Annex: Contributors to the case studies

Process

A customary land consultant developed the preliminary themes and topics for the case studies in consultation with AusAID’s Pacific Land Program team. These were appraised by a panel of experts and reviewed and adjusted by the steering group.

The case studies were drafted in 2007 by academic and sectoral experts and practitioners. Five of the case studies with an emphasis on Papua New Guinea were produced under the supervision of the State, Society and Governance in Melanesia Program at the Australian National University. All but two of the case studies are based on in-country research and consultations by authors.

Early drafts of the case studies were reviewed by a panel of independent experts and practitioners during a series of four meetings at Apia in Samoa, Port Vila in Vanuatu, Nadi in Fiji and Brisbane in Australia. Each panel reviewed four or five case studies. At each meeting, the authors of the studies being reviewed were present in all but one case and they acted as peer reviewers of the other case studies considered at the meeting. Following this review the studies were prepared for publication by an editorial team within AusAID.

Members of the steering group

» Ms Judith Robinson (Chair for first meeting)
  Assistant Director General, Pacific Branch, AusAID

» Ms Stephanie Copus-Campbell (Chair for second meeting)
  Assistant Director General, Pacific Branch, AusAID

» Dr Tony Banks
  Social Analysis and Livelihoods Advisor, NZAID, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, New Zealand

» Professor Ron Duncan
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» Mr Peter Forau
  Deputy Secretary General, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Fiji
Preliminary topic selection, design and appraisal

Jim Fingleton, Development Law Consultant, in collaboration with AusAID Pacific Land Program staff, was responsible for preliminary topic selection and design.

The following people provided an appraisal.

- Bryant Allen, Land Management Group, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Australian National University, Canberra
- Steve Darvill, Humanitarian/Peace-Conflict Adviser, AusAID
- Colin Filer, Resource Management in Asia-Pacific Program, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Australian National University, Canberra
- Padma Lal, Sustainable Development Adviser, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
- Ken Lyons, Land Administration Consultant, Queensland
- Charles Yala, Senior Research Fellow, National Research Institute, Papua New Guinea
Apia peer review of case studies

The first peer review meeting was held in Apia on 9 and 10 July 2007.

CASE STUDIES AND AUTHORS

7 Maori land ownership and management in New Zealand
   » Tanira Kingi, Institute of Natural Resources, Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand

8 Absentee landowners in the Cook Islands: consequences of change to tradition
   » Ron Crocombe, Professor Emeritus, University of the South Pacific
   » Makiuti Tongia, Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Cook Islands
   » Tepoave Araitia, Cook Islands Land Consultant

10 Resolving land disputes in Samoa
   » Jennifer Corrin, Associate Professor, TC Beirne School of Law, Executive Director—Asia Pacific Law, Centre for Public, International and Comparative Law, University of Queensland, Brisbane
   » Leota Laki Lamositele-Sio, Project Manager, ADB Small Business Development Project, Samoa (contributor)

13 Accessing land for public purposes in Samoa
   » Chris Grant, Land Administration Consultant
   » Leota Laki Lamositele-Sio, Project Manager, ADB Small Business Development Project, Samoa (contributor)

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» Theo Levantis, Economics Adviser, AusAID

Port Vila peer review of case studies

The second peer review meeting was held in Port Vila on 7 and 8 August 2007.

CASE STUDIES AND AUTHORS

The Native Land Trust Board of Fiji and development within communal tenure

» Chris Lightfoot, Independent Economist, Australia
» Kaliopate Tavola, Consultant, Fiji
» Jim Fingleton, Development Law Consultant, Australia

2 Village land trusts in Vanuatu: ‘one common basket’

» Jim Fingleton, Development Law Consultant, Australia
» Anna Naupa, Senior Program Officer, AusAID, Port Vila, Vanuatu
» Chris Ballard, Division of Pacific and Asian History, College of Asia and the Pacific, Australian National University, Canberra

12 Acquiring land for public purposes in Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu

» Michael Manning, Mirel Ltd, Kokopo, East New Britain, Papua New Guinea
» Philip Hughes, HEH Pty Ltd, Canberra, Australia

14 The paths to land policy reform in Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu

» Michael Manning, Mirel Ltd, Kokopo, East New Britain, Papua New Guinea

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1 As a result of a delay in agreeing to the final text of this case study, it is not included in this volume. It will be published on AusAID’s website and in any reprint.
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» Theo Levantis, Economics Adviser, AusAID
Nadi peer review of case studies

The third peer review meeting was held in Nadi on 14 and 15 August 2007.

CASE STUDIES AND AUTHORS

3 Recording land rights and boundaries in Auluta Basin, Solomon Islands
   » John Cook, Consultant Anthropologist, Australia
   » Genesis Eddie Kofana, Consultant, Solomon Islands

6 The role of the Central Land Council in Aboriginal land dealings
   » Mick Dodson, Director, National Centre for Indigenous Studies and Professor of Law, College of Law, Australian National University, Canberra
   » David Allen, Specialist Legal Consultant, Indigenous and Human Rights
   » Tim Goodwin, Research Assistant, National Centre for Indigenous Studies, College of Law, Australian National University, Canberra

9 Mediating land conflict in East Timor
   » Daniel Fitzpatrick, Reader/Associate Professor, College of Law, Australian National University, Canberra
   » Susana Barnes, Research Associate, and Rebecca Monson, PhD candidate, at the Australian National University (contributors)

15 Strengthening land administration in Solomon Islands
   » Douglas Larden, Land Administration Consultant, Australia
   » Marjorie Sullivan, Visiting Fellow, Resource Management in Asia-Pacific Program, Australian National University, Canberra

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Brisbane peer review of case studies

The fourth peer review meeting was held in Brisbane on 20 and 21 August 2007.

CASE STUDIES AND AUTHORS

1  Incorporated land groups in Papua New Guinea
   » Tony Power, Land Administration Consultant, Papua New Guinea

4  Land registration among the Tolai people: waiting 50 years for titles
   » Jim Fingleton, Development Law Consultant, Australia
   » Oswald ToLopa, Director of Policy, Department of Lands and Physical Planning, Papua New Guinea

5  Informal land systems within urban settlements in Honiara and Port Moresby
   » Satish Chand, Australian National University, Canberra
   » Charles Yala, National Research Institute, Port Moresby

11 Settling customary land disputes in Papua New Guinea
   » Norm Oliver, PNG Land Law Consultant, Australia
   » Jim Fingleton, Development Law Consultant, Australia

16 Training and educating land professionals: the value of institutional partnerships
   » Chris Lunnay, Director, Land Equity International, Wollongong, Australia
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» Jim Fingleton, Development Law Consultant, Australia
Land policy reform is on the agenda in the Pacific region. Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Samoa and East Timor, for example, are either undertaking or considering land policy reforms to ensure that land contributes to national social and economic development.

The growing push for reform is not coming from governments alone. Customary landowners in many countries recognise that their present and future livelihoods depend on sensible and sustainable development of traditional lands. But there are challenges. Reconciling customary land and development requires:

» linking customary land into formal economic and legal systems
» broad community consensus
» extensive technical and managerial skills
» long timeframes and adequate funding

Making land work is a resource for Pacific countries grappling with these challenges. Both volumes seek to provide ideas and inspiration for Pacific governments, officials, landholders and the private sector on how to increase the contribution of land to communities and economies while protecting traditional tenure systems.