



Women with secured land rights can better take care of themselves, their children and the land © Oxfam

STRENGTHENING WOMEN'S LAND RIGHTS IN ALL TENURE SYSTEMS

An interactive event seeking to spark dialogue and exchange on how the global land rights community can support women living on Indigenous and community lands to strengthen their land, forest and water rights.

With Bina Agarwal, Sreetama Bhaya, Stephanie Keene and Naomi Shadrack.

25th March 2019

2 PM – 3.30 PM

1101 17th Street NW,
13th floor
Washington, DC 20036



More information:

<https://indepth.oxfam.org.uk/land-rights/key-issues/#womenslandrights>

RSVP: Let us know if you will attend by sending an email to Sarah.Tuckey@oxfam.org

In the last five years, women's rights have increasingly taken centre stage in global land debates. Rural women across Africa have mobilised for change and campaigns in Asia have called out discriminatory inheritance laws. The Sustainable Development Goals have also set women's land rights targets.

Worldwide, 2.5 billion people rely on Indigenous and community lands – yet so far, much of the energy on women's land, forest and water rights has focused on individual rights to household or agricultural land, which has created the misconception that the women's land rights agenda requires the privatisation of the commons.

How can we safeguard women's land rights across all tenure systems? That is the topic of this event. When we talk of land rights for women, we look at common resources and how women are accessing and making decisions regarding these resources. Kicking off with a panel, this topic will be explored from the perspective of a researchers and practitioners. In the current global context, what is the tenure system that needs to be strengthened?

GUEST SPEAKERS

Dr **BINA AGARWAL** is a Professor of Development Economics and Environment at the University of Manchester. A well-known activist and researcher on women property and land rights, she has written pioneering work on gender inequality in property and land. Her best known works include *A field of One's Own: Gender and Land Rights in South Asia*, and *Gender and Green Governance*. She will reflect on property and agricultural land rights for women as individuals.

SREETAMA BHAYA is Oxfam India's Natural Resource Management Program Coordinator. She will share her reflections on Oxfam's program which supports tribal (Adivasi) women and collective forest rights. In particular, she will reflect on how linking collective forest rights with gender justice campaigns could help further women's leadership and how collective rights offer women the potential to stand together to strengthen, safeguard and enrich their lives and the land, forests and waters they protect.

STEPHANIE KEENE is an attorney with a background in land tenure security, women's rights, and corporate social responsibility, particularly in Africa. She has worked on issues of women's land rights, gender-based violence, and social protection at the World Bank, and was previously an Associate with Covington & Burling LLP's Anti-Corruption, Africa, and International Trade Controls practices. Stephanie has worked to protect the land rights of women-victims of illegal property seizure in Northern Uganda, and has served as a Princeton

Fellow with the West African Regional Bureau of the UN World Food Program. Her field research and related reports include an environmental and human rights assessment of Indigenous People's land rights within the context of a large-scale agricultural development project in Papua, Indonesia, and an assessment of Sierra Leone's legal prohibition against child marriage. Stephanie received her Juris Doctor from Yale Law School, and her undergraduate degree from Princeton University.

NAOMI SHADRACK is a passionate development professional with more than a decade of experience working in the Land and livelihood sector in both urban and rural Tanzania. Working on land tenure and property rights, livelihood projects specifically linked to women's economic empowerment. She is working with Oxfam in Tanzania as Land governance campaigns coordinator. During the session Naomi will share experience with securing land rights for marginalized communities, working with Pastoralist and hunter-gathers in Tanzania.

PROGRAM

TIME	
13h30 – 14h00	Walk-in & registration
14h00 – 14h10	Opening <i>Stephanie Burgos</i>
14h10 – 15h00	Panel: How to support women's land rights across different tenure systems <i>Bina Agarwal, Sreetama Bhaya, Stephanie Keene & Naomi Shadrack</i>
15h00 – 15h10	Audience questions and reflections
15h10 – 15h25	Looking forward and next steps for the land movement
15h25 – 15h30	Closing remarks <i>Shona Hawkes</i>
