Some Micro Economic Aspects of Land Ownership

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SUMMARY

Land administration ('the process of determining, recording, and disseminating information about ownership, value and use of land when implementing land management policies' according to UN Land Administration Guidelines 1996) facilitates -inter alia- land tenure security, the land market, land use planning and control, land taxation and management of natural resources. Access to secure land ownership, land related opportunities and credit are main issues. This paper aims at addressing the significance of the impact of land administration in microeconomic terms as a complement to a paper at the FIG-regional conference in Marrakech (Dec. 2003) that looked into macroeconomic aspects. The aim of this paper is to identify the various microeconomic aspects as they relate to private households and companies. Examples are the importance of mortgages for financing private properties, mortgages as long-term liabilities for financing businesses, and interest as substantial income for financial institutions. The paper attempts to quantify these figure in case of the Netherlands.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Paul van der Molen is director of Kadaster International, the international branch of the Cadastre and Land Registry Agency of the Netherlands. He is a professor in Cadastre and Land Administration at the International Institute for Geo information Science and Earth Observation ITC in Enschede (NL). He acts as a chair of FIG Commission 7 and as a director of the FIG International Bureau of Land Records and Cadastre OICRF.

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