



REILA deliverable: NRLAIS

National Rural Land Administration Information System

KEY SUCCESSSES

- + Strongly improved transparency and efficiency of land registration systems
- + Utilised by multiple programmes throughout the country as a common resource
- + Helped build technical and IT-system capacity



Photo: Gladys Savolainen



NRLAIS will replace paper-based systems.

Improving transparency and efficiency

The National Rural Land Administration Information System (NRLAIS) is a comprehensive rural cadaster software system, which is based on open-source licensed software and international ISO standards (LADM-19152). The software handles systematic land registration [mass registration, such as second-level land certification (SLLC)] and subsequent transactions (such as inheritance, divorce, gifting, expropriation, parcel rent/lease) and stores the official land holding data. Compared to traditional paper-based systems, NRLAIS improves transparency and efficiency significantly as well as the quality of transaction processes as it guides authorities through the steps. It also enables regional and national monitoring and analyses as well as other sectors to use the land data.

The REILA team drew up NRLAIS specifications while software development was outsourced to an international company, which in turn used an Ethiopian company as a sub-contractor. Thus, some of the NRLAIS modules and features have been developed by Ethiopian software experts.

Managing information in a complex environment

NRLAIS is the main information and management system in Ethiopia's rural land administration sector and it is used at different administrative levels (federal, regional, zonal, and *woreda*). The system was designed in a way that it can work without regular internet access and new zones, *woreda*, and *kebele* can be brought on line gradually. NRLAIS has functions to migrate data from the existing systems (like; iWORLDIS, ISLA, ELTAP/ELAP, SLMP I&II, government programmes, and others).

REILA prepared a national IT strategy in 2012, updating it in 2018. The current version guides development until 2021. At the moment, funding has been secured from several donors to install NRLAIS in 256 *woredas* by 2023 (altogether there are 968 in rural Ethiopia.) The strategy also addresses sustainability factors and includes



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training, capacity building, development of IT-support services, and knowledge management.