



## Reflections on land information and policy-making in Benin & Africa

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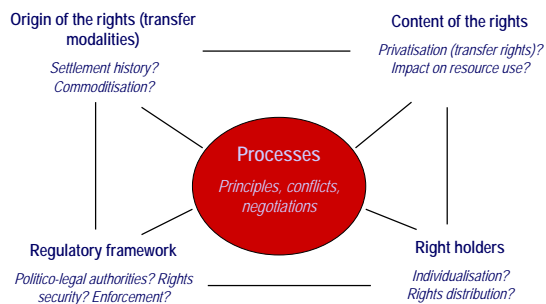
## Preliminary remarks & questions

- A neglected issue in both policy and research fields
- A **complex question**: nature, production, distribution, storage, circulation, use of land tenure information
- A **context** - African land tenure or **land tenure in Africa** - legacy, stereotypes, "power, wealth & meaning": centralism, dualism, pluralism
- A **link**: knowledge about land related to **policy making processes**



## What is land tenure information?

- Land tenure data **categories**: primary/secondary, formal/informal, discursive/practical knowledge
- Land tenure data forms and localisation: the **institutional embeddedness of knowledge**
- **Public policy** as negotiated process, alliance-building and legitimising discourse: rethinking the position and meaning of land tenure **information**
- The **nature of information**: strategic resource or common good?



## The case of Benin: institutional pluralism & knowledge fragmentation

- Ministries (agriculture, environment, finance)
  - Decentralised state services
- Decentralised and pre-decentralisation elected bodies
- Chieftaincy, traditional authorities, hometown associations
- Development programmes, co-operations agencies, NGO
  - Farmers and pastoralists associations
    - Courts of justice
  - Professionals (surveyors, etc.)
  - Researchers



