# Land Registration in a Digital Environment

Emmanuel Tembo, Johnson Kampamba and Boipuso Nkwae University of Botswana

tembo@mopipi.ub.bw

Paper presented 17th June 2014, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

XXV International Federation of Surveyors Congress, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 16 – 21 June 2014

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#### Introduction



- The government of Botswana has embarked on computerisation of land records at the Deeds Registry.
- It has committed itself through the national e-government strategy to utilise ICT in order to provide quality service to the people
- This paper explores the current state of computerisation at the Deeds Registry and proposals a model for re-engineering land registration in Botswana

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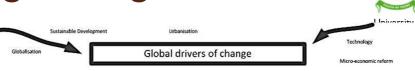
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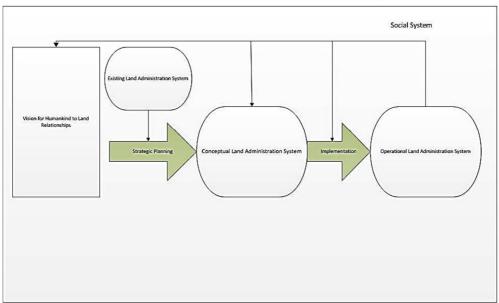
#### Land Administration Reengineering in Botswana



- Since 2009 GoB has been working on the Improvement of Land Administration Processes, Capacity and Systems (LAPCAS) with assistance of Lantmäteriet of Sweden
- One of the components of the intended improvements is the computerisation of the Deeds Registry.







After Williamson and Ting (2001)

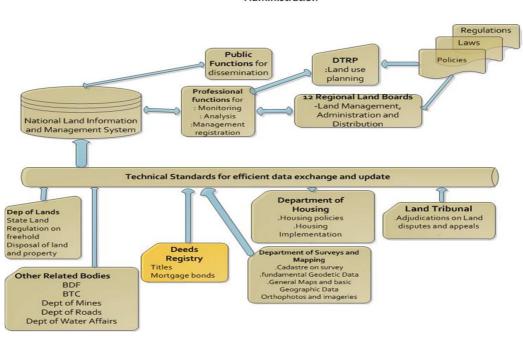
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### NSDI concept for reengineering Land admin



Concept of a National based Spatial Data Infrastructure for Effective and sustainable Land
Administration



#### Land Registration System



- Botswana operates a Deeds registration system
- A deeds registration system has the following core principles (after Nichols 1993):
  - Security- registration of a document in a public office provides some measure of security against loss, destruction, or fraud
  - Evidence- registered documents can be used as evidence in support of a claim to a property interest
  - Notice and priority-registration of a document gives public notice that a property transaction has occurred and with exceptions, the time of registration provides a priority claim.

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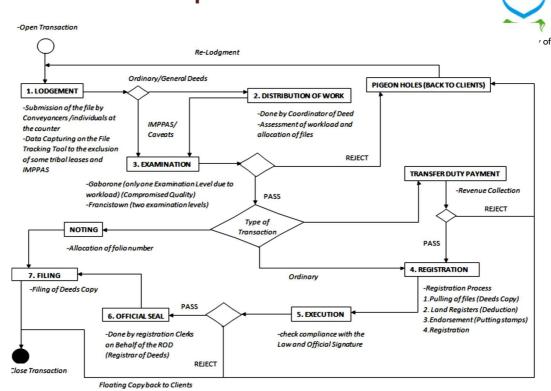
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#### Land registration process



- Lodgement and Ist examination
- 2<sup>nd</sup> examination general exam and compliance with law.
- Registration numbering, entries into registers and endorsement
- Execution check if registration is done properly and sign deeds
- Sealing and dispersion of deeds (floating copies) other filed (deed)

#### Workflow process

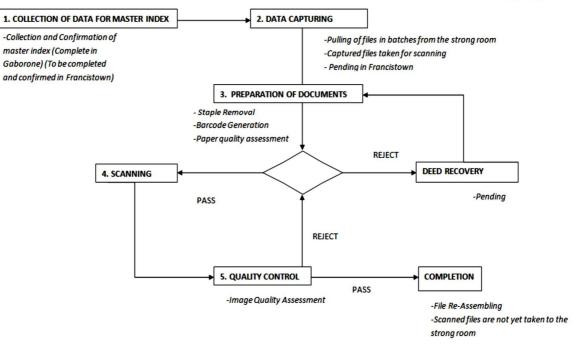


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Stakeholders and tenure Freehold Tribal Land State Land University of Consolidation Subdivision Botswana Private Surveyors Land Board Surveyors DoL Council Private Surveyors for devt. General Plans Diagrams DTRP Public Valuers Estate Agents DSM Estate Agen
 Attomeys
 Financial
 Institutions
 Buyers and
 Sellers DTRP=Dept of Town and General Plans Diagrams Regional Planning DoL= Dept of Lands Deeds Registry DSM= Dept of Examination Surveys and • Registration **Mapping** SHHA=Self Help Government Housing Areas **Private Conveyancers** Deeds of Transfers Mortgage Bonds Consent and cancellations 10

#### Computerisation of deeds





After LAPCAS, 2011

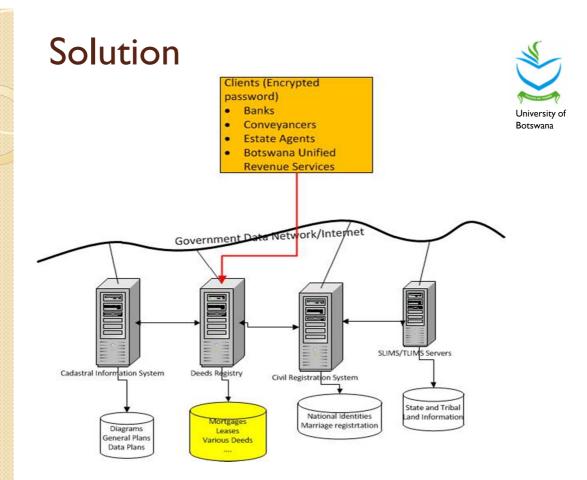
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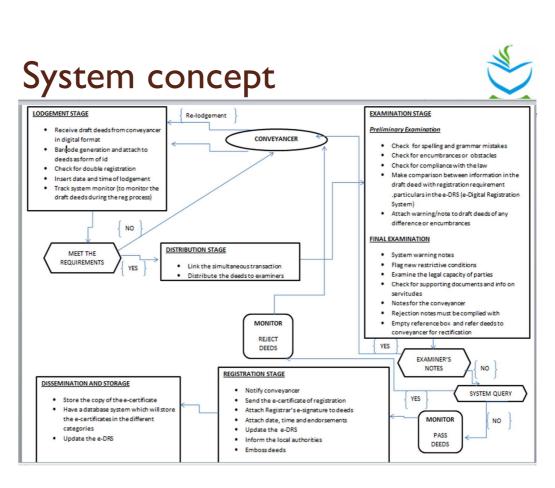
#### Challenges of e-registration



- the problem of identifying parties to transactions and the authentication of documents
- legal framework does not allow the submission of e-documents.



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- To actualise this system concept
  - land registration system will require developing interoperability standards for government departments that will allow the sharing of data
  - legislation related to the submission and retrieval of documents related to the deeds registration process to allow e-submission of documents should be enacted

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Thank you