

Understanding the Concept of Capacity Building and the Nature of Land Administration Systems

Prof. Stig Enemark
Aalborg University, Denmark

FIG WORKING WEEK, PARIS, 13 – 17 APRIL 2003

Contents ...

- Capacity Building
 - What is it ?
 - Definitions, capacity development, capacity assessment
 - Levels and dimensions of capacity building
- Land Administration
 - What is it ?
 - Land administration systems
 - Land administration infrastructures
- Capacity Building in Land Administration
 - Is about systems, infrastructures, and people
 - Is a cross-sectoral and multidisciplinary area
- Future Directions
 - FAO project on guidelines
 - FIG Joint Working group

Capacity Building – what is it ? ...

- ITC workshop definition:
The development of knowledge, skills and attitudes in individuals and groups of people relevant in design, development, management and maintenance of institutional and operational infrastructures and processes that are locally meaningful
- UN definition:
Capacity can be defined as the ability to of individuals and organisations or organisational units to perform functions effectively, efficiently and sustainably
- Three important aspects:
 - (i) Not a passive state but part of a continuing process
 - (ii) Ensures that human resources and their utilisation are central
 - (iii) Requires that the overall context is also a key consideration

... Capacity Building – what is it ?

- Capacity Building is two-dimensional:
 - Capacity Assessment
 - Capacity Development
- Capacity Assessment
A structured and analytical process whereby the various dimensions of capacity are assessed within the broader systems context, as well as evaluated for specific entities and individuals within the system.
- Capacity Development
The process by which individuals, groups, organisations, institutions and society increase their ability to: (i) perform core functions, solve problems, define and achieve objectives; and (ii) understand and deal with their development needs in a broader context and in a sustainable manner (OECD Definition).

Levels and Dimensions of Capacity Building

Capacity is the power/ability of something—a system, an organisation, a person—to perform and produce properly.
Capacity issues can be addressed at three levels:

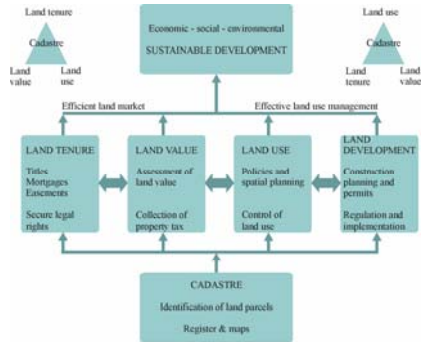
- The broader system/societal level
Dimensions include: Policies, legal/regulatory framework, management and accountability perspective, and the resources available.
- The entity/organisational level
Dimensions include: Mission and strategies, culture and competencies, processes, resources (human, financial, information) and infrastructures.
- The group-of-people/individual level
Dimensions include: education and training programs to meet the gaps within the skills base and the number of staff to operate the systems in the short, medium and long term perspective.

Land Administration - what is it ?

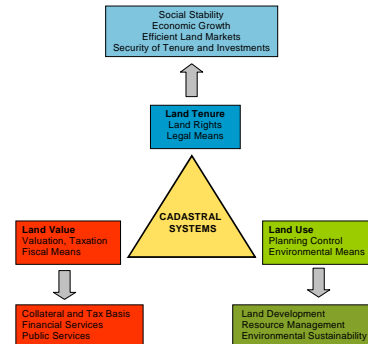
The processes of determining, recording and disseminating information about tenure, value and use of land when implementing land policies (UNECE; 1996)

- Land Tenure - securing rights in land
- Land Value - assessment and taxation
- Land Use - control of land use through planning and regulations

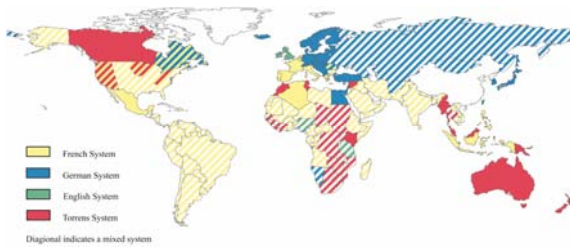
A Global Land Administration Perspective



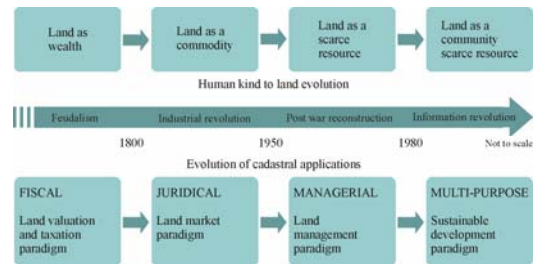
Cadastral Systems



Land Registration Systems around the World



Evolution of Western Land Administration Systems



Building Capacity in Land Administration

Capacity Building in Land Administration is basically about:

- **Systems – societal level**
 - Building appropriate systems such as cadastral systems, land registration systems, valuation/taxation systems, planning control systems
- **Infrastructures – organisational level**
 - Building efficient relations between the systems
 - Building appropriate spatial data infrastructures
 - Building institutional infrastructures and "capable government"
- **People – individual level**
 - Politicians, managers, professionals, technicians, office/field personnel.

Land Administration is a cross-sectoral and multi-disciplinary area

Capacity Building in Land Administration

| Level | Dimensions of Capacity Assessment | Dimensions of Capacity Development |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| Societal/Systems Level | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy dimension • Social and institutional dimension • Systems dimension • Legal and regulatory dimension | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land policy issues • Land administration vision • Land administration system • Land tenure principles • Legal principles |
| Organisational Level | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural issues • Managerial and resource issues • Institutional issues and processes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional infrastructures • Spatial data infrastructures • Professional institutions |
| Individual Level | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional competence • Human resources needs • Educational resources | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational programs • Training and CPD programs • Virtual programs • Education-research centre |

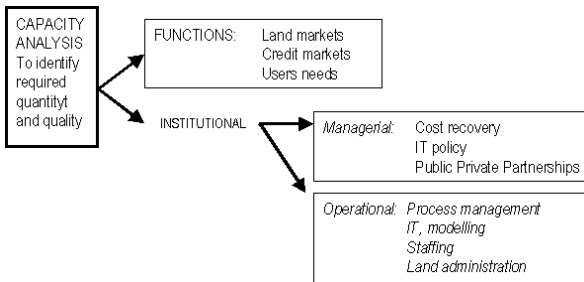
The Way Ahead . . .



Focus on Capacity Building

- UNDP activities and projects
- World bank activities and projects
- **FAO Project on Developing Methodological Guidelines**
 - Conceptual Understanding
 - Capacity Assessment
 - Capacity Development
 - The Role of the NOG's

FIG Commission 2 and 7 Joint Working Group



Conclusions

Where a donor project is established to create land administration infrastructures in developing or transition countries, it is critical that capacity building is a main stream component that is addressed up front, not as an add-on.

In fact, such projects should be dealt with as capacity building projects in themselves for building institutional capacity to meet the medium and long term needs.

... The Way Ahead

