# Land Administration in Post Conflict Areas

Observations-Conclusions-Recommendations Geneva, 29-30 April 2004







#### **Thread**

- Land is a conflict issue
- Wider: conflict response = disaster response
- Short term leverage to long term
- Multi approach to land: part of economic development
- Conventional concepts don't work in unstable situations







#### **Thread**

- Limitations of classical responses
- Restoration of land ownership is not always restoration of social justice
- 'Fix the Cadastre' is not the solution
- Land not always a pressing issue
- Community or locally based processes (not necessarily community participation)







# Thread

- Identification of 'true owners'
- Crucial = trust







# Conclusion

- Land registration is not the start of a reconciliation process but part of it
- Land reform might be part of the reconciliation process
- Land registration concepts might be unconventional







### Recommendation

• Parties involved in formulation of peace agreements and/or strategic action plans should not mention land registration as an isolated objective, but embed in a wider development and land policy







# Recommendation

• Inform humanitarian and international development agencies about the role of land rights and -administration related to reconciliation, in order to contribute to the improvement of their response to conflict and disaster







#### Action

- FIG Commission 7 to write a letter to UN
- Organise reference material and workshops for humanitarian practitioners







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