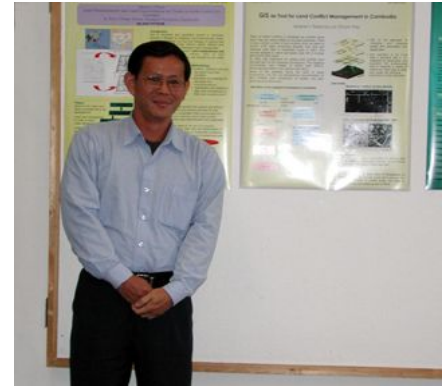


Lor Chunn Pau, Cambodia



GIS as Tool for Land Conflict Management in Cambodia

Since 1970, Cambodia has been experiencing many changes of its regimes. In 1979, all land registration documents were lost. At that time all land belonged to the state. During 1980s, the state distributed land to the people. In 1990s, land markets were not yet sufficiently developed and, as an institution, did not work efficiently. Illegal land transfers were the rule. They undermined legal security and led to many land conflicts which were mainly settled by the local authorities. Others have been taken to courts. In 2002, new institutions such as the Cadastral Commissions were founded to settle land conflicts. The Cadastral Commissions were created at district, provincial and national level.

Some of the obstacles faced by these commissions and courts are the non-standardized documentations of land conflicts, poor visualization of location and poor archiving of all documents.

This research shows that the use of Geographical Information System (GIS) and Database Management System can help enhancing the visualization of the locations of land conflicts, managing and archiving all relevant documents as well as monitoring and analyzing land conflicts at different levels.

Key words: land disputes, land conflicts, settlement of land conflicts, land markets, illegal land transfers, boundary conflicts, GIS, Cambodia.