



## TOWARDS INNOVATIVE GEOSPATIAL TOOLS FOR FIT-FOR-PURPOSE LAND RIGHTS MAPPING

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme, under Grant Agreement No 687828



Horizon 2020  
European Union funding  
for Research & Innovation

ITS 4 LAND

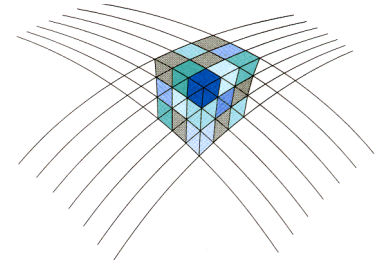
**NCG**

Netherlands Center for Geodesy and Geo-informatics

November 02, 2017, Delft, The Netherlands

Dr. Mila Koeva

University of Twente (NL)



# The Land Tool Evolution



Only 30% of the world's population has access to formal land administration systems to register and protect their land rights.

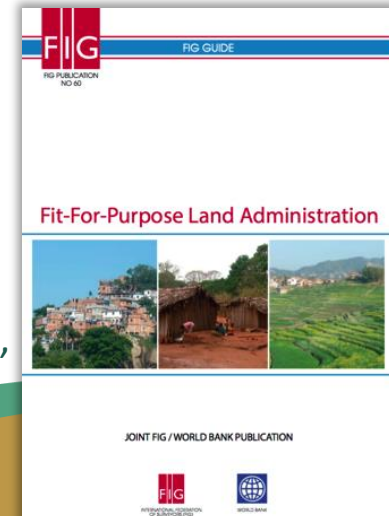
Mapping cadastral boundaries using traditional, field based methods often proves to be time, cost and labour intensive.



# The Land Tool Evolution

Recently there are many evidences that show that the existing ICT-based approaches for land tenure recording – do not deliver what is expected.

- **1<sup>st</sup> Generation – Conventional**
  - precise, expensive, complex procedures,
  - requiring specialists, imported, government driven (mostly)
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Generation – Pro-Poor / Fit-for-Purpose**
  - cheaper, less accurate, simpler, barefoot, para-surveyors, bottom-up, manual, participation, grass roots, diversity, scalable...?
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Generation – Socio-Technical Fusion**
  - high tech, human touch, partnerships, innovation/market focused, end-user driven, automation, artificial intelligence, robotics





# UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.

**Program:** H2020-ICT-2015  
**Type of Action:** Research and Innovation (RIA)  
**Topic:** International partnership building in low and middle income countries  
**Acronym:** its4land  
**Number:** 687828  
**Duration:** 48 months  
**Start Date:** 2016-02-01  
**Consortium:** 8 partners  
**Budget:** 3.9 M EUR



## TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF KENYA



# Its4land- Aim



We're creating seven new tools to make  
land rights mapping  
faster, cheaper, easier, and more responsible

# Case locations



**RWANDA** - developing approaches that can support updating, at scale, land rights documents and maps

**KENYA** - adapting tools to enable mapping of pastoralist land rights and layered disputes

**ETHIOPIA** - developing approaches that improve plot recordation of urban smallholder and dwellers (peri-urban and rural landscapes)



# Work package - Get Needs

## Phase1

To understand and identify the needs of stakeholders in the land sector and how its4land might meet these needs

### 1. Contextualize



• Complete multi-stakeholder assessment



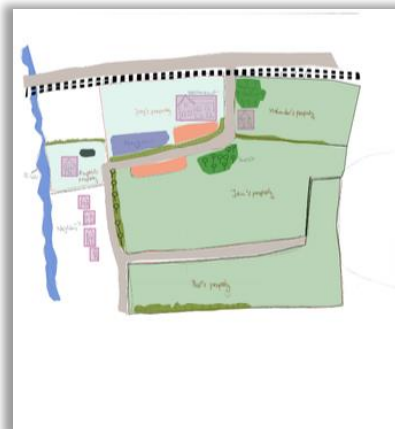
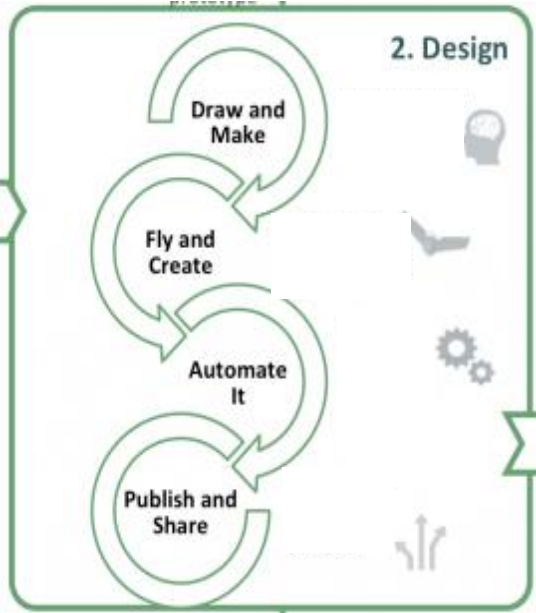
# Work package - Draw and Make

## Phase 2

Implementation of a sketch based geospatial data recording to capture land tenure data from local perspective.

