

# *What can recent portfolio overviews tell us about donor investments in land and agricultural investment?*

Giles Henley, ODI, 29 June 2017

# Donor programming on land and investment

- **What is the current scale of donor-supported work on land and (commercial) investment?**
- **How does/can programming on land and investment fit into broader donor portfolios?**
- **What are the main approaches being used to promote beneficial outcomes for land investment?**

# Scale of donor programming with (some) focus land and commercial investment

Back-of-the-envelope estimate:

- 25 land programmes (19 ongoing) (c. USD 180 million).
- 3% of entries GDWGL Land Governance Programme Map BUT as we know lots of unknown ongoing work...



# LEGEND reviews of DFID's portfolio

## Portfolio Overviews:

Since 2015, LEGEND output that reviews DFID's own central and country-level programming on land.

Aim to review:

- What are DFID land programmes doing? (thematic areas, objectives, timeframes)
- Where and how programmes are delivering (countries and partners)?
- What opportunities and challenges have programmes faced?
- Recommendations for future programming.



## What did we find?

*Distribution of  
DFID Land  
Programmes*

*C 17 active  
programmes*

*£25 million of  
current spending*

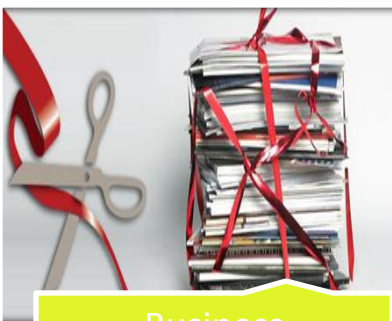
*Active in 22  
countries.*



## Findings: typology of programmes



Land reg. and adm.



Business environment



Forestry



Commercial ag. + infrastructure



Vulnerable groups



Urban land



- Photo Credits: LIFT, CIFOR, Government of Western Cape, PACS India, urbannewsdigest.in

## Types of engagement supported through DFID programmes

Improve regulatory framework around land investment (CSOs)  
(Forest programmes)

Improve government capacity to deal with land issues (int. agencies/CSOs)  
(*support on VGGTs*)

Increase transparency around investment issues (researchers, analysts platforms)

Structure partnerships between investors and communities (new coordination mechanisms)  
*Moz, Tanzania*

Provide legal and other support to communities (CSOs)  
(*GLEI*)

Improve company practices (Roundtables, CSO efforts)

## Main findings on programmes and commercial investment

- **Land registration + administration programmes** Either by design or request, land registration activities often occur in areas of high commercial ag interest. So it makes sense to ensure these programmes are well-equipped to deal with investment issues.
- **Forest programmes** Large scope to address land issues as part of broader forest governance agenda as part of zero-deforestation commitments. Quite a lot happening in this space.
- **Support to financial intermediaries for commercial ag and infrastructure.** Have been doing more to more to ensure appraisal of investees explicitly considers land issues.
- **Business reform programmes** Traditionally taken a narrow view of land administration reform (reducing time for land acquisition, license approval). But scope to do more to promote responsible investment. E.g. GEMS3 in Nigeria.
- **Support to vulnerable groups** Important opportunities to provide land-related legal support to groups that can help reduce risks in context of land investments (e.g. GET Tanzania, GLEP)





## Main findings and conclusions from the reviews

- Opportunities exist to integrate work on land and commercial investment under programmes aligned with current donor goals.. Some work needed in strengthening the case and the links.
- Globally-endorsed and used benchmarks and frameworks (VGGTs, PRAI) appear to broaden opportunities to do address governance issues for programmes.
- There continue to be challenges associated with bundling land into broader programmes (slow progress -> pressure to drop land component).

**LEGEND**

*Land: Enhancing Governance  
for Economic Development*



THANK YOU



This material has been funded by UK aid from the UK Government, however the views expressed do not necessarily reflect the UK Government's official policies.



UNIVERSITY  
of  
GREENWICH | Natural  
Resources  
Institute



# LEGEND

*Land: Enhancing Governance  
for Economic Development*



This material has been funded by UK aid from the UK Government, however the views expressed do not necessarily reflect the UK Government's official policies.



UNIVERSITY  
of  
GREENWICH | Natural  
Resources  
Institute

