



NORWEGIAN MAPPING AUTHORITY

CENTRE FOR PROPERTY RIGHTS AND DEVELOPMENT

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2009

LEGAL EMPOWERMENT BECOMING A CENTREPIECE IN DEVELOPMENT

Dear Reader!



As 2009 is coming to and end, a lot of initiatives and actions on legal empowerment of the poor can be noted. Many of these are summarized in the report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, which underpinned the resolution on legal empowerment of the poor adopted by the General Assembly on 9 December. The General Assembly calls upon the international community to continue their efforts in the area of legal empowerment and calls upon countries in position to do so to support

national efforts of developing countries through provision of financial resources and technical assistance.

It is encouraging that the Norwegian government continues to support land administration developments in former Soviet states and in the Balkans. Recently the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has granted a total of about 40 million Norwegian kroner to start up new projects in Kosovo, Moldova, Armenia and Azerbaijan, funds that will be channelled through Statens kartverk's Centre for Property Rights and Development.

Less bilateral initiatives of the Norwegian government can be noted for countries in Africa, Latin America and Asia, countries where the large majority of people still do not enjoy security of tenure through a formally registered right. At an EU conference in Stockholm earlier this year it was reported that 3-4 billion people live without a secured right to their house and land. New and innovative tools are needed to reach out to poor people with affordable services to improve security of tenure. Both UN-Habitat and FAO are currently working intensively on this through the Global Land Tool Network and the Voluntary Guidelines for Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land and Other Natural Resources, respectively.

As a partner to the GLNT the Centre at Statens kartverk has discussed options of providing specific information services to the network. We are also supporting an initiative on enhancing the rights of the Amazon Indians of Peru to land and recourses, which could be further developed next year. It is our aim for 2010 to be more engaged in the global agenda of legal empowerment.

*Helge Onsrud,
Director*

In this issue you could find

- *UN General Assembly Resolution on Legal Empowerment of the Poor*
- *FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land and other Natural Resources*
- *Land Administration Domain Model to become an international standard*
- *New era for GLTN network*
- *Scotland: New ePlanning website*
- *Our projects' and activities' updates*



Legal Empowerment of the Poor

UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION ON LEGAL EMPOWERMENT OF THE POOR



On 9 December 2009, the UN General Assembly adopted by consensus its second resolution on legal empowerment of the poor and eradication of poverty, with 68 co-sponsors from all regions of the world (the text of the resolution lists 53 original co-sponsors; additional 15 countries joined the co-sponsorship at the time of its adoption). The co-sponsors include 11 Least Development Countries, 20 G77 Members and 22 EU Members/19 OECD-DAC member countries. Following up on the procedural resolution 63/142 of 11 December 2008 and the report of the Secretary-General (A/64/133), the resolution underscores the priority that member states are attaching to this innovative agenda for poverty eradication and development.

Through this resolution, the General Assembly:

- Takes note of the diversity of national experiences in legal empowerment of the poor, recognizes progress made in advancing legal empowerment of the poor in national strategies, stresses the importance of sharing of national best practices and welcomes the ongoing work of the UN funds and programmes (OP2 and OP3).
- *Emphasizes* the need to accord the highest priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda, while stressing the importance of addressing the causes and challenges of poverty **through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels** (OP4)
- *Encourages* countries to continue their efforts in the area of legal empowerment of the poor, including access to justice and the realization of rights related to property, labour and business, addressing both formal and informal settings by taking into account those dimensions in their national policies and strategies (OP 9)
- Calls upon the international community to continue to give priority to the eradication of poverty and calls upon countries in a position to do so to support the national efforts of developing countries in promoting legal empowerment of the poor through provision of adequate, predictable financial resources or technical assistance (OP 11)
- Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation the resolution, as part of the follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit and to continue the consideration of legal empowerment of the poor (OP12)

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE ON LEGAL EMPOWERMENT OF THE POOR

UNDP enhanced its focus on legal empowerment of the poor following the publication of the final report of the Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor in 2008. UNDP works with the development partners on this issue and draws upon the skills and expertise of staff across its global, regional and country offices. Since 2008, UNDP has forged partnerships with a broad

range of stakeholders to share knowledge and generate strong political and financial commitment to legal empowerment of the poor.

UNDP’s Initiative for Legal Empowerment of the Poor (ILEP) which takes into account the key recommendations of the **Commission**, supports a range of national, regional and global efforts to expand poor people’s access to the legal and institutional mechanisms that can help them break the vicious cycle of exclusion and poverty.

