LANDac Annual Narrative Report 2018

LANDac – The Netherlands Land Academy
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ABOUT LANDac

LANDac – the Netherlands Land Academy – is a partnership between Dutch organisations and their Southern partners working on land governance for equitable and sustainable development. LANDac was formed in 2010 as one of the IS Academies, a series of five-year programs designed by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs to strengthen the role of knowledge and research in sustainable development, poverty alleviation and international cooperation.

In 2016 LANDac entered its second phase: LANDac II was launched on 26 October 2016 and will run until 2021. During LANDac II, partners who share a concern for understanding and addressing new and existing types of land-related conflicts and increasing land inequality will continue to work together to promote equitable and sustainable development in the Global South. In order to do so, LANDac brings together stakeholders who might not otherwise meet – particularly academic researchers, private sector and civil society representatives, and policy makers in the field of land governance and development. Pressing themes that are addressed under LANDac II include the impact of large-scale land deals in agriculture for food production and biofuels, infrastructure development, delta cities, urban and post-conflict land governance challenges, climate adaptation and migration.

This report gives a brief overview of the activities and outputs of LANDac during the period from the 1st of January 2018 to the 31st of December 2018. It is the second annual report of the second phase of the LANDac project – LANDac II. The report is structured around LANDac’s Annual Work Plan 2018.

PARTNERS

The LANDac Partnership comprises of the following organisations:
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1. LANDac in 2018: An Overview

2018 marked the 8th year of LANDac, The Netherlands Land Academy on Equitable and Sustainable Development. Over the past year, LANDac has continued to establish itself as a platform on land governance issues in the developing world, linking Dutch organisations and their Southern partners active in this field.

Looking back at 2018, LANDac has successfully continued its role as a hub for policy makers, practitioners, researchers and development professionals working in the Netherlands and further afield. Most activities took place according to the LANDac Annual Plan 2018 and will be described below. In terms of events, the Annual International Conference 2018 and Annual Summer School 2018 have been particularly well-attended and well-appreciated. Moreover, the Securing Women's Land Rights in Africa programme was followed-up by two learning and knowledge sharing events in the Netherlands. A study on the relationship between land governance and migration in West Africa has been carried out, and four research reports have been published. This study has also been the basis for a round table discussion during the 2018 Annual International Conference. Reports on all events and seminars can be found on the website and have been widely disseminated within the LANDac network.

In 2018 LANDac also became a member of the International Land Coalition (ILC). ILC plays a central role in the field of land governance and especially land rights, with a large number of member organizations including indigenous and grassroots movements. LANDac and ILC have met several times in 2018, during the World Bank and LANDac Conferences and at the Global Land Forum, and established connections to further collaborate in 2019. Important areas for collaboration are learning and training.

This report provides a full overview of our activities and developments in 2018, including written outputs and events organised. It also reflects on the overall progress of LANDac and how the activities carried out in 2018 correspond with the LANDac Annual Plan 2018 (see attachment 1). To summarize, some of the activities foreseen in the LANDac Annual Plan 2018 have been slightly modified or adjourned during the course of the year. Firstly, the development of an online educational programme on land governance is still ongoing, and 2018 served to build a network of co-developers at Utrecht University, scope the aim and target audience of the e-module, and collect material from the Securing Women’s Land Rights in Africa programme to include in the e-module. This Training and Capacity Building Activity will be speeded up early 2019, to explore funding possibilities for an e-module to start in the academic year 2019-2020. Secondly, regarding Research and Knowledge Generation, LANDac’s activities in the PhD network have been limited. The PhD Network Lunch during the Annual International Conference 2018 was a success, yet a follow-up meeting has not taken place in 2018 because none of the PhD members was willing to take the initiative for such a meeting. Instead, the coordinators decided to couple the PhD meeting to the LANDac Annual International Conference to facilitate easy attendance. Thirdly, with regards to the governance of the LANDac secretariat, Gemma Betsema has been appointed as facilitator of the LANDdialogue. The financial management of the LANDdialogue continues to be a responsibility of the LANDac Secretariat.
At the end of this report, we will briefly look towards the future: what have we learned this year and how will we continue and improve our impact and contribute to making a different on the ground in improving land governance in 2019?

2. SECRETARIAT

The LANDac secretariat 2018 comprised of:

- Annelies Zoomers – Chair;
- Guus van Westen – Vice-chair;
- Griet Steel – Research Coordinator;
- Marthe Derkzen – Coordinator (replacing coordinator Lucy Oates who left LANDac in January 2018);
- Vince Gebert – Coordinator and support;
- Gemma Betsema – Coordinator LANDdialogue and Project Leader Learning Platforms;
- Romy Santpoort – Researcher.

The secretariat managed the LANDac network, ensured coordination, communication with partners, and the implementation of research and activities throughout 2018. The secretariat also regularly updated the LANDac website, which continues to be a hub for announcements and exchange in the Netherlands and further afield.

The LANDac partners met in January, May and September 2018. On the 30th October 2018 the partners met for a full day in Wageningen, to discuss the Annual Plan for 2019. In addition to these partner meetings, specific conference Organising Committee (consisting of Griet Steel, Gemma van der Haar, Christine Richter, Guus van Westen, Annelies Zoomers, Marthe Derkzen, Barbara Codispoti, Lisette Mey, and Vince Gebert) meetings were held in February, April and May for the 2018 Conference, and on 22 October for the 2019 Conference.

3. KNOWLEDGE GENERATION: RESEARCH

Throughout 2018, LANDac continued to generate knowledge through short-term research projects and through our PhD trajectories. Brief descriptions of the research activities and their output are given below.

