

20 years of the LMLT Master's Program at TUM: Was it worth the trouble and effort?

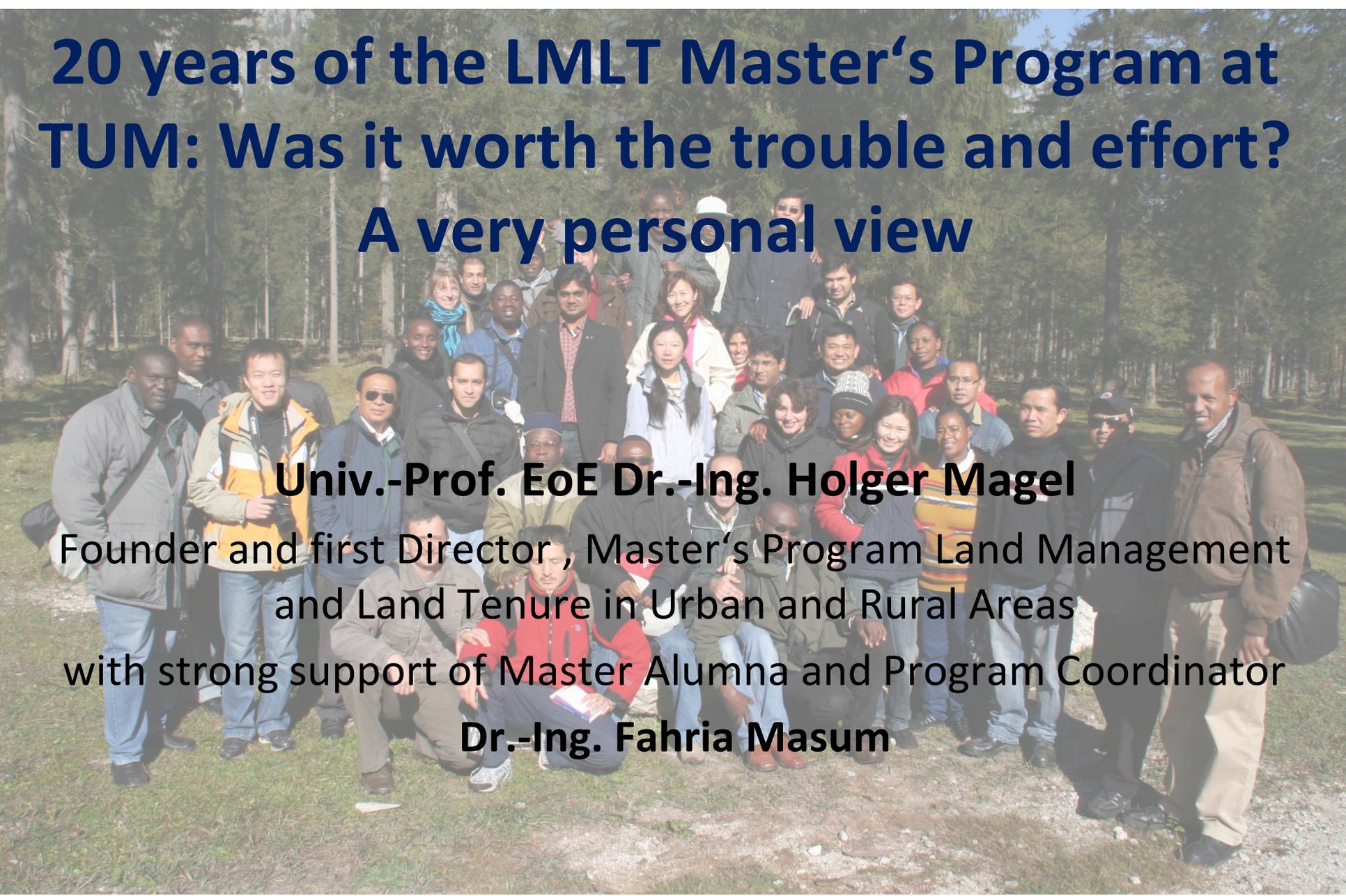
A very personal view

Univ.-Prof. EoE Dr.-Ing. Holger Magel

Founder and first Director, Master's Program Land Management and Land Tenure in Urban and Rural Areas

with strong support of Master Alumna and Program Coordinator

Dr.-Ing. Fahria Masum



LMLT: it all began in 1998

When we started the program after the **boosting visit of Willi Zimmermann, GIZ and Hans Sylvester, DAAD**, we had nothing but an idea and motivation to do something.

It was the time when

- German universities were not internationally positioned in the field of Land Policy and Land Management;
- LM and support to this field was not really regarded as scientific enough
- There was no visible pressure or even expectations by the politicians and related ministries, which could be used for fighting to build up education on land.

LMLT: it all began in 1998

We started from zero

My team (esp. Michael Klaus and Rupert Linder) and I got the confidence and energy to draft a concept for the first postgraduate international Master's Program LMLT in Germany.