This initiative aims to:

- generate strong political support, commitment, knowledge and understanding for the legal empowerment agenda with resolutions, decisions, and dissemination of knowledge on the subject;
- develop the capacity of government entities at national, provincial and local levels to undertake necessary legal and institutional reforms and to deliver legal empowerment of the poor;
- engage grassroots organizations in legal empowerment, supporting social movement and promoting accountability and sustainability for pro-poor reforms.

Focus Areas

The United Nations Development Programme works to make real improvements in people’s lives and in the choices and opportunities open to them. Legal empowerment of the poor is an agenda of **inclusive development** that complements other development strategies but pursues a unique focus on key livelihood rights - property, labour, entrepreneurial rights and access to justice – to promote inclusion and foster economic growth, poverty reduction and human development. In seeking to make the law work for everyone, it supports a bottom-up approach to development to create enabling conditions for entrepreneurship and economic opportunities.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR THE POOR IN INDONESIA



A joint initiative with the National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS) on a project aimed at strengthening access to justice for poor and marginalized people through support to legal services, legal and human rights awareness and legal capacity development. **Find out more...**

REFORMING PROPERTY AND BUSINESS SYSTEMS IN ALBANIA



UNDP, the Institute for Liberty and Democracy and the Government of Albania are studying obstacles and costs of doing business in Albania. Major obstacles are within the nation's existing legal framework, which contains regulatory bottlenecks, unpredictable norms, and inadequate laws that compel the poor to operate in the informal economy. **Find out more...**



Articles, reports and publications

UN SECRETARY-GENERAL REPORT ON LEGAL EMPOWERMENT AND POVERTY ERADICATION (A/64/133)

This report summarizes the emerging approach to legal empowerment of the poor; highlights the operational scope and focus of legal empowerment of the poor; summarizes national and regional

experiences and the role of various organizations of the UN system in fostering empowerment of the poor.

[Read more...](#)

VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES



FAO and its partners are preparing Voluntary Guidelines to improve the governance of tenure of land and other natural resources. Voluntary guidelines set out principles and internationally accepted standards for responsible practices.

They provide a framework that States can use when developing their own strategies, policies, legislation and programmes. They allow government authorities, the private sector, civil society and citizens to judge whether their proposed actions and the actions of others constitute acceptable practices. See the Discussion Paper [Towards Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land and other Natural Resources](#)

The Voluntary Guidelines are at the initial stage of preparation. Regional and thematic consultations are being held to assess the issues and actions that should be included. The next step will be the drafting of the Voluntary Guidelines, their review through a broad consultative process, and their assessment by FAO member countries and other stakeholders. The focus will then turn to the implementation.

ENVISIONING EMPOWERMENT: A PORTFOLIO OF INITIATIVES FOR ACHIEVING INCLUSION AND DEVELOPMENT



“Envisioning Empowerment: A portfolio of Initiatives for Achieving Inclusion and Development” is a portfolio of legal empowerment projects. This Portfolio addresses legal empowerment broadly and is based on selected projects submitted by external partners and UNDP regional centres and country offices.

This publication could be order here
<https://unp.un.org/Details.aspx?pid=19881>

Or downloaded here

http://content.undp.org/go/cms-service/download/asset/?asset_id=2107095

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2009: OVERCOMING BARRIERS - HUMAN MOBILITY AND DEVELOPMENT



Release Date: October, 2009
(also available in [Arabic](#), [French](#), [Portuguese](#), [Russian](#), [Spanish](#))
ISBN 13: 9780230239043

For many people around the world moving away from their home town or village can be the best – sometimes the only – option open to improve their life chances. The report explores how better policies towards mobility can enhance human development. It traces the contours of human movement – who moves where, when and why, and argues for practical measures that can improve prospects on arrival, which in turn will have large benefits both for destination communities and for places of origin. The report fixes human development firmly on the agenda of policy makers who seek the best outcomes from increasingly complex patterns of human movement worldwide.

This publication cold be ordered here
<https://unp.un.org/Details.aspx?entry=E09HDR>



Events



INSPIRE CONFERENCE 2010

23 – 25 June 2010 – Krakow, Poland

The INSPIRE Conference 2010 will take place from 23 to 25 June 2010 in Krakow, Poland. On 22 June pre-conference workshops will be organized. The theme of this year's edition is "Spatial Data Infrastructure as a Framework for Collaboration".

Make use of the opportunity to learn more about the current INSPIRE situation across Europe, to meet colleagues from different geo-communities. If you are interested to organize a workshop, submit your proposal to the Programme committee. Call for papers will be open until 1st February 2010.

Find more information on the [INSPIRE Conference 2010 website](#).



