

Land Administration in Africa: Searching for Land Tenure Security May 22-25, 2006

From May 22-25, 2006, the World Bank Institute (WBI) is organising a regional course on *“Land Administration in Africa: Searching for Land Tenure Security”*. The course will be simultaneously held in Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda. In each of these countries, local organizations are partnering in the delivery of the course and in adapting it to the local context. In South Africa, the program is implemented in partnership with the Department of Land Affairs, the Southern African Regional Poverty Network (SARPN), and the Institute for Economic Research on Innovation (IERI) of the Tshwane University of Technology. To do so, it will be delivered using a combination of e-learning tools, videoconferencing, face-to-face and workshop sessions.

This regional course will focus on the presentation of international experience, local case studies, and open discussions on land tenure security in Africa to reflect participant-led input. The course seeks to facilitate a dialogue on topics such as “traditional” and innovative approaches to provide land tenure security and the current situation in the land tenure securing process in participating countries; as well as a review of experience outside of Africa, from such countries as Mexico, Thailand, and Brazil. A course overview is attached for your reference.

A recent course organized by SARPN and the WBI covered land restitution and redistribution issues in Southern Africa. To avoid duplication, this particular course will therefore focus on security of tenure and land administration. The present course is designed with a significant South African content, giving South African stakeholders an opportunity to review, exchange views, and strengthen the consensus on the legal basis and the implementation arrangements to improve land tenure security for (i) inhabitants of communal areas; (ii) farm workers and labour tenants on commercial farms; and (iii) inhabitants of informal settlements. Working groups will be formed for in-depth discussion on the issues confronting South Africa in each of these three areas. We will invite participants from the public sector, private sector, civil society, and research and academic Institutions.

The organisers of this course have identified you as a key actor in the land administration sector and as an important source of experience and information. As such, we are pleased to

invite you and staff members of your organisation to attend this course in Tshwane. Your participation would be highly beneficial to the success of this course.

The course will be held at the World Bank Country Office and the SARPN offices, housed in the same building at, 1250 Pretorius Street, Pro-Equity Court Building, Hatfield, Tshwane. The course organizers will provide coffee and lunch breaks. Please note that any travel and accommodation costs relating to your participation will be at your own expense. However, we have made tentative accommodation booking arrangements for the out of town participants at Liza's Cottage Bed and Breakfast which is within walking distance of the venue of this meeting. To confirm the participation of your organisation in this course, please return the attached registration form as soon as possible, by no later than Friday, 12 May, 2006, to Ms. Dawn Alley, fax number 012 3425636; tel. number 012 3429499; email p.a_director@sarpn.org.za.

We are looking forward to your participation in this course.

Sincerely,



Ms. Sue Mbaya
Director : SARPN



Dr. Lindile Ndabeni
Regional and Local Economic
Research Specialist : IERI

Dr. Rogier van den Brink
Senior Economist:
World Bank, South Africa

Encl: Registration form / Course brochure / Course Programme