NIRAS

Your Global Partner in Land Tenure and Management

Land tenure and management – key for socially and environmentally just development

Land is the basis of all human activities. People are attached to land because their livelihoods, identities and histories are entwined with it. They establish social relationships to define the rules and rights in the access to, management of, and control over land and other natural resources.

Yet, the way in which land is accessed, managed, and controlled represents political, institutional, economic, environmental, social, and cultural challenges, which need to be governed to ensure equitable access as well as to procure a feeling of security to legitimate land holders.

When implementing land tenure and management projects, NIRAS uses a holistic approach based on the rights of local people, as well as the history and economic development objectives of the country concerned.

With our public, private, and civil society partners, NIRAS aims to ensure that land tenure and management contribute to reducing poverty, enhancing livelihoods, strengthening investment opportunities, guaranteeing sound environmental management, contributing to social inclusion and justice, empowering women and reducing conflict. We ensure that no one is left behind.

NIRAS supports governments in the development of cost-_ effective land administration systems, which meet specific national objectives and conform to international standards.

Some 1 in 4 people feel insecure about their tenure rights. (Prindex survey in 15 countries, 2018)

34%

Of people consider corruption with land authorities to be a very serious problem. (Transparency International Global Corruption Barometer, 2009)

70%

Amount of undocumented land in developing countries

About 41M hectares of land have been acquired for agricultural investment purposes in recent years. (Land Matrix, 2019)

Gender inequality in land rights is pervasive. Women have less secure access to and control over land than men. In many societies, women's rights to land are viewed as secondary – their rights are guaranteed through a male household member, commonly a husband or father. Women risk losing their rights in situations of marriage, migration, widowhood, polygamous union, separation, or divorce. NIRAS carefully considers such challenges in our projects. As an example, cases have appeared in Ethiopia where, despite holding land certificates, some women have seen their tenure rights contested and land taken away by relatives. In such situations, the certificates provide strong legal evidence of the women's rights but a sustainable solution to the dispute requires negotiations within the family and an overall culture change in favour of women's tenure rights.

Photo by Gladys Savolainen

Governance of tenure and sustainable land management generate multiple positive impacts

A new zero-order geodetic network for Ethiopia

A geodetic network is the invisible foundation for all ground surveying in a country. It is of importance for the land certification process as cadastral surveying and mapping must be geographically referenced to a national reference frame.

More than 50 years after American experts established the Blue Nile or Adindan Datum, REILA supported the Ethiopian Mapping Agency with international experts, vehicles and equipment and to build and precisely survey 30 monuments. These are used to establish a new geodetic datum for the country, including progress made in surveying technology and aligning it with regional and international reference frameworks.

PEOPLE AND RIGHTS

- Increased recognition, respect and safeguard of legitimate tenure rights including customary tenure rights, indigenous peoples' rights, and rights on commons;
- Equitable access to land between women and men, and between different social groups;
- Protection of legitimate tenure rights against arbitrary losses.

POLICY, LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL PROCESSES

- Coherence, coordination, and adequacy of policy, legislative and institutional frameworks;
- Transparency and accountability of decision-making processes;
- Participation and social inclusion in policy, legal, and institutional processes;
- Equality before the law.

LAND MARKET

- Improved regulation of land markets;
- Reduced speculation over land, natural resources, and housing;
- Transparent and just valuation and taxation processes.

LIVELIHOODS, FOOD SECURITY, AND ACCESS TO MARKETS

- Land, natural resources, and housing serving as safety nets in times of hardship;
- Recognised rights offering stable conditions for sufficient and safe food production;
- Incentives created for investing in market-based agriculture and valuing locally suitable crops and solutions;
- Agriculture and forestry investment opportunities created in rural areas and long-term security guaranteed.

SOCIAL PEACE

- Balanced interests over land and renegotiated tenure rules;
- Disputes mediated and resolved prior to the generation of conflict.

