

Land and Poverty Conference 2017, World Bank, Washington, 20.24 March 2017.

Master Class: World Bank, GLTN and FIG.

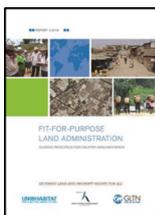
### **Implementing a Fit-For-Purpose Approach to Land Administration in Sub-Sahara Africa.**

**Scope:** The workshop will discuss about the opportunities and constraints related to closing the security of tenure gap in Sub-Sahara African countries. Although focused on Sub-Sahara African countries, experiences from other countries around the world can be part of the Master Class discussion.

**Format:** The workshop will include some short statements from FIG, GLTN and World Bank related to the opportunities provided by implementing a Fit-For-Purpose approach to building national land administration systems providing secure tenure for all. This will be followed by short presentations from three African countries focusing on the benefits and constraints related to implementing this kind of flexible and scalable system. The format will allow for sufficient space for discussion.

**Background:** Sub-Sahara Africa is on the move. Economic growth is considerable with a rate of above 5 per cent per year for more than a decade. However, most countries in the region are struggling with issues such as insecurity of tenure, informal settlements and urban slums, landownership inequalities and landlessness, and degrading of natural resources. These facts indicate that poor land governance, including the manner in which land rights are defined and administered, may be the root of the problem. This will also constrain countries in contributing to the global agenda in terms of the SGDs having a strong focus on land related issues in relation to poverty reduction, security of tenure, and effective management of land use and natural resources.

**The Fit-For-Purpose Approach.** There is an urgent need to build simple and basic systems within a relatively short timeframe and using a flexible and affordable approach to identify the way land is occupied and used - whether these land rights are legal or locally legitimate. The systems need to be simple and flexible in terms of spatial identification, legal regulations and institutional arrangements to meet the actual needs in society today and they can then be incrementally improved over time. This, in turn, will facilitate economic growth, social equity and environmental sustainability.



A recent publication UN-Habitat / GLTN introduces the Fit-for-Purpose approach and provides structured guidance on designing the spatial, legal and institutional frameworks as the core components for country specific implementation.

<http://www.gltn.net/index.php/publications/publications/publications-list/send/2-gltn-documents/2332-fit-for-purpose-land-administration-guiding-principles-for-country-implementation>

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