



FIG Working Week 2024

19-24 May

Accra, Ghana

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Land information in informal settlement upgrading: The Social Tenure Domain Model as an empowerment tool in Okahandja, Namibia

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Presentation outline



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Introduction

Namibia's formal land registration system in urban areas does not record informal land tenure and acquiring land through this system is costly to the low and ultra communities

The Flexible Land Tenure System (FLTS) has however not been implemented in all local authorities and has been rolled out slowly (Delgado et al., 2020). This means there is still a growing need to record informal land rights in Namibia for tenure security

Accurate and complete information is indispensable for any effective intervention to improve tenure security.

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Problem statement

Spatial and non-spatial information is not available in a well-designed and organized system at the Okahandja Municipality

- Critical decisions and planning are made based on less comprehensive or little to no land tenure information.
- This hinders planning efforts to improve living conditions and implement innovative solutions.
- Adequate land information is crucial to sustainable development and sound information systems are vital for land management systems (Enemark, 2016).



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Objective

Assessing how to use STDM as an empowerment tool in informal settlements by:

- ⇒ Assessing the application of STDM in participatory enumeration, and
- ⇒ Exploring digital and analogue data collection.

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Interventions: STDM and Participatory enumeration land tools STDM as an empowerment tool

- **STDM** is a pro-poor land inventory which mainstreams the continuum of land rights principle.
- A flexible tool that can incorporate information about different land rights.
- It describes the relationship between people and land independent of the level of formality (UN-Habitat, 2021).
- **Participatory enumeration** is a data collection process jointly designed and conducted by local communities and other stakeholders (Antonio et al., 2021).
- It offers opportunities for self empowerment as the locals take control of the process ensuring that it directly speaks to their needs.

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Co-application of STDM and Participatory Enumeration

- ❖ STDM can be used in every step of the enumeration process, likewise participatory enumeration can be effectively incorporated into the STDM as a data gathering and analytical process (UN-Habitat, 2021).
- ❖ The data generated helps to strengthen tenure security through pro-poor and gender-responsive land records and documentation.

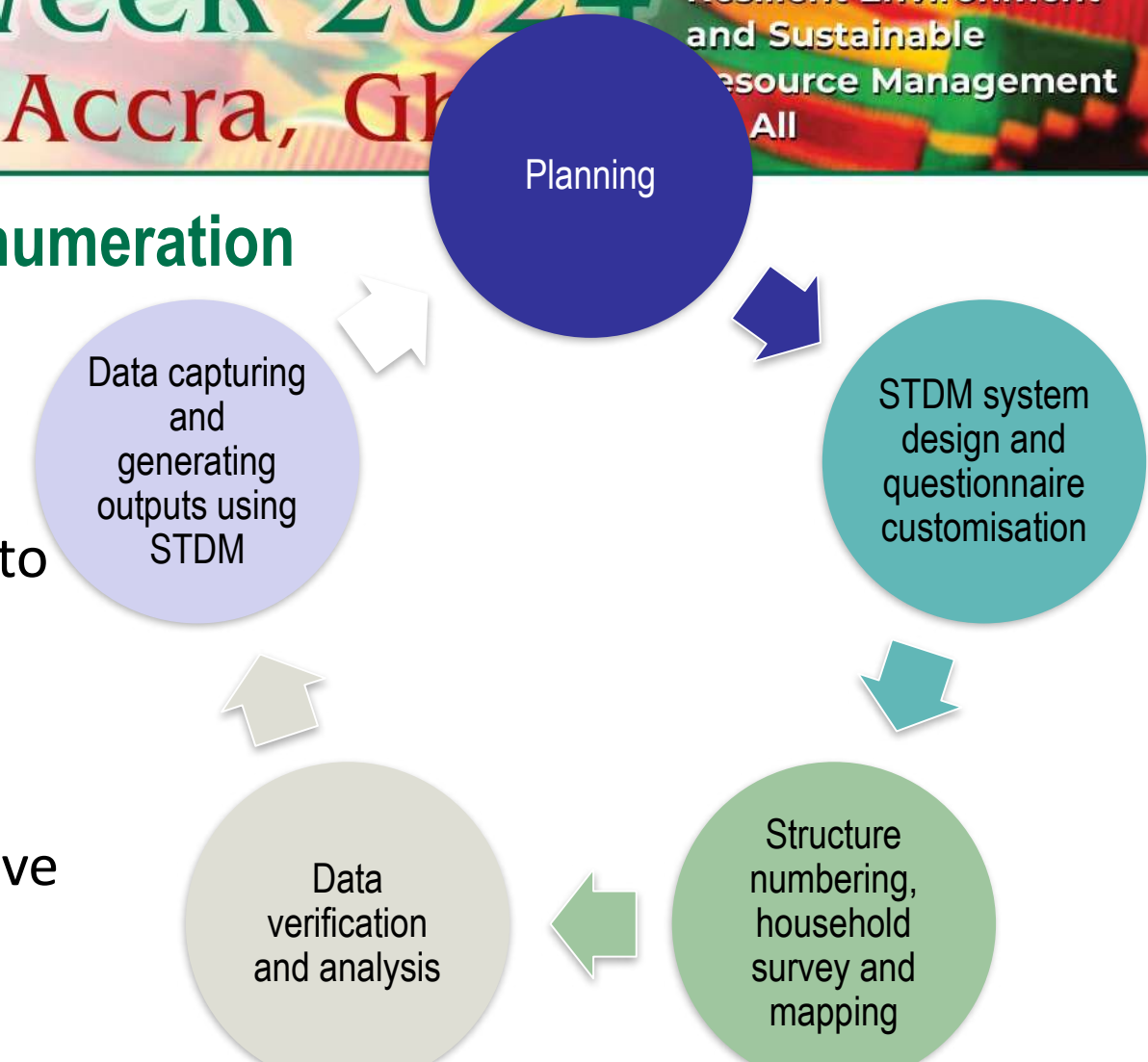


Figure 1: STDM enumeration process in Okahandja



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Findings and Discussion STDM system design and Household enumeration

- A **paper-based socioeconomic survey** form was designed.
- A group of **community enumerators** were formed who received training.
- Analogue and digital data collection was applied.
- Structure numbering, household survey, community mapping, data analysis, data verification and capturing in five (5) settlements.
- Data findings were presented to the respective communities and the local authority council.





