

Pro-Poor Land Administration and Land Tenure Security Provision. A Focus on Rwanda.

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It is increasingly acknowledged that conventional Land Administration Systems have often worked against the needs and aspirations of the poor. There have been concerns over the fact that current procedures and requirements for mapping and boundary delineation are cumbersome and expensive and did not comply with the actual needs for most citizens for achieving security of tenure. The desire to insure that land administration systems provides land tenure security to the poor, has led to a new era of pro-poor land administration. Recent development in Land Administration, have highlighted the need for pro-poor tools and approaches to support pro-poor land management; and to provide land tenure security to the poor; the function the traditional land administration failed to fulfil. The central inquiry to this paper was to examine whether pro-poor approaches to land administration as prescribed by contemporary literature provide tenure security to the poor. A well-known pro-poor inspired case: the Rwandan Land Tenure Regularization (LTR) program was used to examine how pro-poor land administration works in practice. To do so, LTR was assessed against the recent three frameworks all claimed to be pro-poor: the Fit for Purpose approach of Enemark (2014), the design requirements of a Pro-poor Land Recordation System (Zevenbergen et al., 2013) and the Conceptual Model of Land Tenure Security of Rural Poor on Sub-Saharan African context (Simbizi et al., 2014). To answer to the initial inquiry of this paper, findings suggest that: yes contemporary pro-poor options as described by the Fit for Purpose and the Pro-poor Land Recordation System are feasible to implement. However those options are still far to serve interest of the poorest of the society in terms of land tenure security provision.

Key words: land tenure security, pro-poor, land administration, Rwanda, LTR