SUSTAINABLE LAND USE AND PLANNING

- Holistic land use and planning balancing social, environmental, and economic priorities.
- Environmental management, bio-diversity conservation, and climate change adaptation and mitigation considered in land use and planning;
- Prioritisation of forest and water resources management;
- Integration of agriculture with environmental and land use planning goals;
- Reduction of soil and environmental degradation.

HOUSING AND URBANISATION

- Conditions for decent, dignified, and rewarding lives ensured for people living in formal or informal settlements;
- Protection against forced evictions;
- Provision of access to affordable housing;
- Balanced urban expansion and industrialisation;
- Improved infrastructure, services, and transport.

SUSTAINABLE AND ACCESSIBLE LAND ADMINISTRATION

- Reduced bureaucracy, corruption, and opacity of land administration ;
- Improved business processes and financial sustainability;
- Enhanced conservation and updating of records;
- Locally adequate technologies;
- Qualified and trained professionals;
- Accessible services to all people.

Where we work

NIRAS works on land tenure and management at global, national, and local levels collaborating with multiple actors: international organisations, donors, public institutions, professional structures, the private sector, academia, non-governmental, civil society and farmers' organisations, as well as local communities. Our global network of country offices gives us a unique understanding of local contexts and political economies shaping land tenure and management.

How we work

We have adopted a holistic approach and operate in line with global frameworks and best practices on land tenure and management. Our expertise covers policy development, drafting of legislation, and review of institutional frameworks as well as the recognition, transfer, and administration of land tenure rights. We intervene in rural areas on agricultural, forest and pastoral land, in urban areas, and in contexts of land-use planning.

NIRAS's approach and competencies

NIRAS clients in the lands sector

- African Development Bank
- Asian Development Bank
- Danida
- Department for International Development (DFID) of the United Kingdom
- European Union (EU)
- GIZ
- KfW
- Millenium Challenge Corporation (MCC)
- Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland
- SIDA
- USAID
- World Bank

Our approaches prioritise sustainability, institutional development and social inclusiveness. We coordinate actions across sectors and institutions. We value dialogue with all actors and aim to build trustful relationships as these are the means for creating ownership and ensuring sustainability of actions. We rely on proven methods (e.g. fit-for-purpose) and tools (GIS) in our activities and adapt them to the requirements of local contexts, while considering innovations in social and technological terms. We pay careful attention to the rights of women, youth and vulnerable groups. We underline transparency, accountability and availability of information in any action.

As an knowledge organisation, we have extensive experience in project management from large, complex assignments in development cooperation. We have developed in-depth expertise of the entire development project cycle: from the design, implementation, technical and financial management to the monitoring and evaluation of projects. We rely on evidence-based management and reporting. Our strong track record with donors is widely recognised.

Our people

NIRAS's greatest strength is our permanent team of land expoerts and vast global network of professionals who are trained as political scientists, lawyers, anthropologists, sociologists, economists, geographers, agronomists, foresters, land use and urban planners, surveyors and computer scientists. They have worked in public administration, international organisations, development projects, non-governmental and civil society organisations, research institutes and private companies in Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe and Oceania. We draw on these transversal experiences and perspectives to develop our activities. We bring together the best global practitioners with national experts and their networks of local decision-makers.

Our project management SERVICES:

- *Setting-up, operating or supporting short- and long-term project offices and programme units,*
- *Managing staff, contracts and procurement procedures,*
- *Fund management incl. selection and administration of funds,*
- *Risk management and mitigation,*
- *Transparent financial administration and reporting,*
- *Monitoring and evaluation of programme activities and outputs,*
- *Reporting on SDG relevance of interventions,*
- *Visibility and communication of results and impact.*

Our project management TOOLS:

- *NIRAS project management tool and cross-office communication platform for exchange and recording of knowledge and lessons learned*
- *NIRAS online fund management system (SmartME) incl. user manuals in both French and English to administer challenge funds transparently and efficiently*
- *NIRAS business integrity management system with whistle-blower function to prevent misuse of funds, fraud and inappropriate behaviour*

NIRAS's services in land tenure and management

Our interventions typically involve one or several of the main building blocks:

- Developing policies, laws and institutional frameworks;
- Securing access to land;
- Registering tenure rights;
- Strengthening tenure systems and land administration;
- Raising awareness;
- Building capacity;
- Considering land tenure in relation to various development and environmental management actions.