News from FIG

Statens kartverk-Norwegian Mapping Authority, is an affiliate member of FIG

ARTICLE OF THE MONTH – DECEMBER 2009



The Article of the Month in December 2009 is "**GNSS CORS - Reference Frames and Services**". It is written by Volker Schwieger, Germany, Mikael Lilje, Sweden and Rob Sarib, Australia.

Their paper has been prepared and presented at the 7th FIG Regional Conference in Hanoi, Vietnam, 19-22 October 2009.

Read the paper:

www.fig.net/pub/monthly_articles/december_2009/december_2009_schwieger_etal.html

THE LAND ADMINISTRATION DOMAIN MODEL BECOMES AN INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

FIG submitted in 2008 a proposal to develop an International Standard concerning the Land Administration Domain to the Technical Committee 211 on Geographic Information of the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO/TC211).

There was a positive vote on the draft at ISO TC 211 plenary meeting in Quebec City in November 2009 on forwarding the ISO 19152 Land Administration Domain Model as a Draft

International Standard (DIS). An Editing Committee is working now on the DIS, which is expected to be available in March 2010. The final International Standard is expected in 2011.

Read more: www.fig.net/news/news_2009/canada_november_2009.htm

PARTNER'S MEETING OF THE GLOBAL LAND TOOL NETWORK AND MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD

4-6 November 2009, Nairobi, Kenya



FIG President Stig Enemark attended the Global land Tool Network (GLTN) Partners' Meeting held 4-5 November 2009 at the UN-HABITAT Headquarters in Nairobi, followed by a meeting at the GLTN International Advisory Board (IAB) held 6 November 2009. The Partners' Meeting was structured around the theme: "Enriching Partnerships and Increasing Activities for Land Reform" and attracted around 60 partner organisations. The key issues of the IAB meeting included a comprehensive evaluation the overall GLTN activities in 2009 as well as discussions on the future strategies.

Read more: www.fig.net/news/news_2009/nairobi_november_2009.htm



News from GLTN - Global Land Tool Network



The Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) contributes to the implementation of pro poor land policies to achieve secure land rights for all. [Read more...](#)

NEW ERA FOR GLTN NETWORK



The GLTN reports that at least sixty (60) partner organisations and individuals from grassroots organisations, professional groups, training and research institutions, multilateral and bilateral organisations and civil society groups participated in the two-day GLTN Partners' Meeting, held in Nairobi, Kenya on 4 - 5 November 2009.

At the end of the meeting, the partners perceived themselves as 'owners' of the Network, and the meeting created a significant momentum to push further the GLTN agenda. [Read more...](#)

GOOD LAND GOVERNANCE IS KEY TO REALIZING GENDER EQUALITY AND GRASSROOTS PARTICIPATION



UN-HABITAT and the Global Land Tool Network have concluded a three-day workshop to validate a new training course on improving gender equality and grassroots participation in land governance. The training took place in Naivasha, Kenya from 17-19 November.

The objectives of the training were facilitating the understanding of the concept of land governance, showing the link between good land governance and gender equality as well as genuine grassroots participation and exploring, identifying and unpacking competencies that contribute to good land governance.

[Read more...](#)



Geographic Information and Sustainable Development

ESDIN PROMOTED AT THE INTERNATIONAL CARTOGRAPHIC CONFERENCE 2009



1Spatial, member of the ESDIN project consortium gave a presentation during the International Cartographic Conference 2009 in Chile, which took place from 15th - 21st November 2009.

ESDIN project has been introduced within the presentation of Steven Ramage: **'Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDIs) and regional competitiveness'** . To see the presentation please click the title.

SCOTLAND: NEW ePlanning WEBSITE

Earlier this year (29th April 2009) Mr John Swinney, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Sustainable Growth in the Scottish Government and a Member of the Scottish Parliament, officially launched the Scottish Government’s new ePlanning website at the Scottish Planning Summit in Edinburgh.

The new system called ePlanning will enable citizens and professionals to create planning applications, appeal against decisions and track the progress of proposals online.

An overview of this new service is available to view on YouTube, please use the link below to view: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IRcMI_uob0o



News from Huairou Commission

 **Huairou Commission** WHO WE ARE CAMPAIGNS OUR KNOWLEDGE CONTACT



Grassroots Women & Partners

WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND GENDER AT THE UNITED NATIONS: THE CASE FOR A NEW GENDER EQUALITY ARCHITECTURE

by Charlotte Bunch, Founding Director and Senior Scholar at the Center for Women's Global Leadership (To be published in Vereinte Nationen: German Review on the United Nations, 2009)

This piece draws from my chapter on Women and Gender in the Oxford Handbook on the United

Nations, edited by Thomas G. Weiss & Sam Daws, London: 2007. It also draws upon the on-going work of the NGO GEAR (Gender Equality Architecture Reform) Campaign team and I want to thank them, and especially Margot Baruch, for assistance with this version of my article.