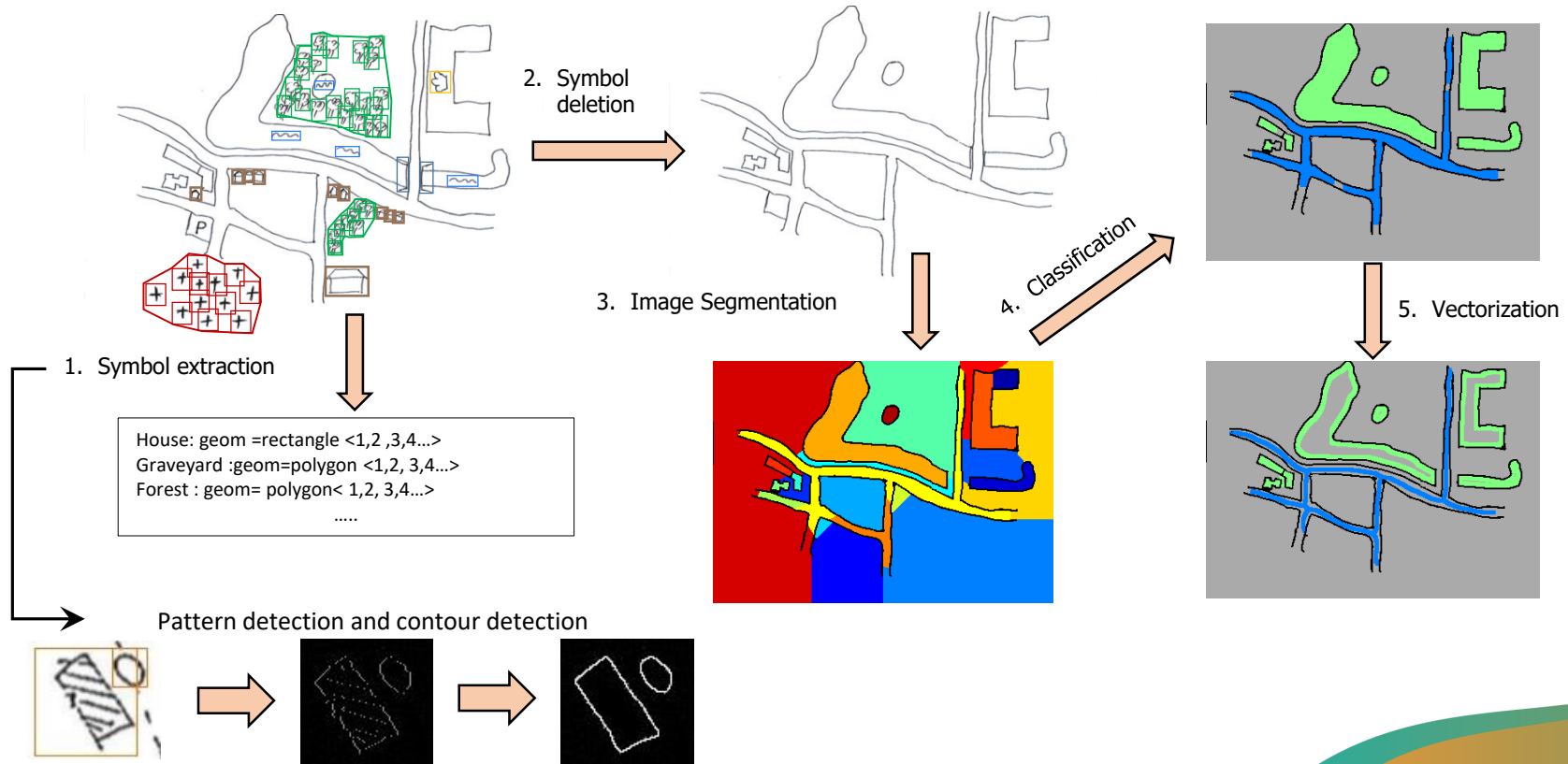
Main components are developing:

- Domain models for representing sketch maps
- Spatial models for representing sketch maps
- Methods for their recognition and embedding within existing datasets





