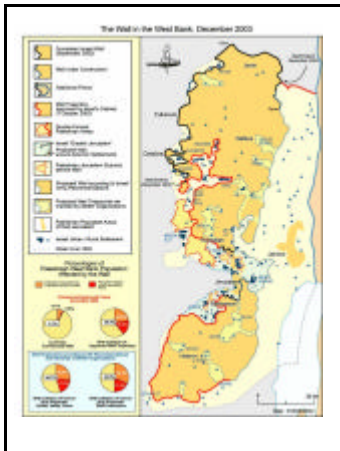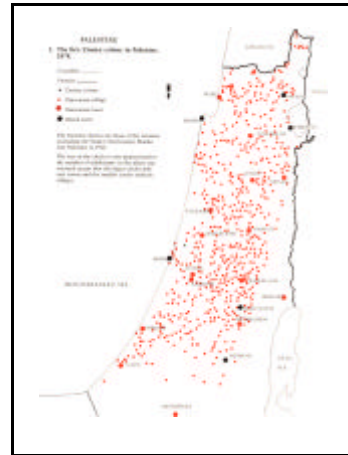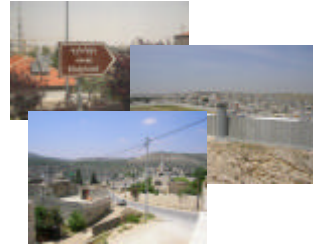# Piloting of Systematic Land Registration in Palestine

Asri ATTALLAH, Palestine
Muqbel JABER, Palestine
Tuomo HEINONEN, Finland

TS 39 - Land Administration Organisations and the Future

Shaping the Change
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Palestine

- The population of occupied West Bank (with East Jerusalem) about 3,7 million and Gaza 1,4 million
- About 5 million refugees
- Most of the West Bank under Israeli direct control and use (settlements, security areas etc.)
- The 'two-state' solution still pending

Land registration today

- History … Ottoman, British and Jordanian legislation
- "Land and Water Dispute Settlement Law" (1952)
- Systematic land registration (settlement) interrupted 1967
- Only 25-30 % of the West Bank area registered
- Palestinian Land Authority since 2002
- Sporadic registration + contracts between parties

Pilot project

- "West Bank and Gaza Land Administration Project" financed by the World Bank and the Government of Finland
- Learning and innovation project 2005 – 2007(2008)
  - Land policy formulation and development of regulatory framework,
  - **Piloting of systematic land registration (settlement)**
  - Piloting of modern land offices,
  - Piloting of public land inventory and management strategy
  - Institutional development
- Three pilot villages in and around Ramallah (about 5000 dunums i.e. 500 hectares)
- To develop an efficient 'settlement' process between PLA and private surveyors and analyse experiences for a possible long-term land registration project
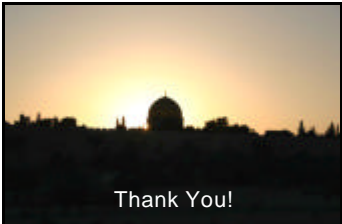

Challenges

- Present legislative basis for the settlement actions is incomplete and out-of-date
- PLA is an agency without the necessary resources and capacity to undertake its mandate
- Private surveyors capacities are unclear
- Sensitivity of the land-ownership subject especially in Palestine
- Political situation in the occupied Palestinian territories

Future

- The continuous systematic land registration (settlement) process in Palestine is hopefully true after a year or two
- No one knows exactly how long it will take to carry out the first-time registration in the rest of the West Bank.
- The foundation of an independent Palestinian State with permanent borders is a prerequisite for creation of the complete land register

Thank You!