

## Chapter 2

# Land Governance and the Information Society

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### ABSTRACT

*In a globalized world evolving into knowledge societies and economies, geographic information plays a very important role, as illustrated by the spatially enabled society (SES) concept. In this context, the role of a modern cadastre in the good governance of land for sustainable development is worth noting. The international and regional agendas and various initiatives related to these themes are examined to deduce the emerging global trends and the possible transformation of the national statistical. One of the prerequisites for an integrated information system is the availability of harmonized data and the interoperability between the various dedicated systems. This depends on the effectiveness of the national statistical system and the establishment of a national spatial infrastructure. The institutional and organizational arrangements for better land governance are discussed. The resulting technological infrastructure to be implemented is then addressed.*

### INTRODUCTION

Among the international agendas, the countries are engaged in the World Summit for the Information Society (WSIS), the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, and also following the Open data movement, the UNGIM activities.

In Africa, others regional agendas were implemented: the Agenda 2063, the Land Policy initiative and the Africa data Revolution.

The paper is discussing the link between national land policies, National Geomatics Strategies, the information/Society, knowledge / Economy. and implication on the land Management and provide recommendation for the mobilization of the Geospatial sector for the national development (Economic Commission For Africa, 2007), (African Union, 2010).

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Morocco is referred to, as the country is implementing several sectoral strategies in agriculture, fisheries, industry, tourism, energy, environment, town planning, which all face a problem of land availability and ambiguous legal environment.

The country has a long history of legal pluralism. Parallel systems coexist in customary and modern law, formal and informal land administration systems, and face the absence of a land policy that recognizes the range of various rights and interests

For example, the inadequacy of the legal system governing the property of ethnic communities remains one of the constraints that hamper the optimal valorization of this important national heritage.

Obstacles also relate to problems of the nature of agricultural land structures, and to the impact of urban development on agricultural land.

The development of this sector is also hampered by rising land prices in areas characterized by high attractiveness, high demand for investment, and the high cost of the infrastructure.

## **A MODERN CADASTRE FOR GOOD LAND GOVERNANCE**

The role of a modern cadastre in good land governance is highlighted by Williamson, Enemark, Wallace, and Rajabifard, 2009, While the role of geographic information in the knowledge society, and Spatially Enabled Society (SES) Is discussed in (FIG, 2012).

The publications addressed the following pillars to achieve the SES vision:

- The legal framework supporting the institutional structure of sharing discovery and access to data, the concept of multi-source data integration and interoperability, the positioning infrastructure
- The concept of multi-source data integration and interoperability
- A positioning infrastructure to benefit from the possibilities of available precision
- A spatial data infrastructure to facilitate data sharing, reduce duplication and link producers, suppliers to users on the basis of common goals
- Information on ownership as a dominant topic between government, business, and citizens about land and water resources
- Data and information in order to respect the basic principles to increase availability and interoperability of freely reusable data from different actors and sectors.

In the 2016 edition of United Nations e-Government Survey conducted every two years, the Survey featured the global and regional trends, and provided new evidence that e-government has the potential to help support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs).

In line with the call of United Nations General Assembly in 2015 for a close alignment between WSIS and SDG processes, the WSIS Action lines facilitators have been working together to further implement the WSIS-SDGs Matrix (ITU, 2017).

Hence, the availability of sectoral updated statistics data on applications related indicators is a major challenge.

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