# OPENTITLE™

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## A PRO-POOR TENURE SYSTEM FOR MAPPING AND DOCUMENTING LAND RIGHTS

# A CRITICAL NEED

## RURAL COMMUNITIES AND INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS OFTEN LACK A FORMALIZED CADASTRAL AND LAND REGISTRATION SYSTEM

This makes it difficult for them to record and assign property rights, especially when faced with rapid population growth. The process for recording rights, including collecting individuals' biographic information as well as geographic property descriptions is often not well defined, so it can be very time consuming. And many communities either lack the technical skills to implement a program or do not have large budgets to design custom software systems. So these problems continue to go unsolved—slowing economic development. To meet the need for an easy-to-use system to conduct rapid inventory of de-facto land rights and issue documents attesting to those rights we developed OpenTitle.

### BASED ON THE SOCIAL TENURE DOMAIN MODEL

The Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM), is a subset of the Land Administration Domain Model (LADM) proposed for ISO certification by UN Habitat and the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG). It uses industry-leading technology to record private, public, customary/tradition, individual, and group rights.

OpenTitle, an affordable, desktop solution that uses this international standard data model for mapping and documenting land rights inventories, offers robust features to easily record property rights for your community—with minimal training and investment.

### SUPERIOR FUNCTIONALITY

Our OpenTitle software is tested and proven. It provides basic geographic information systems and mapping tools to digitize features on an aerial or satellite image background and link displayed spatial information on maps to document owner/occupier evidence and their rights. It also includes version control technology to track and audit changes to land records over time, while allowing you to generate registration documents from content captured during field recording, including photos, property folios and other legal documents.

### HELPING GOVERNMENTS

We are committed to helping governments and non-government agencies throughout the world streamline the use of technology for documenting and mapping peoples' land rights. Therefore, we can provide training and advisory services—including, as we did in Liberia, the training of field practitioners on the scanning and archiving of existing paper records.

*With minimal training and investment, easily record property rights for your community.*

# OPENTITLE FEATURES

**Data Collection**—easily digitize land records by making information capture simpler. Information includes cadastral surveys, maps, scanned documents or images, aerial imagery, photos, videos, and GPS boundary readings. You can also geo-reference and input coordinate information so that property information is correctly mapped.
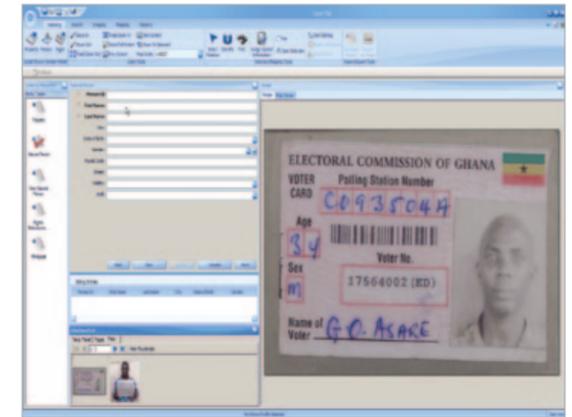
**Editing**—with a full suite of editing functions, the quality of images and documents are greatly improved with tools that include adjustment of brightness, contrast and tone, plus "despeckle" or "deskew" and standard rotation features.

**Land Mapping**—includes multi-user cadastral and background data management, with job and version management. The software provides workflows for editing clients, map services for editing and web clients, and web services for 3rd party application integration, as well as managing unique parcel identifier schemes.
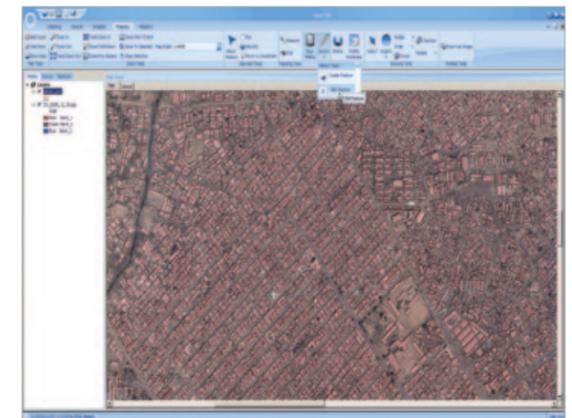
**Property Packaging**—by grouping information related to property, peoples, and rights into a single property package in the form of either a report or title you can significantly expedite the registration or certification of land.

