The reform of land registration in the Malaysian state of Sarawak was spearheaded by Sudarsono Osman, who was appointed the Director of Land and Survey Department in 2006.

The reform empowered land registry staff to improve the efficiency of the department, and resulted in a number of modifications to streamline applications processes and improve the ability to cross check information.

By 2007, significant improvements had been made to processing times. By 2009, all 11 divisional registries were processing at least 98 per cent of land titles in a day.

According to the World Bank's Quality of Land Administration Index (which scores countries between 1 and 30), at 27.5 Malaysia is currently exceeding not only the emerging country average, but also the developed country average (22.4).

It is also exceeding the developed country average for the number of days to register a property (13 days for Malaysia, as opposed to an average of around 20 days).

Malaysia has also improved its overall competitiveness, with an average annual improvement of 2 per cent between 2011 and 2015, and increased its total spend on infrastructure by 39 per cent over the same period (from US$8.5 billion in 2011 to US$11.8 billion in 2015).

REFERENCES

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