LANDac Research

Learning Platforms

The Netherlands Land Academy (LANDac), together with the Food & Business Knowledge Platform (F&BKP), CIFOR and Shared Value Foundation (SVF) jointly set out in 2017 to design and implement three multi-stakeholder Learning Platforms around investment hubs in Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda. By starting the learning platforms – with bottom-up research into the diversity of local context – this project aimed to better align the investments with local priorities and expectations, while starting an open exchange about innovative approaches to improve impacts locally. Communities have better information about the investment, while investors increase their knowledge about what is happening in the area, including business risks and opportunities.
In 2018 the final synthesis report of the learning platforms was published and a new Learning Platform in North Mozambique was developed, as in line with the LANDac Annual Plan 2018. This learning platform was commissioned by the Organising Committee of the LANDdialogue and focussed on oil and gas investments around Palma in North Mozambique, affecting over 10,000 people. The report on the Learning Platform in North Mozambique will be published early 2019.

Securing Women’s Land Rights in Africa (WLRA)

The Securing Women’s Land Rights in Africa Programme was a one-year program funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Together with the six civil society organisations ENDA Pronat (Senegal), GROOTS and ActionAid (Kenya), ADECRU and Fórum Mulher in Mozambique, and Oxfam in Malawi, LANDac initiated the program to identify, build upon and scale successful practices and experiences of grassroots organizations and movements that work to strengthen women’s access and control over land and natural resources in Africa. The year-long programme provided logistical as well as financial support in upscaling grassroots actions and activities. In addition, fieldwork was conducted in Malawi, Senegal, Mozambique and Kenya. The project partners presented preliminary results at the World Bank Conference and the Annual LANDac conference.

In 2018, as has been detailed in the Annual Work Plan 2018, specific follow-up activities were organised related to the WLRA programme. In April 2018, as part of the programme, a two-day learning event to bring together programme partners, local champions and traditional leaders took place in Nairobi. The final reports, including working papers and policy briefs as well as video material, can be accessed on the LANDac website, where we opened a specific page on women’s land rights. In December 2018, Ellen Matupi of the rural women’s farmers association in Malawi came to present the results at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Humanity House in The Hague (see below).

Migration, Youth, and Land in West Africa

At the inception of LANDac II in October 2016, LANDac and partners identified priority themes to focus on, including mobility and migration. Therefore, as identified in the Annual Work Plan 2018, LANDac conducted a small research project in 2018 on the various ways in which migration and land dynamics in West-Africa are intertwined. Together with ASC, VNG International, KIT and UU, local case studies were conducted in four West-African countries with the aims to shed light on the various relationships between migration and land, and to analyse in how far they may contribute to/obstruct (local) inclusive and sustainable development in Mali, Senegal, Burkina Faso and Benin. The research resulted in four research reports that were the basis for a round table discussion on the LANDac conference 2018 on possible ways for making the connection between migration and land more fruitful and productive for as many people as possible, with a specific concern for the opportunities and constraints facing different categories of West-African youth. The concrete outcomes of the research are analysed in a paper for the special issue in LAND, entitled “Migration, Youth, and Land in West Africa: Making the connections work for inclusive development”, that will be published in 2019.
Dutch Diamonds in the Delta

‘Dutch Diamonds in the Delta’ is a research programme by Utrecht University, Deltares, RVO, LANDac and the Netherlands Delta Commissioner about inclusive and resilient delta interventions in the global South. These interventions include infrastructure plans, masterplans, and strategic regional delta plans. The programme started in December 2018 with a seed money grant from Utrecht University’s Water, Climate and Future Deltas hub. The first programme phase will result in a research paper and a research proposal for the Dutch National Research Agenda (NWA). The programme seeks to strengthen the linkages between the Dutch Delta Approach and the SDGs by focusing on the inclusiveness and climate resilience of delta interventions through systematic and multidisciplinary research. In addition to scientific knowledge the programme will also contribute to institutional innovations in the practice of delta interventions in the global South.

In the LANDac Annual Plan 2018, under Knowledge Generation, we layout to undertake research activities on the priority themes as described in the multi-year plan for LANDac II, including urbanisation and infrastructure development (mentioned as the second theme after food security and responsible business). Diamonds in the Delta was funded using an external subsidy from the Water, Climate and Future Deltas hub at Utrecht University.

PhD Research

In 2018, three of our PhD students continued their research. Murtah Read finished his PhD research on Infrastructure Development and Urban Land Governance in Beira, Mozambique. Alda Salomão continued her research on the Challenges of Participatory Land Governance in Mozambique: Assessing Community Spaces, Voices, Powers and Benefits in Decisions on Large-scale Land-based Investments. Erlis Saputra carried on his research on land subsidence in Indonesia. As mentioned in the Annual Work plan, these PhD candidates will be invited to write a LANDac policy brief once their PhD is completed or nearing completion.

PhD Network

On 28th June 2018, the LANDac PhD Network came together for a network lunch during the LANDac Annual International Conference. LANDac organised the network lunch to facilitate exchange among PhD students in the field of land governance, working in the Netherlands and abroad. The network lunch was well received, and plans were made to have a second network lunch during the 2019 Conference, as well as a special LANDac PhD workshop or skills training in 2019.

As stated above, LANDac’s activities in the PhD network have been limited. The PhD Network Lunch during the Annual International Conference 2018 was a success, yet a follow-up meeting has not taken place in 2018 because none of the PhD members was willing to take the initiative for such a meeting. Therefore, the coordinators of the PhD network have decided to continue to couple the PhD meeting to the LANDac Annual International Conference, which has proven to facilitate easy attendance.
Internships

In the weeks before the LANDac Annual International Conference 2018, LANDac hired an intern for logistical support. This student has helped the LANDac conference team with regards to the sponsorship of presents for the key note speakers, as well as other logistical issues, such as the selection and management of student volunteers during the conference itself.

