



LANDac ANNUAL  
INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE  
**4-5 July 2019**

LAND GOVERNANCE IN TRANSITION  
How to support transformations that  
work for people and nature?

## **CONFERENCE SESSIONS**

**Theme 5a:**  
**Approaches and Tools in Land Governance**

## PANEL

### **Multi-Stakeholders Platforms: a Transformational Arena for Scaling-Up Local Innovation: the Case of the Community Land Protection Initiative**

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Multi-stakeholder platforms (MSPs) are increasingly recognized as important vehicles to build sustained dialogue among land actors, and support their collective long-term strategies aiming to improve land policy design and implementation. Some have hailed Multi-stakeholder mechanisms as 'the collaboration paradigm of the 21st century'<sup>1</sup>. While MSPs are not the (only) golden bullets to foster inclusive land governance, experiences show that in a diversity of context, they are contributing to more equitable, efficient and transformative outcomes. ILC has been investing in, and setting in motion close to 30 People Centred Land Governance MSPs as a central component of the National Engagement Strategies (NES) operating model.

In line with the conference's objective to "*look back at the decade since the land grab "hype" began*", and "*analyse the transformation processes that have taken place in those locations where investments have been made*", the proposed session will introduce early results from one set of responses and strategies deriving from the Community Land Protection Initiative (CLPI), an innovative cross-regional program designed to equip frontline communities with the required tools, capacities and process to safeguard customary rights.

A growing body of literature indicates the positive role of MSPs in democratising decision making process, increasing coordination among actors, addressing power inequalities among stakeholders and improving land governance ecosystems at multiple levels. Although growing expectations are placed on multi-stakeholders dynamics, evidences exploring the role played by national level MSPs in bringing tested innovations at scale, and the multiplier effect they offer in nurturing "good" local land governance dynamics are less abundant.

In the context of localised initiatives, the session will attempt to challenge and question the role, transformative potential and transformative possibilities of multi-stakeholder mechanisms to make land governance more inclusive, effective, and sustainable.

Conference theme: i) conflict and competing claims, ii) Natural Resource and Environmental Protection, iii) compensation and resettlement, and iv) the role of the state.

*This session welcomes abstract submissions.*

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<sup>1</sup> Austin, J.E. 2000. 'Strategic collaboration between non-profits and businesses. Non-profits and Voluntary Sector Quarterly 29(1): 44.

## **INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP**

### **Actor perspectives on landscape scenarios: Linking sectors through integrated landscape governance for people and nature**

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Agricultural transformation and urbanisation increase the dynamics and complexity of landscapes in the Global South, affecting peri-urban and rural land use, livelihoods and the provision of ecosystem services. For example, the effects of expanding cocoa and oil palm cultivation in a country like Ghana affect biodiversity and food production, while poverty may remain persistent. Sectorial approaches are unable to curb the challenges and there is a growing call to tackle these issues in a holistic and integrated manner through negotiated landscape governance that engages multiple sectors, actors and scales. Such integrated approaches are considered vital to achieving SDGs 6 (clean water and sanitation) and SDG 15 (life on land); important for SDG 1 (no poverty), 2 (zero hunger), 13 (climate action) and 14 (life under water); and relevant for SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities) (Reed et al. 2015). Ten principles for integrated landscape approaches have been developed (Sayer et al. 2013) but getting multi-stakeholder negotiation of trade-offs between competing land uses off the ground and moving from theory to practice occurs mainly through landscape-level initiatives that emanate from sectorial approaches (Ros-Tonen et al. 2018). At the same time, urban development is still largely absent in the debate on integrated landscape governance, despite the majority of the world's population living in cities. Moving beyond sectorial approaches and institutional jurisdictions towards integrated landscape governance for people and nature requires deliberate efforts and tools to bridge different interests and perspectives (Meijer et al., 2018). This session therefore aims to bring together experiences with participatory mapping, modelling and scenario building as 'boundary objects' (Zurba et al. 2018) that may contribute to bridging sectorial and jurisdictional gaps and move towards integrated and negotiated landscape governance.