It was not easy to convince my faculty, especially the dean. Only after the intervention of TU President W. Herrmann, I finally got support and could then employ the first manager of the program: **Dr. Babette Wehrmann from GIZ** , „the mother of the course“!

We had nothing but a big dream

Based on our Chair's Slogan "*For a just world*",

WE DREAMT

of becoming a German role model to transfer the knowledge of land management (and beyond) to other parts of the world

We were convinced that Germany could offer a wide range of theories, legal instruments and regulations, and successful projects in spatial planning and urban and rural adjustment and development.

We wanted to demonstrate the german appreciation of rural areas and living countryside

We followed three significant persuasions and principles

- Land Management is central part of the overarching idea of equivalent living and working conditions in urban and rural regions; that was also my message as FIG President!
- Program was designed for **young professionals** so that they can share their first-hand experience in the classroom, and upon return to their country, they can use their education immediately in guiding the work in the land field, and
- The use of a ***cluster system*** as an approach to improve the number of land experts in a country in need.

LMLT: the growth of the program's prominence (2000-2020)

Have the years changed the dream into reality?

After 20 years

- We have now over 200 alumni from more than 50 countries;
- We made *clusters of experts* in Ghana (26), Indonesia (17), China (17), Cambodia (12), Kenya (12), Mongolia (10), Ethiopia (9), Uganda (8), and Tanzania (6).
- Our many LMLT graduates are working as experts in UN organizations, national and international development organizations, ministries, and universities in the different parts of the world;

LMLT: the growth of the program's prominence (2000-2020)

Have the years changed the dream into reality ?

- Since 2009, 11 LMLT graduates completed their doctorate from the TUM Chair of Land Management (Dr. Masum was the first one!) and
- Presently, nearly 10 further LMLT graduates are doing doctoral research at the chair under the guidance of Prof. de Vries.

Four critical success factors

First, we were rather ahead of time with a pragmatic curriculum and out of the box thinking.

- ❖ Our students learned the **broader concept of LM** (exceeding land tenure and its security and 'fit-for-purpose' land administration) and its tools
 - not only in support of agriculture and sustainability but also in support of manifold territorial justice and development;
 - not only for urban development but also to ensure equivalent living conditions everywhere, in urban and rural areas;
 - not only to support the policymakers at the national level but also to work for communities at the local level.

LMLT: the growth of the program's prominence (2000-2020)

On the 6th of February 2003, I gave a public lecture in Melbourne on Land Policy and Land Management in Germany. I concluded my speech by saying,

*“The aim of my university teaching in Munich is to turn the students into **“well-grounded specialized generalists”**, who go out confidently into the small or large world”*

*... Well-grounded specialized generalists, **who can better understand the world** and draw the appropriate consequences...*

LMLT: the growth of the program's prominence (2000-2020)

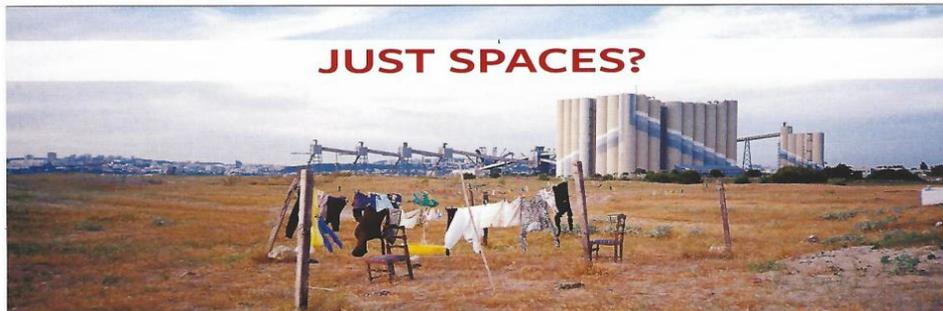
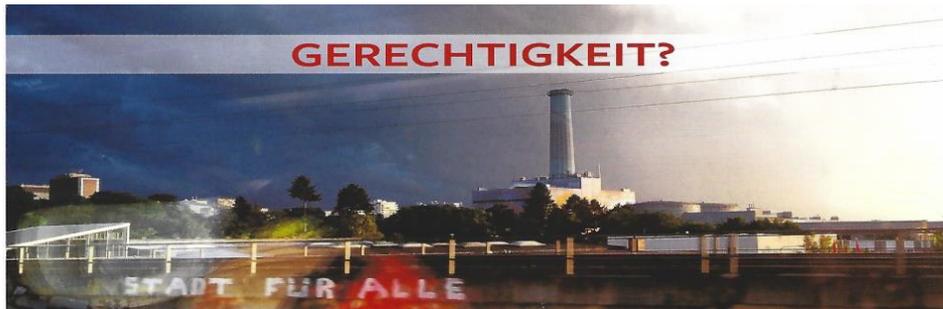
Four critical success factors

As a leading German chair in land adjustment and development of rural regions, we naturally addressed issues in lectures and research, which are now more than **ever burning societal and political issues and priorities**. For example

- Germany is discussing intensively a **just land policy in terms of urban development and social housing**. New building acts are set out.
- Federal and Bavarian governments have set up **commissions of inquiry on the equivalent living conditions** in urban and rural areas. Massive programs started **to combat rural exodus**.
- Germany is committed to **sustainable land use, soil protection, biodiversity and fighting climate change as contributions to SDGs**.