LANDac has also been supported by a Bright Minds Assistantship intern, Bianca de Souza Nagasawa, who has joined the team in December 2018. This assistantship is financed by the Geosciences Faculty of Utrecht University. With the help of Bianca, we have updated the LANDac website, increased the frequency of the LANDac newsletters and increased LANDac visibility on Twitter and Linkedin.

4. CONFERENCE AND SEMINARS

Annual International Conference 2018

Land Governance and (Im)mobility. Exploring the nexus between land acquisition, displacement and migration

Date: 28th & 29th June, 2018
Location: Muntgebouw, Utrecht

In 2018 LANDac continued to organise its Annual International Conference. The LANDac Conference 2018 looked at land governance through the lens of mobility. Land acquisitions trigger migration and yield other types of mobility such as capital, goods and ideas. Ensuing land claims raise new questions for land governance. The conference explored the question: Given the variety of mobility, what are good ways forward in land governance?

About 250 participants from a large number of countries addressed this and related questions in 32 parallel sessions. Participants drew from universities, knowledge institutes, the government, NGOs and the private sector. Themes that were discussed include women’s land rights; migration, youth and land in West Africa; conflict-induced displacement; inclusive and sustainable management of deltas; involuntary resettlement and development-induced displacement; (limits to) the right to remain; and (im)mobility in contemporary conservation. Moreover, the role of digital data technologies in land tenure documentation and multi-stakeholder approaches to urban inclusive development were discussed as well.

For the 2018 conference, the LANDac secretariat successfully sought opportunities for subsidies as well as co-funding, as initially planned. Utrecht Municipality has sponsored the conference, as well as Utrecht University’s Pathways to Sustainability. Dutch embassies have been approached to sponsor so-called ‘landentafels’. Even though this request has been refused, the ‘landentafels’ did take place and were moderately successful. With the effort of our short-term intern during the conference, Bambooks have also sponsored erasable notebooks as a present for our key note speakers. Lastly, MDPI journal LAND has sponsored the conference by offering the opportunity to publish a special issue, which includes papers that have been presented at the conference.
The full report on the Annual International Conference 2018 can be found on our website. As a follow-up of the conference, a call for papers for a Special Issue of the open access MDPI journal Land has been announced on the 12th of June. The papers will be released early 2019.

LANDac Events in the Netherlands

In 2018 knowledge sharing on emerging and established themes continued through the organisation of learning events and meetings, but also public lectures and presentations, both for the existing LANDac network, as well as to attract a wider audience from the general public. As has been decided in the Annual Work Plan 2018, four ad hoc events have been organised during the calendar year in response to demands and needs identified by LANDac partners. Moreover, two specific events have been organised related to the WLRA programme, as discussed in the Annual Report 2018. Below is an overview of the LANDac knowledge sharing events in the Netherlands. In order to ensure adequate follow-up, the results of these events have been disseminated in the form of reports.

Public Event: Movie Screening Silas

Date: 5th February 2018
Location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Hague

On the 5th of February, LANDac and the Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH) organised a special screening of the internationally awarded documentary Silas (2017). Goldman Price winner Silas Siakor himself introduced the documentary. Silas tells the poignant story of the Liberian activist and his tireless efforts for land rights and better management of natural resources in Liberia. It displays abuses around land rights in large-scale logging and palm oil concessions in Liberia and shows how individuals and communities take action against this.

Reflection Meeting: World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty 2018

Date: 12th April 2018
Location: Utrecht University, Utrecht

On the 12th of April, LANDac organised a meeting for Dutch actors working on land governance, to reflect on the World Bank's Land and Poverty Conference 2018, that took place in Washington D.C. from March 19 – 23 2018. The meeting brought together individuals who attended the World Bank Conference in Washington and those who did not attend but do have an interest in what was discussed. The reflection meeting was an opportunity to share impressions and experiences and reflect on the role and agenda of the Dutch community working on land governance. The report shares some of the main experiences, reflections and discussions that were brought to the table.

Expert Meeting: CITYforum

Date: 27th June 2018
Location: Utrecht University, Utrecht
On June 27th, prior to the LANDac Annual International Conference, LANDac brought together 22 individuals from 16 organisations currently working on ways to make investments in urban development more inclusive and sustainable. In the past years, investments intended to help cities grow or become climate-resilient are often designed abroad and may come at the expense of local residents’ needs and wishes. Through the CITYforum expert meeting, taking place according to the Annual Work Plan 2018, LANDac aimed to generate new ideas and new partnerships between those working in the Netherlands and on the ground in cities where investments are taking place. The report is published on the LANDac website.

Seminar: Climate Displacement

Date: 4th October 2018
Location: Academiegebouw, Utrecht

On October 4th, LANDac and Displacement Solutions (Scott Leckie) organised a seminar featuring an expert panel to discuss climate displacement within the current development agenda. One approach to the issue of climate displacement focuses on how to prevent it, and when prevention fails, what to do to assist climate displaced persons. This seminar explored the particular land dimensions of climate displacement and how and where land fits into the list of policy options designed to best protect the rights of those affected.

Around 25 experts participated in the seminar, of which LANDac published a summary report. As an outcome of the seminar, LANDac and Displacement Solutions drafted a plan for several MSc students of the International Development Studies track to conduct research in some of the climate displaced areas, to collect data about conditions for success and failure of climate-induced resettlement projects in different locations. Students will be going to the field in February 2019.

