

An Appraisal of the Need for a Comprehensive National Policy for Land Management in Nigeria

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SUMMARY

Land Use Act (1978) provisions for land management in rural and urban areas in Nigeria were meant to take drive land management in Nigeria for equitable use and development. Available data shows that the formulation of various land management policies in Nigeria rarely accommodate participatory of stakeholders. The findings indicates that LUA was formulated, enacted without the stakeholder understating its true purpose and intends the ambiguities in the LUA make Land administration difficult. This remains highly unacceptable to all and seen as an instrument of government to exploit the poor people in Nigeria. Therefore, the proposed Land Reform in Nigeria is intended to address these anomalies, but for five years now no concrete result has been achieved. It is recommended that a more comprehensive policy be formulated to integrate and recognize relevant land rights held by most Nigerians. The mechanism to be adopted should be stakeholder driven and be clearly spelt-out in the national land management policy.