Securing tenure at Ekuthuleni

by Donna Hornby

September 2004

Overview

- Introduction
- The world of Ekuthuleni
- Land reform begins
- The emergence of Pilar
- Using what exists
- Rights
- Boundaries
- Conclusion







Introducing our conclusions

- Six years later, in 1994, our work has failed
- Current legal, technical and institutional frameworks can't secure tenure
- Securing tenure is a process not a product
- Narrow chance left with CLRA and the symbol of the communal general plan

The world of Ekuthuleni

- 1997 request PTOs
- Facts:
 - √ 225 families
 - ✓ 1 100 ha
 - ✓ Ntembeni TA
 - ✓ DLA owned
 - Mthonjaneni
- Commercial forestry, sugar and fruit



The world of Ekuthuleni

- ..and subsistence and small scale agriculture
- Household income linked to old age pension
- Elected land committee
- Land use and land admin practices

Land reform begins

- DLA contracts AFRA to assess tenure needs
- People want household rights in a communal system at an affordable price
- Survey estimated at R2-6 000 per site
- Choice township and title OR communal ownership

The emergence of Pilar

- Land rights bill collapses
- We assess the Ekuthuleni system in order to record
- Into property rights and the biases of the formal
- Decide on project goal legal, affordable, sustainable records to meet people's needs

The emergence of Pilar

- Decide on principles:
 - Build on existing systems
 - Adaptation
 - ✓ Work with stakeholders
 - Encourage coherence

Using what exists

- Two systems one of African other Western
- Doubts about existing options title failure – but
- Statutory rights (IPILRA, ESTA) / Personal rights
- Real rights ownership, lease, sectional title



Using what exists

- Limited real rights habitation, usufruct, use servitudes
- Local registers
- Strengthening personal
- No law able to do it

The Communal Land Rights Act (CLRA)

- transfer of property
- AND deeds of land tenure rights
- community rules
- rights enquiry and ministerial determination
- communal general plan
- township register

The Communal Land Rights Act (CLRA)

- But:
 - ✓ split of rights
 - what system
 - costs and sustainability

Boundaries

Legal boundaries, community boundaries

Using orthophotos:

✓ Familiarity

Bridging local and expert

- ✓ Costs
- Accuracy

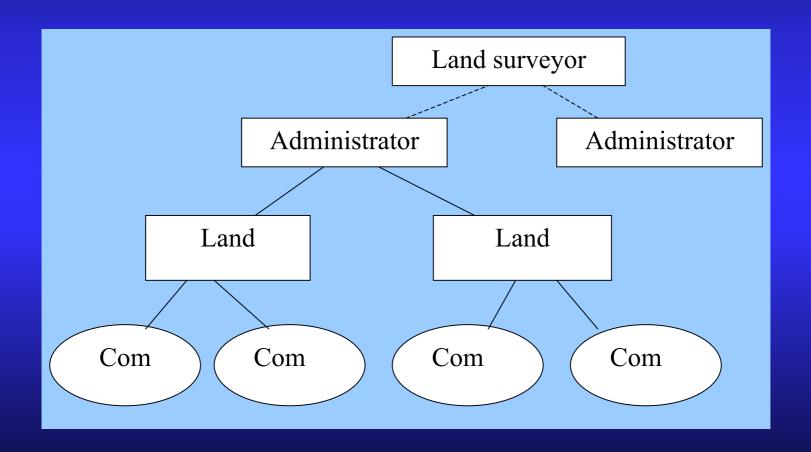
Appropriateness of photos

Adjudication



Boundaries

New institutional models



Boundaries

- DLA version
- Surveyor's version
- Technical issues
- The CGP heritage
- Where are the trade-offs?

Conclusion

- Formal system
 - ✓ Monolithic
 - ✓ Exclusive
 - ✓ Market based
- Local system
 - √ Functional
 - ✓ Inclusive
 - ✓ Livelihood
- No bridges poor are out, rich are in
- All depends on CLRA's configuration