Kick-off event and Photo Exhibition: Strengthening Women’s Land Rights and Gender Equality in Land Governance

Date: 13th December 2018
Location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Hague

On December 13th over 70 policy makers and representatives of civil society organizations, knowledge institutes and the private sector gathered at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for a kick-off event and photo exhibition on Strengthening Women’s Land Rights. Four women from Kenya, Uganda, India and Malawi shared successful examples of grassroots activities, which emphasised the importance of involving grassroots women and women’s groups in decision-making procedures to strengthen women’s right to use, control, access and take decisions about land. Hereafter, concrete examples on the role of Dutch actors were identified, such as involving women’s groups and women’s land rights in trade missions and investment projects, and linking expertise on women’s land rights with embassies. This kick-off event served as a start for a follow-up trajectory of initiatives on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality in Land Governance by the LANDdialogue, as well as a preparation for face-to-face meetings with different departments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in January 2019.
Public Event: Gender Justice – Equal Land Rights for Women

Date: 14th December 2018
Location: Humanity House, The Hague

On 14th December 2018, LANDac and its partners organised a public event to highlight the importance of Equal Land Rights for Women. During the event, stories, film and photography from successful grassroots movements in Africa and the Netherlands on women’s rights to land were presented. Speakers from the Netherlands and Malawi shared their experiences and the lessons we can learn from the role of local champions and the importance of building movements and international solidarity with the audience.

Learning and Knowledge Sharing Initiatives Food Security

Several learning and knowledge sharing initiatives have been undertaken by LANDac (Guus van Westen), including participation in a panel on Inclusive Business in the Food First Conference in Wageningen on the 31st of May 2018; giving input during the Expert Meeting on Intermediate Partners in Food Security in Utrecht on the 21st of September 2018; a presentation on land rights for participants in the Agreements for International Responsible Business Conduct on Gold/Mining in The Hague, on 22nd of November 2018; a guest lecture on Inclusive Business and Food Security at the University of Cologne on the 26st of November 2018. Moreover, LANDac has been asked by Pakhuis the Zwijger to bring in expertise on the topic. Colleague Ellen Magnus from Follow the Food/Utrecht University has been present during this event.

Other Events

On the 9th of February 2018, LANDac has been present at the Pathways to Sustainability Conference in Utrecht, to increase LANDac’s visibility within Utrecht University and beyond.

LANDac Events Abroad

In addition to the LANDac events in the Netherlands, several events have also taken place abroad, in order to create dialogue and exchange and disseminate research results, as well in order to represent LANDac at international events.

The World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty: Presentation and Masterclass

Date: 23rd March 2018
Location: Washington D.C.

On March 23rd, LANDac hosted the masterclass ‘Land Governance from the Bottom Up: Including Local Communities in Multi-stakeholder Processes’ at the World Bank’s Land and Poverty Conference 2018 in Washington D.C. With the masterclass, and in line with the Annual Work Plan 2018, LANDac aimed to build on discussions held during the World Bank Annual Conference, that often highlight the need for policy makers, academics and practitioners to better adapt interventions around land governance to the local context and situation. However, the practical
ways, methods and tools to do that received less attention at the conference. Guided by presentations from two ongoing LANDac research programmes (Scaling women’s land rights and the Learning Platforms) the masterclass focused on practical tools that are used to include local women and men in decision-making processes and implementation strategies around land governance. Following the presentation of the programmes, a lively discussion took place amongst the 25 participants of the masterclass.

**The Women’s Land Rights Learning Event: Agents of Grassroots Transformation.**

Date: 22nd and 23rd April 2018  
Location: The Concord Hotel in Westlands, Nairobi

In April 2018, a two-day learning event was organised by LANDac, GROOTS Kenya, ActionAid International in Kenya, ENDA Pronat in Senegal, ADECRU and Fórum Mulher in Mozambique and Oxfam in Malawi. About 65 participants gathered in Nairobi. ‘Grassroots women’ took a central role during the learning event and were literally visible by placing them at the front row of the tables. The learning event was especially unique due to the fact that alongside the grassroots women, all sorts of local authorities were present, ranging from village chiefs to mayors and paramount chiefs. During the event, participants agreed that women’s land rights are not only about land: they are about livelihoods, access to food, water, identity, history, and securing land for future generations. Even though some countries such as Kenya and Mozambique already have good laws in place, implementation is now key in addition to advocacy to scale up best practice. In addition, it is important to recognize traditional laws and practices when working on women’s land rights as well as the expertise of local communities and NGOs. To kick-off the event, LANDac also organised a women’s march and tree planting ceremony on International Earth Day on the 22nd of April. The ceremony was attended by the Dutch Ambassador in Kenya Frans Makken. This two-day learning event took place according to the Annual Work Plan 2018. The WLRA programme itself also continued in the first quarter of 2018, see above.

**Global Land Forum “United for Land Rights, Peace and Justice” by International Land Coalition**

Date: 22-27 September 2018  
Location: Bandung

In September 2018, the International Land Coalition (ILC) organized the member-based Global Land Forum “United for Land Rights, Peace and Justice”. This week-long event brought together ILC members and other stakeholders from grassroots organisations, activists, local and international NGOs, and researchers, to multilateral organisations and government agencies from around the world to advance understanding of the complex and dynamic political, economic, environmental and social linkages between land governance, food security, poverty and democracy. By convening all members and key partners of the network, the Forum created opportunities for participants to learn from, and contribute to, land governance successes and challenges.
During the writing of the LANDac Annual Work Plan 2018, it was not yet known whether LANDac’s application to the ILC had been successful. Yet 2018 did see the approval of LANDac’s request for ILC membership. This was one of the main reasons for the LANDac Secretariat to participate in the Global Land Forum in Bandung – together with representatives of many of its partners. This also meant to divert from the Annual Work Plan 2018. Yet as a new member, the Global Land Forum was a unique opportunity to better understand the working of ILC and its member organizations. LANDac presented a pitch about the field visit findings in the Forum’s plenary on the first day. As a result of the new membership, LANDac and ILC are strengthening collaboration on learning and training activities such as internship opportunities, the Annual International Conference and Annual Summer School.

5. TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

In order to meet the demand for an improved understanding of land governance from a diverse range of stakeholders, LANDac has continued to provide opportunities for capacity development in the Netherlands and further afield, both through the Annual Summer School on Land Governance for Development. According to the Annual Work Plan 2018, LANDac also planned to continue to create online educational resources, by integrating past online resources into an online course or MOOC. As already described above, the development of an online educational programme on land governance is still ongoing, and 2018 served to build a network of co-developers at Utrecht University, scope the aim and target audience of the e-module, and collect material from the Securing Women's Land Rights in Africa programme to include in the e-module. This Training and Capacity Building Activity will therefore be speeded up early 2019, to explore funding possibilities for an e-module to start in the academic year 2019-2020. As such, in 2018 the LANDac Summer School has been the main training and capacity building opportunity.

LANDac Summer School 2018

Land Governance for Development
Date: 2nd July – 13th July 2018
Location: Utrecht University, Utrecht

From the 3rd to the 13th of July, LANDac organised its 9th Annual Summer School Land Governance for Development at Utrecht University. Twenty-two participants from fourteen countries followed lectures, joined working groups and gave presentations on theory and practice related to land governance. Lectures focussed on e.g. on the global land rush, gender and land, and indigenous and community land rights. The participants also took part in roundtable discussions around chosen topics. The LANDac partners organised lectures, e.g. on women's land rights, food security, urban land -, and migration issues.

6. LANDDIALOGUE AND POLICY INFLUENCING

As part of the second phase of LANDac, the LANDac secretariat co-hosts the secretariat of the LANDdialogue, together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The LANDdialogue – the Dutch Land Governance Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue – aims to improve land governance, in line with international guidelines and agreements (with a focus on the CFS-Voluntary Guidelines on Land
Tenure). Within the LANDdialogue, learning about, and the development and application of practical tools for more inclusive and sustainable land governance are at the centre.

In collaboration, organizations and businesses who are part of the LANDdialogue, have committed to develop practical solutions and approaches to effectively contribute to: improve the impact of these institutions abroad; and improve their own policies, practices and risk management strategies. The format of the LANDdialogue consists of annual High-level dialogue sessions with the Minister of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, combined with thematic working groups around specific questions, topics and developments.

In 2018, the LANDdialogue contracted a part-time coordinator and facilitator to support the Organizing Committee (OC) of the LANDdialogue consisting of LANDac, Both ENDS, Oxfam Novib, FMO, Rabobank, Utrecht University and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The OC of the LANDdialogue coordinates and supports dialogues and activities; takes strategic decisions about priority topics and cases; organizes and invites participants to the High-level dialogue sessions; and is responsible for communication with the wider network of organizations in the Netherlands who work on land governance themes.

The OC members met for a full-day brainstorm in June 2018, to take strategic decisions about the focus and priority topics for the coming year. Subsequently, a delegation of organizations also met with Minister Kaag for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation in July, to discuss the Netherlands’ commitment to strengthen land governance worldwide. On the basis of both meetings the OC identified a number of priority topics to work on, including better representation of businesses in the OC of the LANDdialogue, stronger involvement with the Dutch infrastructure sector (companies, consultants, financiers, government), and strengthening women’s land rights. Different activities taken up over the course of 2018 include:

**Women’s Land Rights**

A trajectory on women’s rights and gender equality in land governance was kicked-off in December 2018, with a well-attended event consisting of an interactive discussion and the opening of a photo exhibition at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Over 70 policy makers and representatives of civil society organizations, knowledge institutes and the private sector gathered at the Ministry where four women leaders from Kenya, Uganda, India and Malawi shared successful examples of grassroots activities. The outcomes of the event will feed into short brainstorm sessions with policy makers at different departments within the Ministry to better integrate women’s land rights into their work.

**Agreements for International Responsible Business Conduct in the Netherlands**

In the context of the Agreements for International Responsible Business Conduct (IMVO Convenanten in Dutch), the LANDdialogue commissioned two studies to explore the role of land governance in different agreements. One study was done for the Dutch Banking Agreement (DBA), a second study was done for 13 other sectors. With the publication of both studies in 2018, which were shared with the Social-Economic Council of the Netherlands and the different parties involved
in the agreements during a meeting on the 21st of June 2018, the OC increased awareness of the topic and several follow-up activities emerged. For example, with the Dutch Banking Association it was agreed to co-organize a workshop on land governance with Dutch commercial banks and the Dutch Development Bank FMO in January 2019; a similar session will be organized with policymakers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs early 2019.

**Early engagement study oil- and gas investments Northern Mozambique**

In April/May 2018, a team of researchers conducted a local context analysis in Northern Mozambique where recent oil- and gas discoveries were done. All Dutch stakeholders involved or potentially to be involved in the investments were contacted before, during and after the study; and provided input where possible. The main findings and results of the study were shared with the same stakeholders. For the LANDdialogue, the local context analysis and stakeholder engagement constituted a way to explore options for Dutch stakeholders to start up early engagement activities in countries prior to designing investment plans. A final info brief about the study has been published.

**Results and outcomes**

The main objective of the LANDdialogue is to influence and strengthen policies of Dutch organizations and businesses. Some of the outcomes of the High-level dialogue sessions in combination with activities mentioned above have led - over the course of 2018 - to increased knowledge on land governance related problems and issues, as well as concrete tools and solutions to address these issues; more collaboration between and among government, private sector, knowledge institutions and NGOs; the creation of an open platform to raise new and emerging issues related to land. Building on these outcomes, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has decided to create the Land-at-Scale programme: to support land governance initiatives in countries. The new programme will be launched early 2019.