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Building digital bridges

- The paper-based survey form was customized and digitised into a mobile form and a form for STDM through a STDM system design exercise.
- The digital form was restructured to ensure its compatability with the STDM system.
- The digitized form was imported into KoboCollect application for digital data collection using tablets.
- KoboCollect is a free and widely used open-source system to collect, analyse and manage field data (Bokonda et al., 2020).



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Experiences on enumeration



Digital method is faster in data collection and analysis. Paper method allows more community participation.



Two forms was an opportunity to improve the quality of data and expose stakeholders to new technologies.



A hybrid model is needed.



The process cannot be done in isolation.



Integrating land tools strengthen its optimal use.

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Data relevance

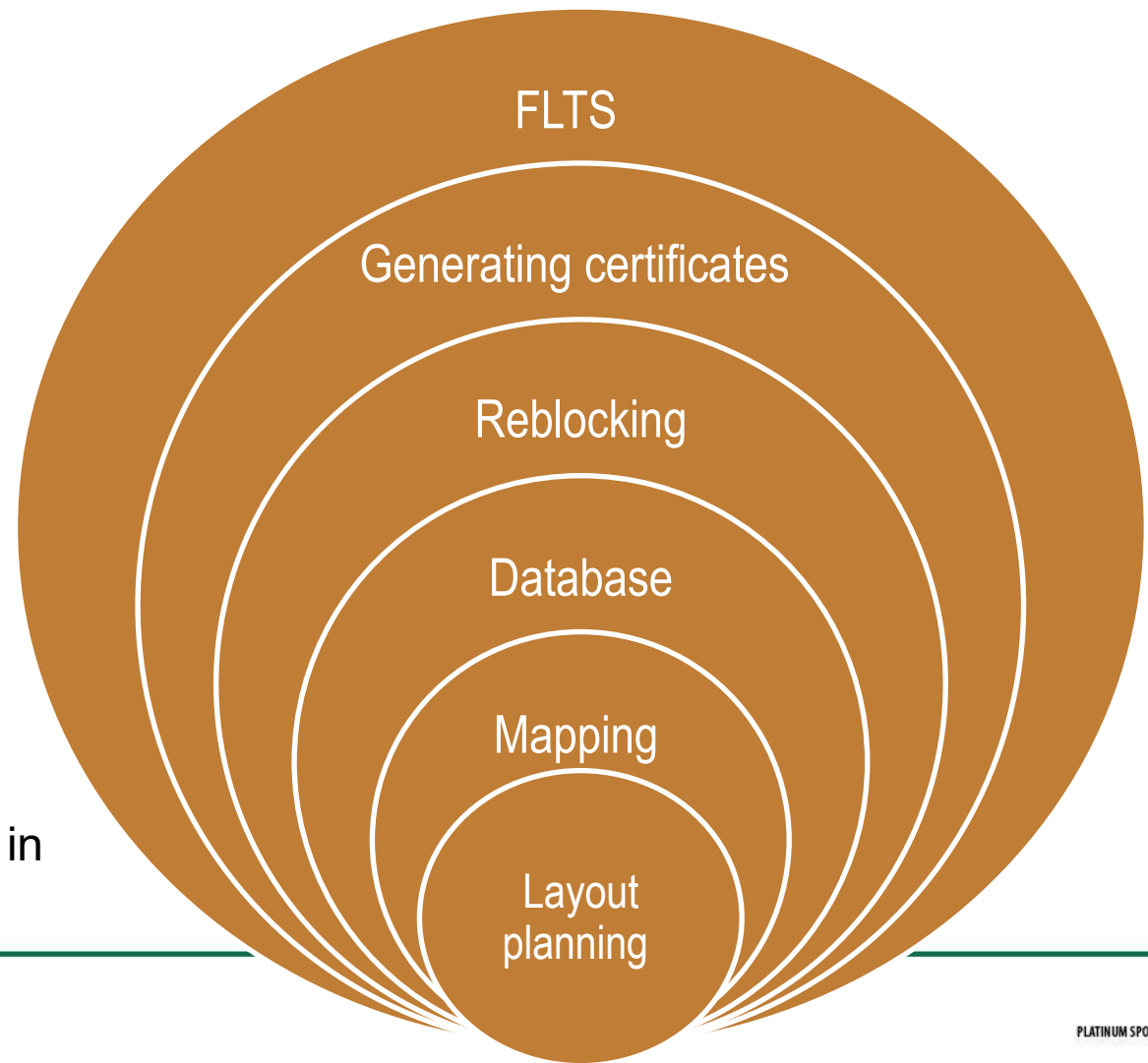


Figure 2: The relevance of data in informal settlement upgrading



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Conclusion

- Informal settlement upgrading relies on reliable and up-to-date socioeconomic and spatial data.
- Community involvement promotes capacity building and allows community to take ownership of their information to defend their land rights and ensures need-based solutions and sustainable development.
- A well-functional land administration system provides detailed land information that supports proper planning for land registration and service provision.

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