**Reports**—reports page offers many tools to generate, view and print reports. Increase the efficiency of your organization by analyzing reports on staff productivity and time spent on processing and collecting information.
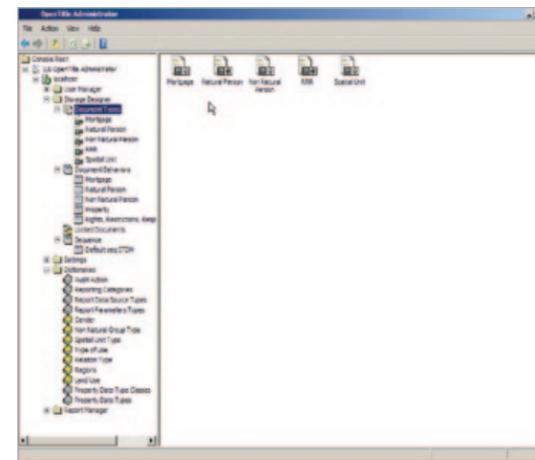
**Administration**—allows your system administrator to create and manage users, permissions, settings, dictionaries and reports. Using this feature, the system administrator can determine who can access OpenTitle and what information they may access.
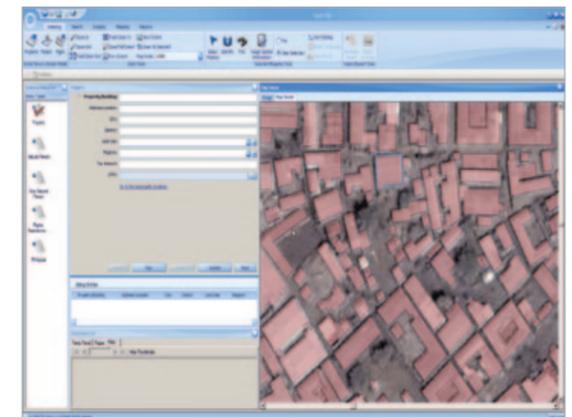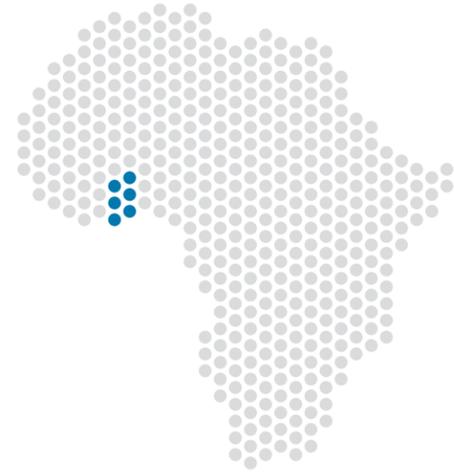
**Flexible Approach to Data Collection**

**Essential GIS Features**

**STDM Compliant**

**Robust and Secure**

# PINPOINT GEOGRAPHIC ACCURACY
## HELPS ESTABLISH A MICRO-LENDING SYSTEM

As part of an initiative to provide property rights to the poor in Ghana, and to help establish a micro-lending system we worked with the country's leading microfinance institution Sinapi Aba Trust to rapidly capture documents and store records relating to ownership rights for residents in Ashaiman, Greater Accra.

Key to success of the project was training field surveyors in the use of handheld GPS devices. We also consulted and trained field surveyors on the processes to gather and document household's evidence to land ownership rights. By using OpenTitle, evidentiary data was gathered and validated, para-legal certificates were produced, and owners' rights were linked to properties. Using their documented tenure right as evidence, individuals received micro-loans to invest in improving their properties.

*To read more about Ghana's use of OpenTitle, please visit: opentitle.thomsonreuters.com/ghana*

# LOWER COST OF OWNERSHIP
## BUILT FOR MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY

OpenTitle supports robust business features and has been designed to be highly adaptable providing you with a wider range of uniform application features and benefits than most custom-built systems—at a much more affordable cost of acquisition and ownership. OpenTitle is easier and faster to deploy, helping to reduce the time and project management cycle from installation to operation.

# GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

Thomson Reuters is the world's leading source of intelligent information for governments, businesses, and professionals. Combining industry expertise with innovative technology, we deliver critical information to leading decision makers.

GRM—our Government Revenue Management suite—simplifies the tax management lifecycle for governments around the world. Our unique combination of  technology enhanced by experience enables you to optimize revenue generation, support sustainable growth and improve services to the public.

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