











First Arab Land Conference

Announcement

The Government of the United Arab Emirates in partnership with the World Bank, the Global Land Tool Network, UN-Habitat, the Arab League and the Arab Union of Surveyors is pleased to announce the first Arab Land Conference that will be hosted by the Dubai Land Department and held in Dubai, UAE, between 26-28 /February/2018.

The objective of the conference is to exchange knowledge, promote regional cooperation and develop capacities and innovation in land governance and real estate reforms to promote the social and economic development in the Arab region.

The conference will be held under the patronage of Dubai Government and the Arab League. It is expected the conference will be attended by Ministers, high level government officials, professionals, academia, private sector, donor agencies and civil society representatives.

Key Topics and presentations of the conference are focused towards Arab region are:

- 1. Access to land for sustainable business and investment
- 2. Interlink between housing policy and land management
- 3. Education, research and capacity development on land policy, management, and administration
- 4. Protection of land and property rights of displaced people and refugees to facilitate reconstruction
- 5. Women, land and property rights
- 6. New technologies to support land and real estate registration systems, property valuation and taxation policies













Background: The Arab region is undergoing a decade of profound change, where noticeable progress in some countries is clouded by difficulties in others. Individual Arab countries have distinctive needs, priorities, problems and economic, political, and social contexts. While there are apparent national differences, regional commonalities and trends can be observed. There is an increasing realisation that the way land is regulated, used and managed is a key element of sustainable social and economic development and realization of human rights and the aspiration of the citizens of the region, making it a key cornerstone for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The Arab Land Conference will be a platform to discuss country experiences, latest research, interventions, and innovations in the land sector.

The three day programme of the conference will include a high level opening ceremony, ministerial sessions, technical round tables, presentation of papers, and master classes. Events will be organized on the side of the main conference.

Participants from governments, private sector, academia, civil society, development and humanitarian organisation are invited to attend by registering on the conference website http://arablandconference.com. A registration fee of US\$100 (US\$50 for students) applies for early registrations (until 30th of November 2017); late registration will be \$200 (US\$100 for students).

Attendance and sponsorship: Participants are expected to self-fund their attendance or to contact their counterparts to request sponsorship. Limited sponsorship is available for participants whose conference papers or presentations are selected to be presented in the conference sessions. A logistic note will be issued by the organisers to facilitate such arrangements.

Submission of papers (optional) and/ or presentations (mandatory): Experts and practitioners can submit papers or presentations relevant to the six topics of the conference. The language of the submissions should be Arabic or English only and the <u>deadline for submissions is 30 November 2017</u>. Papers / presentations will be reviewed by a scientific committee composed by representatives of the organizing agencies. Only selected papers / presentations will be presented at the conference. Detailed guidance on how to prepare and submit papers or presentations will be found on the conference website.

Sponsorship arrangements are possible for organisations, companies and institutions willing to support the conference and secure visibility at the conference and a space for exhibiting products and publications at a dedicated booth. More information on sponsorship arrangements will be shared later.