More specifically, this session addresses the following questions:

1. How can (participatory) mapping, modelling or scenario building approaches help achieve sectorial commitments to sustainable landscapes, conservation and zero deforestation and have these sectors benefit from ecosystem services in the landscape (including nature-based solutions)?
2. How can a common entry point combining concerns and opportunities be identified based on mapping stakeholders' desired landscapes and perceptions of landscape dynamics?
3. How can (participatory) mapping, modelling or scenario building help in putting urban and peri-urban development in an integrated landscape perspective and in moving towards integrated governance of the urban-rural interface?

*This session welcomes abstract submissions.*

## **PANEL**

### **Land & The Role of the State: Increasing accountability through promoting transparency**

*Land Portal Foundation*

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The governance of resource and land rights is often complex, split between different interest groups and confronted with states and administrations with low capacities. Being exposed to the combination of high economic value, financially powerful interests, low regulatory capacities and lack of transparency in administrative procedures the land and resource sector often shows non-transparent procedures of land ownership and use allocation. Missing data on tenure rights further aggravates the problem and paves the way for corruption, reaching from bribery up to illegal sales of state land, displacement and illegal dispossession.

The word 'corruption' was taboo not more than a few years ago. Thanks to the work of many development specialists, it has become an important topic of discussion in the development sector and after the African Union declared 2018 the "Year of Anti-Corruption", in 2019, the Africa Land Policy Initiative has decided the Annual Africa Land Policy Conference will have 'corruption' as its running theme.

In anticipation of this important event, we would like to kick off the discussions at the LANDac conference as well. The main goal of this session is to gain a better understanding on how we can achieve more transparency within land governance globally, and including the role of data ecosystems to promote evidence-based decision making and how to democratize the discourse by allowing grassroots voices to become part of the debate.

In this context, we want to have a look at this issue from three different perspectives:

1. What are the underlying structural problems and reasons for lack of transparency in the land sector?
2. What is the role of civil society & grassroots organizations in holding governments accountable and what can be done from a global perspective to support these efforts?
3. How can we share this knowledge, lessons learned and data to reach out to crucial stakeholders in order to improve our work in the land sector?

Conference theme: The Role of the State

*This session welcomes abstract submissions.*

## INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP

### Policy advocacy for women's land rights: strategies and experiences

*Gemma Betsema, LANDdialogue; Tina Timponi Cambiaghi, International Land Coalition; Imke Greven, Oxfam Novib; Karin van Boxtel, Both ENDS; Janneke Bruil, ActionAid, and others (to be confirmed); and local partners (to be confirmed)*

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Women from all over the world have shown their power in advocating for their rights to use and control land and in overcoming the barriers they face. Numerous initiatives<sup>2</sup> have shown how grassroots women's groups play a key role in strengthening women's land rights and in contribute to sustainable land use, enhanced food and nutrition security, responsible investments, economic prosperity, empowerment of women in the broader society as well as preventing and reducing conflict. Yet, we all see that women's land rights are under pressure when investments are coming in, or when large-scale land administration programs are rolled out: women tend to be left out of the discussions and consultations; their rights to land are often not recorded or are ignored; and formal compensation payments as well as new employment opportunities do not reach women. Therefore, women's land rights are not only crucial in development cooperation policies, but also in climate, trade and investment policies.

Women's land rights have been high on the agenda of grassroots women's groups, civil society organizations and research institutions for many years now. At the same time, it sometimes seems as if our research and knowledge around women's land rights lack a clear translation into policies and women's land rights are mainly dealt with by academics and NGOs. In this session we bring in experiences from a 'Women's land rights influencing trajectory' implemented by Dutch organizations within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This trajectory organized brainstorm sessions with specific departments in the Ministry to identify ways to integrating women's land rights into existing policies and programs. We invite other organizations to also share their examples and methodologies which have led to the translation of women's land rights into concrete activities and policies, both in donor country governments and in the context of countries in the global south.

By exchanging examples and lessons learned around advocacy for women's land rights in an interactive workshop, this session aims to contribute to questions on how successful practices on women's land rights and grassroots women's groups can be translated into policies. It also aims to enable participants to reflect on their own work and how to facilitate the mainstreaming of women's land rights.

