

Efficient Land Registration in Jamaica

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SUMMARY

Jamaica is a lower-middle income country with almost half its population residing in rural areas and dependant on the land. Less than 40 percent of the rural areas in Jamaica are registered that it leads difficulties in utilizing land, proving ownership and even taxation. The high costs and long processing time incurred by the Title Registration System in Jamaica had been recognized as the main hindrance of the low land registration. To facilitate the process, the Government of Jamaica in 2000 had established Land Administration and Management Programme (LAMP), which aimed to assist land holders without titles to obtain land title, and installed 13 continuously operating reference stations (CORS) in a national scale, which aimed to assist better land surveying services by Network-RTK activation. However, such endeavors could not effectively assist land holders to obtain land title even though the titling environment had been improved. Korea Cadastral Survey Corporation (KCSC) had realized more improvement is feasible in Jamaica that the participation in LAMP project was initiated in 2010 in St. Elizabeth, the parish showing the lowest land registration rate as 33 percent. KCSC primarily focused on cadastre innovation by computerization and technology transfer. The cadastral surveying has been undertaken by Network-RTK method in a systematic way, and an alternate land registration method has been adopted to reduce the high costs and long processing time. As a result, the costs and time were reduced approximately by two thirds, achieving public attention. This paper introduces the land registration in Jamaica, and the endeavors and outcomes had driven by KCSC are presented.