

Upscaling Land Administration in Benin towards National Coverage

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Key words: Access to land; Capacity building; Digital cadastre; Implementation of plans; Legislation; Low cost technology; Professional practice; Fit for purpose; Benin; case study

SUMMARY

This case study describes how the land administration agency in Benin (l'Agence du Domain et du Foncier / ANDF), supported by a project financed from Dutch development aid (le Projet de Modernisation de l'Administration Foncière / PMAF), has found solutions to accelerate the introduction of a national land administration. It explains how ANDF and PMAF searched for a proper balance between speed, cost and quality, the dilemma to which this led and how both partners dealt with this dilemma. It explains why it was necessary, alongside the existing title system with a property right guaranteed by the Benin state, to introduce a new “fit for purpose” deed system which entails a presumable property right and how the proper balance could be found between time and quality within the scope of the project budget. The case study pays special attention to dealing with tension that can exist between the political focus in the country in which an externally financed land administration project is started and the conditions that bind the financier to the project.

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FIG Working Week 2020

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Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 10–14 May 2020