

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

**Deadline: 28 March 2019**

### LAND GOVERNANCE IN TRANSITION

**How to support transformations that work for people and nature?**

*4-5 July 2019 – Utrecht, the Netherlands*



The LANDac Annual International Conference offers a podium for researchers, practitioners and private sector representatives interested in land governance for equitable and sustainable development. The 2019 Conference looks at land governance through the lens of transformations: what are the long-term dynamics around land, water and food production? How is land governance itself transformed, as it seeks to respond to changing circumstances? And how is learning and knowledge building about these dynamics developing, what are promising concepts and tools? Particular questions relate to the different aspects of land governance, such as gender, food security, land tenure security, investments, conflict prevention and peace-building. In a fast-paced world of short-term projects and funding, how can we learn from past and current transitions, build sustainable partnerships and networks, and allow for seeds of innovation to bear fruit?

#### **Key note speakers**

**Prof. Pauline Peters** Sr. Research Fellow - Centre for International Development, Harvard University

**Dr. Lorenzo Cotula** Principal researcher - IIED

**Fridah Githuku** Executive Director - GROOTS Kenya

**Denis Kabiito** CEO/National coordinator - UNYFA

National Federation of Ugandan Farmers

**Dr. Eugene Chigbu** Research Scientist - TU Munich & GLTN Training and Research Cluster Lead

**Raul Socrates** National Coordinator - PAKISAMA National Confederation and Movement of Peasant Organizations

**Dr. Cecilia Tacoli** Principal researcher - IIED

## LAND GOVERNANCE IN TRANSITION

The LANDac Annual International Conference 2019 will look back at the decade since the land grab “hype” began, analysing the transformation processes that have taken place in those locations where investments have been made, and revisiting our understanding of the implications of these investment flows for food security, livelihoods and sustainable development. Land governance has transformed to meet diverse challenges, across dimensions of generations and gender, rural and urban, local and global. But what are the long-term dynamics around land, water and food? How can we improve development impact via early engagement with investments? What has been the role of advocacy and mediation efforts? Can we secure a sustainable future for both people and nature?

To answer these questions, we also need to look ahead. We need to assess new challenges in the field, such as land governance in the context of climate change and increasing, often conflicting pressures on land and natural resources. Widely diverging issues like climate displacement, resilience, migration, ecosystem restoration and green grabbing, access to food and water, and informal settlements are increasingly framed in terms of security. But such securitisation is often used to legitimise restricting land access for the poor. How do we pave the way for transformations in land governance that minimise negative inter- and externalities and that balance between stakeholder groups? How do we put our knowledge and experience to work and support transformations that benefit both people and nature?

**LANDac** – the Netherlands Academy on Land Governance for Equitable and Sustainable Development – brings together researchers, policy makers, development practitioners and business professionals in the field of land governance and development. With a focus on new pressures and competing claims on land and natural resources, the LANDac network conducts research, disseminates information, and organises courses and training, while strengthening linkages between actors who may not usually meet. Our guiding question is how to optimize the link between land governance, sustainable development, and poverty alleviation.

LANDac is a partnership led by, and based at, the International Development Studies (IDS) Group of Utrecht University. Other partners include: the African Studies Centre Leiden, Agriterro, the Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC) of the University of Twente, the Royal Tropical Institute (KIT), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Land Portal, Oxfam Novib, Royal Haskoning DHV, VNG International and Wageningen University.

[www.landgovernance.org](http://www.landgovernance.org)

This conference builds on nine years of LANDac Annual International Conferences where rural land debates were connected to the urban agenda, where we explored land governance from an SDG starting point, and where we examined its role in issues of mobility, migration and displacement. The 2019 Conference builds on these discussions to return to core questions about land governance and transformation.

### *Conference themes 2019*

Based on the received session proposals, LANDac presents five conference themes for 2019:

1. Urban land dynamics and rural-urban shifts
2. Community rights, climate risk and natural resource management
3. a) Shifts in land control and realities of dispossession  
b) Displacement and resettlement
4. Agribusiness and the potential for fair and inclusive investments
5. a) Approaches and tools in land governance  
b) Technologies in land governance

The next page presents an overview of all conference sessions, categorized according to the conference themes. Please find the session descriptions on the [Conference website](#).

