

Land titling research:

Desk review of social and economic impacts of land titling in urban and peri-urban areas.

Following discussions with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, (MFA), GPA has been awarded funds with three colleagues (Alain Durand-Lasserve, Carole Rakodi and Edesion Fernandes) to undertake a desk review of land titling programmes.

The desk review represents Stage 1 of a major international assessment of the social and economic impacts of land titling programmes in urban and peri-urban areas of developing countries. It is hoped that if the review is well received by the project's Advisory Group, MFA and other potential funding agencies, that funds will be received to undertake detailed case study research in selected countries during 2007-08. Local researchers would then be commissioned to undertake the local studies within a conceptual and methodological framework to be agreed at a workshop to be held at Charney Manor, Oxfordshire, UK between 12-15 December 2006.

GPA is co-ordinating the project during Stage 1. If Stage 2 is approved, it is intended to work with Norwegian researchers and local teams to produce a comprehensive, balanced and detailed assessment of the achievements and limitations of titling programmes as a basis for enabling international donors and national governments to formulate progressive and practical policies for urban land tenure which promote efficient land markets which protect the needs of the poor and other vulnerable groups.

We would welcome suggestions on possible examples, documents, references and contacts as soon as possible to ensure that the review is successful. Please contact Geoff Payne at: gkpayne@gpa.org.uk with details.