

Date

Monday 16 July 2007

Title of session

Workshop 1 - Land Administration for the 21st Century

Name of presenter/chair

CHAIR: Andrew Trigg -Chief Geographic Information Officer, Land Registry of England and Wales

Presenter: Rui Pedro Juliao, Deputy Director General, Portuguese Geographic Institute

Rapporteurs

Yvette Ragozins, Land Registry (GB) and John Pepper, UK Hydrographic Office

Presentation Title: SiNErGIC -A New Approach to Cadastre in Portugal

A new law was passed in 1995 to create integrated jurisdictional Cadastre but has proved unworkable in practise as it was based on largely out of date procedures. Cadastre is expensive to maintain as many old Boundary marks/ references have disappeared over time.

There is no single identification for parcels in Portugal as little compatibility exists between extant processes and procedures. However, 50% of rural areas are covered by some form of cadastre.

Parcels do not follow physically mapped features and vary greatly in size. For example, in Madeira some parcels are as small as 2 sq m.

Even in urban areas it is difficult to establish a definitive parcel because established boundaries are defined by different agencies for different purposes.

Accusations of too much accuracy in the data capture specification are commonly raised against cadastral surveys. It was clear that this situation was untenable so an action plan was devised to engage all stakeholders and politicians in a developing a consensus view of future requirements. As a result, after several years of debate, a new Law No224/2007 31/05/07 was granted with Government approval and SiNErGIC was born. Its underpinning objective is to ensure Land Registration is supported by GI; the Law was experimental for a period of 4 years to ensure the constituents proved workable.

Three Departments within Government (Geographic Institute, Conservation and, Finance) will work to create a single parcel reference for every parcel in Portugal supported by a single point of contact for the citizen to access the correct and up to date information.

Questions	Answers
What is the relationship between Land Registry and Survey Dept in issuing a Title of Land?	Permits for land are prepared through Municipalities; there is no cadastre in the majority of Portugal. In future the record will hold the geometry of the parcel instead of the property/ parcel description.