‘Cadastre 2014’: a beacon in turbulent times

Paul van der MOLEN

Question addressed by the paper

- Is there since 1994 still a quest for ‘cadastres’?
- Let’s see 4 global developments to find the answer.
- And it turns out to be: YES.
- Although covering a variety of human-land relationships, and fast & cheap!
Rapid Urbanization

- 2011: 3.6 billion urban people, and 3.3 billion rural people
- 2050: 6.2 billion urban people, and 3.0 billion rural people.
- = extra 96,150 houses /day
- 1990: 656 million slum dwellers (46%)
- 2010: 827 million slum dwellers (32%)
- Twin track approach: prevention of slums and upgrading of slums
- New forms of planning + upgrading approaches
- Three basics: (1) land + land tenure security (2) services (3) credit
- Increased need for cadastres, spatial and non spatial data

Food Security

- 2014: 868 mill undernourished people, of which 852 in developing world.
- 2050: from 6 to 9.5 billion people.
- 70% food increase needed, up to 100% in developing countries
- Increase for 80% from higher yields, 20% from land expansion
- Twin track approach: (1) technical change and (2) institutional change
- Institutional = land tenure and access to water resources
- Large investments in agriculture push the poor aside.
- Increased need for cadastres on land and natural resources, it is a critical issue.
Climate Change

- Humanly induced emissions 49 Gtons CO2e
- 31% from deforestation, agriculture, and livestock grazing (15 Gtons)
- Carbon storage in biomass 4 Gtons/year
- ‘LULUCF’ art 3, 4 Kyoto protocol
- 13 million ha/year deforestation = 4 Gtons
- Reduce emission, increase biomass carbon sequestration, disaster preparedness
- Manage land use, livestock, reforestation
- Investments by citizens, but why should they without secure tenure?
- Surplus carbon credits tradable: Kyoto compliance market and non-Kyoto retail market

Increased need for cadastres.

Informal economies

- Informal economies from 18% (OECD), Asia 26%, 38% transition countries, America 41%, 42% Africa
- Integration formal and informal economies steady policy of UN, WB and ILO.
- How to govern the economy when a major part is unrecorded?
- Worse: because of not being recorded, most poor people are unknown
- De Soto: create property system for the poor
- Economic activities require good rules, such as secure property rights and secure transactions.
- Increased need for cadastres.
Indeed turbulent times!

- Quest for cadastres more manifest than ever!
- Purpose change: in 1994 mainly for freehold security, secure property transactions and fair land taxation
- Today: cadastres as a tool to contribute to solving global problems
- Cadastre 2014 to provide guidance.

Laudatio

BRAVO, BRAVO, BRAVISSIMO!