

Recent Developments of Cadastral Activities in Eritrea

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Key words: Cadastre; Capacity building; Digital cadastre; History; Implementation of plans; Land management; Legislation; Property taxes; Security of tenure; Valuation; Keyword 1; Keyword 2; Keyword 3

SUMMARY

The Eritrean Cadastre system has existed for more than 130 years. It was established during the Italian colonial period, at the end of the 19th century. The introduced immovable property registration system was voluntary. In 1997, a Registration Law was proclaimed introducing mandatory registration. But, so far it has not been fully enforced, and thus the practice still remains voluntary.

A study of immovable property registration, by going house to house was conducted in the capital city of Asmara, from mid-July until mid-August 2022. The main purpose is to study the registered and non-registered immovable property in the Cadastral Office, and thus to plan for registering the unregistered ones. The major part of the study has been completed with 35,506 units of houses reported in both categories. The survey was extended until the end of December 2022 so that the owners who were not found and the status of their property yet unknown could be invited to come to the Central Cadastral Office and declare the status of their property by presenting relevant documents. By the end of December 2022, it was found that 3,644 units of houses were still un-reported.

This paper attempts to give a clue of the country's context of cadastre, benefits of cadastral system, outcomes and lessons learnt from the study, main challenges and concluding remarks.