
Land Reform Development in Rwanda



Kagera TAMP Lessons learnt.

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Some figures about Rwanda

- Area : 26,338 km²
 - Population: 8,128,553 million
 - Physical density: 321 inhab/ km²
 - Urbanisation rate: 10%
 - Population in agriculture: 90%
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Figures (cont...)

- Arable land: 52% of total area
 - 15% of poor rural households do not own land
 - 60% of households in Rwanda own less than 1ha of land
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Why a land reform?

- Land is a most valuable asset but also a very contested one (source of various conflict) Getting land reform right is critical to both poverty reduction and to a peaceful and secure Rwanda.
 - Land reform is identified as a priority in the Government of Rwanda's Vision 2020 and the PRSP.
 - To improve the security of tenure by clarifying land rights and by registering land rights
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- To make sure that all rwandan (both men and women) enjoy the same rights on land
 - To improve the value of the land and promote investment
 - To contribute to sustainable land use and management
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About Rwanda Land Reform

1. The National Land Policy

Rwandan Land Policy was adopted in February 2004 by the Government

2. The Land Law

Rwandan Land Law was adopted in July, 2005

Land Administration development

- The National Land Policy put a great importance on appropriate land administration system as a key of land tenure security by providing the possibility of registering and transferring land and also the possibility of investement in land.
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Existing situation

■ **At provincial, District and Municipal levels**

- Provinces and Districts do not have any structure of land administration
 - With the decentralisation currently in process, 15 Municipalities have a decentralised land administration limited to land survey, land registration and land taxation
 - Those Municipalities send all land records to the Ministry of Lands where is based the Cheaf Registrar of Title Deeds
 - Kigali City is autonomous in term of land administration since 1998.
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New and innovative approaches in Land Administration

1. Policy approach

- Clear distinction between urban land and rural land
 - Clear separation of public land and private land
 - Decentralisation of land administration procedures
 - Provision of strong institutional arrangements to coordinate all the system
 - Systematic land registration both in urban and rural areas
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2. Strategic approach

1. Land administration at national level

- Establishment of a ***National Land Centre*** as the engine of land administration and land use management



2. Land Administration at local level

■ In Urban area

- To conduct formal land registration through the establishment of a modern cadastre and registry for land and revenue management by following the model of Kigali City Council which is conducting an automated land administration system a swedish software: '*Arc cadastre*'
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In rural area

- **A dual system of land registration is proposed :**
 - a. Formal land registration for land owners who have 5 ha or more for commercial purposes (industrial or agricultural activities)
 - b. Participatory land planning, community mapping and local land rights registration. Land records and photomaps will be held at Cells, Sector and District level
 - Land office to be established in each District with responsibility of land use planning, land surveying, land registration and land titles delivery. It also has the role of disseminating data.
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The way forwards

- Developing Bylaws, sensitisation of the population
 - Establishment of land offices in district, training staff
 - Developing a National Land Use Masterplan
 - Piloting zone for implementation (Involvement of all stakeholders/Donors in the process)
 - Developing conflicts resolution mechanisms
 - Enhancing political will at all levels of administration and increase capacity to implement land reform.
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I THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION

