

## Annual Report

### Research Land Administration in 2008 Prof. dr. J.A. Zevenbergen

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The Land Administration Research is the partial implementation of the LA Research Plan, as approved by the Academic Board in 2007.

#### 1. Scientific Level

The 4 PhD students continued their work and started preparing publications. Two papers have been submitted to ISI-journals for review in 2008 by them; more are on their way. The research on the land administration domain model (CCDM before) continued and led to a book chapter (ISI) and several congress papers.

Close cooperation with the World Bank research unit continued, and based on earlier work with them a paper in World Development (ISI) was published in 2008.

A new FIG-book was co-authored on capacity assessment in land administration.

The proceedings of the E-learning conference were edited.

In total 20 writings of various nature were published (editorials, columns, papers, chapters), some in a wider field due to part-time positions.

#### 2. Relevance

The subjects of the 4 PhD are related to recent policy documents of UN and World Bank. It is expected that the research contributes to the questions of these institutes. The research on the land administration domain model attracts interest of UN/Habitat, UN/FAO, World Bank and FIG. The FIG has submitted it for consideration by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the group is actively contributing to this process, both in writing and participation in meetings. A tailored pro-poor implementation of the model, the Social Tenure Domain Model, has been prototyped in 2008 with financial support from UN/Habitat and the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN). For the same organizations development of materials on transparency in land administration is being undertaken. Innovative approaches to land administration, including adjudication with help of HRS-imagery, are being developed in cooperation with the World Bank. On request the case of innovative land law in Uganda was presented in a workshop at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

#### 3. Partners

2 PhD research projects are conducted as a sandwich programme, in cooperation with the KNUST University in Kumasi (Ghana) respectively Ulan Bator (Mongolia). 1 PhD is co-financed by the Dutch Cadastre, Land Registry and Mapping Agency. The research on the social tenure domain model co-financed through a dedicated research project of UN/Habitat and GLTN. With the appointment of a new part-time professor in land administration systems, the ongoing cooperation with the Delft University of Technology is further strengthened.

#### 4. Coherence

Coherence results from the overall land administration research plan, in which various research topics are mentioned. More effort has been given to embedding MSc research in that framework during topic selection in 2008. A number of 14 LA-thesis topics is being conducted by GIMLA students and two more by UPM students. Preparation for further embedding for 2009 are underway.

## 5. Evaluation

The land administration group is relatively young, and experience with research is starting to develop, also in the sense of adequate supervision of research, including an early start in paper writing. A right balance between education, research and project-services is hard to find, also due to the limited size of the group compared to the demands in teaching, capacity building and other project services.