

Land tenure regularisation for sustainable urban and agriculture development in Rwanda

The need to improve land governance in the developing world is often informed by issues like increasing demand for land and land disputes (land tenure insecurity), which in some cases lead to civil strife and bloodshed. Land registration has often been embraced as the panacea to the problem of land tenure insecurity (LTI) and based on this, it is further posited that land registration guarantees access to formal capital. However, there is an ambivalent literature on whether or not it guarantees land tenure security (LTS) and access to formal credit in improving land management in both urban and rural areas. Rwanda embarked on an ambitious land tenure reform LTR with a national-wide systematic registration of all land taking centre stage that was primarily aimed at among other things, establishing LTS. This culminated in the registration of over 11 million land parcels, a feat considered unprecedented in the history of the developing world. The aim of this paper is to examine whether or not land registration assures LTS and access to formal credit as well as to holistically assess how the results of the tenure regularisation are contributing to urban and agriculture development in Rwanda.