Attendees are invited to become part of the movement that advocates for women's land rights in practice!

*This session does not invite abstract submissions, yet welcomes active participation.*

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<sup>2</sup> *Women2Kilimanjaro 2016 - women farmers from 22 African countries climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro to claim their rights to access and control land and natural resources; Environmental justice groups and women's rights groups conducted gender analyses and impact assessments on impacts on land within the Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action (GAGGA); The Women's Land Rights in Africa (WLRA) research programme confirmed the value of interventions which start at the grassroots.*

## **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

### **Dynamics of Due Diligence: Conditions for Responsible Land Based Investment**

*Katie Minderhoud, Solidaridad & Caitlin Ryan, University of Groningen*

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Multi-stakeholder international frameworks on responsible investment and due diligence for investment were developed in response to the 'the land grab 'hype.' The response to these frameworks is mixed. There is some critique of their to be used as a way to legitimize deals (De Schutter 2011). While the principles and frameworks discuss the processes of 'due diligence' in straightforward and prescriptive ways, the context-specific realities where this 'due diligence' is to be applied are considerably more complex and 'messy' than the frameworks might imply. Meanwhile, discussions on processes of land reform, alternative dispute resolution and formalization of customary tenure does recognize this 'messiness' (Van Leeuwen 2014; Chimhowu and Woodhouse 2006; Collins and Mitchell 2018; Blattman, Hartman, and Blair 2014).

This session is interested in drawing out some of the dilemmas of 'due diligence' to contrast its imaginaries in the frameworks, with the context-specific dilemmas that arise when applied. Applying 'due diligence' may take place in the midst of contested authority, weak land laws, interactions between communities, customary authority, civil society, investing companies and the state, and land administrations that may be challenged by both capacity and political constraints. In this sense, questions of due diligence are not easily resolved by the frameworks alone, and major questions remain, such as who has the responsibility to strengthen local and national land governance, and how pre-existing power relations will impact partnerships.

The session draws from concrete experiences of the DFID funded LEGEND program. The Dutch based company Natural Habitats in partnership with Solidaridad and NAMATI (supported by LEGEND) tested specific due diligence guidance in a private investment project in Southern Sierra Leone.

Since the project is coming to an end this year, we aim to share lessons and experiences.

Potential Speakers TBC:

- Jan Hein de Vroe - CEO Natural Habitats Sierra Leone
- Kalindi Lorenzo - Sustainability manager Natural Habitats
- Marieke Leegwater – Solidaridad International Oil palm programme coordinator
- Katie Minderhoud – Solidaridad Learning advisor
- Julian Quan – Learning Coordinator LEGEND / Greenwich University
- Caitlin Ryan – Groningen University
- Representative from NAMATI and/or Action Aid
- Others TBD

*We also aim to invite representatives from private sector companies, to ensure lessons learnt and output of the LEGEND project reach this specific target audience.*

*This session does not invite abstract submissions, yet welcomes active participation.*

## References:

Blattman, Christopher, Alexandra C. Hartman, and Robert A. Blair. 2014. "How to Promote Order and Property Rights under Weak Rule of Law? An Experiment in Changing Dispute Resolution Behavior through Community Education." *American Political Science Review* 108 (01): 100–120. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0003055413000543>.

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Collins, Andrea, and Matthew I. Mitchell. 2018. "Revisiting the World Bank's Land Law Reform Agenda in Africa: The Promise and Perils of Customary Practices." *Journal of Agrarian Change* 18 (1): 112–131. <https://doi.org/10.1111/joac.12201>.

De Schutter, Olivier. 2011. "How Not to Think of Land-Grabbing: Three Critiques of Large-Scale Investments in Farmland." *Journal of Peasant Studies* 38 (2): 249–79. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03066150.2011.559008>.

Van Leeuwen, Mathijs. 2014. "Renegotiating Customary Tenure Reform - Land Governance Reform and Tenure Security in Uganda." *Land Use Policy* 39: 292–300. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landusepol.2014.02.007>.