

# Catalyzing Innovation

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## Land Governance in Namibia: Challenges and Opportunities

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### -INTRODUCTION

Namibia has committed to work towards achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Following Independence a number of land recording projects were initiated to provide tenure security, housing and basic services. However, the projects largely fell short of these goals due to slow or poor implementation progress. Achieving the SDGs calls for enhanced provision of tenure security for further development of the country to avoid civil unrest due to unequal and unfair distribution of land rights. This calls for much enhanced program implementation and governance to improve the success rate.



- The research is based on literature review of programs and projects in places in Namibia
- The research is also briefly analysing progress and performance of these programs
- More in-depth case study analysis of the specific programs are needed to acquire more detailed information on the reasons that programs and projects fall short when it comes to successful implementation

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### -RESULTS

- **Built Together Program**
  - Self-help programme to provide shelter to low and very-low income
  - 8,000 houses built from 1992-2013
  - Incomplete houses, poor loan repayment
  - Decentralised to local authorities in 1999
  - Discontinued 2013, re-started in 2016
- **Communal Land Registration Project**
  - 119,227 communal rights registered from 2003 – 2018 (equals to 49% of communal plots)
  - Mandatory registration
  - Some traditional authorities discourage community members to register land rights
  - Still regarded as ‘a project’
- **Mass Housing Development Program**
  - Targeted to build 185,000 houses by 2030
  - 4,204 houses built from 2013 – 2015
  - Target group was middle and low-income
  - No low-income residents acquired housing because the prices were out of reach



### -CONCLUSION

- Need to enhance program implementation and governance to improve success rate
- Improve monitoring and evaluation of program progress and implementation
- Conduct research on existing programs insofar why progress is slow or at best non-existing
- Prioritise successful implementation of programs

### -LITERATURE

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Palmer, D., Friccka, S., & Wehrmann, B., (2009). Towards Improved Land Governance. Rome, Italy: Food and Agriculture Organization.  
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### -METHODS