



Project Results Brief



Technical Assistance Support to the Government of Eswatini in Sustainable Land Administration and Management.

The European Union provided funding (EuropeAid/136656/IH/SER/SZ) of EUR 1.678 million for a project of technical assistance support in Sustainable Land Administration and Management (SLAM), provided by COWI A/S of Denmark, between from October 2016 and August 2019 (34 months).

Project implementers and beneficiaries included four government ministries (Natural Resources and Energy, Agriculture with Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise, Tinkhundla Administration and Development, and Economic Planning and Development), the Land Management Board, and twenty chiefdoms' traditional authorities and community members.

The overarching objective of the project is to improve food security by providing tools and capacities for sustainable land administration and management at chiefdom, tinkhundla, regional, and national level.

Target groups are the rural poor and women engaged in agriculture on Swazi (*emaSwati*) Nation Land (SNL), and traditional authorities responsible for the administration and governance of SNL.

Results (log frame):

	<i>Intervention logic</i>	<i>Objectively verifiable indicators</i>	<i>Summary of results achieved</i>
Overall Objective	To contribute to improving land use and access for the rural poor thereby improving food security.	Food security improves by 10% in the pilot areas 3 years after the end of the project.	Landholdings and land use data collection included population and agricultural census numbers that enable linking of data sets and makes possible the future impact evaluation of the project.
Specific Objective	To provide tools and capacities for sustainable land administration at chiefdom, <i>tinkhundla</i> , regional, and national, levels.	Updated cadastre and land records available to chiefs, communities, traditional authorities, and others by the end of the project. 5% decrease in land disputes by project end.	Landholding data was collected in 4 project areas comprising 21 chiefdoms. Results delivered to chiefs, communities, traditional authorities and others, is in the form of hardcopy registers and maps and softcopy GIS data on laptop computers, providing up-to-date landholding information (neo-customary cadastre) for local land administration and management (e.g. new land allocations, change of land use). Baseline data on land disputes (421 or 3% of total) collected in 21 chiefdoms for future impact evaluation.
Expected Result 1	Tools developed and used for more efficient SNL administration at chiefdom,	By the end of the project: Pilot area chiefdom landholding maps and records created	At the end of the project 13,174 homesteads and 17,400 land parcels (landholdings) were recorded in 21 chiefdoms over an 18 month period. Chiefdom traditional authorities were provided with hardcopy land registers and maps as well as digital land information (GIS) on laptop computers, creating a

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	<i>tinkhundla</i> , regional, and national, levels.	<p>and available at chiefdom level.</p> <p>Single recognised system for SNL land administration.</p> <p>Land information system in place and operational to guide land allocation, planning and development in pilot areas.</p>	<p>neo-customary land administration system for local land management. Landholding rights are secured by an entry in the land register; landholders are not provided with certificates.</p> <p>Land administration guidelines and standard methodology for land rights recording and maintenance prepared, workshopped and accepted by stakeholders, then distributed with training to traditional authorities (chiefs and chiefdom inner councils) in the 4 pilot areas.</p> <p>A PostGIS database server with QGIS 3.4 software is used at the Surveyor General's Department to process data collection (using GeoODK) and maintain the digital records. Chiefdom data sub-sets are provided on laptop computers (with customised QGIS software) to each pilot area chiefdom.</p>
Expected Result 2	Relevant stakeholders capacitated to use the cadastre and manage SNL more efficiently and sustainably.	<p>By the end of the project: Four <i>tinkhundla</i> with land administration system operating within Chiefdoms.</p> <p>Chiefdoms in four <i>tinkhundla</i> able to operate system in self-sustainable manner.</p> <p>Alternative dispute resolution operating effectively at all levels.</p>	<p>Land information and administrative systems, comprising maps, records/registers, lists, computerised data, manuals and guidelines delivered to 21 chiefdoms, which with training creates and operationalises a new neo-customary land administration system in the 4 pilot project areas.</p> <p>Immediately following delivery, chiefdoms began adding landholdings to the maps and registers that were not captured during the systematic recording campaign. Some chiefdoms have christened the registers <i>Libhayibeli Lemphakatsi</i> or the chiefdom bible, which has two parts, the <i>Lithesitamente Lelidzala</i> or Old Testament of past land allocations, and the <i>Lithesitamente Lelisha</i> or New Testament of blank pages to record new allocations. These registers are modelled on the simple and easy to maintain land registers used for freehold land in many ACP countries.</p> <p>A formalised system of customary land dispute mediation was developed and operational guidelines prepared. The Eswatini Conciliation Mediation and Arbitration Commission (CMAC) will provide training later in 2019 to make land dispute mediation services operational and available at local level.</p>
Expected Result 3	Institutional arrangements for SNL accepted by stakeholders.	Recommendations made and accepted by Project Steering Committee by the end of the project.	Four options for land institution arrangement reform were developed and workshopped with key stakeholders, who included representatives of both modern state government (ministries) and traditional authority government (King's advisory bodies and

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		Further follow-on project designed and approved to roll out this pilot.	<p>councils and chiefs and chiefdom councils). The recommendation is that because most land in Eswatini is held by the King in trust for the Nation, the decision on which path to take for land institution reform will require the consent of the highest traditional authority.</p> <p>Concept and design of follow on project prepared and agreed by key stakeholders. This will largely be a roll out of the successful work and results of the pilot projects to the remaining 300+ chiefdoms. Scale up will also include components of GIS/IT development and progressing the land institution arrangements reform options.</p> <p>Roll out of the Sustainable Land Administration and Management Project is supported by continuing budgetary commitments by the Government of Eswatini to maintain the initiative but scale up is uncertain until further donor funding is identified and committed.</p>

For more information contact either:

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