MONITORING OF THE LAND-BASED SECTORS - GLOBAL EXPERIENCES & LESSONS LEARNED – RELEVANCE TO NATIONAL LAND AND MAPPING AGENCIES

Keith Clifford Bell, World Bank, June 17, 2014

Outline

- MDGs and moving into post-2015
- The Two-Speed World and Spatial Technologies
- Breaking Down Silos of NLAs and NMOs
- Monitoring Post-2015
- Concluding Remarks
Millennium Development Goals – Target 2015 - Where specifically is land?

- **Goal 1:** Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- **Goal 2:** Achieve universal primary education
- **Goal 3:** Promote gender equality and empower women
- **Goal 4:** Reduce child mortality
- **Goal 5:** Improve maternal health
- **Goal 6:** Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases
- **Goal 7:** Ensure environmental sustainability
- **Goal 8:** Develop a global partnership for development

Monitoring Requires Authoritative Geospatial Data

**World Development Report** (2007) is the first WDR to make explicit mention of geospatial information.

**WDR 2010** stresses the importance of accurate & timely data, especially from remote sensing and other geographic information, & application of ICT:

“One reason that policy makers have found it so difficult to curb the overexploitation of land and water and their related ecosystems is that neither the managers nor the users of the resources have accurate and timely information. ……..

…..Research and development will be necessary to take full advantage of these new information technologies” …..

More reliable information can empower communities and change the governance of natural resources”. 
Post-2015 Development Agenda

- The Agenda refers to the UN-led process to help define the future global development framework that will succeed the MDGs ending in 2015.
- The post-2015 dialogue is an opportunity to develop a practical agenda to ensure the principle ‘leaving no one behind’ translates into real changes to deliver essential services to those in poverty.
- At the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), held in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012, 192 UN member states agreed to establish an intergovernmental working group to design Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a successor of the MDGs.

Post-2015 Development Agenda – Defining Goals

- An Open Working Group (OWG) was established to define agreed goals for the post-2015 Agenda.
- On Jun 2, 2014, the Zero Draft of the proposed goals was released. Proposed Goal #1.5: “By 2030 ensure development opportunities for all men and women, including secure rights to own land, property and other productive resources, and access to financial services, with particular focus on the poor, the most marginalized and people in vulnerable situations.”

HOW WILL THIS BE MONITORED?
Increasing Pressures on the Land-based Sectors

Increasing competition for land in the 21st century, driven by
- Population increase, urbanization, change in diets, biofuels, climate change.
- Global “land rush” – large-scale land acquisitions by foreign & domestic investors.

Concerns
- Protecting the land rights of smallholder farmers, including women & local communities for food security & poverty reduction.
- Ensuring an equitable, environmentally sustainable & economically efficient use of land resources.
- Increasing urbanization and loss of productive rural lands.

Hottest Underpinning Issue
- Good Land Governance which is dependent on many factors including the rule of law, civil service, etc etc..... & reliable spatial data - “AAA” – accurate, authoritative, assured. (AAA – Williamson, 2011)

Importance of Land Governance – Deforestation
Importance of Land Governance – FDI and Agri-Forestry

Importance of Land Governance - Conflict Post-Conflict
Importance of Land Governance - Disasters

Importance of Land Governance – Tenure Security & Land Evictions
We Live in a Two Speed World

- Developed & developing nations are moving at two different speeds in land administration & management.
- Low-Income, Middle-Income & High-Income countries, each with different access to resources, capacity & priorities for land administration & spatial enablement.
- 80% of humanity live below US$10.00 a day or where 75% of humanity do not have clear spatially & legally defined land or property rights & where communities have inadequate access to this global normalized digital maps. Each country has to build its own system from its unique socio-cultural & historic standpoint.
- Technology is not a limitation, but funding it is in many cases. Closing the gap between the “haves” & the “have nots”, is no easy task, especially in spite of the rhetoric that technology is now affordable, for the “have nots”, access is often beyond reach.
- An understanding of the political economy of the land-based sectors of any country provides clear insights into why there is weak governance, lack of political will for reform & governance which favors the status quo in support of elites. (World Bank-FIG Spatial Innovations Forum, March 28, 2014).

Spatial Technologies are Enablers of Reform – They are not the Reforms

- “Having said this, the Forum recognized that technology is an enabler of improving land administration and access to land rights, but it is not the solution. That is also fundamental to FFP. Specifically regarding spatial technology, we should reflect on the hierarchy of evidence of land ownership determination, which gives greatest weight to physical features and marks which define the limits or boundaries of individual or community rights. The evidence of least weight is measurement, which in modern spatial technology parlance, means coordinates. Further, the evidence of rights is enhanced through maps, or again in modern parlance GIS. But GIS, needs to be considered along with other forms of presentation of rights.

- Citizen engagement in identification of land rights, often using affordable tools such as hand-held GPS-enabled cell phones holds great promise for closing the gap between those who have rights and those who don't. However, to take advantage of the power of collaborative land mapping or Volunteer Geographic Information (VGI) requires government protocols that cover standards for the acquisition and submission of these maps. The authority of government land agencies to validate all mapping and other information and provide access to assured land information is fundamental to good land governance.”

