Land Property Rights and Economic Development in Urban Areas: a Systematic Literature Review

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SUMMARY

We perform a systematic literature review on the effects of land titling interventions on several economic and social outcomes. We examine theoretical studies on subject and identify most relevant outcome variables and suitable study designs. We identify six quantitative studies and evaluate their findings in order to gain knowledge on mechanisms through which land titling interventions affect economic development in urban areas. We find that according to empirical evidence, effects operate mainly through higher perceived tenure security and increases in investment incentives. Low number of eligible studies emphasizes the need for further research on economic and social outcomes of land property rights in urban areas.

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