# Task Overview: Object recognition

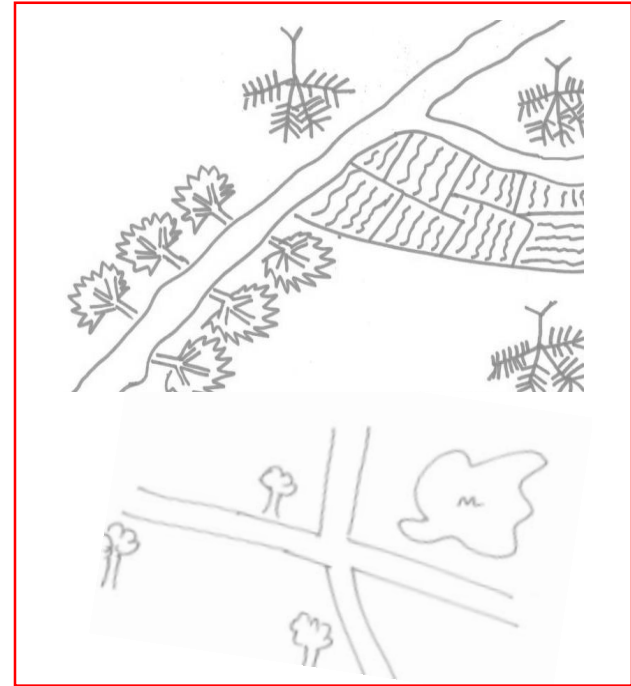


# Challenge is in ensuring that all allowed symbols are recognized by the program with high probability



Symbol catalog of positive samples

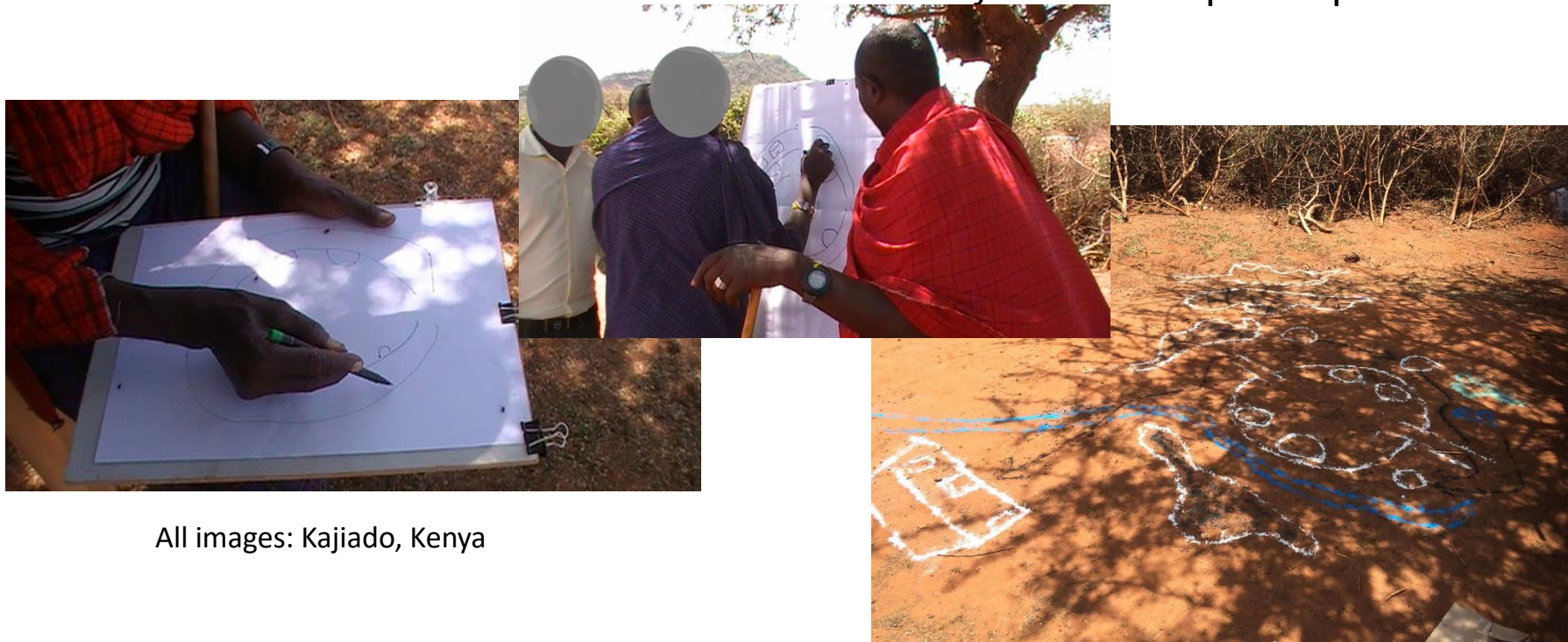
*Developing small software tools to make preparation of sample data semi-automatic.*



Training also requires negatives samples

# Supporting Activities

1. Field data collection with TUK and BDU in Kenya and Ethiopia resp.



All images: Kajiado, Kenya

# Supporting Activities

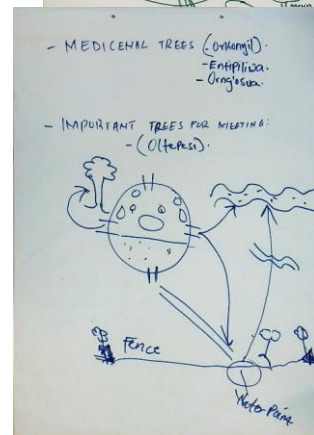
## 2. Field data collection with TUK and BDU in Kenya and Ethiopia resp.



All images: Kajiado, Kenya

Data covering large geographic areas should be collected at multiple scales

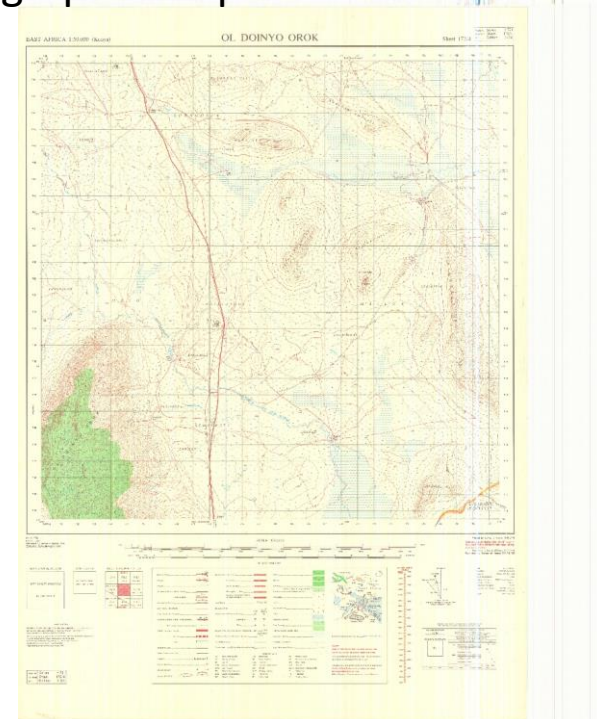
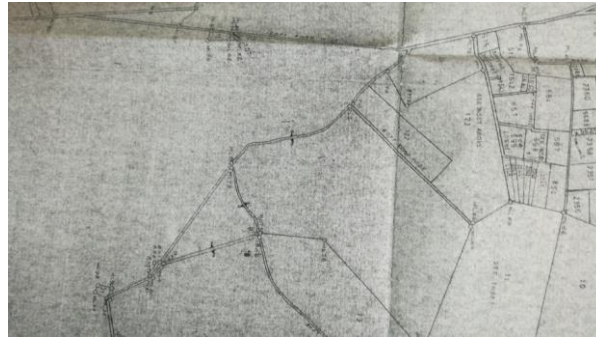
1. Large scale maps around areas of interest (highly informative regions);
2. Small scale to cover larger regions;
3. Maps can then be joined by providing cross references.