Where it all starts: policies, laws, and institutional frameworks on land tenure

Land policies, strategies and laws play a central role in sustainable development. NIRAS has strong experience in facilitating inclusive, transparent, and well-governed policy processes. The building of common visions and objectives are prerequisites for elaborating sound institutional frameworks, relevant operational guidelines, and sustainable actions.

In Bangladesh, NIRAS facilitated the finding of solid common ground between various actors in view of elaborating a land policy that considers, for example, women's tenure rights in a consistent manner.

In Mongolia, NIRAS contributed to the preparation of a strategic plan for the registration of tenure rights in the medium-term and the revision of legislation.

At the heart of these processes are assessments that enable the establishment of the land tenure status and management as well as the definition of priority actions. We are committed to ensuring these assessments are based on a consultation of a range of actors and the most accurate available information.

In Bangladesh, NIRAS assessed the legal framework, conducted legal and institutional audits, proposed a roadmap for legislative review, and drafted legislation.

Securing access to land, recording tenure rights, and mapping parcels

In several development contexts, land tenure activities include support for the access to land for rural and urban populations and the legal recording and spatial delimitation of their tenure rights. These measures are accompanied by activities that focus on capacity building and awareness raising. NIRAS ensures that the legitimate tenure rights of women and men are recognised on an equal basis and that the legitimate tenure rights of the most vulnerable populations are respected.

In Ethiopia, in the context of the Responsible and Innovative Land Administration (REILA) project, NIRAS has developed procedures for the systematic registration of tenure rights in rural areas and demarcated some 400 000 parcels. Before any registration occurs, the project raises awareness among farmers and rural communities about their tenure rights. As part of this process, NIRAS has ensured that women's tenure rights are considered on an equal footing with those of men.

NIRAS has provided technical support for the Land Allocation for Social and Economic Development (LASED) project in Cambodia. Its main objective was to distribute land to landless and land-poor families for agricultural and housing purposes. Through the project, some 10,000 hectares were allocated to 3,100 land-recipient families who could become fully fledged legal owners of the parcels within five years. Entire new villages with necessary infrastructure (roads, schools, water wells, and healthcare facilities) were also established. Accompanying services, which have focused on agricultural extension and community development, have furthermore enabled the beneficiaries to use their newly acquired land productively. Finally, LASED introduced and tested legal, institutional, organisational, and technical methods that later enabled the roll-out of a countrywide social land distribution programme.

The registration of tenure rights and the mapping of parcels are increasingly done using participatory approaches and simple, inexpensive, and accessible solutions.

In Indonesia, in sub-activity eight of the MCA-Indonesia-funded Participatory Mapping and Planning (PMaP) project, NIRAS contributed to the spatial definition of village boundaries based on participatory surveys and methods. Attention was given to the participation of women and disadvantaged groups. The work was conducted in accordance with governmental and international guidelines. In addition to generating spatial data, the process also resolved land conflicts and noted agricultural areas and land required for natural resource management.

Photo by Akara Yoth Tat

Strengthening land administration

Land administration is about the rules and processes needed to administer the relationships between people and their land, comprising – among others – land surveying and registration, markets, information management, and taxation. NIRAS contributes to the strengthening of the mandated government authorities as well as civil society organisations by emphasising the transparency and efficiency of processes, systems, and technologies.

In Mongolia, NIRAS worked on the assessment and simplification of administrative processes, the improvement of accounting and financial processes, the development of human resource policies for land administration, the drafting of proposals for IT solutions, and the establishment of financial systems for land administration.

In Indonesia, sub-activity four of the PMaP project involved the implementation of a spatially enabled information management system that integrates land use, cover, and use licensing data. The system is managed and used by district level governments. To implement the activity, NIRAS collected, referenced, analysed and merged existing satellite images as well as thematic, topographic, infrastructure, and cadastral maps. The technical work was accompanied by the analysis of existing mapping regulations, the review of information management systems, the drafting of recommendations for best practices, the simplification of data exchange systems, and the strengthening of the capacities of responsible authorities.

