TOOLS TO SUPPORT TRANSPARENCY IN LAND ADMINISTRATION

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Enschede - The Netherlands

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FOREWORD

'Tools to Support Transparency in Land Administration' is an important training manual with relevance and application for many in the land sector and beyond. Global trends reflect an increased desire by ordinary citizens for greater democracy and accountability in the governance structures, policies and resources that affect their everyday lives. Land is a globally recognized primary resource and has vital economic, cultural, environmental and social dimensions. Land administration represents an important public service and is a key public administrative institution in most countries. The land sector must therefore be part of global trends towards fairness and openness and strive, often against many odds, to develop sound and transparent administrative systems.

This training package 'Tools to Support Transparency in Land Administration' will strengthen the capacity of those working in the land sector to deliver robust and efficient land administration services. Importantly, the package provides practical information and practice-based tools to support and strengthen transparency in land administration in three ways: First, the training kit provides users with vital background information to enhance their knowledge on the impacts of corruption, the benefits of transparency and its relationship to the land sector. Second a range of flexible tools to facilitate and strengthen transparency and accountability are outlined. Third, a series of globally sourced, 'real life' case studies are included to help inform participants about corruption challenges in the land sector and encourage ideas for change. There are also a number of 'good practice' case studies that demonstrate how innovative approaches and tools can substantially improve transparency in land administration and promote good service delivery to citizens.

This Training Package, intended for government officials and state actors at large, thus provides many useful concepts, principles and tools for improving and strengthening local, regional and country level land administration systems. It is hoped that the practical nature of this training package will contribute to strong and equitable land administration systems in many countries and contexts and ultimately result in 'win-win' outcomes for all land sector stakeholders.

Dr. Joan Clos,
Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations,
Executive Director UN-Habitat.

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