

SOUTH AFRICAN INPUT ON LAND INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION

CHAIRPERSON

1. Let me appreciate the quality of the inputs made by panelist this morning as well as yesterday on this issue of Land.
2. The issue of the revitalization of the dead assets in the hands of many traditional communities is critical for the rejuvenation of African economies. The security of tenure and access to land, and natural resources is a serious challenge in African countries, especially to youth and women. Land administration is often left to chance rather than a coherent spatial planning. As a consequence it becomes a challenge to stimulate economic growth and to provide bulk services including infrastructure, roads, electricity etc.
3. The registration of title deeds (cadaster system) becomes a problem where land is not surveyed. It encouraging to hear from Dr Klaus Denniger that the best practices such as in India, where land registration is made possible for the poor and that it also contributes to economic development in those areas. Our challenge remains the use of modern technology for the digitization of the registration of title deeds.
4. The biggest challenge is to attract investment into these traditional communities. The deterrents include the availability of water, infrastructure, technical support, marketing and related support. Clearly, strategic partnerships and regional cooperation are critical for a successful land and agrarian reform. We cannot achieve these noble goals without a significant capital injection.

I thank you.