Robert Mazur,¹ Naboth Bwambale,¹ Venâncio Salegua²

¹ Sociology Department and Sustainable Agriculture, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa 50011 USA
² Instituto de Investigação Agrária de Moçambique (IIAM), Av. das FPLM Caixa Postal 3658, Maputo, Moçambique

rmazur@iastate.edu, bnaboth@iastate.edu, salegua@hotmail.com

LANDac Conference 2015
Land Governance for Equitable and Sustainable Development
8-10 July 2015 in Utrecht, the Netherlands
Food insecurity, stagnant/declining crop yields, variable and deteriorating soil fertility

‘Sustainable intensification’ – beyond agronomic science & technologies, has important social and economic dimensions

Emphasis on crops that meet food security and income needs

ISFM - fertilizer, organic inputs & improved germplasm, adapted to local conditions and knowledge systems

Land tenure systems are complex, undergoing transformation

How are land tenure and agricultural investment interrelated?
Numerous uncertainties and threats to secure land access
- Large scale ‘land grabs’ and infrastructure-related displacement
- Rising land values and speculative investment
- Social dynamics/conflict w/i communities and w/i families

*Land tenure and agricultural investment*
- ‘Title’ = relevant, but neither necessary nor sufficient
- Secure access, use and transfer rights = key
- Secure land tenure → agricultural investment? or ← ?

Examine interrelations among land tenure, land hiring, management practices (rotation, fallow), cropping patterns/systems, and use of organic and inorganic inputs (prelim. analysis of HH surveys in Uganda & Mozambique in mid-2014)
Smallholder farmers in Uganda and Mozambique

- Complex, multifunctional maize–bean cropping systems (food security, nutrition, income, livelihood resilience) on diverse landscapes and agroecosystems

- Limited adoption of improved production practices for common beans, especially for soil fertility

**Goal:** Increase productivity of grain legumes (common beans) and improve soil fertility

**Methods:** Enhancing farmers’ capabilities to diagnose and address soil-related production constraints (make improved site-specific crop system management and input decisions)
Secure land rights generally viewed as encouraging investment:
- Strengthen claims to fruits of investment
- Increase access to capital
- Allow for gains from trade
- Provide the cultivator with freedom to innovate

Empirical research (20y) on land rights and investment inconclusive:
- Indigenous tenure systems may offer adequate security to motivate investment
- Investment may be attractive even with less secure land rights
- Credit markets in Africa may be too thin to support a link
- Land rights may be enhanced (or undermined) by visible investment/benefits
- Land titling has failed to provide purported benefits
- Land rights and investment are both difficult to measure
- Rights measured may not be those considered important by farmers
Governance Issues

How do land tenure systems provide and protect secure access, use, realization and transfer rights?
- Primary use rights
- Secondary rights (e.g., women) and informal arrangements

How are these being affected by evolving land markets (rentals and sales)? (esp. poor and vulnerable households)
- External pressures
- Intra-community and within extended families

How unbiased and effective are dispute settlement institutions?
Uganda

Land tenure: customary, mailo (quasi-freehold est. by British colonial gov’t for Buganda kingdom), leasehold, freehold

- Decentralized land administration and dispute settlement
- District Land Boards and local gov’t-level Land Committees
- Lack of gov’t funding → land tribunals no longer functioning

Land Disputes and Conflicts
- Increasing with cessation of land tribunals
- 1/3 of farming HH = ever involved in dispute over land & lost land
- Significant negative impact on investment and productivity (5-10% nationally, 25-37% locally)
Land tenure system – state has ultimate authority

- Customary land rights at equal value with statutory land rights
- Right of land use (DUAT) through customary law, through occupancy in ‘good faith for at least ten years’
- Customary rights can be proved through oral testimony
- Ensuring that women have equal rights to access and inherit land
- NGOs active in community land delimitation (CLD) and registration
- Disseminating info., providing financial and logistical support
- Participatory diagnosis & mapping of land, natural resources

Shortcomings:
- Limited info. dissem., lack awareness of value of registration
- Absence of official resources, dependence on external funding
- Limited community capacity to implement develop. plans/projects
- CLD neglects intra-community vulnerabilities and conflict
## Community-level Patterns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Land</th>
<th>Uganda</th>
<th>Mozambique</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Borrowed Land (least secure)</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rented/Leased Land</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received as Gift</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Allocated by Elder</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inherited Land</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchased Land (most secure)</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Insecurity Concerns</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**# households**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Uganda</th>
<th>Mozambique</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>302</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>Mozambique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate Food Supply (in past year)</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Insecurity (no food past 4 weeks)</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bean Farmer, Female</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hired Labor</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Agricultural Income</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savings</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit Accessible</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borrowed Money</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Field-level Patterns

Uganda
- Titled (9%) (+) Allocated by Elder, Inherited, Purchased; ‘excellent’ soils
- Manure (60%) (+) Inherited, Purchased; less used on ‘excellent’ soils
- Fallowed (76%) (+) Allocated by Elder [no difference by soil quality]

Mozambique
- Titled (43%) (+) Allocated by Elder, Inherited, Purchased; better soils
- Manure (1%) [too rare to analyze variation]
- Fallowed (13%) (+) [no difference by how land acquired]; poor/fair quality soils
Household-level Patterns

Uganda:

- Manure (11%) + Hired Labor, Purchased Land, Savings, Credit Access
- Fertilizer (35%) + Hired Labor, Livestock, Non-Agric. Income, Savings, Credit Access, Borrowing
- Pesticide (33%) + Male bean farmer, Hired Labor, Inherited Land, Land Insecurity, Non-Agric. Income, Savings, Credit Access
- Herbicide (20%) + Hired Labor, Land Insecurity, Credit Access

Mozambique:

- Manure, fertilizer, herbicides = level of use too low to analyze variation
- Pesticide (26%) + 2 Adults (vs. 1, 3), NO Hired Labor, Food Security, Borrowed Land, Elder Allocated Land, NOT Inherited, NOT Land Insecure, Non-Agric. Income, NOT Savings, NOT Credit Access
Implications

- **Uganda** – more land borrowing, leasing, purchasing; women’s role prominent; hired labor; livestock; savings, credit, borrowing
- **Mozambique** – CLD process increased land registration/titling
- Titling and manure for more secure and better quality soils
- Land *in*security concerns are common in both countries
- Differences btw. Uganda and Mozambique (land abundant, lower level of economic pressure on land; but rapidly changing)
- Purchased inputs with economic ability in Uganda; manure and fertilizer on more secure land; pesticides/herbicides on less secure
- Limited purchased inputs in Mozambique; more analysis needed
- Local land governance institutions require strengthening