

# **LAND ADMINISTRATION GOVERNANCE – PAPUA NEW GUINEA’S PERSPECTIVE**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- Governance is global topic
- Land governance is critical for Pacific Islands due to climatic changes
- Land governance is fundamental for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

## **2. LAND ADMINISTRATION GOVERNANCE**

- Land plays a central role in everyday lives of Papua New Guineans
- Land Administration governance is a must if there is to be real tangible development
- Issues of bribery and corruption take center stage, giving little or not attention to governance

### **2.1 Land**

- 3% alienated, 97% customary
- Customary land mostly in the rural areas
- Customary land in urban fringes under extreme pressure

## **2.2 Population**

- 85% of our 5 million plus people live in the rural areas
- Population increase resulting in land shortages in some parts of the country
- Conflicts becoming common due to limited land being available
- Unplanned population movement from rural to urban

## **2.3 Spread of Economic Development**

- Most economic activities occur on State land
- Security of title plays a critical role in ensuring security of investment
- State land is now becoming saturated and development needs to take place elsewhere

## **3. ATTEMPTS TO ADDRESS LAND ADMINISTRRTION GOVERNANCE**

### **3.1 Vision 2050**

- Easier access to customary land, a fundamental for this vision

### **3.2 National Land Development Program (NLDP)**

- Address the issues of land administration, land dispute resolution, and customary land registration
- Capacity of implementing agencies being addressed to
- Ensure transparency and accountability at all levels
- Registration of customary, key to further economic growth

### **3.3 Involvement of Other Agencies**

- Transparency is important
- Other agencies such as Office of Civil Registry, Provincial & District Administrations, Village Courts

## **4. CONCLUSION**

- Hopeful most customary land in Papua New Guinea will be registered
- Clear titles with defined ownership and boundaries
- Minimize law and order problems associated with land issues

## **5. RECOMMENDATION**

- Customary land is a very sensitive area
- Type of outside assistance is of great concern for the land reform to progress
- **WHAT WE REALLY NEED IS THE STRENGTHENING OF THE CAPACITY OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES OF THE IMPLEMENTATING AGENCIES**