Information on newly allocated, demarcated, registered, and sold land is managed, saved, and updated by land administration institutions. They oversee registers and cadastres that include information on right-holders and parcels. These can be sometimes complex IT and GIS databases (land information systems) requiring the latest technology, ownership of the mandated institutions, and clearly defined business processes.

In the context of REILA I in Ethiopia, NIRAS developed an IT strategy to harmonise land administration within the country and the national rural land information system and strategies (NRLAIS) to ensure the sustainability of all land records. It established a geodetic positioning reference network as a foundation for future mapping activities and survey work. REILA II is providing training for system users, particularly within the Ethiopian Geospatial Information Agency Institute and the Ministry of Agriculture.

In Zanzibar, in the second phase of the Sustainable Management of Land and Environment (SMOLE) project, NIRAS developed the Zanzibar Land Information System (ZALIS) with adequate land registration and cadastre functions as well as data security. The ZALIS business model embraces six functional areas: i) front office - supporting client interactions, ii) land use - supporting the update and sharing of land use data layers, iii) legal - storing and managing title registration cadastre maps and land records, iv) background - registering, managing deed registers, supporting land adjudication procedures, and preparing surveying records and sketch pans, v) operating infrastructure - providing standard system wide services, and vi) management - controlling and monitoring the system, and for providing functions for IT operations.

Making it sustainable: awareness raising, capacity development, and training

Public information, awareness raising, capacity development, and training are parallel activities to any policy, legislative and institutional process furthermore contributing to their sustainability. They ensure that all actors have the information they need to understand and contribute to the implementation of policies, laws, institutional frameworks and administrative processes.

In Ethiopia, REILA I developed public information and awareness activities adapted to the socio-cultural and economic conditions of each

Mapping and land information services

NIRAS has many years of experience in providing consulting services for the preparation of cadastral maps, the conversion of analogue maps into digital information, and the design and implementation of digital cadastres or Land Information Systems (LIS) that combine information on parcels and right holders. These digital systems facilitate the maintenance of land records in all subsequent transactions, an essential component for the long-term accuracy and usability of the captured data. Our clients have included countries in Africa, Europe and Central Asia, such as Albania, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Croatia, Ethiopia, Hungary, Ireland, Kosovo, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Tanzania and Uzbekistan.

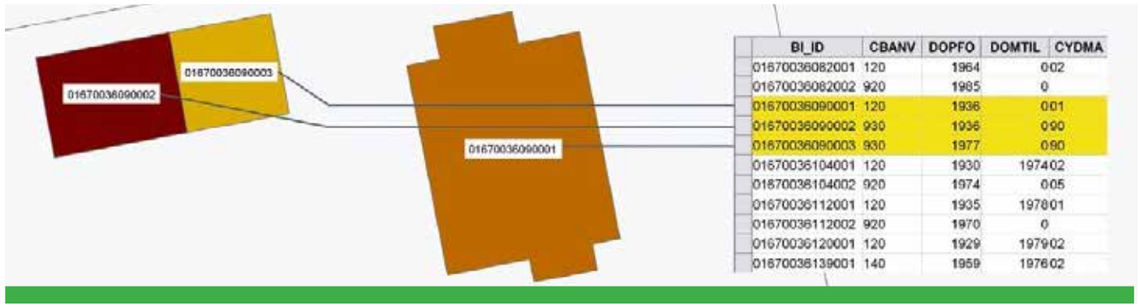

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Photo by Anni Valkonen

locality as well as the concerns of people and other specific issues. The project ensured that the activities reached all women, including those in male- and female-headed households and polygamous marriages, as well as vulnerable groups such as orphans and persons with disabilities.

