

A Paradox; Fit- For- Purpose Land Administration: (FFPLA); Are we on a Bus Bound to Abilene?

Kwame Tenadu (Ghana)

Key words: fit for purpose 1; paradox 2; land administration 3; standards

SUMMARY

Fit-For-Purpose Land Administration (FFPLA) is another way of doing Land Administration (LA) differently as technology evolves pushing society and businesses to the digital fringes. Fit-For-Purpose in itself offers pathways for choices and therefore is not a novelty. FIG as a professional platform, is offering momentum to FFPLA as a policy solution in LA with widely publicized advocacy as it did for Land Title Registration (LTR).

In the 1970's up until the 1990's was the emergence in the advocacy for Land Title Registration (LTR) as an indispensable solution for tenure security, certainty and indefeasibility in land ownership, and a foundation for a blossoming land market promoted vigorously under the banner of FIG's professional member associations' platform until other researchers began to put the brakes and further subject LTR to other tests, customs and usages of particular geographic areas, standards which FIG has a permanent network, and they began to opine that after all LTR was not the panacea it was purported to be. Today little or no advocacy is made for title registration when many countries who adopted LTR and enshrined it in its national land policies at great cost and resources may be in limbo, not counting the cost in failure and inadequacies of the policy itself to lenders and borrowers who bought into the program! What did we not know before the LTR intense advocacy? Therein lies the "PARADOX"

My anecdote to the thrust of my arguments is conceptualized in the widely publicized "ABILENE PARADOX" largely because traces of the symptoms of FFPLA could be found therein and also because of the high profile of the proposition of FFPLA. We dare not rock the boat!!

The term was introduced by management expert Jerry B. Harvey in his 1974 article "The Abilene Paradox: The Management of Agreement". The name of the phenomenon comes from an anecdote

A Paradox; Fit- For- Purpose Land Administration: (FFPLA); Are we on a Bus Bound to Abilene? (11241)
Kwame Tenadu (Ghana)

FIG e-Working Week 2021

Smart Surveyors for Land and Water Management - Challenges in a New Reality
Virtually in the Netherlands, 21–25 June 2021

that Harvey uses in his article to elucidate the paradox:

A Paradox; Fit- For- Purpose Land Administration: (FFPLA); Are we on a Bus Bound to Abilene? (11241)
Kwame Tenadu (Ghana)

FIG e-Working Week 2021
Smart Surveyors for Land and Water Management - Challenges in a New Reality
Virtually in the Netherlands, 21–25 June 2021