The missing link? A Review of land tenure registration in Burundi.

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ZOA: Humanitarian Organization, Providing Relief to people affected by conflict or natural disasters – contributing to a perspective of Hope in which people work together for their futures – working with communities on the Recovery of their livelihoods.

17 countries.

Addressing Livelihoods, Basic Education, WASH, Disaster Response, Peacebuilding → Land Rights.
Context for the Burundi land tenure program

- People returning after decades, displaced by ethnically driven conflict.
- Conflicts between residents and returnees.
- Overall, minimal registration of tenure rights.

Land tenure pilot programs in BDI

- Overall objectives: Regularization of land rights → National land tenure Database.
- Resolving land conflicts related to refugee return.

Source: nationsonline.com
Land Tenure Registration, ZOA

Source: nationsonline.com

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Objectives:

- **Conflict resolution.**
- Land certification → **regularization of rights.**
- Increased: tenure security, social cohesion, investments in agriculture.
Land tenure registration – ZOA ctd.

- Clustered (systematic) registration approach.
- Communal Land Services set up (government body).
- Communal Recognition Committees established → Mediation of conflicts and afterwards **demarcation**.
- Set of **impact studies** conducted by International Development Law Organization (IDLO)

Source: Author
Land tenure registration – ZOA ctd.

→ Using Kobo collect and Handheld GPS Devices
→ Data fed into ArcGIS
→ Creating maps of plots, registering ownership and usage rights.

Source: Author

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Successes and lessons learned

- More than 40,000 parcels registered.
- Increased capacities of **local** government actors.
- Systematic mapping of targeted area.

Strong local partners needed → state and non-state:
  → **willing** government for service delivery.
  → capable non-government actors for community engagement (conflict resolution, sensitization etc.).
Challenges

- Secondary land rights of women have been endangered/lost during certification process. → pilot study found solutions using systematic community engagement.
- Notification of authorities on mutations.
- Addressing the need for increased capacities among state authorities on all levels.
- Setting up of national spatial data infrastructure (storage, dissemination).
- Integration of tenure registration program with agricultural development.
Central question: How to create effective feedback links between different levels and actors?

How to better tap into local agency?

How to create sustainability in cooperation with (political) partners in areas of limited statehood?

Multi-strategy engagement campaigns needed to address social and political complexities.
THANK YOU!
Bibliography


Please refer to the paper for further references.