



# NUSP RESOURCE KIT

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## Part 4

## Surveys, Registration and Security of Tenure



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The first priority after creating a partnership for upgrading an informal settlement is to create a shared understanding of who lives in the settlement, the conditions in the settlement, the needs and the priorities. This requires that an investigation or survey be undertaken by the members of the partnership.

This includes making a register of all residents which is recognised by the municipality. This is reassuring to the residents and comprises the first step in giving them some kind of right to reside there – what is called security of tenure. [Improving the level of security of tenure is an important goal of the UISP.](#)

“Count me in” – describes how participatory enumerations can be used to improve understanding of the needs and priorities of the community, and how they can be applied to [improve security of tenure and urban land management.](#)

“Incrementally securing tenure” – describes the South African context and proposes ways in which secure tenure can be improved incrementally with the [upgrading of informal settlements.](#)

“Street addressing and the management of cities” – draws upon cases in large informal cities to demonstrate [how to give every dwelling a postal address and how this improves security of tenure.](#)

“Innovating with Tenure” – a video interview with Geoffrey Payne, one of the [thematic interviews in a World Bank Institute video.](#)

Comments on Tenure and Land Acquisition by the Project Preparation Trust

In designing surveys, remember that all beneficiaries of a UISP project must be registered on the National Housing Subsidy Database, and also the need for ‘baseline surveys’, which is addressed in Part 8 of the NUSP Resource Kit.

There is also an international alliance of shack dwellers who have extensive experience in community-based upgrading and in working in partnership with all levels of government. They have affiliated organisations in South Africa, and you can [read about their approach.](#)