

UN-Habitat/GLTN/FIG joint Session on 'Costing and Financing Land Administration Services (CoFLAS)' in developing countries

Thursday, 19 June 2014, 11:30–13:00, Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Room 402

Public agencies all over the world have of late faced mounting challenges of adequate financial resources allocation due to voters' pressure to rationalize the cost and quality of public service provision and repeated cycles of financial crises. The problem is more pronounced in developing countries where the allocation of public resources has to grapple with competing priorities with the focus shifting to critical sectors such food security, traditional infrastructure, water, health, education, etc.

The diminishing trend in the availability of international development resources has not helped the situation as sectors such as land have for the most part depended on this source of funding. Having observed the trend over the years, the GLTN identified "Modernizing the Budgetary Approach of Land Agencies" as an important area of tool development and included on its list of 18 tools. In a nutshell, this is the background and thinking underpinning the development of the tool called Costing and Financing Land Administration Services, CoFLAS for short.

After a collaborative work led by the GLTN, supported by FIG, Lantmäteriet and Kadaster International and intense case research that lasted over a little more than one year, the development of the tool has now reached an important milestone which includes releasing the first version of the tool (CoFLAS I) and conducting vitally important conversations with land agencies executives as well as land professionals who are conversant on the subject. Against this background, FIG and GLTN are taking the opportunity that the XXV FIG Congress is availing not only to share the preliminary version of the tool, but also to have it peer reviewed with a view to securing professional inputs that will help refine and improve it.

OBJECTIVES:

- To sensitize stakeholders on one of the most pressing challenges facing land agencies in developing countries, i.e., the costing and financing of land services and the need for urgent solutions with a view to redefining their relevance and usefulness to society as custodians of land and property information;
- To share info with the FIG family on the CoFLAS development process, outcomes and next steps (e.g., piloting) and seek their inputs and feedback whereby the current version of the tool can be improved.

Chair:	Tommy Osterberg, Lantmäteriet, Sweden
Rapporteur:	Solomon Haile, Land and GLTN Unit, UN Habitat, Kenya
Time	Presentation/Discussion
11:30-11:40	Introduction by the Chairperson
11:40-11:50	The strategic and operational motivations underpinning CoFLAS, <i>Clarissa Augustinus</i> , Lead, Land and GLTN Unit, UN-Habitat, Kenya
11:50-12:00	CoFLAS Development: Partnerships built around the tool development exercise and processes. <i>Solomon Haile</i> , FIG/GLTN
12:00-12:30	An overview of CoFLAS: Research Methodology, findings, proposed tools and next
	steps, Tony Burns, Land Equity International, Australia
12:30-13:00	Discussion and closing

Tentative Programme