REILA I also strengthened the capacities of central and regional land administration based on training-needs assessments. It ensured transparency, participation, and compliance with good governance practices in agricultural investment cases. The project also raised awareness of actors on the legal framework. It has clarified the scope of federal policies and standards that ensure, among other things, equal tenure rights for women. REILA furthermore provided on-the-job training on cadastral mapping. Finally, the project organised study tours, supported the higher education of government employees, and set-up a professional land administration training programme.

In Laos, NIRAS has developed the skills of ministries and local partners in the management of land registries, in the operation of GIS and other databases as well as in land use planning.

Adopting holistic, intersectoral approaches

Land tenure and management sits at the interface of land use planning; environmental management; climate change adaptation and mitigation; disaster risk responses; agriculture; forestry; water management; urban development; and infrastructure. The objective is to ensure that the rights of legitimate tenure right holders are recognised and respected, and that they benefit from and are integrated in development and management endeavours. In addition, synergies can be created between policies, laws, institutional frameworks, administrative approaches, and technological solutions.

In Laos, NIRAS contributed to the development of sustainable agricultural production systems and the effective management of rural land. We supported planning processes and management practices. This involved institutionalising methods for the planning, allocation, and management of forest and agricultural land using GIS.

In Morocco, NIRAS has considered land tenure questions within the development and implementation of Moroccan forest policy (PAPS-Forêts). This has involved building an intersectoral vision for the forestry sector through dialogue and convergence between multiple institutions and actors, reinforcing the capacities of forest institutions and improving the governance of the sector. NIRAS has also contributed to securing the status of state forests, conserving and developing national forest patrimony, and promoting the sustainable management of forest products together with local actors.

NIRAS in Ethiopia, a close relationship

For around 25 years, NIRAS has been involved in the development of Ethiopian land administration. First as part of the SIDA-Amhara Rural Development Programme (SARDP, 1995-2010) and more recently as part of the Responsible and Innovative Land Administration Project (REILA I and II 2011-2021), funded by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland. We are also a partner in the DFID-funded LIFT project along with DAI.

REILA aims to ensure that people in rural areas have greater land tenure security and are empowered to participate in land-use management to reduce land degradation. A key task is to harmonise and strengthen the Ethiopian land administration system by building the capacities of officials and developing an efficient system to register rural land parcels in Amhara and Benishangul-Gumuz. REILA also involves awareness raising of farmers' rights, for instance through radio programmes. Farmer awareness has been crucial to the demarcation of a significant number of parcels. During REILA I, over 400,000 parcels were demarcated. On a household level, some 80% of distributed certificates contain a woman's name.

REILA II builds on this with "second-level land certification", which involves using photomaps (based on rectified satellite or aerial images) and a participatory approach to demarcate the physical size and extent of the land.

As a part of the exercise, the project has developed a fit-for-purpose approach for land registration and contributed to the respective publications of the World Bank, the Global Land Tools Network, and the International Federation of Surveyors. The Government of Ethiopia has adopted this efficient, transparent, and equitable approach as the reference system for land registration, and it is used in other development partner projects such as those of DFID and the World Bank.

REILA also focuses on the strengthening of land administration institutions. This has involved training for government officials and professionals, creation of higher education programmes on land administration and operational manuals for professionals (such as surveyors), as well as up-grading of land administration infrastructure and IT solutions.

Photo by Gladys Savolainen

REILA is promoting a new method that uses aerial photographs and satellite images to define parcel boundaries. This application minimises the need for costly technical equipment and has resulted in excellent participation of rural smallholders and significant savings regarding the cost per parcel. The achievement has enabled DFID to finance a new Land Investment for Transformation (LIFT) programme, which is implementing systematic land registration on a massive scale to register 14 million parcels in rural Ethiopia. Building on on the method developed by REILA, LIFT promotes the use of land registration certificates to guarantee loans and rental agreements providing farmers with capital and improved financial security. In partnership with DAI, NIRAS is involved in LIFT, providing expertise and key staff.

"Register your land and have the certificate in your hand. But do not simply put the certificate in your pocket or under the bed. Use it to borrow money. Invest the money in appropriate businesses to change your families' lives."

