COMPULSORY LAND ACQUISITION AND RESETTLEMENT ON CUSTOMARY LANDS IN GHANA – A GOVERNANCE PERSPECTIVE

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OVERVIEW

- Introduction
- Objective
- Study Area
- Methodology
- Key Findings
- Conclusion
- Your Thoughts?
INTRODUCTION

- Broad use of compulsory land acquisition and resettlement
- Much studies on the planning phase
- Little studies on implementation phase
- Problems arising out of the implementation of well-formulated plans
- Good governance
OBJECTIVE

Good Governance?

Compulsory Land Acquisition and Resettlement in Ghana - A Governance Perspective
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METHODOLOGY

Interviews:
- Semi-structured
- Structured

Focus Group Discussions
KEY FINDINGS – FRAMEWORK DEVELOPMENT

• Transparency

• Public Participation

• Equity and Rule of Law

• Accountability
KEY FINDINGS – ASSESSMENT OF GOOD GOVERNANCE

- Transparency
  - Appropriate media were adopted
  - Customary arrangements increased bureaucracy.
  - The openness of process varied with respect to various aspects of the project.
KEY FINDINGS – ASSESSMENT OF GOOD GOVERNANCE (CONT’D)

- Public Participation
  - Actors were very much involved in the process.
  - The affected persons did not have decision-making powers.
  - Customary Authorities as gatekeepers.
KEY FINDINGS – ASSESSMENT OF GOOD GOVERNANCE (CONT’D)

- Equity
  - Compensation neither fair, adequate, nor prompt
- Lost livelihoods
- Unequal treatment of Indigenes and Settlers.
KEY FINDINGS – ASSESSMENT OF GOOD GOVERNANCE (CONT’D)

- Rule of Law
  - Laws covering the land acquisition process
  - No Resettlement Law and Action Plan
  - Non-adherence to the Resettlement Planning Framework
  - Respect for the local customs and traditions
KEY FINDINGS – ASSESSMENT OF GOOD GOVERNANCE (CONT’D)

- Accountability
  - Appropriate assignment of responsibilities
  - Accountability with respect to traditional authorities
    - High, except for monetary issues
  - Low accountability from acquiring authority
CONCLUSION

- Good governance was largely adhered to despite the few laws.
- The traditional authorities were an obstruction in the process.
YOUR THOUGHTS?

- What about private-sector led land acquisition and resettlement?
- The role of the traditional authorities?
Many Thanks
Questions?