# Supporting Activities

Topographic maps

Cadastral maps



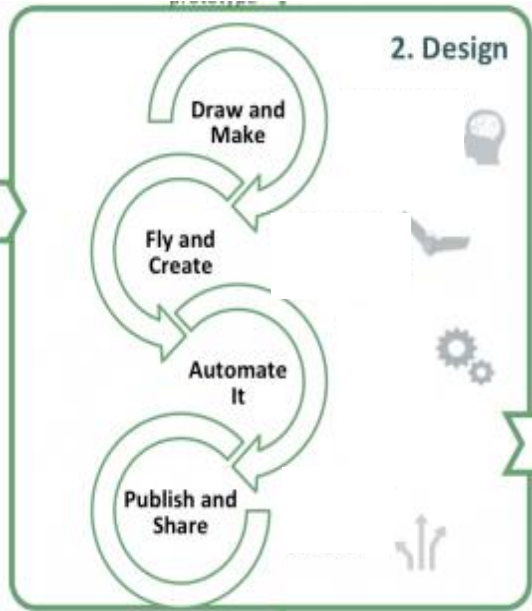
3. Base data format specification

Aerial imagery



# Work package - Fly and Create

## Phase 2



To design, test and validate a UAV driven land administration workflow

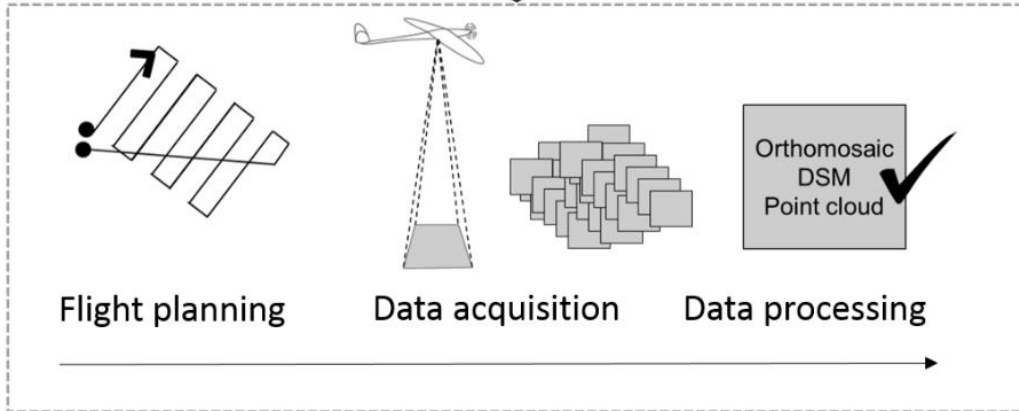
UAV selection  
(same or not/price/purpose)

- Regulations
- UAV registration
- Pilot certification
- Pilot training
- No clear rules for license certification



# Work package - Fly and Create

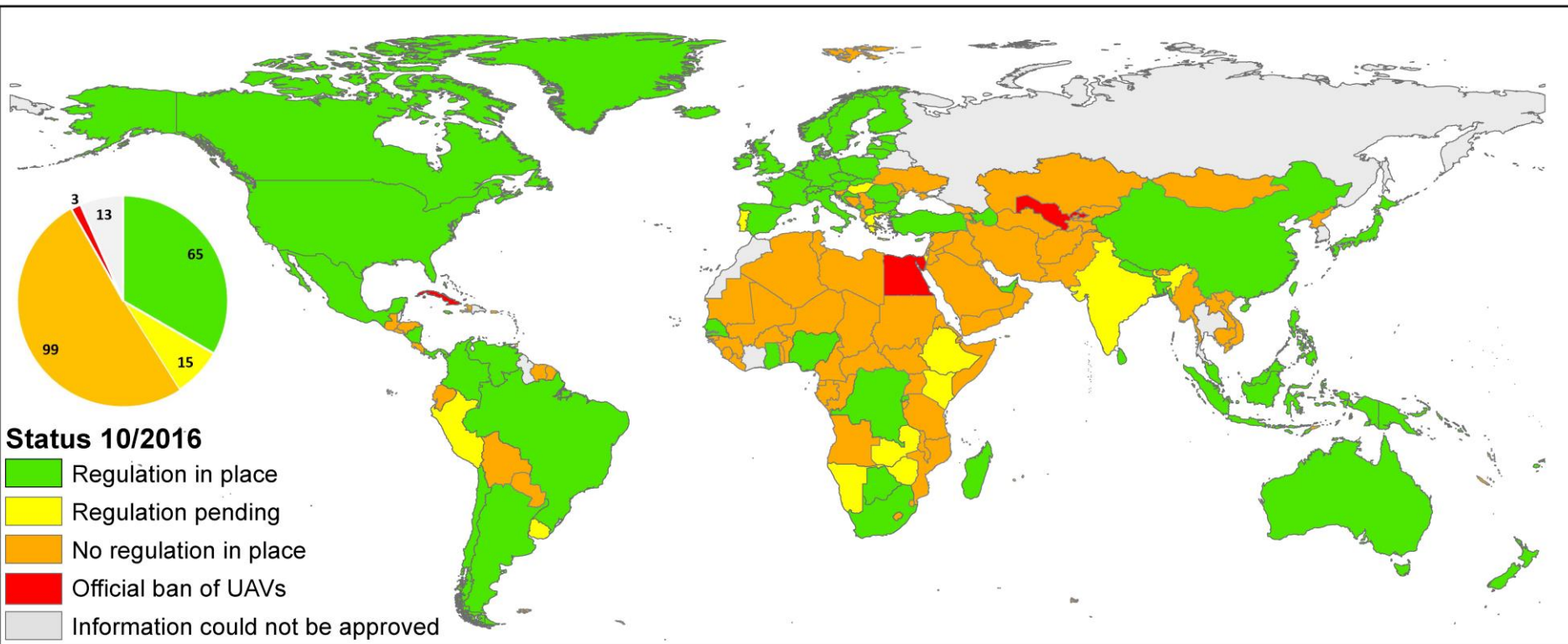
## Requirements



## UAV workflow

Stöcker, C.; Bennett, R.; Nex, F.; Gerke, M.; Zevenbergen, J.: Review of the current state of UAV regulations. In: Remote Sensing. 2017, 9, 459;