### 7. INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

In its role as the knowledge centre for land governance expertise in the Netherlands, it has been important for LANDac to have a secretariat that not only organises and implements a research agenda and create and expedite connections between actors and topics, but also to disseminate the information and knowledge, by sharing findings, event information and the output of various activities. The activities by the secretariat in 2018, as described below, has helped LANDac to maintain a prominent and well-defined professional image.

**LANDac Website**

Throughout 2018, the [LANDac website](#) remained the primary outlet for sharing information about LANDac activities. The website has been regularly updated by the LANDac coordinator with news, announcements, events, blogs and new publications. In 2018, the website has been updated and now includes: The Guatemala Blog Series

As of June 2018, the Guatemala Blog Series are regularly posted on the LANDac website. In these blogs, Jur Schuurman writes about land governance in Guatemala. In Guatemala, land and land
governance are key elements in the debate about the country's development. The series tells the story of Guatemalan land issues from many different perspectives, such as land ownership and rural land use, the (non-) governmental institutional setting, and connections to international platforms. The first five blogs have been released in 2018, and the series will continue into 2019.

**Blog: Voices from the Field**

Voices from the Field is a platform to publish blog posts by graduate students in International Development Studies (IDS) and related fields. It offers students an opportunity to share their field work experiences with a wider audience. Voices from the Field was initiated by LANDac in 2018 and is continued by Utrecht University’s chair group IDS as the IDS blog project. The IDS blog project is a collection of student blogs from the last ten years of IDS. Blog posts include topics such as land deals in peri-urban Mexico City and pressing problems and new solutions for land management in Ghana.

**LANDac Newsletter**

2018 saw the release of a LANDac newsletter. The newsletter was sent in July and August 2018, and is a new way to share events, publications and interesting news, such as calls and job opportunities. The newsletter has been sent to about 800 e-mail addresses, out of which 80-93% have opened the newsletter. As the newsletter has been received positively, the newsletter will be continued on a more regular basis in 2019.

**Social Media**

As described in the Annual Work Plan 2018, LANDac has aimed to increase its visibility on social media. As such, LANDac has continued its activities on social media, with Twitter as its primary outlet. The twitter account is used to announce events, publications and other news items. The Twitter account now has 602 followers, an increase of 173 followers since 2017. The newly created hashtag #landac2018 was used not only during the 2018 conference, but also before and after. Late 2018, LANDac developed a LinkedIn company page to strengthen the network function of LANDac and its function as a knowledge hub on land governance. The first months are used to gather and post information on LANDac and partner publications and events, before the LinkedIn page will be launched in Spring 2019.

**8. PUBLICATIONS**

In 2018, the LANDac secretariat has been responsible for organising the production and disseminations of policy briefs and papers in relation to research results and emerging trends in the field of land governance. As described in the Annual Work Plan 2018, the publications in 2018 relate to the academic and applied research, as well as the gender programme and the multi-stakeholder learning hubs.

**Policy-oriented Publications**

Securing Women’s Land Rights in Africa. LANDac, Utrecht. Available at: http://www.landgovernance.org/assets/A4-Policy-brief-05.pdf


Other Publications


Video Material


Oxfam in Malawi (2018). MALAWI: Empowering women to claim and demand their land rights. Available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DRfrEGg6Evc&t=7s
9. NEXT STEPS

Building on the research and activities that took place in 2018, LANDac and its partners will continue in 2019 to bring together actors, conduct research, and distribute information, focusing on new pressures and competing claims on land and natural resources.

Rather than continuing case-study research on an ad hoc basis, in 2019 LANDac will look at the transformations taking place on the longer term. Focusing on current patterns of large-scale land investments and thinking about the type of localities where land issues are centre stage, we will focus on locations where Dutch stakeholders are active in one of the following fields: urban infrastructure, agri-business, drylands, and post-conflict areas. What these focus areas have in common, is that at current they all attract public or private investments from Dutch (and other European) companies and organisations, and/or are foreign policy priority areas. In order to increase our understanding of these transformations, as well as to strengthen our connection with realities on the ground, LANDac will introduce the Professional Learning Programme for Land Governance and Field Mediation in 2019. This programme will build on the experiences and lessons learned from the Learning Platforms in Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda, as described above.

In the programme, professionals employed at different organisations in the Global South are invited to participate in a 13-months programme, which enables them to deepen their theoretical knowledge, expand their network and gain practical experience on land-based investments and land governance. They will be trained to analyse trends and assess impacts, and to play a role in monitoring and mediation between stakeholders in the field.
## Annex 1: LANDac II Annual Work Plan 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Output</th>
<th>Results</th>
<th>Budget 2018 (EUR)</th>
<th>Time frame 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. LANDac secretariat activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>Coordination and running the secretariat</td>
<td>Two full-time positions responsible for the daily management of the LANDac secretariat</td>
<td>150.000</td>
<td>Q1-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>Representing LANDac at relevant events in the Netherlands and abroad</td>
<td>Exhibition booth at World Bank conference; other conferences where deemed applicable</td>
<td>3.000</td>
<td>Q1-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>Updating website</td>
<td>Updating the website and other online activities, including social media outreach</td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td>Q1-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>Editing and disseminating publications</td>
<td>Edited and printed policy briefs and research briefs relating to output from item 2.1 and 2.2</td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td>Q1-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. Knowledge generation: Research</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>Academic and applied research, including new learning hubs (see item)</td>
<td>Pilot studies and data collection aligned to themes identified in collaboration with LANDac partners</td>
<td>30.000</td>
<td>Q1-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>PhD network</td>
<td>Organise twice-annual meetings of the PhD network of researchers based in the Netherlands working on land-related issues; facilitate publication of policy brief when a PhD is completed</td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td>Q1-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3. Knowledge management: Conferences and events</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>LANDac Annual Conference 2018</td>
<td>Two- day international conference</td>
<td>20.000</td>
<td>Q1-Q2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>Follow up gender programme</td>
<td>Learning and knowledge sharing event</td>
<td>5.000</td>
<td>Q1-Q2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>Follow up food security related topics</td>
<td>Learning and knowledge sharing event</td>
<td>5.000</td>
<td>Q3-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>Public lectures and presentations</td>
<td>Organise public events around emerging topics (particularly related to output from item 2.1)</td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td>Q1-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>Dissemination of event proceedings</td>
<td>Report on and share output and findings from items 1.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4</td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td>Q2-Q3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4. Capacity building</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction

LANDac, the Netherlands Land Academy, is a partnership between Dutch organisations and their Southern partners working on land governance for equitable and sustainable development. LANDac was formed in 2010 as one of the IS Academies, a series of five-year programs designed by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs to strengthen the role of knowledge and research in sustainable development, poverty alleviation and international cooperation.

As of 1st July 2016, LANDac entered its second phase, where partners who share a concern for understanding and addressing new and existing types of land-related conflicts and increasing land inequality continue to work together to promote equitable and sustainable development in the Global South through robust and inclusive land governance.

LANDac is a hub for policy makers, practitioners, researchers, and development professionals working in the Netherlands and further afield. The LANDac network brings together Dutch actors and their partners worldwide, conducts research, and distributes information, focusing on new pressures and competing claims on land and natural resources.
This document details the proposed activities of LANDac in the period from 1st January 2018 to 31st December 2018.

1. LANDac secretariat activities

In its role as the knowledge centre for land governance expertise in the Netherlands, it is important for LANDac to have a secretariat to organise and implement a research agenda, and to create and expedite connections between actors and topics. The main budget item for this section is thus the salary costs of two full-time secretariat personnel whose activities will include general coordination, communications, and both organising and representing LANDac at events, as well as designing and leading research activities where deemed applicable.

These activities will be performed by both the LANDac Coordinator and the LANDac Research Coordinator. The secretariat will oversee and coordinate the activities detailed in this report, and will be responsible for representing LANDac at national and international events, managing the LANDac website and ensuring LANDac publications are produced and disseminated.

International events

LANDac will need to be visible at and contribute to national and international events, such as conferences hosted by partners or internationally significant organisations. A small portion of the budget has been allocated to facilitate travel costs for events such as the World Bank Annual Conference on Land and Poverty in Washington DC, USA, where LANDac will organise a Masterclass on bottom-up multi-stakeholder learning hubs (including items 5.1 and 5.2), as well as distribute LANDac publications and meet with associates from the rest of the world.

Website

The LANDac website will be managed by the secretariat as it continues to be an important outlet for sharing findings, event information and the output of various activities, and helps LANDac to maintain a prominent and well-defined professional image. Specific activities will be to create an area to showcase the results and activities of the researchers who will participate in the LANDac PhD network (see section 2), as well as to further develop the LANDac blog. We will also further develop its presence on social media so as to expand LANDac's reach and visibility.

Publications

The secretariat will also be responsible for organising the production and dissemination of policy briefs and position papers in relation to significant research results and emerging trends in the field of land governance. We propose to produce a minimum of one relevant publication per quarter – including both academic and more policy-oriented output. These will include publications related to the academic and applied research (see item 2.1) and the PhD network (see item 2.2), as well as the gender programme (see annex) and multi-stakeholder learning hubs (see items 5.1 and 5.2).

2. Knowledge generation (research)
In collaboration with civil society, businesses, academic and research institutions, and embassies among others, LANDac aims to conduct bottom-up research and to open up new funding opportunities for pilot projects related to priority themes identified by the LANDac partners in 2016. The budget for applied and academic research will be used as seed money to generate additional funding for further research activities as well as to carry out short-term, applied research and fact-finding missions. LANDac will play an initiating role in joint proposal writing, will organise a national network for PhD students and postdocs working on land-related topics, and will link Master’s students to relevant research projects and internships.

**Academic and applied research**

LANDac and partners will conduct short-term, multi-stakeholder and participatory research projects focussing on one or more of the priority themes identified at the inception of LANDac II in October 2016: food security and responsible business; urbanisation and infrastructure development; gender and youth; mobility and migration; land administration, data, and technology; land conflict; and climate change. In particular, LANDac will further develop the proposal to conduct a study on the relationship between land governance and migration in West Africa, and will arrange community-based bottom-up research related to the multi-stakeholder learning hubs (see section 5).

**PhD Network**

We will continue to coordinate the PhD network for researchers working on land-related issues in academic institutions in the Netherlands (or their partners abroad), which was launched at the LANDac Annual International Conference 2017. Twice-yearly events will bring the group together to link up and share ideas: specifically, we propose to organise a PhD Conference in the second quarter and a smaller seminar in early quarter four. Each researcher who successfully defends their PhD will be invited to write a LANDac policy brief (this will be coordinated by the secretariat; see section 1).

**Internships**

For Master’s level students, we will continue to arrange research projects and internships for students from the academic LANDac partners with our various partner organisations both in the South and in the Netherlands. In addition, LANDac will recruit a part-time intern, particularly to assist with the organisation of the Annual International LANDac Conference in June 2018 and other administrative work of the secretariat in general. These activities are budget neutral.