## 1. Urban land dynamics and rural-urban shifts

- Spatial Injustice in Urban Land Markets in East Africa: What is the Evidence?
- Urban land debates in the global South: enclosure and recommoning
- Mobility and Land Governance in Africa: Making the Connections Work for Inclusive Development
- The Urban Land Nexus and Inclusive Urbanization in Africa
- Dutch Diamonds in the Delta: Towards inclusive and climate proof delta planning in the Global South

## 2. Community rights, climate risk and natural resource management

- Community Rights to Forest Lands: What are the key conditions for success?
- Farmer and Indigenous: Access to land and territory in South America, 21st century
- Building land and natural resources management governance at community level in Mozambique
- Transforming pastoralist landscapes: the importance of inclusive land management, policy engagement and climate risk management
- Key legal elements for communities to manage their forest, one avenue to secure a sustainable future for people and nature
- Building Land Governance Towards Effective and Inclusive Transformation - from discourse to practice in Women's Land Rights

## 3a. Shifts in land control and realities of dispossession

- Energy and land, cases of community engagement and resistance from North and South
- Accumulation by dispossession. The case of Special Economic Zones
- Increasing Farmland Concentration in Central and Eastern Europe - Causes, Challenges, Consequences
- Beyond the 'conflict-fetish' - land disputes and structural agrarian questions

## 3b. Displacement and resettlement

- Displacement, dispossession and defence strategies around land
- Everyday experiences of 'development' and 'dispossession': understanding longer-term impacts of megaprojects
- When do displacement and resettlement end? The temporalities of dislocation, socio-political engagement, and sustainable development
- Land rights; expropriation and compensation. Recent advances, insights and implementation tools

## 4. Agribusiness and the potential for fair and inclusive investments

- Pay to play: how should we finance land governance transitions, and why does it matter?
- Cooperation and Conflict in Inclusive Agribusiness: The impacts of Chain Integration on Food Security and Local Development
- Planting Conflicts: Agribusiness and Land Disputes in the Peruvian Amazon
- For better or worse: Agri-food systems transforming land governance needs and outcomes
- The roles of interdisciplinary research in sustainability transition of palm oil production
- Foreign investments versus local food security: Food production in the context of climate change

## 5a. Approaches and tools in land governance

- Multi-Stakeholders Platforms: a Transformational Arena for Scaling-Up Local Innovation: the Case of the Community Land Protection Initiative
- Actor perspectives on landscape scenarios: Linking sectors through integrated landscape governance for people and nature
- Land & The Role of the State: Increasing accountability through promoting transparency
- Policy advocacy for women's land rights: strategies and experiences
- Dynamics of Due Dilligence: Conditions for Responsible Land Based Investment

## 5b. Technologies in land governance

- Uniting global and hyper-local data for land
- Land Lost In Translation: Interactive workshop
- New Responses to New Challenges: A Land Technology Sandbox
- Geo-information management for land administration: innovation, transitions and stability

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

We now call for the submission of **abstracts**. LANDac invites you to review the collection of conference sessions and submit your abstract to your preferred session. Abstract submissions should include:

- Title
- Name(s) and affiliation(s)
- Contact details of the presenter
- Abstract of max. 300 words

Abstracts should be submitted by **28 March 2019**, in English and using the Abstract Submission Form available on the [Conference website](#). Please submit your abstract directly to the contact person of your preferred session and with [landac2019@gmail.com](mailto:landac2019@gmail.com) in cc. The session organizers and LANDac Organising Committee will review all submissions. Notification on acceptance of abstracts will be done by 15 April 2019.

LANDac welcomes innovative and original ideas; if you have suggestions for materials to present or exhibit at the conference – such as short films, interactive websites, photos, posters – please contact the organisers at [landac2019@gmail.com](mailto:landac2019@gmail.com).

## REGISTRATION

Registration for the conference is open! You can [register here](#). Registration costs are €200 (€100 for BSc and MSc students upon proof of a valid student ID). The registration fee includes catering for two days. We regret that LANDac is unable to cover participant expenses.

## SUMMER SCHOOL: Land Governance for Development

The conference happens back to back with the LANDac/Utrecht University Summer School *Land Governance for Development* which will take place 8-19 July 2019 in Utrecht. For more information, and to register, please visit the [Utrecht Summer School website](#). Summer School participants may join the conference free of cost.



*Organising committee: Christine Richter (ITC University of Twente), Gemma van der Haar (Wageningen University), Imke Greven (Oxfam Novib), Niek Thijssen (Agriterra) and Griet Steel, Guus van Westen and Marthe Derkzen (LANDac and Utrecht University).*