# Progress: Synthesis on the current state of UAV regulations

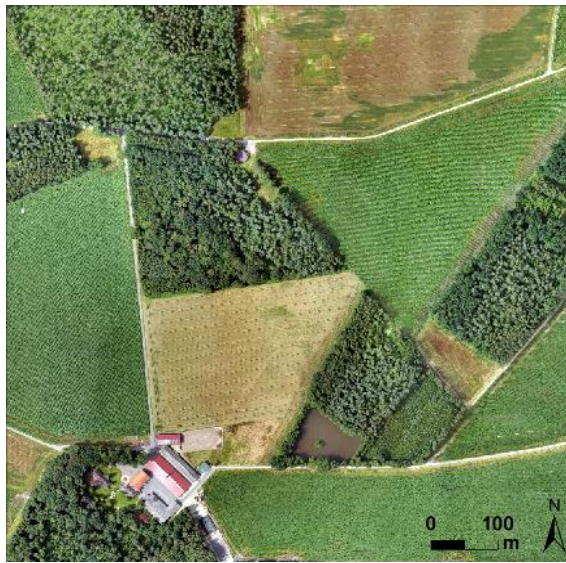
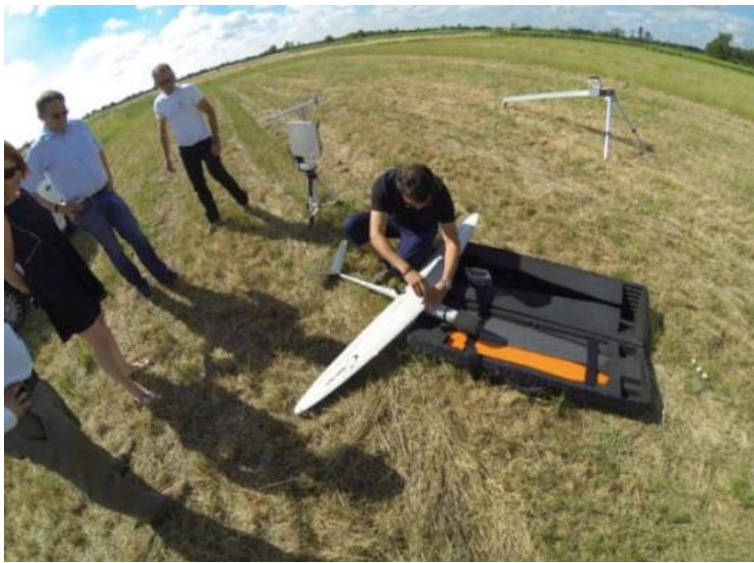




# Progress

- Selection of a suitable UAV
- Purchase, shipping and import UAVs
- Pilot training for 8 trainees (UT, HL, BDU, TUK, INES, ESRI)
- Fixed wing UAV, 60 min of endurance
- Payload:
  - Industrial grade RGB camera
  - IMU/GNSS Applanix APX-15

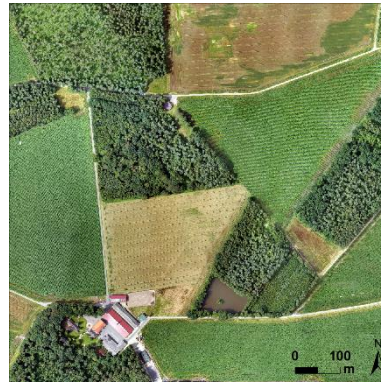
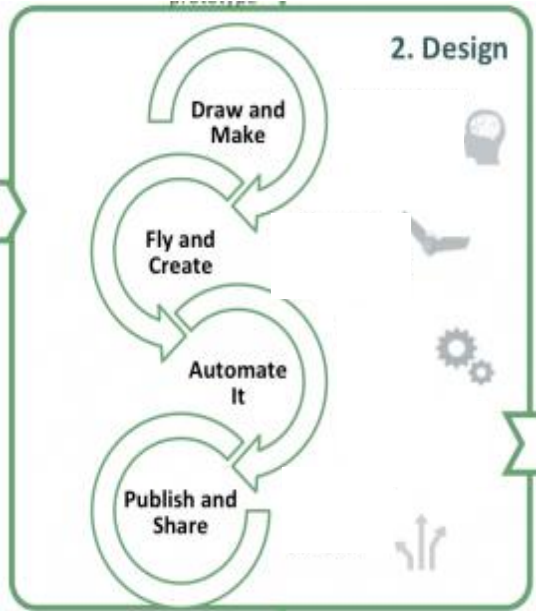




# Work package - Automate it

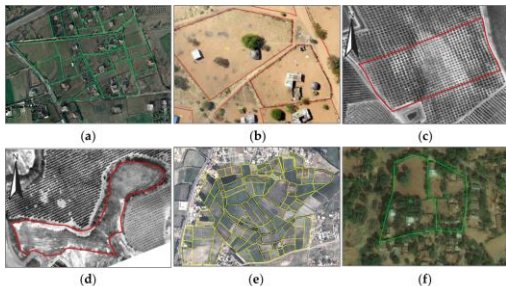
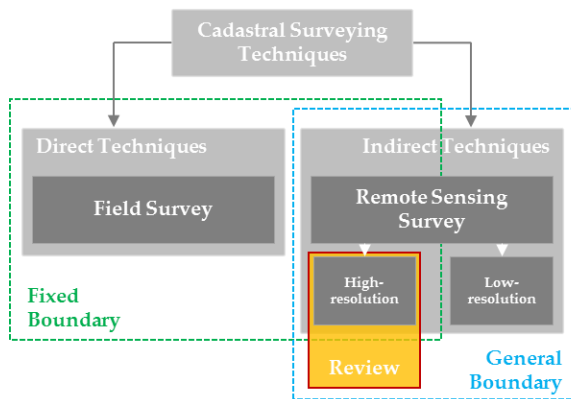
## Phase 2

To design and implement a tool that enable automated delineation of visible cadastral boundaries from UAV data.



gPb-ucm - 1000 pixels - 1m  
GSD - 1 tile - bdry 2

# To review background information



## remote sensing



Review

## Review of Automatic Feature Extraction from High-Resolution Optical Sensor Data for UAV-Based Cadastral Mapping

Sophie Crommelinck \*, Rohan Bennett, Markus Gerke, Francesco Nex, Michael Ying Yang and George Vosselman

Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC), University of Twente, Enschede 7500 AE, The Netherlands; r.m.bennett@utwente.nl (R.B.); m.gerke@utwente.nl (M.G.); f.nex@utwente.nl (F.N.); michael.yang@utwente.nl (M.Y.Y.); george.vosselman@utwente.nl (G.V.)

