



MCC Land Project

The Land Project is budgeted at \$67 million and aims to expand and improve existing Government of Sri Lanka initiatives to increase the availability of spatial data and land rights information. This project will help the Government identify under-utilized state land that can be put to more productive use and maximize rents from lands that the government leases. It would also increase tenure security and tradability of land for smallholders, women, and firms by digitizing deeds records so that they are less vulnerable to damage, theft, and loss and moving properties from the Deeds System to the Title Registration System. The Land Project has five activities, which enhance existing Government initiatives:

- Create a cadastral map of land parcels and complete inventory of state land, providing data to be entered into the Government's e-State Lands Information Management System (eSLIMS). Budget: \$23,400,000;
- Improve the valuation of state and private lands by improving data collection in support of a computerized mass appraisal system, building on Government efforts to strengthen the Valuation Department. Budget: \$6,500,000;
- Improve the Deeds Registry by digitizing existing records and linking them to digital parcel information, building on the Government's e-Land Registry initiative. Budget: \$11,400,000;
- Improve tenure security for all land holders by moving properties from the Deeds system to the Title Registration system, expanding the Government's *Bim Saviya* program. Budget: \$19,300,000; and
- Research in support of measures to improve land administration policies. Budget: \$6,700,000.

The eSLIMS is an information technology system that contains maps of state land parcels vested with various Government agencies. The system tracks applications for land parcels and information about state lands that the Government already leases out and collects revenue on. The Government is currently automating the land valuation process that will accelerate property valuation for tax and other purposes. The eLand Registry system contains digitized land registry information to simplify and make more secure the completion of land transactions by property owners and buyers. The *Bim Saviya* program converts private land in the Deeds system to a more secure Title Registration system. Unfortunately, inadequate financial and technical resources has resulted in all of these efforts moving forward sporadically and without proper coordination. The MCC Land Project would fill these resource gaps.