Adamu Tilaneh received a second-level land certificate through REILA, enabling him to get credit with lower interest rates as the financial institutions have been able to check whether there are any other loans or agreements attached to the land. He used the credit to finance his cattle-fattening business.

NIRAS selected reference projects

Africa

Country	Project	Year	Client	Value (€)
Côte d'Ivoire	Institutional support for the rural land department - sector-based reform contract *	2017–2021	EC	3.5M
Côte d'Ivoire	Technical assistance to the monitoring and analysis of the implementation of improved governance in the application of the law on rural land *	2016–2018	EC	1M
Ethiopia	Responsible and Innovative Land Administration in Ethiopia - REILA I	2011–2017	MFA Finland	12M
Ethiopia	Responsible and Innovative Land Administration in Ethiopia - REILA II	2017–2021	MFA Finland	7M
Ethiopia	Land Investment for Transformation (LIFT) *	2013–2019	DFID	69.4M
Ethiopia	Consulting services for the establishment of a harmonised land administration system *	2009–2010	WB	0.2M
Ethiopia	Sida-Amhara Rural Development Programme (SARDP) *	1995–2010	SIDA	91M
Kenya	Technical assistance to Ministry of Lands to support the land reform transformation unit and strategic land information management system *	2009–2011	SIDA	0.4M
Kenya	Miti Mingi, Maisha Bora support to the reform of the forest sector in Kenya	2009–2017		7.1M
Morocco	Programme of technical assistance of the European Union to support the forest policy in Morocco	2014–2018	EU	3.7M
South Sudan	Support to land governance in South Sudan in the scope of the voluntary guidelines (2015-2016)	2015–2016	EU	1.8M
Tanzania	Merged Urban Development and Environmental Management (UDEM) / Tanzania strategic cities project	2011–2014	DANIDA	0.5M
Tanzania	Land Management Programme (LAMP) *	2001–2010	SIDA	40M
Zanzibar	Sustainable Management of Land and Environment (SMOLE I and II)	2005–2015	MFA Finland	13.3M
* NIRAS as partner in consortium				

Latin America

Country	Project	Year	Client	Value (€)
Nicaragua	Cadastre updating and verification of property rights in the urban centres	2006–2010	Nicaragua Ministry of Finance	2.2M

Our work in Bangladesh

The majority of the rural poor in Bangladesh are landless. The lack of land ownership and inequalities in access to land pose clear obstacles for inclusive development, poverty alleviation, lasting peace, human rights, and good governance. Funded by the EU, the main objective of the Promote Access to Land in Bangladesh project was to support the government in promoting new land policies and reforms and strengthening access to land and property rights for all Bangladeshis. The project helped build a land ownership registration system at the policy, legislative, and institutional levels and established an authoritative land record at the Upazila or sub-district levels. In addition, studies were conducted on the rights to land of vulnerable segments of the society, including women and indigenous people. These studies focused on lessons learned in neighbouring countries and practical barriers in Bangladesh, such as weaknesses in policies and laws as well as ground-level hindrances stemming from existing cultural, traditional and institutional practices – including the protection and recognition of indigenous peoples' right to their ancestral lands.

Asia-Pacific and the Middle East

Country	Project	Year	Client	Value (€)
Bangla-desh	Promoting access to land in Bangladesh	2012–2017	EC	5.8M
Cambodia	Land Allocation for Social and Economic Development (LASED)* part of the mult-donor Land Administration, Management and Distribution Programme (LAMDP)	2007–2011	GIZ	1M
Indonesia	Participatory Mapping and Planning (PMaP 4)	2016–2017	MCA	5.4M
Indonesia	Participatory Mapping and Planning (PMaP 8)	2017–2018	MCA	4.2M
Laos PDR	Village Forest Management Project (VFMP)	2019–2026	KfW	1.7M
Laos PDR	Agro-Biodiversity Initiative (TABI) - 3 phases	2009–2020	SDC	16M
Laos PDR	Land Management and Rural Economic Development – Component Socio-economic development planning (LM-RED)	2012–2015	GIZ	1.4M
Mongolia	Urban property rights project	2009–2011	MCA	1.3M
Vietnam	Strengthening environmental management and land administration (SEMLA)	2004–2009	SIDA	6.7M
* NIRAS as partner in consortium				

