

Fit – For Purpose Land Administration - Assessment of efficiency and effectiveness of paper-based and digital data collection

Case of Colombia, Mozambique and Nepal

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SUMMARY

Sustainable land management supports secure tenure for all and can be achieved through land administration that meets the needs of people and represents their relationship to land.

Fit-for-purpose land administration means that the spatial, regulatory and institutional framework of the system is designed for the purpose of managing current land issues within a specific country.

This paper presents three case studies from Colombia, Mozambique and Nepal, assessing the efficiency and effectiveness of a paper-based and digital field-data acquisition of spatial and legal/administrative data for implementing a land administration based on Fit-For-Purpose approaches. Data in the field can be collected by paper-based questionnaires combined with plotted or printed imagery or by digital approaches using mobile applications like smartphones or tablets, which could be connected to high-precision GPS devices. Both approaches have pro's and con's in terms of people participation, transparency, costs, capacity including training, sensitivity for errors, ownership of collected data, maintenance, etc. Therefore first, we compare the approach of preparation and data collection in the field. Second, the different methods for post-processing of collected data are compared. Third, we compare the approaches by using a cost benefit analysis.

It should be noted that in the countries where the case studies have been performed have varying tenure security issues and unique requirements for appropriate land governance interventions apply. This study is one of the first cross-country attempts in assessing and validating different methods for data collection. The results will give an insight on the potential and limitations of both, paper and digital based methods for different purposes in different regional contexts. Results could further support in making relevant suggestions for application of fit-for-purpose approaches suited to a particular context.

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