NLA and NMA Silos

- All too often NLAs and NMAs have become obsolete silos – obstacles to reform
- Silos are symptomatic of weak governance, low efficiency, weak effectiveness
- New technology-enabled silos are often emerging and these are also blockers of reform

Land & Mapping Agency Silos – Museum Relics!
For NLAs and NMOs: Technology is no Substitute for Good Governance
Why Good Land Governance matters and Why Monitoring of Land-based Sectors is Essential

- The technocratic illusion is that poverty results from a shortage of expertise, whereas poverty is really about a shortage of rights. The emphasis on the problem of expertise makes the problem of rights worse. The technical problems of the poor (and the absence of technical solutions for those problems) are a symptom of poverty, not a cause of poverty. This book argues that the cause of poverty is the absence of political and economic rights, the absence of a free political and economic system that would find the technical solutions to the poor’s problems. The dictator whom the experts expect will accomplish the technical fixes to technical problems is not the solution; he is the problem.”


Why Fit-for-Purpose matters

“...The title of Bill Easterly’s new book pretty much conveys the message: *The Tyranny of Experts: Economists, Dictators, and the Forgotten Rights of the Poor*. Out of arrogance and political convenience, Western donors are designing and financing destructive top-down development ‘solutions’ to be imposed on the poor. The donors are playing into the hands of dictators, even becoming mini-dictators themselves. The just and surer path to economic development lies in respecting the rights of poor people and empowering them to solve their own problems in ways no expert could plan.”

David Roodman (2014), formerly Center for Global Development; Worldwatch Institute; & Gates Foundation.

*****Surely this is why Fit-for-Purpose Land Administration and Management is so important! *****
Post-2015:
NLAs and NMOs are custodians of key data for monitoring of land-based sectors & land governance

- **Mandates of institutions**
  - Reliable, authoritative information is a core mandate
  - Custodian - information made available – capture once use many
  - Direct link to institutions' performance reporting

- **Spatially explicit**
  - Core or Foundation data
  - Repeat data coverage's - imagery
  - Expose inconsistencies Map once – use often (not only registry; tax maps plans)
  - Spatial disaggregation (poverty maps, poor areas)
  - Link tenure to land use (& change) maps (urban & rural)
  - Climate change and REDD+

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Key issues for the Land-based Sectors and Land governance

- A broader view of land governance is needed at the country level – too many silos
- Urban land tenure essential for low-cost housing and livable cities
- Tenure security key constraint for farmers, especially for women
- Land grabbing
- Land fiscal issues
- Tenure security / demarcation & registration of Common lands/ forest lands/ ancestral lands
- REDD+
- Climate Change
- Institutional & political economy issues often neglected
- NSDI - consistent, reliable, authoritative data
- Fit-for-purpose land administration systems
- Disasters
- Conflict
Why Monitoring is Required is Required

- Land sector reforms should be driven, by an evidence-based assessment and participatory policy dialogue between government and stakeholders – including donors.
- Governments require a land governance baseline to monitor progress of reforms and interventions.
- Investment by donors, incl. support from the WB, should be on the basis of priority need determined through an evidence-based, validated assessment.
- LGAF provides the key input to a country’s land sector engagement strategy and all land-based sector strategies.

Two Approaches

1. LGAF - Land Governance Assessment Framework (Operational)
   - Detailed in-country assessment of governance – national and subnational.
   - A comprehensive diagnostic of around 100 elements of governance of the land-based sectors.

2. Land Monitoring Indicators (Under Development)
   - For post-2015 development agenda, a simplistic system of a few key indicators for country-comparative monitoring - global scale, as we are dealing with a global agenda - is required.
   - Can draw upon LGAF as well as administrative and core foundation spatial data.
Why the LGAF was created

- Thinking started around 2006/7 when discussions for regional/global initiatives (VGGT, LPI) took off
- Clear that upon endorsement need for
  - comprehensive assessment of land sector
  - priority setting
  - benchmark/baseline to track progress both for in-country policy reform
  - facilitation - stakeholder dialogue and engagement
- Many experts & organizations involved (FAO, IFAD, UN-Habitat, GLTN, IFPRI, bilateral etc.)
- Coordinated by WB

5 thematic governance areas

- Recognition and respect for existing rights
- Land Use Planning, Management, and Taxation
- Management of Public Land
- Public Provision of Land Information
- Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management
9 Panels under LGAF

Panel 1          Land Tenure Recognition
Panel 2          Rights to Forest and Common Lands; Rural Land Use Regulations
Panel 3          Urban Land Use, Planning, and Development
Panel 4          Public Land Management
Panel 5          Process for transfer of Public Land to Private Use
Panel 6          Public Provision of Land Information: Registry and Cadastre
Panel 7          Land Valuation and Taxation
Panel 8          Dispute Resolution
Panel 9          Review of Institutional Arrangements and Policies

Global LGAF implementation Status

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<tr>
<th>Completed Full LGAFs</th>
<th>Ongoing LGAF</th>
<th>Perspective LGAF</th>
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<td>Brazil (net + 2 states)</td>
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<td>Cameroon*</td>
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9/4/2014
Take Home Messages for NLAs and NMOs

- **Good land governance** is the key issue for the land-based sectors and reform in post-2015.
- **Post-2015 Monitoring is essential** - NLAs and NMOs must be leaders in this and not silos.
- Land and mapping agencies should not hide behind technology, but adopt fit-for-purpose solutions.
- Land and mapping agencies are **custodians of the BIG DATA** - core administrative data & foundation spatial data sets - for monitoring – they must act as custodians - not silo gate-keepers of data.
- **Silos** are symptomatic of weak governance, low efficiency, weak effectiveness – & have no place in the Post-2015 Agenda.