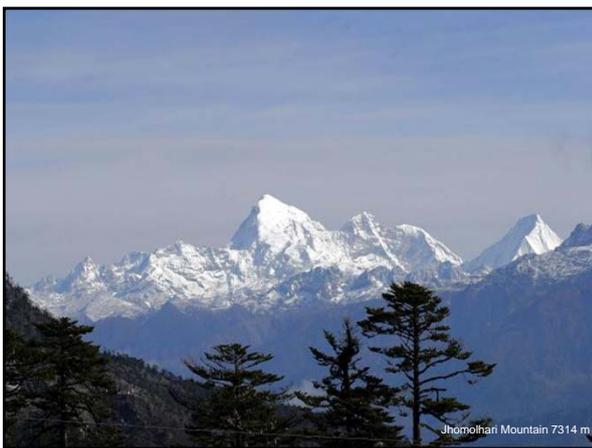


**Land Administration Challenges in Bhutan**

The Need for a National Cadastral Resurvey

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GSDI12 WORLD CONFERENCE  
REALISING SPATIALLY ENABLED SOCIETIES  
SINGAPORE, 19 – 22 OCTOBER 2010



### Bhutan at a glance



Constitutional Kingdom (since 2008)

**Population:** 650,000 inhabitants

**Area:** 38,400 sq km (like Switzerland)

**Land use:** 70 % forest  
7 % arable

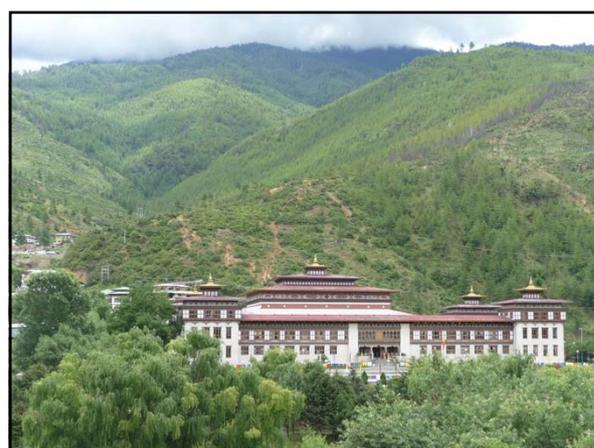
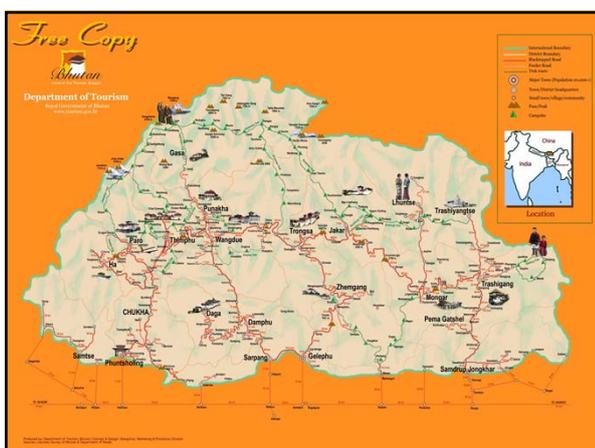


**Government:**

**National :** Parliament 150 members

**Regional:** 20 Dzongkhags (counties)

**Local:** 205 Gewogs (municipalities)

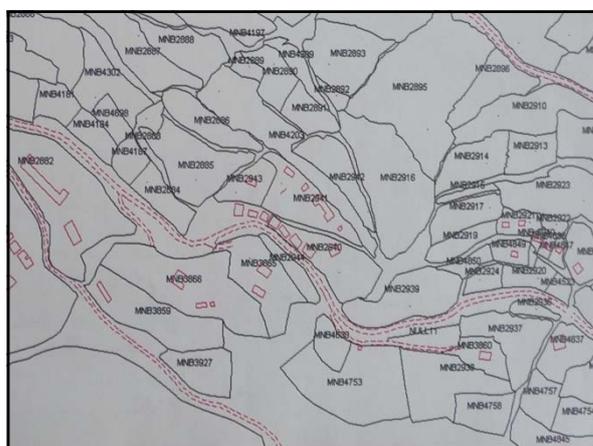





### Land governance

**Two big issues on the table in 2008**

National Land Policy	National Cadastral Resurvey
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• coordinate existing sectoral policies</li> <li>• preserve natural resources and quality of landscapes,</li> <li>• promote sustainable use of land</li> <li>• facilitate equitable access to land</li> <li>• support a vibrant land market and economic growth</li> </ul> <p>Pursuing Gross National Happiness by "managing, regulating and administering ownership and use of land for socio-economic development, poverty reduction and environmental well-being"</p> <p>40 page document completed 2010 Incl. appendix on land and geographic Information development and sharing of Geo Spatial Data, following international best practice.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existing cadastre established in 1990s by plane table.</li> <li>• Actual boundaries have changed, encroachment of government land</li> <li>• Also boundaries of private land have moved and a range of disputes have appeared.</li> </ul> <p>The King decided to solve these problems once and for all through a national Cadastral resurvey identifying the parcel boundaries with surveyed coordinates using modern technology – GPS and total stations</p> <p>65 Gewogs (out of 205) completed 2010 In total 95 survey teams will complete the project by the end of 2013.</p>







The land register (Thram) identifying land parcels and ownership

No	Dzongkhag	No. of Thram holders	Area (Acres)	Beneficiaries	Area (Acres)
		Before NCRP	Registered		
1	Lhunitse	2,677	9,399.911	4,865	5,776.765
2	Mongar	5,655	13,479.52	13,072	19,686.718
3	Trashigang	1,725	4,800	4,695	3,806.597
4	Trashigangtse	3,980	9,367.28	8,594	10,691.322
		14,037	35,813.82	31,216	39,961.402
			75,723.52		162 km2

Kidu granted by the King

