"Land Administration and Management in Nepal"

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Nepal
Presentation Outline

- Country Context
- Current Situation
- Available Infrastructure
- Major Initiatives
- Opportunities
- Future Needs
The Country Context

- Landlocked Himalayan Country in South Asia
- Federal Democratic Republic Country
- Area: 147,181 Km²
- Population: 26.6 million
- Multi-lingual, multi-ethnic, and secular country with diverse culture
- Uneven geographical terrain (ranging from 60 m in south to 8848 m in the north)
Current Situation

- 76% of population still engaged in agriculture.
- Agriculture contributes 32% in national economy,
- Land cover:
  - 27% agricultural land, 39.6% forest land, 12% pasture,
    17.2% snow covered and rocky land, and 2.6% water area.
- All land have been registered through systematic cadastral survey (1965 to 1995).
  - Cadastral maps of all 75 districts
  - The total no. of Parcels are 283 00 000
  - Average land holding is 0.76 hectare
- Parcel based Deed Registration System
Current Situation

- Uncontrolled and haphazard practices are seen in terms of land use and management
- Growing encroachment of state land, especially forest land
- Cultivable land stands idle due to internal & external migration
- Absentee land owner exists
- Rapid conversion of fertile farm lands to concrete jungles
  - Scarce land resources,
  - Severe threat to food security,
  - Threats to sustainable development
Current situation:
Agricultural based rural society
Current situation:

The cadastral maps and records are paper-based conventional record keeping and thus vulnerable to manipulation.
Current situation:

Unplanned land management
Current Situation:
Agricultural land turning into concrete jungles
Case study area: Madhyapur, Thimi

Comparision of land use type of different year

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>56</td>
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<tr>
<td>Built up</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>River</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Road</td>
<td>2</td>
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Trend analysis of land use change

Case study area: Madhyapur, Thimi

Courtesy: Mr. Janak Raj Joshi
Available Infrastructure: Organizational structure

Ministry Of Land Reform and Management

Survey Department

Department Of Land Information & Archives

District Survey Offices (83)

Department of Land Reform Management

District Land Revenue Offices (83)

District Land Reform Offices (21)

Land Management Training Centre

Freed Kamaiya Rehabilitation Program

National Land Use Project

• About 5700 employees within the Ministry
Available Infrastructure....

- **Legal Framework:**
  - Land survey and measurement Act, 1962
  - Land Revenue Act, 1978
  - Land Related Act, 1964
  - Related Regulations, Directives and Different sectoral policies (forest, agriculture, irrigation, etc)

- **Monitoring and Reporting mechanism**
  - For effective implementation of the annual programs

- **Citizen Charter for effective Service delivery**

- **Land tax collected by local government**

- **National Land Use Policy, 2012**
  - The policy has been enacted by the Government of Nepal on April 2012
  - Land Use Council chaired by the Vice Chairperson of the National Planning Commission, secretary and experts are the members
  - Updated Land use Maps of 75 districts
Major Initiatives

- Land reform implementation work plan (based on suggestions provided by both High level Land reform Commissions) has been prepared and in progress for the Government’s approval.
- National Land Use implementation work plan has been prepared and in progress for the Government’s approval.
- A freed Kamaiya (semi-bonded labor) Rehabilitation program is continue in progress.
- A freed Haliya (semi-bonded labor) Rehabilitation and Monitoring program is continue in progress.
Major Initiatives...

- Digital Cadastral mapping in Kavre district with the use of Digital Total Station instrument
- Development of a geographic information infrastructure (NGII) for the digital access of geographic and related data to strengthen planning and resource management in Nepal.
- Computerization of land records in 83 land revenue offices, and computerization of cadastral maps in 32 offices is continue in progress.
- National Land policy formulation with the support of civil society, and development partners
- Exemption of registration fees (25 to 40 %) during land transaction to encourage women to register land in their own names.
- Exemption of registration fees for Joint Ownership
Opportunities

- Nepal is going through political transition. Thus, land and its management has been considered as one of the important conditions for the economic growth and a means of providing social justice and thereby resolving the ongoing conflict in the country.

- Government's due emphasis on land and agrarian reform and proper land use and management through annual plans and budget. Specifically; emphasizing utilizing unused and barren land, ending feudal land ownership system, ending dual ownership of land, participation of landless people in the land policy formulation process and pursuing rehabilitation of freed bonded labors effectively, among others.

- Due concern from the major political parties, civil society and land activist as well.
Future Needs

- Organizational Strengthening
  - Sufficient infrastructure
  - Professional human resources
- Capacity Development
  - Professional capacity enhancement of
    - Governmental staffs
    - Stakeholders
- Integrated land law
  - At present, there are 59 land-related Acts and 23 regulations in place. These Acts and regulations often contradict and rarely cohere.
- National Land Policy formulation
- Implementation of Land reform work plan.
Thank You
for listening !!!