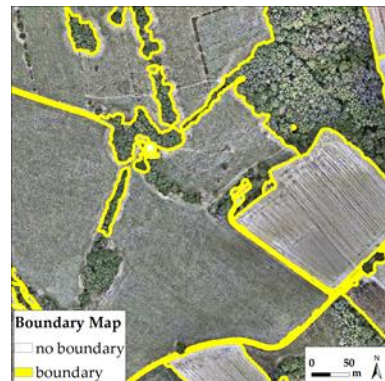
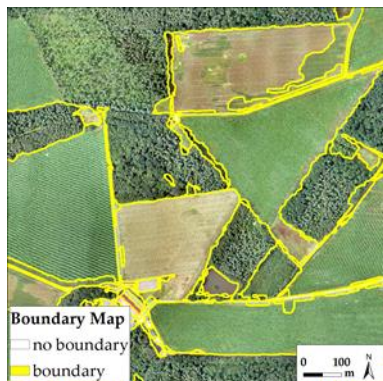
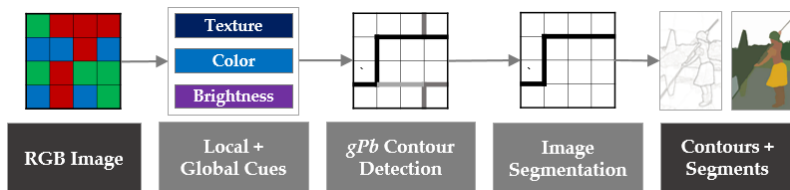
\* Correspondence: s.crommelinck@utwente.nl; Tel.: +31-53-489-5524

Academic Editors: Farid Melgani, Gonzalo Pajares Martinsanz, Richard Müller and Prasad S. Thenkabail  
Received: 30 June 2016; Accepted: 11 August 2016; Published: 22 August 2016

**Abstract:** Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) have emerged as a rapid, low-cost and flexible acquisition system that appears feasible for application in cadastral mapping: high-resolution imagery, acquired using UAVs, enables a new approach for defining property boundaries. However, UAV-derived data are arguably not exploited to its full potential: based on UAV data, cadastral boundaries are visually detected and manually digitized. A workflow that automatically extracts

# To automate Feature Extraction for UAV-based Cadastral Mapping

## Globalized Probability of Boundary (*gPb*) Contour Detection



remote sensing



Article

## Contour Detection for UAV-Based Cadastral Mapping

Sophie Crommelinck <sup>1,\*</sup>, Rohan Bennett <sup>1</sup>, Markus Gerke <sup>2</sup>, Michael Ying Yang <sup>1</sup> and George Vosselman <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC), University of Twente, NL-7500AE Enschede, The Netherlands; r.m.bennett@utwente.nl (R.B.); michael.yang@utwente.nl (M.Y.Y.); george.vosselman@utwente.nl (G.V.)

<sup>2</sup> Institute of Geodesy und Photogrammetry, Technical University of Brunswick, D-38106 Braunschweig, Germany; m.gerke@tu-bs.de

\* Correspondence: s.crommelinck@utwente.nl; Tel.: +31-53-489-5524

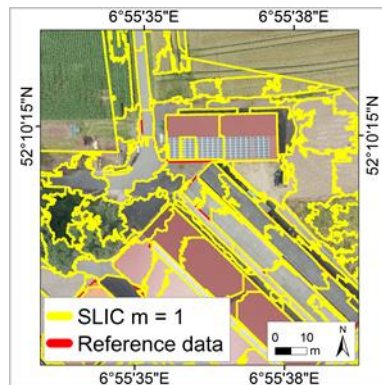
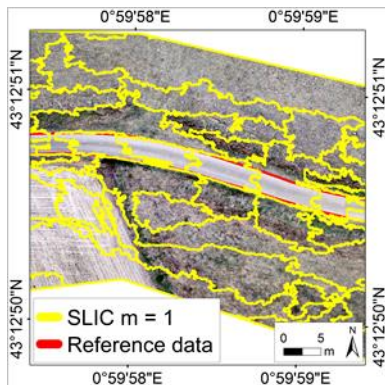
Academic Editors: Farid Melgani, Francesco Nex, Richard Gloaguen and Prasad S. Thenkabail  
Received: 2 December 2016; Accepted: 15 February 2017; Published: 18 February 2017

**Abstract:** Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) provide a flexible and low-cost solution for the acquisition of high-resolution data. The potential of high-resolution UAV imagery to create and update cadastral maps is being increasingly investigated. Existing procedures generally involve substantial fieldwork and many manual processes. Arguably, multiple parts of UAV-based cadastral

# To automate Feature Extraction for UAV-based Cadastral Mapping

## Simple Linear Iterative Clustering (SLIC)

UAV-g 2017



### SLIC SUPERPIXELS FOR OBJECT DELINEATION FROM UAV DATA

S. Crommelinck <sup>a,\*</sup>, R. Bennett <sup>a</sup>, M. Gerke <sup>b</sup>, M. N. Koeva <sup>a</sup>, M. Y. Yang <sup>a</sup>, G. Vosselman <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC), University of Twente, NL-7500AE - (s.crommelinck, r.m.bennett, m.n.koeva, michael.yang, george.vosselman@utwente.nl)

<sup>b</sup> Institute of Geodesy and Photogrammetry, Technical University of Braunschweig, D-38106 Braunschweig - m.gerke@tu-bs.de