3. **Knowledge management (conferences and events)**

LANDac II will continue to organize the Annual International Conference. Other events (such as such as lunch lectures, book launches, and seminars) will be organized for the dissemination of research results, for dialogue and exchange and for informing Dutch stakeholders about outcomes of international events and emerging land-related topics.
LANDac Annual International Conference 2018

Building upon the success of previous International Conferences in which LANDac brought together stakeholders from around the world, and from a wider variety of backgrounds (academia, policy makers, private sector) than is usually the case in other land-related events, we will organise our Annual International Conference. This will draw around 200 international participants from academia, policy circles and private sector to Utrecht. As in previous years, this conference will take place directly before the LANDac Summer School (see section 4) on 28th and 29th June 2018. As well as the budget allocated in line 3.1, the secretariat and partners will seek opportunities to generate co-funding, for example from Utrecht Municipality or through event sponsorship. Participants will also be required to pay a conference fee.

Knowledge sharing events

Knowledge sharing on emerging and established themes will continue through the organisation of learning events, lunch meetings, public lectures, and presentations, both for the existing LANDac network and to attract a wider audience from the general public.

Between 3 and 5 ad hoc events will be organised during the calendar year in response to demands and needs identified by LANDac partners. Additionally, specific follow-up learning events will be organised related to the gender and land rights programme “Securing Women’s Land Rights in Africa: Scaling Up Impact in Senegal, Kenya, Malawi and Mozambique” (see annex) and to food security-related topics (see also section 4).

As well as organising events, it is important to ensure adequate follow up is given to their results in the form of disseminating their output. This will, for example, take the form of reporting or sharing the proceedings.

4. Capacity building

In order to meet the demand for an improved understanding of land governance from a diverse range of stakeholders, LANDac will continue to provide opportunities for capacity development in the Netherlands and further afield, both through the annual Land Governance for Development Summer School, and by developing online learning resources.

Annual LANDac Summer School: “Land Governance for Development”

Following the afore-mentioned conference, LANDac will organise its annual two-week summer school on “Land Governance for Development” at Utrecht University, from 2nd – 13th July 2018. Previous summer schools have always been a great success, as is indicated by the increasing number of students each year, and we will therefore continue with this activity. We observe a shift in participants towards representing more target groups – increasingly we see practitioners and government officials as well as PhD and Master’s students. A small portion of the annual budget has been allocated to prepare for this event (for example, inciting speakers and arranging an excursion and social activity); this activity is co-funded by Utrecht University Summer School, and participants must also pay course fees, which ultimately makes this an income-generating activity.

Online educational resources
During 2017, LANDac created online resources such as video interviews, lecture materials and interactive user forums to support community interactions between experts and students. In 2018, this workstream will continue with a view to integrating the materials to form an online course or MOOC. This will be worked on in partnership with the International Land Coalition (ILC). In 2017, LANDac submitted an application to become a member of the ILC (though this will continue regardless) – at the time of writing it is not yet known whether this application has been successful.

5. Multi-stakeholder learning hubs

LANDac has always promoted the importance of taking into account different perspectives and priorities between stakeholders and will continue to strive for common understanding and consensus by bringing actors together to create trust and contribute to building more inclusive solutions. Following the success of some specific multi-stakeholder learning initiatives in 2017, these workstreams will be given follow up in 2018.

CITYforum

The CITYforum – a multi-stakeholder meeting of various actors involved in urban development and land issues in Jakarta, Indonesia and Manila, the Philippines – was launched in 2017 in response to the fact that many Dutch players (including engineering firms, international consultancies, NGOs, and government) are involved in the cities’ development Masterplans. In 2018, the CITYforum network established by LANDac will continue to develop an agenda for action in these cities through conducting bottom-up research and arranging ongoing multi-stakeholder facilitation. Additionally, the concept will be expanded to new locations where Dutch stakeholders are operating such as Beira, Mozambique.

Learning platforms

Follow-up will be given to the three country-specific learning platforms on land governance and food security in Mozambique, Tanzania, and Uganda, bringing local perspectives into multi-stakeholder processes. In collaboration with CIFOR, LANDac will lead ongoing bottom up research and further multi-stakeholder facilitation in the existing locations. Additionally, new locations will be explored.

Northern Mozambique LP

6. LANDdialogue

Since the inception of the Land Governance Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue (LG-MSD, or LANDdialogue as it is now commonly known) in 2014, LANDac has been involved as a participant in the Organising Committee (OC). As of the start of LANDac II, it was decided that the LANDac secretariat would also play a more fundamental role in the organisation of the LANDdialogue, facilitating meetings and overseeing the budget. This role falls to the LANDac Coordinator as part of item 1.

The OC remains responsible for allocating the LANDdialogue budge; however, LANDac partners will also be asked to give their consent on major activities before they are approved.
Conclusion

The activities LANDac proposes for 2018 will improve coordination and synergy between Dutch actors interested in making development more equitable and sustainable through strengthening land governance, further develop the capacity and understanding of land-related issues among stakeholders in the Netherlands and further afield and will continue to set the agenda for policy makers, practitioners, researchers and businesses working in the land governance arena.

For more information, visit www.landgovernance.org or contact landac.geo@uu.nl.

Annex

It is of relevance to note that the gender and land rights project coordinated by LANDac “Securing Women’s Land Rights in Africa: Scaling Up Impact in Senegal, Kenya, Malawi and Mozambique” will continue into the first quarter of 2018, with follow up continuing after its close. This project has a separate budget number and has therefore not been reported on here – though some of its outputs will contribute to the activities proposed above, where applicable. Additionally, 5,000 euros has been allocated to giving follow up to this programme in the form of a learning event organised by LANDac (see item 3.2, and section 3).