

Disaster Management in the Land Development Chain

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SUMMARY

Land development processes acquire unimproved land and transform it into property that can sustain a multitude of activities. In sustainable development, some of the planning objectives of a land development process include the improvement of the quality of life and the safety of the general population. To ensure and uphold the safety of the general public that resides in any area, land development processes should ideally consider issues of risk assessment and disaster management.

This paper explores the current practices of land development in Botswana. It looks at the major stakeholders and their relationship to the land development process. The paper hypothesizes that risk assessment and disaster management are currently not components of the land development process and as such should be incorporated into suitability studies for land development. The paper also highlights conflicting laws and regulations relating to the planning process. Amongst other things it expresses the need for environmental awareness during the land development process and concludes by proposing a land development model that would incorporate disaster management issues as well as suggest how conflicting laws relating to land planning and allocation can be harmonized.