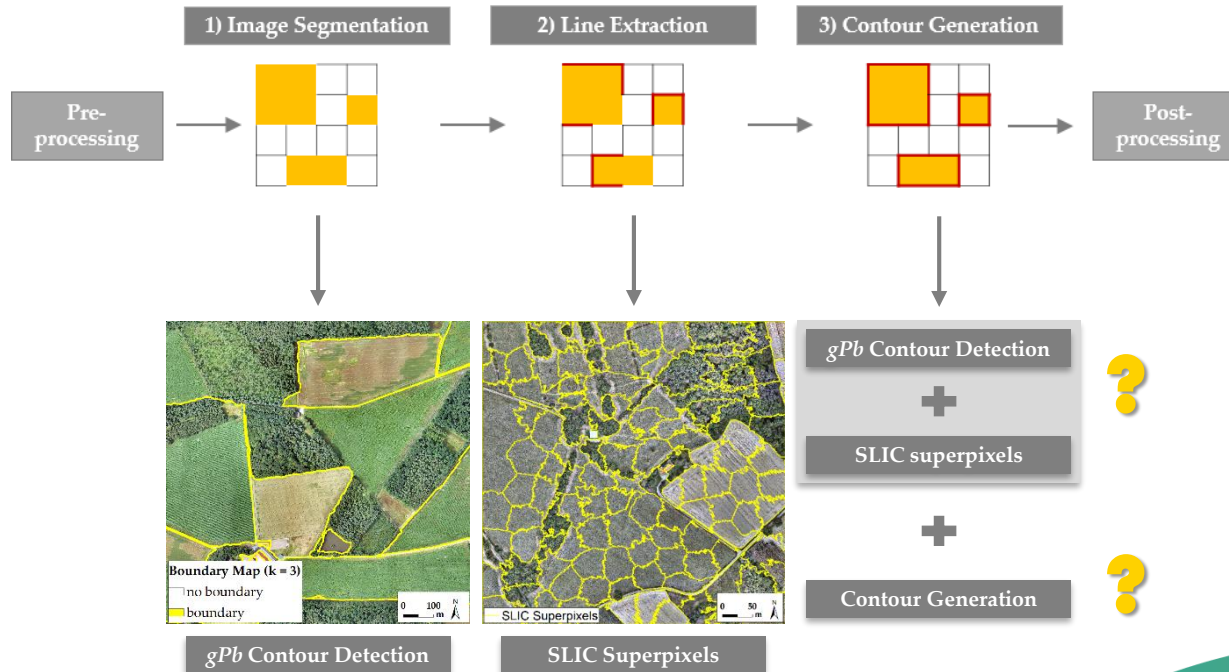
Commission # 1/G/##

**KEY WORDS:** UAV Photogrammetry, Image Segmentation, Object Detection, Contour Detection, Image Analysis, Land Administration, Cadastral Boundaries, Cadastral Mapping

#### ABSTRACT:

Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) are increasingly investigated with regard to their potential to create and update (cadastral) maps. UAVs provide a flexible and low-cost platform for high-resolution data, from which object outlines can be accurately delineated. This delineation could be automated with image analysis methods to improve existing mapping procedures that are cost, time and labor intensive and of little reproducibility. This study investigates a superpixel approach, namely simple linear iterative clustering (SLIC), which has, to the best of the authors' knowledge, never been applied to UAV data. The approach is investigated in terms of its applicability to high-resolution UAV orthoimages and in terms of its ability to delineate object outlines of roads and roofs. Results show that the approach is applicable to UAV orthoimages of 0.05 m GSD and extents of 100 million and 400 million pixels. Further, the approach delineates the objects with the high accuracy provided by the UAV orthoimages at completeness rates of up to 64%. The

# To automate Feature Extraction for UAV-based Cadastral Mapping

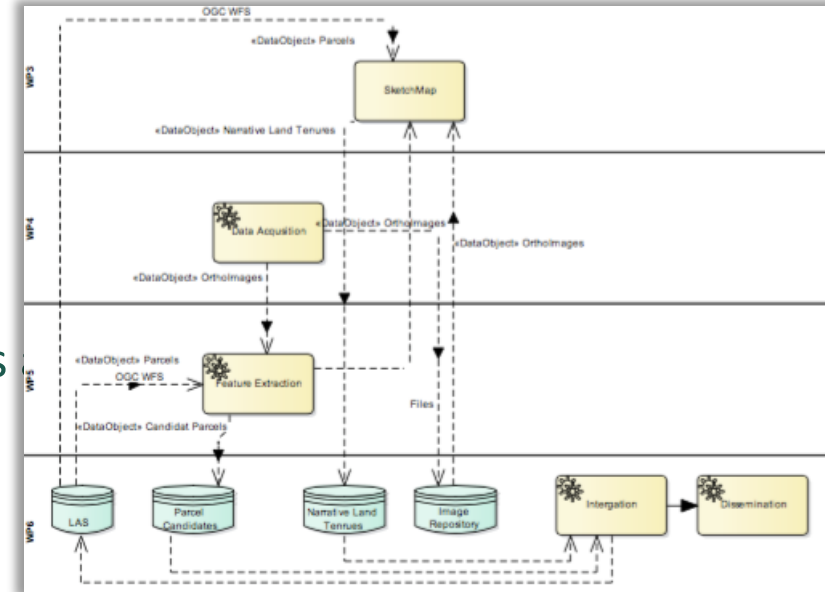
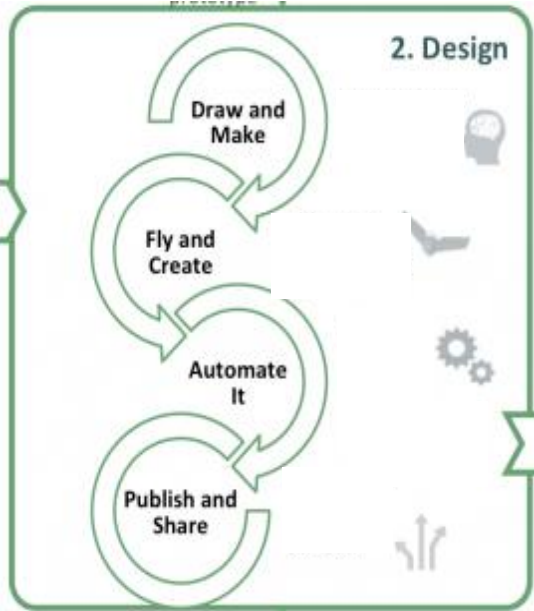


# Work package - Publish and Share

## Phase 2

To prove a concept for the integration of data, workflows, publication and sharing land tenure information obtained as result from the other technical WPs.

