

UFS Thought Leader Series.

The Role of Restitution in Land Reform

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How Long Will it Take

1. Initial 4 year window to lodge restitution claims closed in 1998.
2. 80000 claims lodged
3. HLP report concluded that there were still approx. 7000 unsettled and over 19000 unfinalised “old order” claims.
4. At the then rate of finalising 560 claims a year, it would take 43 years to finalise all old order claims.

Restitution of Land Rights Amendment Act, Act No. 15 of 2014

- In 2014 the Zuma administration re-opened land claims despite many thousands of 1998 claims remaining unresolved.
- 166000 new claims were lodged - more than double the number in the first round.
- In 2016 the CC declared Act to be invalid. All 1998 claims to be finalised before new claims processed .
- 24 months to introduce new legislation.
- Or new court order had to be sought in July 2018.

New Claims .Time and Money

1. The HLP report estimates that the 166000 new claims lodged since 2014 will take 143 years to settle.
2. Treasury estimates settling the new claims alone will take 200 years and R600 billion
3. If land claims process is re-opened it is estimated that 397,000 will be lodged
4. And that it will take 709 years to complete land restitution.
5. Nonetheless ANC Chairman of the Parliamentary Land Committee has expressed his hope that one million new claims will be lodged.