart of delivering the global vision of our future laid out in the MDGs.

Land Professionals have a vital role to play and we must understand and respond quickly to this on-going change.

Central to this is our response to climate change and food security.

Ellen JOHNSON Sirleaf
President of Liberia

Her request to the conference was:
“be quick in solving my land issues”
"Each success only buy’s admission to a more difficult problem”

Henry Kissinger

Source: Global Player © alles-schlumpf Daniella Hartman