LMLT: the growth of the program's prominence (2000-2020)

Right to the city- Research on Territorial Justice in 2020 !



Four critical success factors

Second, and this is **currently a burning issue worldwide**: our students learned how to take part actively in critical discussions and reflections and convey frankly their thoughts.

*“It’s high time to remember that our first allegiance is to the human race. And the human race broke away from the animal world through thought and speech. **It is natural that these should be free.** And if they are shackled we return to our animal state.”*

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn , who has spent decades in Russian Gulags and has never given up!

LMLT: the growth of the program's prominence (2000-2020)

Four critical success factors

Third, developing partnerships and networks was our MANTRA

- We developed strong partnerships not only with academic institutions but also with government authorities, politicians, press, banks, and business entities.
- The program received support in manifold ways, e.g., arranging excursions, providing internship and funding opportunities.
Special thanks to DAAD , GIZ, HSS, BBIV and Förderkreis (Prof. T. Bauer, G.Hess and T. Schmid) and many Bavarian and German Authorities.

LMLT: the growth of the program's prominence (2000-2020)

Recruitment of Cambodian Master Students through Cooperation with the Faculty of LM at the RUA



LMLT: the growth of the program's prominence (2000-2020)

Every year BBIV arranged an excursion to Chiemsee for our master's students



LMLT: the growth of the program's prominence (2000-2020)

Head of the Bavarian Prime Ministry celebrated graduation ceremony with new masters



LMLT: the growth of the program's prominence (2000-2020)

The success factors

And **finally fourth**, passionate commitment of our management team and many lecturers

- Hard work especially of our Managers **B. Wehrmann, A. Schwiening, J. Espinoza, F. Masum, and now P. Duran and E. Chigbu** (who left the chair recently and joined NUST as a professor), some special lecturers and tutors like **Willi Zimmermann, Günther Zülsdorf, Geoffrey Payne, Ursula Caser, Michael Kirk, Soso Salukvadze, and late Karl-Friedrich Thöne,** and
- Endless commitment of **Michael Klaus** from the very beginning.

LMLT: the growth of the program's prominence (2000-2020)

“A Jewel of the Faculty “

After the extensive evaluation of the faculty's scientific work at the end of the 2000s, the international reviewers made an excellent comment:

The international postgraduate Master's Program LMLT in urban and rural areas is a jewel of the Faculty BGU!

That was the final breakthrough at TUM!

LMLT: a bright legacy and future (2021 and beyond)

The master's program in land science is a force for positive change in the world. **So, my dear successor Walter de Vries and your team, please go on with developing capacity in the International field of Land Management!**

It is an important contribution of TUM toward building a better and more just world!

LMLT: a bright legacy and future (2021 and beyond)

The future journey ?
First answers one
can find in Chapter 8
of the book „Land
Issues for Urban
Governance in Sub-
Saharan Africa” (Editor
Robert Home)

Chapter 8 Twenty Years of Building Capacity in Land Management, Land Tenure and Urban Land Governance



Walter Timo de Vries, Uchendu Eugene Chigbu, and Pamela Duran-Diaz

Abstract Being the basis of economy in most of African territory, land is subject of conflict in the increasing demand for food, fuel, dwellings and natural resources. In this continuous struggle, governance plays a major role in decision-making regarding the use of and access to land, for which capacity development is crucial among practitioners.

This chapter presents the 20-year based experience of the international master's programme in Land Management and Land Tenure from the Technical University of Munich and its transition to Land Management and Geospatial Science, together with the research model ADLAND "Advancing Collaborative Research in Responsible and Smart Land Management in and for Africa", a project designed to support academic training in selected African universities, committed in developing and sharing skills, tools, knowledge, data and resources across Africa based on the framework of Responsible Land Management.

Keywords Land Management and Land Tenure · Capacity development · Transitions · Urban governance

8.1 Introduction

Capacity development in any domain depends, on the one hand, upon the capabilities of the professionals and the organisations and institutions in which they operate

The success of LMLT: that was ours

The heart of all: our alumni

My team and I were lucky to have wonderfully talented students from many countries bridging different cultures and systems.

I am glad that I still have contact with my former students, and from time to time, I meet some of them in different parts of the world.

Often I think about the exciting positions they have headed. I am proud to see nearly everyone's impressive academic and/or professional carrier.

The success of LMLT: that was ours

GIZ South South Dialogue with TUM Alumni in Namibia 2011



The success of LMLT: that was mine, that was ours

Was it worth the trouble and effort?

The LMLT program achieved the impressive success that we
always dreamt of.

That was our common success.

Was it worth the trouble and effort that I and we all faced and
overcame?

Yes, it was!

Like Kamala Harris, we can even say:

TUM, BMZ ,we did it!