

# LAND REGISTRATION USING AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH IN NAMIBIA COSTS AND LESSONS

**Donatha Kapitango** 



**Ministry of Lands and Resettlement** 

**Marcel Meijs** 

**German Development Agency** 

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# **OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION**

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Communal Land in Namibia
- 3. Communal Land Registration
- 4. Lessons Learnt
- 7. Improving the site survey
- 8. Improving the registration of land rights
- 9. Roadmap
- 10. Challenges

# **NAMIBIA**

• Size: 825 thousand km2 (1.5x France, 1/11 of USA)

Population: 2 MillionHIV infected: ca 20%

• Climate: Savanna and Dessert

• Independence: 1990

• GDP: \$10.72 billion (2007 est.)

 Main Exports: diamonds, uranium, (copper, gold, zinc, lead), cattle, fish, tourism

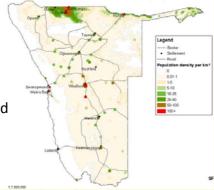
About half of the population depends on subsistence agriculture for its livelihood

• One of the world's most unequal income distributions

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# **POPULATION DISTRIBUTION**

- High density in the north, ca 50% of population
- Due to favorable agricultural climate
- Ca. 76% of the communal land rights will be allocated in the Northern part



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# **ADMINISTRATIVE LAND UNITS**

In Namibia, land is divided into three administrative units:

- •commercial land (44%)
- •communal land (36%)
- •state land (20%)



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# THE LAND ISSUE IN NAMIBIA

- Access to land is believed to be one of the most pressing social, political and economical issue
- Until independence, virtually all commercial land was owned by white farmers. 44% of land owned by 6% of population
- There is a growing pressure on communal areas due to population growth and fencing of large areas.
- Laws were put in place to tackle the above issues, but...

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#### **COMMUNAL LAND REFORM ACT**

- Communal Land Reform Act (CLRA) was formulated to ensure a proper management of communal land
- The Act transfers the responsibility to administer and allocate land rights in communal areas to Communal Land Boards and Traditional Authorities
- The CLRA required that any person, should apply for recognition and registration of his/her customary land right before 1 March 2006

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# ROLE OF MLR IN COMMUNAL LAND REGISTRATION

- MLR is the prime administrator of Communal Land
- Assists the CLBs by providing:
  - Secretaries of the CLBs
  - Secure keeping of the (land registration) records
  - Surveying of communal land parcels
  - Diagrams and certificates for land rights
  - Financial and logistical support

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#### STEPS INVOLVED IN REGISTRATION

- Applicant fills application form
- Applicant requests a letter of consent from the local headman
- Applicant supplies application to the TA
- TA approves or disapproves and sends it to the CLB
- CLB/MLR verifies the application, including a (GPS) site survey
- CLB ratifies or rejects application, registers and communicates results back to the TA
- TA, communicates to the applicant who pays on receipt of his certificate

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### **IMPROVING THE SITE SURVEY**

Lessons learnt after 5 years of site survey

- 1389 land parcels registered
- Lack of communication
- Average of 5 parcels could be mapped by one team a day

Therefore

- A faster way to register parcels needed to be found
- A new method should also ensure that fewer mistakes will be made
- Part of the work needs to be outsourced

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# **AERIAL PHOTOS FOR SURVEYING**

- Availability of 2007 Full color digital Aerial Orthophotos with a 1m resolution for the North
- Easier and faster if features are visible
- What you see is what you get (wysiwyg)
- Community participation
- Better suitable for systematic survey
- Can be shown on survey diagrams
- Area can be checked in the field
- Multi-purpose

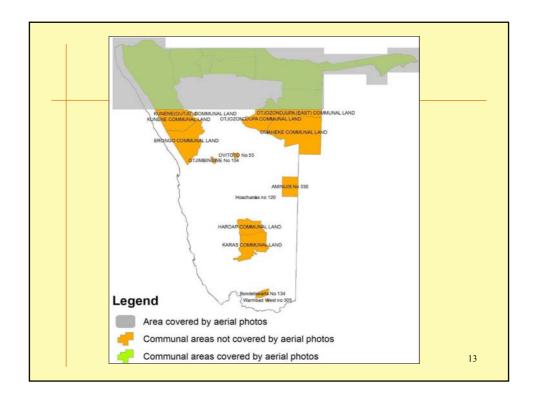
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What you see is what you get (wysiwyg)