Our work in Kosovo

The Implementation and Enforcement of Rural Spatial Planning (IruSP) project aimed to protect agricultural land and legalise non-permitted buildings with an objective to lay a sound basis for formal land use planning in Kosovo. NIRAS developed an IT system to map and process all non-permitted constructions. The process involved overlapping aerial photos with cadastre information and marking a point in the screen when non-permitted buildings appeared. Within six months, more than half a million non-permitted buildings were mapped. An online public map was developed and presented to citizens who could apply for the legalisation of the buildings. Finally, the applications were processed including public display and appeal periods.

Europe

Country	Project	Year	Client	Value (€)
Hungary	Quality assurance of the IT development and operation of the Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS) software and GIS subsystem handling Land Parcel Identification System (LPIS)	2008–2011	Agriculture and Regional development Agency	1.4M
Kosovo	Implementation and Enforcement of Rural Spatial Planning (IruSP)	2014–2016	EU	1.5M
Kosovo	Cadastre reconstruction and development of land administration	2006–2009	Kosovo Cadastral Agency	0.7M
Macedonia	Preparation of digital cadastral maps for 59 cadastral municipalities (2007-2009)	2007–2009	State Authority of Geodetic Work	0.3M
Moldova	Establishment of cadastral system	2006–2010	SIDA	1.5M
Serbia	Quality control and support to Republic Geodetic Authority	2014–2015	EU	0.6M
Ukraine	Rural Land Titling and Cadastre Development Project	2005–2011	State Committee of Ukraine for Land Resources	2.5M

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For a complete list of NIRAS country offices, visit our website: www.niras.com/locations

NIRAS offices around the world

Our decentralised structure ensures that we are always close to our projects. With 51 offices in 27 countries worldwide, we maintain strong local ties to clients, experts, and organisations in all of our key markets. Building on our motto "we listen, we learn, we deliver", NIRAS is proud to be a long-term partner in the pursuit of growth and prosperity for the countries in which we work. Our representations are staffed by professionals committed to building partnerships with local service providers, and we train and recruit local talent beyond the lifespan of individual projects. NIRAS sees this as a contribution to building sustainable and equitable future societies wherever we work. Contact our representatives to see how we can support your needs.

The next generation consultancy

Owned by a foundation and a percentage of its employees, NIRAS is an international multi-disciplinary consultancy firm with Nordic roots and values creating sustainable development solutions for a better, more equal, and stable world. We have close to 2,400 employees worldwide and implement projects in over 100 countries. We work across a broad spectrum of areas including construction, energy, water, climate change resilience, and infrastructure to rural development, the process industry, economic development, geodata, as well as urban planning. Our mission is to deliver tailored, innovative, value-creating, and results-driven solutions to enable our clients and partners achieve their goals. We do this by providing transformative support for positive change, addressing root causes, and magnifying impact through flexibility in implementation, capturing SDG-linked results, and celebrating successes.

Ethics and Sustainability

Through the more than 7,000 projects NIRAS implements around the globe, we are doing our part to contribute to sustainable societies by meeting the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). All NIRAS results are linked to their contributions to one or several of the SDGs. In our own practice, we emphasise accountability and ethics. NIRAS is a signatory to the UN Global Compact and member of the International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC). Through these, we have committed to uphold a number of international principles.

International Consulting

A key business unit, NIRAS International Consulting collaborates with development organisations, donors, governments, institutional investors, and the private sector to design, manage, and evaluate projects and services that create opportunities for people to improve their lives and live in safe, equal, well-governed, and climate-resilient societies. We do this in partnership with our country offices and our extensive network of experts to ensure a comprehensive, results-driven approach that is both contextually sensitive and produces innovative outcomes for maximum value. We pride ourselves on efficient and effective results-based management.

Join our team of development practitioners in our goal to alleviate global poverty. Register your CV on our database: https://cv.niras.com

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June 2019