

After the Disaster –Cadastral Processes to Establish Legal Security

Lukas Rammer, Gerhard Navratil and Julius Ernst (Austria)

Key words: Cadastre; Digital cadastre; Land management; Land readjustment; Legislation; Professional practice; Security of tenure; Spatial planning

SUMMARY

One of the major problems of a cadastre is a changing reality. Natural disasters typically cause such changes and a problem in the aftermath is the missing legal security for land owners and other holders of land rights. This uncertainty has a direct influence on the rebuilding process after a disaster because it restricts the motivation of land holders to invest money on the improvement of land and it limits the possibility to lend money from banks.

In the paper we show the situation in Austria. The first step is to identify possible disasters for Austria. Previous disasters are discussed and their effects on parcel boundaries and the geodetic control network are analyzed. Realistic disasters include floods, mass movements, and earthquakes. Then the technical and legal concepts to restore parcel boundaries are explained and the problems identified. In the conclusions a general idea is presented that could be the basis for the creation of a new method of recovery.