

UK Land Policy Forum – Second Meeting: Tackling Corruption in Land Governance

Date: April 13, 2016

Time: 13:00-17:00

Place: Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), London

Summary

The 2nd UK Land Policy Forum meeting will discuss corruption in the land sector, provide updates on recent activities of Forum members, including DFID, and agree on the future direction of the forum.

Background

The first Forum meeting — held on 4 November 2015 at ODI — concluded that the purpose of the Forum is to **provide a focus for debate, information and lesson sharing amongst UK stakeholders to inform DFID and wider UK policy and programming for strengthening of land governance and land rights protection.**

Theme for second Forum meeting: corruption in the land sector and the PM's anti-corruption summit

The land sector is one of the most fertile arenas for corruption, with one in five people, and as many as one in two in parts of Africa, reported to have paid bribes to access land services; only the police and the judiciary found to be more corrupt. Corruption is associated with unresponsive, unaccountable and ineffective land governance and is now under greater scrutiny as a result of rising commercial value of agricultural and peri-urban land in developing countries, and concerns that corruption may be facilitating large scale land acquisitions that do not conform to guidelines on responsible investment.

Building on the G8 summit discussions on transparency in 2013, the UK Prime Minister has proposed to hold an **anti-corruption summit in May 2016**; more widely, he has stressed the importance of secure property rights and greater transparency in business dealings as a foundation of open democratic societies. Yet there is scant evidence of how corruption in land acquisition occurs, and little systematic analysis of the relationship between drivers, actors and different types of corruption in land or of the implications for development policy and programming.

The next meeting of the UK land forum will share findings from recent work on land and corruption in developing countries by the LEGEND Core Land Support Team and others, and consider the policy implications for DFID and UK government.

Aim

The second meeting aims to **discuss the current evidence on land and corruption and agree robust recommendations to share with the UK Government for the PM's Anti-Corruption Summit on 12 May.**

In addition, the meeting aims to:

1. Share what is new and interesting on the agendas of Forum participants, including participation in the 2016 World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty;
2. Consolidate the discussions at the first meeting on the role and composition of the Forum; and
3. Define themes for discussion for the next two Forum meetings.

Agenda

Time	Theme	Presenter/Chair
13:00	Networking lunch	
13.30	Welcome	RICS representative
13.35	Relevance of the theme for DFID	Iris Krebber, DFID
13.45	Aims and proposed outputs of session; recap from 1 st UK Land Policy Forum; round the table update from Forum participants	Anna Locke, ODI
14:00	<p><u>Panel discussion</u></p> <p>Analysis and evidence on corruption in the land sector:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction - Findings from the CLST analytical paper - Transparency International's work - The Tainted Lands: Land, Corruption, and Human Rights' Project 	<p>Lorenzo Cotula, IIED</p> <p>Julian Quan, NRI, CLST Team Leader (10 minutes)</p> <p>Sheila Masinde, Transparency International Kenya (10 minutes)</p> <p>Amol Mehra, International Corporate Accountability Roundtable (10 minutes)</p>
14.35	Q&A/debate	Moderator: Lorenzo Cotula, IIED
14:55	Coffee break	
15:10	<p><u>Panel discussion</u></p> <p>Implications for action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An outline of relevant work by the Land Registry of England and Wales - Discussions on recommendations and the way forward from recent research 	<p>Moderator: Lorenzo Cotula, IIED</p> <p>Nicky Heathcote, Land Registry of England and Wales</p> <p>Julian Quan, NRI, CLST Team Leader</p> <p>Sheila Masinde, Transparency International Kenya</p> <p>Amol Mehra, International Corporate Accountability Roundtable</p>
15.40	Q&A/debate / conclusions	Moderator: Lorenzo Cotula, IIED
16:10	Discussion of objectives and themes and hosts for future meetings, including recap on poll on themes of interest	Anna Locke and Giles Henley, ODI
16:40	Next steps and future meetings	Anna Locke
16:45	Close	Iris Krebber