Integrate results into a Land administration system - LAS





# Work packages

## Govern and Grow and Capitalize

### Phase 3

To understand how these technologies can be adopted and sustained

To develop a sustainable business model for commercialization of the integrated suite of land tenure recording tools within the end-user markets.

Scaling (100 / 10 000 000 parcels)

### 3. Transform

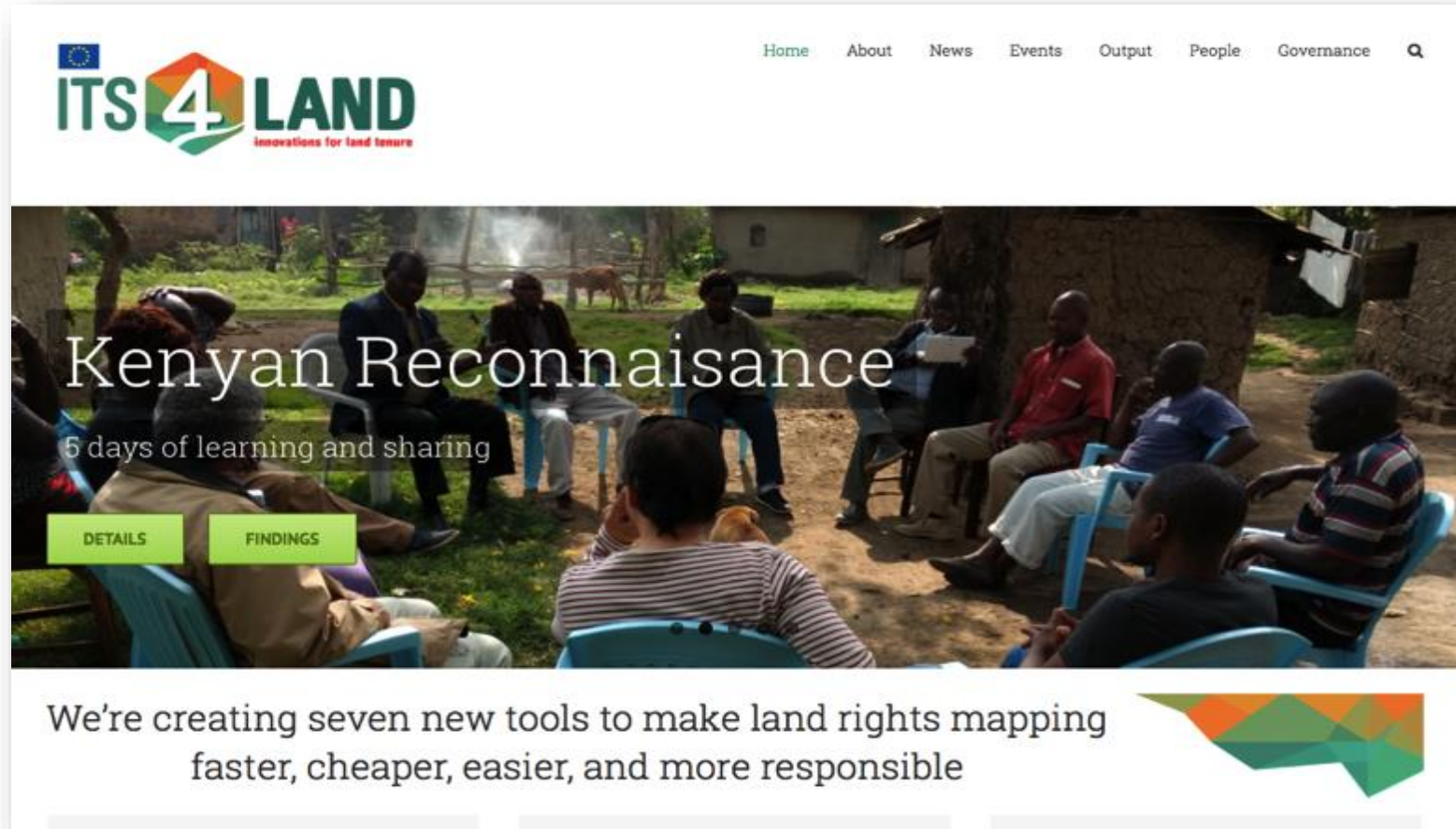


Govern  
and Grow

Capitalize



# Website



The image shows a screenshot of the ITS4 LAND website. At the top left is the logo for ITS4 LAND, which includes the European Union flag and the text "ITS4 LAND innovations for land tenure". To the right of the logo is a navigation menu with links for "Home", "About", "News", "Events", "Output", "People", and "Governance", followed by a search icon. The main content area features a large photograph of a group of people sitting in a circle outdoors in a rural setting, engaged in a community meeting. Overlaid on this image is the text "Kenyan Reconnaissance" in a large white font, with "5 days of learning and sharing" in a smaller white font below it. Two green buttons labeled "DETAILS" and "FINDINGS" are positioned at the bottom left of the image. Below the image, a white banner contains the text "We're creating seven new tools to make land rights mapping faster, cheaper, easier, and more responsible" in a dark grey font. To the right of this text is a decorative graphic consisting of several overlapping triangles in shades of green and orange.

ITS4 LAND  
innovations for land tenure

Home About News Events Output People Governance

## Kenyan Reconnaissance

5 days of learning and sharing

DETAILS FINDINGS

We're creating seven new tools to make land rights mapping faster, cheaper, easier, and more responsible



Thank you for your attention.