

ILMI Brown Bag Meeting: Land Policy Initiative (LPI)
4 August 2016-08-15
Charl-Thom Bayer

Presentation:

NUST has been identified as lead partner for LPI in Southern Africa

The aim of the initiative is to achieve socioeconomic development, peace and security, and environmental sustainability through improved land governance.

LPI goals include:

- Enhance capacity of LPI secretariat
- Mainstream Land agenda
- Enhance synergies and coordination in support of AU Land Declaration
- Improve communication, advocacy and outreach
- Enhance knowledge generation
- Enhance capacity and skills
- Facilitate evidence-based policy formulation and decision-making
- Enhance monitoring and evaluation

Goal: Capacity Development

- Undertake capacity needs assessment
- Identify key gaps and needs
- Identify and map appropriate
- Develop guidelines and curricula
- Conduct study of 54 African states

Assessed Institutions:

- Programmes
- Facilities
- Network
- Capacity
- Resources

Recommendations:

- Establish Network of Excellence on Land Governance in Africa (NELSA) (NUST is a member)
- Suggested LEAD partner in 5 regions (South, East, North, West, Central)

There will be a validation visit in September/October 2016-08-15.

Discussion Notes:

When will the decision be final?

Tommy Bayer (TB): By the end of 2016 the final decision should be taken. Does not foresee that the validation visit will have any negative impact.

How long does the project last

TB: 2016-2025. EU funding through GIZ. Also World Bank and African Development Bank funding... funding was increased

NUST to apply for funding for capacity building?

TB: After the validation visit capacity gap can be funded; first equipment and then capacity development

Is there a project document to be shared?

TB: Currently no project document but only draft validation report. LPI is only secretariat, but institutions are to come up with plans

Is there a focus on urban or rural land?

TB: The Land, livelihoods and housing research framework tries to avoid to make that distinction and has thus defined 4 aspects (Institutional, Environmental, Spatial, and Fiscal) as guiding principles for its research.

What are the deliverables and expected output? Impact on workload, specific people to be pledged?

TB: The approach if LPI is more about how LPI can help institutions in doing their work better. It is thus for the Institutions to propose research that can actually LEAD in the field.

What are the indicators?

TB: Log frame at LPI level (how many training workshops, where etc.). The question is how we can turn NUST activities into LPI activities.

Is there any relationship with other on-going activities in other countries as well as with Ministry of Lands and Resettlement?

TB: Bilateral agreements in place but not in terms of LPI.

How will different price levels in different countries be accommodated in the programme?

TB: This is still under discussion as LPI is concerned with fairness and equal treatment. Standardized funding for 6 scholarships for example was not negotiable.

Is NUST expected to come up with project plan?

TB: Lead institutions to get together to define responsibilities (overall plan, regional components, use existing research activities to be strengthened, assist other universities to develop curricula etc.)

PL: How will we go about this practically?

1. Circulate LHH Research Framework
2. Arrange more events such as this one
3. Make LPI a faculty programme so that other department can get involved
4. ILMI was set up to accommodate such issues
5. Develop program for validation visit
6. Staff will get workload reduction
7. Need to do actual research and initiate meaningful projects
8. Call for ILMI scholarships: 4 Masters and 2 PhDs with stipends

Is LPI happy with generic FNRSS PhD?

TB: The definition of land governance is very open and leaves room for inclusion of wider topics.

What standards are being used to enable international collaboration, without running into problems?

TB: Discussion on standards is on-going.