The principle of women's equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex was inscribed in the United Nations from the beginning through the UN Charter in 1945, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948. These were unprecedented breakthroughs, but they did not happen without struggle. A handful of women delegates (from Asia, North and South America) attending the UN Charter Conference worked together with 42 non-governmental organizations to ensure inclusion of sex in the anti discrimination clause as well as to change 'equal rights among men' to 'equal rights among men and women.' A similar effort was made in the drafting of the UDHR.

[Click here to view the entire article](#)



Statens kartverk Centre for Property Rights and Development Projects and Activities

MOLDOVA LINE MAPS FOR DEVELOPMENT: INTERNATIONAL TENDER FOR CONSULTING SERVICES

Statens kartverk's Centre for Property Rights and Development, on behalf of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is supervising a project in Moldova starting in 2010. The objectives are to produce line maps for 20 % of the country and to establish a Continuously Operating Reference Network for efficient use of satellite positioning technology throughout Moldova.

As a first step companies are invited to tender for consulting services for development of standards for digital line maps. The deadline for submission of offers is **4 January 2010**.

The contract notice and tender documents are published on **TED (European public procurement journal Tenders Electronic Daily www.ted.europa.eu)** and **DOFFIN (Database for Public Procurement in Norway www.doffin.no)**.

The tender documents are also available upon request. E-mail your request, or any question you may have, to Elena Busch at Elena.Busch@statkart.no

KOSOVO: START OF NEW PROJECT TO IMPROVE LAND ADMINISTRATION

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has allocated a grant of 17,6 million NOK towards a three year program 2009-2011 to support the land administration sector in Kosovo. The funds will be channelled through Statens kartverk's Centre for Property Rights and Development, who will supervise the project. Procurement of services and goods to the project will be outsourced to private sector based in open tenders. The grant will especially be allocated to improve the legislation for a functioning land market, to help rolling out the textual land rights register, to develop a new centralised cadastral map database and to systematic registration of buildings and apartments.

As a first step Statens kartverk has announced a tender for a number of consultants to help with legal review, overall IT-strategy, and strategy and specifications for the cadastral map database.

The link to the TED announcement is:

http://ted.europa.eu/Exec?DataFlow=N_one_doc_access.dfl&Template=TED/N_one_result_detail_curr.htm&docnumber=319849-2009&docId=319849-2009&StatLang=EN.

Please note that the deadline for presenting offers has been extended to 5 January 2010 12 a.m.

Questions concerning the tender can be submitted to Brede Gundersen, Chief engineer at Statens kartverk, e-mail: Brede.Gundersen@statkart.no

KOSOVO: COMPLETION OF PROJECT WITH KOSOVO PROPERTY AGENCY

Since 2008 Statens kartverk's Centre for Property Rights and Development has been supervising a significant project to improve efficiency and security in the operations of the Kosovo Property Agency (KPA) through use of digital information and electronic services.

KPA is handling property claims from persons who left the country during the war, largely from Serbian families now living in Serbia. 50 KPA vehicles in use for field operations have been equipped with GPS receivers allowing KPA headquarters in Pristina to continuously monitor their movements and position. Detailed orthophoto maps have been produced for the entire territory to help field operations and as a vital graphical component to the KPA information system, which has been extended with a web portal. Finally field teams have been supported with hand held GPS receivers to precisely locate claimed parcels. This has facilitated that the Claims Commission could restart their work, which was stopped because claimed parcels were not properly located and checked against the cadastre.

ARMENIA: IMPROVING IT FOR LAND ADMINISTRATION

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has allocated a grant of 10 million NOK towards a three year program 2009-2011 to "Establish efficient property registration and mapping services in Armenia". As for Kosovo the funds will be channelled through Statens kartverk's Centre for Property Rights and Development. Armenia is recognised for having established good services for the emerging land market, but the IT-solutions for property registration and for mapping are fragmented and should be modernised to meet European standards. It is expected that the first tender for support to the project will be announced during the first quarter of 2010.

AZARBAIJAN: MAKING ORDER TO ADDRESSES

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has allocated a grant of 3million NOK towards a two year program 2009-2010 to help establishing a good system for allocation and maintenance of addresses in Azerbaijan. The aim is to develop standards, procedures and regulations for allocation of street names and address numbers and specifications for an electronic address register. The project has a national perspective, but a special aim is to improve services to internally displaced persons of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.



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