

“An opportunity to change: Fit for Purpose Land Administration”

Abstract

When disaster strikes and changes the surface of our earth, security of land and property is crucial to recover, rebuild and reconstruct society. Estimations show that about 70% of the people to land relationships is not documented. In order to create a resilient environment where people are sure of their property, conflicts over land are minimised and land use planning is possible a system of land administration that is fit for purpose is proposed.

The introduction of the Fit for Purpose Land Administration can be considered a new way of thinking in achieving faster, cheaper and more appropriate land administration systems for the world. Appropriate land administration is defined by four aspects. Not the professional or technological standards but the requirements of users (or citizens) should be the starting point; then the quality of the data and systems should be good, the acceptable timeframe to collect and register the data should be fast and the price of development and maintenance should be cheap.

Also, a good professional starting point has been developed with standards and knowledge models like the Land Administration Domain Model and the Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM).

But there is still much more to be done. Mobilising leadership, international cooperation, innovation of methods and the adaptation of modern technologies are essential parts of the cadastral actions needed. But first of all the capacity should be built. We need professionals that understand and endorse Fit for Purpose Land Administration aiming at their contribution to the 2030 agenda for sustainable development.

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