

# **Designing Effective Cadastral Reform – Trinidad and Tobago**

**Charisse GRIFFITH-CHARLES, Trinidad and Tobago**

**Key words:** Cadastre, cadastral reform, cadastral records, cadastral system.

## **ABSTRACT**

Many cadastral reform initiatives undertaken in various parts of the world are unsuccessful because the cadastral reform solutions proposed are those of the international institutions' and cadastral experts' experience in developed countries. Sufficient regard is not paid to the societal, institutional and technological contexts in the particular jurisdiction requiring cadastral reform.

In Trinidad and Tobago, beginning in 1992, initiatives that affected the cadastral system and land administration were begun. These initiatives included the re-flying of complete coverage aerial photography, the re-mapping of the country in digital format, the revision and introduction of land-based legislation and the re-structuring and strengthening of cadastral institutions. This paper reviews initiatives with cadastral impact proposed and implemented over the last 10 years in Trinidad and Tobago and identifies possible reasons why these solutions have not yet achieved perceptible change in the cadastral system and its ability to perform its functions. Some cadastral reform analysis mechanisms are investigated. This is expanded into a cadastral reform model. Deriving from this model, a framework for the performance of cadastral reform in Trinidad and Tobago is proposed that would positively impact on the form of the current cadastre.

## **CONTACT**

Ms. Charisse Griffith-Charles  
The Department of Surveying and Land Information  
The University of the West Indies  
St. Augustine  
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO  
Tel. + 1 868 640 2959  
Fax + 1 868 662 4414  
E-mail: charain@tstt.net.tt  
Web site: <http://www.eng.uwi.tt/depts/survey/staff/ccharles/index.html>