

CHIEFDOMS AND LAND MANAGEMENT

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PRESENTATION OUTLINE



- Introduction
- Customary Tenure and Governance
- Some current practices
- Example of Botswana
- Some other experiences
- Tying it together
- Last thoughts

INTRODUCTION



- Chieftdom means traditional leadership as exists in most Sub-Saharan African rural communities
- What should their role be in land management?
- What is the best fit land administration in rural sub-Saharan?
- Africa's tenure system
 - Freehold
 - Leasehold
 - customary

LAND MANAGEMENT COMPONENTS



CUSTOMARY TENURE & ITS MANAGEMENT



- Customary tenure involves the use of land based on the customs of the community. Often this is not documented although the community recognises whatever rights are bestowed.
- How much of the land management components are/can be executed by chiefdoms?
- In Africa a great chunk of land is under such system

SOME COUNTRY STATISTICS

Country	Land alienated to non-Africans as % of total area
SA	89%
Zimbabwe	49%
Swaziland	49%
Kenya	7%
Botswana	6%
Malawi	5%
Zambia	3%
Tanzania	0.9%
Uganda, Lesotho, Sudan	Less than 0.5%

CURRENT CUSTOMARY MANAGEMENT

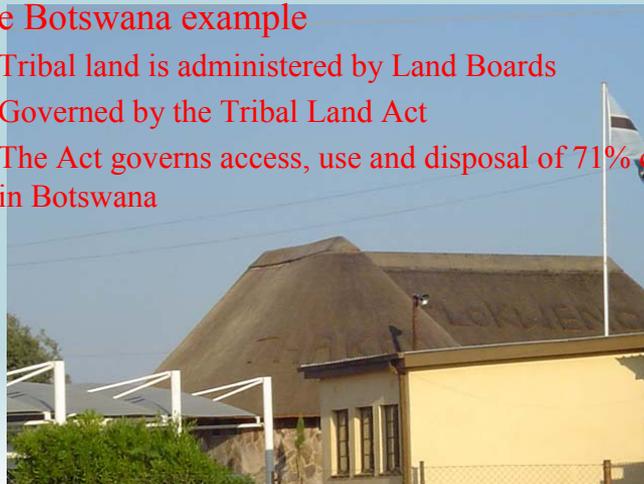


- The current governance structures needs an upgrade
 - ECA for instance recommends training of chiefs in land management
 - Quan (1997) talks of setting up land administration at local level: He observed thus “*there are clear advantages for the state in providing secure, heritable rights to national land through customary, or where appropriate, statutory local systems, within an overall regulatory framework.*”
 - Deininger(2003) suggests that since customary tenure systems have evolved over a long period of time all that is required is to build on these traditions rather than replace them

CUSTOMARY GOVERNANCE



- **The Botswana example**
 - Tribal land is administered by Land Boards
 - Governed by the Tribal Land Act
 - The Act governs access, use and disposal of 71% of land in Botswana



GOVERNANCE IN BOTSWANA



- Divided into 12 Land Boards and their subordinate LB

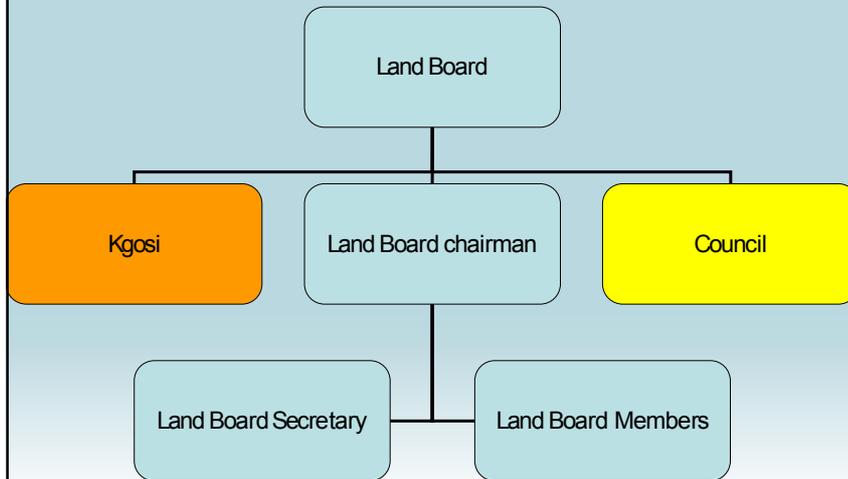


COMPOSITION OF THE LAND BOARD



- 5 members selected and appointed by Minister from a list of 20 candidates elected by people living within the jurisdiction
- 5 members appointed by the Minister
- 1 member representing the Ministry of Agriculture
- 1 member representing the Ministry of Commerce and Industry

LINKING THE CHIEFDOM TO LAND



CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT



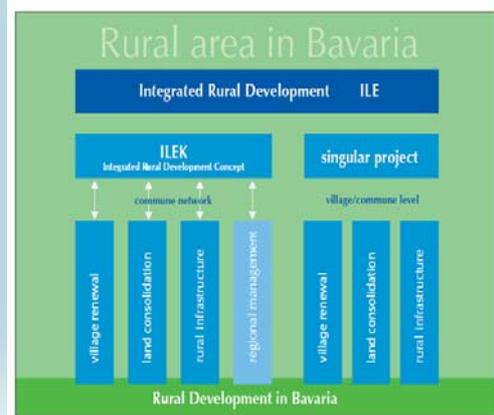
- A new Land Board Management Directorate has been set up
- Linkages with the Dikgosi and the council to be enhanced



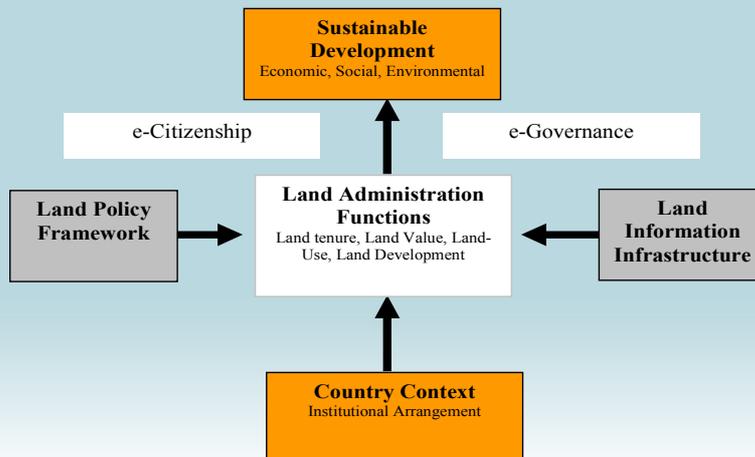
OTHER EXAMPLES



- Rural development involves an integration of development concepts that might not be grasped by those who we want to give responsibility of managing the land



COMPLEX NATURE OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



CHIEFDOMS & LAND MANAGEMENT



- What role should chiefdoms play in Land management then?
 - Clearly customary systems are good for something
 - The situation in Botswana suggests that with the right institutional arrangement a combination of customary tenure with a proper regulatory framework can deliver communities from poverty
 - Models provided by Williamson and the Bavarian example also show how sustainable development can be achieved in this ever increasingly complex world
 - Supplanting rules from the town to the village will also not do, as it will be a recipe for conflict. On the other hand we cannot, I believe, continue to support semi-feudal systems in an information age.