

Session 2: Sustainable Development as Global Trend
Rapporteur: George Benwell

To Raff

Q With regard to the global map what are the yellow areas?

A The areas that are yellow have an unknown land tenure system – or at least unknown to me at the time of the research. In the case of the USA some states are not yellow but it is interesting to note that it is NOT the US that is leading the change in the world. This is due in part to the deeds system, which is not socially involving, nor is it very efficient.

To Enemark and Sevatdal

Q How would you deal with decentralisation for a toxic waste site?

A Toxic waste would be managed by central policy and administered locally.

To Enemark and Sevatdal

Q Is there a need for local government?

A Their role is of standardisation of planning, land use planning in general and locally. Zoning is critical for sustainable use.

To Disano or Lacroux

Q Is access to land for all people realistic?

A We are talking about access to resources. It should be a common goal, considering that all citizens have the same basic right. The difficulty is mainly how to implement this. It will mainly be empowering the people to be aware of their rights and effecting the policy decisions. It is not about all having land but rather all having access to the institutions of property and tenure.

To Enemark and Sevatdal

Q You have used the FIG definition of cadastre. Is it up to date and still relevant in that it refers to a property based system?

A Yes you are correct that it may limit the future but the trend will be to land information systems which may not be parcel based. We have to adapt. There is more in Clarissa's paper tomorrow afternoon.

To Raff

Q Is there a view in the legal profession that we should move towards communal rights compared to individual rights?

A In the areas I am aware of this is not directly the case. Indirectly groups such as families, indigenous peoples, then trusts prevail as the protective communal interest. There does not seem to be a great growth in public rights.

To the panel, but directed at Lacroux

Q What is the status of global sustainability?

There are no answers yet, but the movement will involve all people and Habitat II will be implemented by the stakeholders. Information must be gathered and provided to all so that there is a collective responsibility. It is difficult to provide security of tenure for all and at this stage there is no complete answer.

To Raff

Q Your talk was very interesting and very informative about the Hamburg people – they were very conservation minded.

A It is difficult to meet and discuss and analyse indigenous peoples still on the land that have this long held view of sustainability. Their ownership of private land is unique and a good example. This is not available in Australia. Over time of course

they have moved away from that view but it was true at the time and it was the birth of the Torrens system.