

# Delivering Fit-for-Purpose Land Administration

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**Key words:** Cadastre; Digital cadastre; Fit-for-Purpose

## SUMMARY

The World Bank and the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) define “fit-for-purpose” land administration as being reliable, flexible in terms of the spatial data capture approaches, inclusive of all tenure types, participatory in approach, affordable to establish and operate, quick to deploy, and upgradeable as social, legal and emerging economic needs and opportunities arise. The concept emerged because of the many failed attempts at building land administration systems in developing countries, which were often based on technologies and frameworks seen in more mature systems of developed countries. It was believed that when assessing technology and investment choices for land administration systems, the focus should be on approaches that meet the needs of society today and can be incrementally improved over time.

What growing and maturing land administration organizations need is a scalable COTS-based platform that can enable them to grow and take on more capabilities as human capacity, functional needs and the volume of work grows over time. COTS technology allows for a quicker and less costly deployment of solutions with minimal custom software development. This enables the latest core technology to be used at all times and does not lock organizations into old, custom technology and applications that are time consuming and costly to maintain. Further, enabling scalability through a COTS-based enterprise platform has the added benefit of contributing to the fit-for-purpose definition of being affordable, flexible, upgradeable and quick to deploy. Scalability, in this context, is characterized as (i) providing the ability to take on additional functionality quickly and with little to no cost, (ii) being able to scale the platform both within the organization and across other departments; and (iii) being interoperable in terms of enabling simple integration with other business systems that may offer complementary capabilities.

ArcGIS provides a scalable COTS-based Platform that can be deployed as “fit-for-purpose”

allowing simple field capture, management and publication of parcel data in the cloud or can be implemented as an enterprise system that can meet the needs of a modern land administration office. This includes being responsive to jurisdictions that require regular spatial adjustment of their parcel fabric, automated workflows, multiuser editing, aggregation and synchronization of data, and visualization and management of parcel data in a 3D environment. Within the same ArcGIS Platform additional functionalities related to property valuation and land use planning can also be delivered. This flexibility allows our users around the globe to grow and take on more functionality as human capacity, functional needs and the volume of work grows over time.

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Delivering Fit-for-Purpose Land Administration (9454)  
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FIG Congress 2018  
Embracing our smart world where the continents connect: enhancing the geospatial maturity of societies  
Istanbul, Turkey, May 6–11, 2018