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# **RESULTS AERIAL PHOTOS**

- 5x faster then GPS
- Less prone for errors then GPS
- Communities are better involved

## **COSTS**

Activity	Direct cost in €	Nr. Of days (team of 2)	Total cost in €
GPS survey	-	60.000	9.0 Million
Aerial Survey	0.4 million	13.000	2.4 Million
Aerial Photos +			
Quick bird	(1.7) + 2.1 million	-	3.8 Million

- The cost for a field team is estimated at 150 €
- Quickbird images not covered cost €2.1 million

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# IMPROVING THE REGISTRATION OF LAND RIGHTS

### Lessons learnt

- No uniform register used
- Inaccessibility of information
- Incomplete registration
- All outputs were made manual

Therefore a Land administration system needed to enable

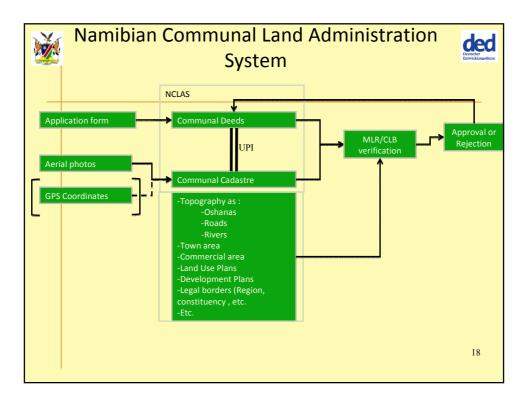
- Easy information retrieval
- Incorporate a unique parcel identifier
- Secure storage

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# METHODS USED TO IMPROVE THE LAND ADMINISTRATION

- A new system named Namibian Communal Land Administration System (NCLAS) was developed
  - Similar to the Communal Deeds and Cadastre
  - The NCLAS consists of two parts
    - Communal Deeds, MS Access
    - Communal Cadastre , ArcGIS Geodatabase
- New Unique Parcel Identifier (UPI)
- Creation of output automated
  - Certificates and diagrams
  - Register and index

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# **NCLAS OUTPUTS**





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# **NCLAS OUTPUTS**



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# **NCLAS OUTPUTS**

First Name: Shaanika, Surname: Aamwama 1D card: 210711110095, Date of Birth: 11/07/2021 Nationality: Namibian, Citizen of: Namibian Marital Status: MARRIED Spouse: Josefina Nandigolo Ivulika Address: Ikokola, Parcet: Iikk

First Name: Elikan, Surname: Abed ID card: 55081800473, Date of Birth: 18/08/1955 Nationality: Namibian, Citizen of: Namibian Marital Status: MARRIED Spouse: Petrina Armambo Address: Oninglamo, Parcel: Onnglm000036

First Name: Joel, Surname: Abed 1D card: 3903031100991, Date of Birth: 03/03/1939 Nationality: Namibian, Citizen of: Namibian Marital Status: MARRIED Spouse: Hinanawo Gabriel Address: Omaandi, Parcel. Omaand000028

First Name: Kamiska Avula, Surname: Abed ID card: 68041200133, Date of Birth: 12/04/1968 Nationality: Namibian, Citizen of: Namibian Marital Status: UNMARRIED

Spouse: Address: Omaandi, , Parcel. Omaand000073

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## **CONCLUSIONS ON NCLAS**

- Faster then the old process
- Quality of output is better
- Uniform
- Data is now entered in a proper database
- · Data is Accessible and secured

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## **ROADMAP**

- 2009-2013
- Register all (ca 300.000) existing land rights before
- Orthophotos and Quickbird
- Project management team
- Outsourcing
- Communication campaign
- NCLAS Central database developed
- Maintenance structure

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### **CHALLENGES**

- The process of creating Awareness about the new law
- To register all applications for existing land rights
- Limited human and financial resources
- Maintenance of the databases and IT infrastructure
- Amending the law to accommodate regional differences
- Transferring more responsibilities to lower authorities
- Getting the right people at the right places

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